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WYMONDHAM Magazine

ISSUE 56 | DECEMBER 2021

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

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CONTENTS



Welcome to December's issue of *Wymondham Magazine*, another printed edition delivered through your letterbox as well as emailed in the usual digital format. We've reached the end of another weird year, but thankfully we're in a better place than December 2020 and Christmas is most certainly not cancelled. It starts in Wymondham with the return of Wynterfest, a not-to-be-missed event that is bound to get you in the festive spirit. Why not set yourself the challenge of spending as much of your Christmas budget as possible within our town - your money will stay in the local economy and benefit everyone accordingly.

I wish you a very Merry Christmas!

Kate, Editor

Wynterfest is back for 2021! From 12noon to 5pm on **Sunday 5th December** (note Sunday, not the usual Saturday), the town will come alive with all things Christmas, including Santa's Grotto and a candlelit procession. Local Flavours - On Location are also partnering with organisers, Wymondham Town Team, to make this festive event the best ever.

Take festive selfies with Christmas characters, sponsored by East Anglian Motor Auctions, and enjoy music on the Market Cross throughout the day, headlined by The Hot Crumb. There will also be singing from Wymondham Choral Society, dancing from 4th Wymondham Guides, Zumba demonstrations and our very own town busker, Mark, who will open the event at noon. South Norfolk Radio will keep the Christmas tunes coming between acts, and there will also be steel drums from Spangle.

The Made In Wymondham indoor market at the Ex Services Social Club will put the spotlight on handmade gift ideas from local crafters, and a variety of food and drink offerings will provide warming refreshments. Local funfair Greys will bring rides for the children and hot chestnuts to enjoy, and this year for the first time Wynterfest will feature live cookery demonstrations plus a visit from Wymondham Alpacas!



More animal friends can be found at Wymondham Baptist Church, who will open Roots Café, where you will find some festive donkeys as well as entertainment from West Wyng Gallery Quoire. Santa himself can be found at Money Lettings in Whartons Court, and there will once again be a display of Nativity sets at the Town Green Centre thanks to the Methodist Church.

Most of the town's businesses, pubs and cafes will be open for festive shopping and hospitality. Among them will be Jarrold, where customers will find 10% off many items, a raffle and competition in aid of Wymondham Dementia Centre and non-alcoholic mulled wine. Elementals will be offering mead tasting between 1pm and 2pm for over 18s, with a lucky dip gift with all purchases over £30, and Shabby To Chic dog grooming will be at Town Green, offering a doggy pick 'n' mix, treat bags, canine Christmas presents and nail clipping. Nikki from Enchanted Willow will demonstrate a simple Christmas floral arrangement for you to try at home, Sunkissed Tanning & Beauty are offering the chance to win a hamper, and Abbotts will be open and offering a selection of gifts from local businesses, a tombola and a raffle.

Wymondham Town Football Club will be serving hot chocolate and mulled wine, with Christmas craft stalls and competitions, and the Heritage Museum will be open for hot drinks, soup and homemade mince pies, with free entry to the museum and a final chance to view this year's displays.

This year's event is in memory of Councillor Pete Green, who sadly died earlier in the year, and some of Pete's friends from Steam Punk are attending the event to remember him.

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Call Your **Wymondham** Estate Agent
Rebecca Mills on **01953 665785**



CAN YOU HELP TO LIGHT UP WYMONDHAM?

Recently Light Up Wymondham volunteers swapped the Union Jack flags for Christmas trees and finished hanging up lights throughout the town centre. They hope you enjoy the twinkling high street over the next few weeks!



The vast majority of the lights in town are put up, taken down, stored and purchased entirely by a volunteer team. These lights are getting very weathered and are unlikely to last another season, so Light Up Wymondham is fundraising now for new lights to be used for the next few years.

Please donate any amount you can, however small, if you wish to support Light Up Wymondham. Visit www.gofundme.com/f/3cf6kk-wymondham-christmas-lights

WYMONDHAM LIONS CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

By John Wilde

Well, Covid has certainly taken its toll over the last, what, nearly two years. As well as the misery and deprivation to the whole country, it has seriously affected our fundraising activities, funds we use to try and help some of those that have been disadvantaged in some way. However we are hoping for some semblance of normality this Christmas, rising infection rates permitting.

Last year, instead of Santa visiting every care home resident with a gift and some carols from his heavenly choir, we delivered to each home a large basket of fruit and goodies (thank you to Waitrose for their help). This year we plan to have our normal collection at Waitrose (Friday 3rd and Saturday 4th December) and to provide each care home resident with a gift that can be placed round the homes' Christmas tree for opening on Christmas Day. Our choir feels that it is better we do not go into the homes in case we accidentally spread something unpleasant. There has been more than enough of that!

Wymondham's Winterfest celebration will take place on the afternoon of Sunday 5th December and the Lions will have their grotto in Whartons Court. £4 per child. Rumour has it the real Santa will be there in person.

We also have a permit for a street collection in the Market Place during the markets of Friday 17th and Saturday 18th December to try and build up our depleted coffers.

We are hoping to have another of our world famous quiz'n'chilli evenings in March but that will depend on how Mr Covid treats us. No date for that as yet.

We do have a date for the, equally famed, Lions and Rotary Burns Supper - Friday 28th January, Central Hall at 6.30pm. Ticket price TBC. An announcement will be made in due course. That is always a really good evening. Let us hope that it can go ahead. Sanitiser and ventilation required!

In the meantime Wymondham Lions wish everyone a happy and healthy Christmas and New Year. Stay safe, get jabbed and we will all have a less fraught 2022.



Henry's fantastic fundraising

A local seven-year-old is raising money for Windmill House by broadcasting bedtime stories live on Facebook every evening at 6.30pm.



Henry Webb was inspired after mum Becky got a job at the care home. She takes up the story: "I went into this home on my induction day and fell in love with our incredible and inspirational residents. Every single one with a story to tell or a joke up their sleeve, or some just wanted a hand to hold or a cuddle.

"When I told Henry how much people needed me just as much as he did, and explained that my wonderful residents were so grateful that he let his mummy be away from home so much, he wanted to help and support me: enter Bedtime Stories with Henry!

"Henry is raising funds to update our sensory and theme corners and to get ready to have some blooming marvellous flowers in the garden come spring. These simple things can not only trigger, support and restore memories in some but create whole new memories for others. We as a family are so incredibly proud of Henry.

"He has gone through a lot of Julia Donaldson, Percy the Park Keeper and even Roald Dahl. He is doing this for a month and has loved every minute. He has been overwhelmed and at times very emotional by the support he has received as it's remarkable."

To donate to Henry's cause visit www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/beckywebb



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HELPING THE COMMUNITY AT CHRISTMAS

By Arnie McConnell

The immediate focus of the Help Point Foodbank, with much-welcomed help from the Wymondham public, is to support local families and individuals through Advent and towards better times in the year ahead.

This is a particularly difficult period for low-income households. There is never a good time to run short of money. The expense of kitting out children for school in September is rapidly followed by the financial demands of the Christmas period.

On many levels, struggling households are bracing themselves for a bitterly cold and harsh winter. The withdrawal by the government of the £20 per week Universal Credit Covid supplement has had a devastating impact. For those struggling to make ends meet, the squeeze on household budgets is relentless: the dramatic increase in energy tariffs, the continued up-tick of the cost of food, transport, and clothing, have all taken a toll.

Nationally Universal Credit payment is £403 per month for young couples under 25 and £509 for couples over 25; sums that will never meet 21st century basic living costs.

We may consider that people in Wymondham and the surrounding area are reasonably affluent - after all, we live in the sixth wealthiest county in the world, in a beautiful county. However, the need here is shocking and relentless for families living below the breadline, whether working for a

minimum wage, or unable to work because of childcare or health issues.

To help alleviate the effects of poverty in our community, our Help Point Foodbank - which is based in Wymondham's Roman Catholic Church, 1 Norwich Road, NR18 0QE, is open on Tuesdays and Saturdays between 11am and 1pm.

We are always grateful to receive tinned meat, tinned fish, pasta sauce, long life semi-skimmed milk, tinned rice pudding, tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, soup, coffee, sugar, shampoo, conditioner and biscuits. Donated items can be dropped off in the Narthex of the church between Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm.

If you would like to support us by giving a financial donation or find out more about what we do, please contact us at community@wymondhamrcchurch.org.uk for further information.

The Wymondham Community Outreach Project is a fully inclusive community initiative that is delivered by an amazing team of volunteers and supported by a wide-ranging group of generous donors.



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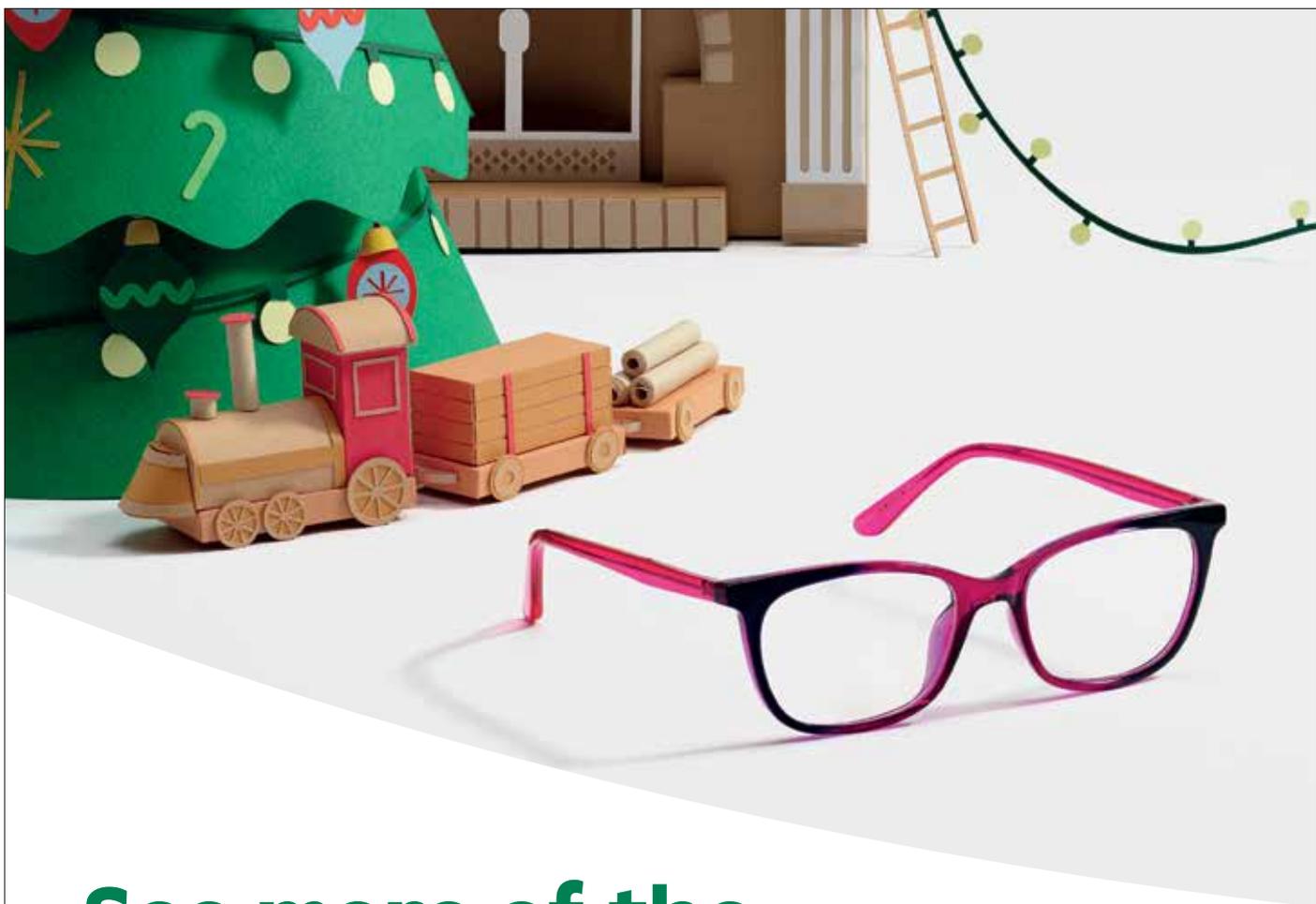
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VIC NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

The Roots Community Café team was set up in 2017 to reach out to those who may experience loneliness. Set in Wymondham Baptist Church on Queen Street, it is faith based but not faith biased. Every Monday and Friday it is packed with people who find a warm welcome and someone to talk to.

This autumn the team of Roots volunteers were astonished to learn that an unknown person had nominated volunteer Vic Wright for the award of Volunteer of the Year. Then at the South Norfolk Community Awards ceremony in early November, he won.

Pastor Paul Smith picks up the story:

"After being here for four years Roots has been able to reach out to many. Even during the height of the pandemic we were able to deliver approximately 200 lunchboxes to families in need. But you can't just turn up at doorsteps. You need to know the people first, to know that this will be helpful, and that they trust you and will be happy to see you.

"Vic's job at Roots had built those relationships for us. On Monday and Friday his task is literally to sit down, drink coffee, and chat with people. Because he'd been doing that job really well, when lockdown hit we were able to carry on 'doing Roots' - only now we were delivering shopping and just keeping in touch with those who would face further isolation. Before lockdown if we'd been busy just serving coffee, we'd not have got to know our visitors as well as Vic has been able to, and we wouldn't have been able to be there when they really needed us.

"The shortlisting committee had to select from several very worthy candidates, but they felt Vic's habit of going

above and beyond was worth recognition. And we do think he deserved it. He cares with genuine concern and compassion, and he's so good at making everyone who enters our cafe feel welcomed and valued.

"Though Vic is the face that many see, he is only able to do this because of the support of the rest of the volunteers who take on all the practical tasks. Without them there would be no place for Vic to reach out from. And this was how we'd hoped Roots would grow. The team and the community know that the whole project is here to make a difference to others, with everyone doing their part.

"Outside of Roots Vic uses some of his other gifts - he makes all our signs, for instance. But when the coffee machine is on, his job is JUST to drink coffee and talk to people. It is our vision that people will see that we accept them as they are, and that the acceptance will set us apart. The good food and coffee make it comfortable, but our aim was never to be an ordinary café: we want to be one that genuinely loves and cares... a place that is authentic."

Roots Community Café is open Mondays and Fridays 10am to 1pm. On Tuesday afternoons Roots operates a youth café from 2.30pm to 4.30pm for children years seven to 13. For more information email office@wymondhambaptist.org.



HALLOWEEN TRAIL GOES DOWN A TREAT

The town centre was alive with the sound of excited children taking part in the first ever Wymondham Trick or Treat Trail on Saturday 30th October. Over 50 shops and businesses offered up free treats to kids dressed up in Halloween costumes, who packed the streets with their buckets, bags and maps for a feel-good afternoon in the autumn sun.

The event organiser, newly-elected town councillor Kim Carsok, was taken aback by the positive response: "There was such a nice atmosphere in the town, people milling round and meeting local business owners and seeing inside many places for the first time. It was great to see it so busy."

Samantha Wooton from Elementals Magickal Emporium told Kim: "Thank you for arranging a brilliant trick or treat

event. There were lots of families both young and old. It was lovely to see the little ones all dressed up with happy faces. We had to restock the sweets three times! Lots of people didn't know about our shop and said they will definitely come back into town, which is great news."

It's hoped the event can grow next year with more businesses taking part and new fun elements added for kids and adults.



"I LOVED IT !" SAYS KATE

"I loved every minute," said South Norfolk Radio's new voice Kate Roome after she'd brought her first show to the airwaves of the local community radio station on Tuesday 9th November. Kate is bringing back some great memories and hoping to put a smile on your face too.

"I was really excited and looking forward to getting behind the microphone," says Kate. "I'm hosting 'Kate's Kicking It Back Show' on Tuesdays from 6pm, with the music taking you back to the 90s and early 2000s."

And how was the experience of broadcasting live for the first time? "Well I have to admit that I was a bit nervous. I'd had a bit of training beforehand to help me get my head around the computer systems, but once I got going with the live show, I really enjoyed it. My two-hour show simply flew past and now I can't wait for the next one! I'm on air every Tuesday to fill you with nostalgia, make you smile and to bring back some great memories too," adds Kate. "But of course, this is 'Community Radio' so I want to hear from you – the listeners and members of the South Norfolk community."

"Make sure you get in touch with me via the new studio WhatsApp or through my own Instagram for any shout-outs or with memories that you'd like to share on-air and let's have some fun! It's all about having that feel-good feeling!"

As Kate mentioned, South Norfolk Radio now has a brand new WhatsApp! "With the launch of our WhatsApp contact system, we're making it even easier for the local community to stay



in touch with us," says Anthony Woods, South Norfolk Radio's Station Manager. "And our live show presenters in the studio will be able to see your messages on a big screen right on our broadcast desk, so won't have to be peering at the small-sized screen on a mobile phone."

"And if you would like to join us on your local Community Radio Station, run entirely by a team of volunteer members like Kate, then do get in touch. We've got all sorts of roles for all ages and abilities, and even if actually presenting your own show seems a bit too daunting, there's a whole host of people working in the background to keep the shows, and the station, on the road! Email us if you are interested at info@snradio.uk or send us a message on the WhatsApp! We'd love to hear from you."

South Norfolk Radio will be broadcasting live from the Market Cross for Wynterfest on Sunday 5th December.

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PRE SCHOOL POPPIES

The children at Stepping Stones Pre School made poppies in November as they discussed and remembered brave soldiers in the run up to Remembrance Sunday, reading stories, making a big group poppy and making some poppy biscuits as a treat too...



ZUMBA INSTRUCTOR WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Wymondham-based Zumba instructor Rachel Evans, who holds weekly classes in Central Hall, recently won her category (Fitness Instructor East Region, including London) at the National Community Fitness Awards in Newcastle - adding to another award given by Muddy Stilettos Norfolk last month.

"I'm incredibly proud to be the recipient of both accolades and considering my age of 51 I think it's quite a remarkable achievement," says Rachel. "I specialise in a program called Zumba Gold and deliver classes in the Wymondham area designed for older active adults (my eldest student is 81 years young).

"I'm a community instructor and I have always encouraged my students to support one another. This became particularly vital during the pandemic when many of my older students felt anxious and alone. Within days of the first lockdown I managed to launch a full on Zoom Zumba programme. The pandemic didn't stop us from staying fit and healthy, and it also didn't stop us from raising over £5,000 for the NHS charity and The Alzheimer's Association. More recently we held a Zumba Ball in aid of Wymondham Dementia Support Group, raising £2,000 for this worthy local charity."

GARDEN CLUB UPDATE

Like all the clubs and societies in Wymondham, the Covid crisis meant the Garden Club went into a period of enforced hibernation. As the situation begins to ease, the Garden Club is opening up once more and is optimistically looking forward to 2022.



The Club committee are pleased to announce a full monthly Club Programme with talks, meetings and a revamped Show programme for 2022.

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society, Wymondham Garden Club is a friendly club of likeminded town and district gardeners who don't take themselves too seriously (they are a club rather than a society). The club meets monthly, generally on the third Monday of the month, at the Town Green Centre. Meetings begin at 7.30pm. At the next meeting, in January, the guest speaker will be Jim Paine on the subject of Botanical Gardens.

The exhibit table welcomes 'Show' competition entries; for 2022 this will include a regular casual gardener category 'A Favourite from My Garden - Plant or Flower, Fruit or Vegetable', where anyone can bring along something they have grown which interests them. No prizes, this 'Green Fingers' category is just for fun - and hopefully other members will learn (or be encouraged to try) something new to them.

To become a member of the Wymondham Garden Club you don't have to have a large garden or a deep knowledge of gardening, just an interest in the subject and a desire to grow 'things' (be they flowering plants, shrubs, trees, vegetables or wild flowers - they all count). Membership of the club costs £18 a year (or £4 as a guest at a meeting - deductible if you decide to join).

Further information and contact details for the Garden Club will be posted in the January What's On section of *Wymondham Magazine*.

WYNG DECEMBER TALK

The next indoor meeting of Wymondham Nature Group (WyNG), the local members' group of Norfolk



Wildlife Trust (NWT), will be held on Thursday 9th December at 7.30pm, with an illustrated talk by Mike and Pam Merrick. 'The Wildlife of Chile' will describe the speakers' wonderful trip to Chile, travelling from the Atacama Desert in the north to the mountains of Patagonia in the far south. They saw a huge variety of wildlife and terrains.

The venue is the Town Green Community Centre, NR18 0PW (next to Wymondham Methodist Church). The meeting room will be well ventilated, hand sanitiser will be available, and those attending may be asked to wear a face covering/mask. All welcome - admission £2 - further details from Ann Carpenter on 01508 488337.

Photo by Mike and Pam Merrick



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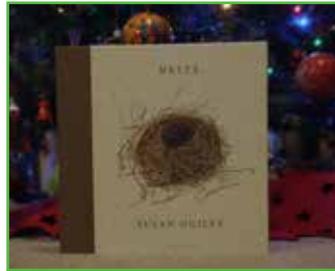
IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS...

A small selection of gifts to be found locally - check out the town's businesses in person to find more ideas for the perfect present!

Kett's Books

Nests by Susan Ogilvy
126 pages, £20 fully illustrated hardback

Nests is a beautiful new book from painter Susan Ogilvy, who presents a fascinating collection of real-size homes birds build for themselves. Her curiosity began when she found a chaffinch nest blown out of a fir tree. Now she offers the first book since 1932 on the intricacies of birds' nests, in an exquisitely illustrated collection perfect for nature lovers (no nests in use were disturbed for the making of the paintings).



All resources including illustrated instructions, glue and battery are included in your kit. With four at the studio to choose from, which will you create?



The Orange Grove Clinic

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Why not give the gift of massage this Christmas? Treat a loved one to a little bit of 'me time' this Christmas in the wonderfully warm and inviting massage room. Whether you would like an hour of pure relaxation or a deeper/firmer massage, they

have a treatment to suit. Save 20% off all vouchers this Christmas by entering code xmas20 at checkout.

Wardrobes

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Among possible gift ideas are Christmas socks ranging from £4 to £20, the 'magnetic clip' available in lots of designs and colours, complete with a gift bag, at just £10 (ideal for holding a scarf or coat in place), and slippers in a selection of colours, sizes and designs for ladies and gents.



The Lemon Tree Café

Afternoon Tea, £15.75 per person

Enjoy afternoon tea served on vintage china, with 1 1/2 rounds of sandwiches per person, homemade fruit scones with jam and clotted cream, and homemade cakes with chocolate dipped strawberries. All dietary needs are taken into consideration and there are a variety of fillings for everyone to enjoy a luxurious afternoon, in the lovely cafe or delivered for you to serve in the comfort of your own home.

Reno Refills Ltd

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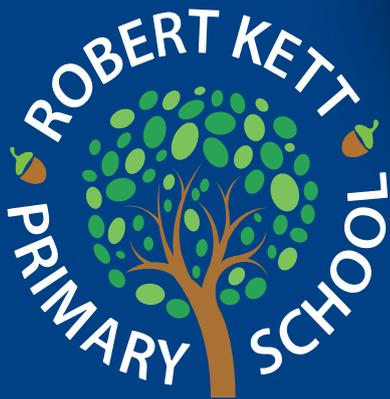
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ACHIEVING TOGETHER

WYMONDHAM NOTEBOOK

By Cllr Robert Savage

New bus shelter on Norwich Road

Good news that a new bus shelter has been installed along Norwich Road, opposite to the Waitrose entrance, in time for inclement winter weather. The shelter was part funded by Norfolk County Council and Wymondham Town Council.

South Norfolk Council Community 'Volunteer of the Year'

Congratulations to Victor Wright for winning the South Norfolk Council Community Award in the 'Volunteer of the Year' category. Victor is a volunteer at the Roots Community Cafe. Victor's role is to listen to those who visit and keep them company. The cafe can be found next to the Baptist Church in Wymondham town centre and everyone is welcome.

Congratulations also to Andrew Clarke from the Shed, who was runner-up in the 'Community Hero' category. Andrew helped to set up the Shed as we know it today, a place where men and women can go and interact with others in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Andrew worked tirelessly publicising the project and applying for funding to get it off the ground. He had been the inspiration and leader of a new project to set up a ladies group at the Shed.

Chairman of South Norfolk Council, Cllr. Florence Ellis, said: "I am extremely proud that we are able to host these awards and honour the pillars of our community who go above and beyond to support others."

Thanks to everyone who was nominated for their contributions to their communities.

Fire station arch

Good to see that the refurbishment of the Old Fire Station archway into the main town centre car park is underway. Work has been delayed recently due to the discovery of structural issues with the support beams. One is being replaced, the roof is being stripped and rotten timbers replaced. Severe cracks within the wall structure have also been discovered which have needed attention. These findings meant that access under the archway has not been possible in case debris was to fall onto the road below. Work has now re-started with completion expected by 10th December.

Wymondham Station access update

The detailed design for the new step-free access to the station is currently under way with a design completion due by August 2022. The design process will include finalising decommissioning of the railway siding, which is currently in use, and landowner agreements. It had been hoped that construction would commence September 2022. However, due to a requirement for space to construct the proposed new pedestrian underpass and cycle scheme by the bridge, the land required will not likely now be available until January 2023.

Picnic benches for Ketts Park

The new picnic benches and seats have been delivered to the Town Council and will be set in place as soon as the grounds maintenance team have time available. The benches will provide welcome additional seating in Ketts Park.

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM GREENING WYMONDHAM

Most of us have been dealing with the impact of Covid, but somehow we've managed some notable successes this year to help green Wymondham.



Thanks to the involvement of so many people from Browick Road, there's been a great start to the Community Orchard. Dozens of parents and children helped to prepare places for trees, plant bulbs and clear down scrub. That wonderful project will be going on throughout 2022.

200 primary children were given trees to plant - BBC Radio Norfolk covered the tree gifts at Robert Kett school and hope to follow up on the pupils who plant them. Ketts Park has seen major bulb planting and continual improvements and we have continued to plant and nourish roadside verges to encourage wildlife. And there's a historic mound in Wymondham which is misunderstood and mystical - we'll keep you updated.

So much more to be done as we fight back against climate change. Join us and help make 2022 greener and healthier for Wymondham!



Do you know a family who would struggle to afford Christmas this year?



Hub Community Project is providing free hampers for families in need this Christmas, each hamper will contain all the essential ingredients to make a full, tasty Christmas lunch.

Why? Traditionally Christmas is a season of good news and joy. However, for those who are stretched financially Christmas may look like a stress filled and joyless occasion. We want to show love to these families by providing them with the means to have a meal together.

To nominate a family for a free hamper, please contact:
Debbie Rose, Hub Community Project, The Hub, Ayton Road, Wymondham, NR18 0JQ or email info@hubproject.org.uk by **Monday 13 December 2021.**

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The Town Council offices are situated at:

**Ketts Park
Harts Farm Road
Wymondham
Norfolk, NR18 0UT**

**Telephone:
01953 603302**

Email: office@wymondhamtc.co.uk

**Office opening hours:
Monday to Friday
9.30am to 4pm**

Mayor's Christmas Message

When I wrote in the December 2020 edition of About Wymondham I spoke about how we were looking forward to 2021 with hope in our hearts. That hope ebbed away because in January we were plunged into a further lockdown and all our hopes for an end to the pandemic appeared to lay in tatters! Then came an enhanced and dedicated program of vaccinations, the like of which this country has never seen before. Finally by July all restrictions were lifted and people began to return to some form of normality, albeit with a great deal of trepidation as we learnt to return to a more familiar pattern of life.

Although life appears much better, we should not become complacent, for Covid-19 has not gone away; people are still having to live with the disease and sadly people are still losing their lives. There are still significant outbreaks on the continent so we must stay vigilant and be prepared to wear face coverings from time to time to protect ourselves and others.

In the world of local politics we saw a welcome return of in person meetings, which has enabled more interaction between councillors and participants and helped meetings to flow more easily compared to those held over Zoom. Whilst we were grateful to have the online technology to tide us through the lockdowns, there is in my opinion no substitute for meeting in person.

From July onwards public meetings were reinstated, many were rescheduled events originally postponed when Covid-19 struck and I can confirm that my diary filled very quickly with a stream of events in locations across the county. From mid-July until now, my wife and I have attended over 20 events, and we can honestly say that it has been wonderful to

participate and meet people again. We have made new friends, and these are people that we will continue to meet long after my mayoral term ends. I hope that many of you have shared similar experiences where you have been able to re-acquaint with your families and friends, and indeed make new friends as we have.

I was so pleased to finally be able to hold my Civic Reception in September, as this was also postponed from the original intended date of April 2020. It was a delight to be able to invite friends, family, fellow councillors, dignitaries and representatives of local organisations to meet and enjoy each other's company for a few hours.

Some of my greatest honours involved making presentations to others. I was fortunate enough to be able to present two civic awards; one to Mr Arnie McConnell for his tireless work to support lonely, disadvantaged and vulnerable people in the community, and one to Mr Philip Yaxley to recognise his services to Wymondham and his sterling efforts to preserve the history of our town.

Another honour was laying the wreath on Remembrance Sunday to commemorate all those from Wymondham and beyond who had served their country and paid the ultimate sacrifice; this is a day when the whole town comes together to remember and pay their respects to those brave men and women.

As always, I would like to thank my fellow councillors and Town Council staff for their support throughout the year, again we have endured some difficult times and I really appreciate all the help, support and guidance given. I would also like to extend my sincere thanks to my lovely wife, Sharron, who has supported me throughout year and been my consort at many functions.

Another vote of thanks needs to go to our NHS staff, who again had to cope with very difficult and testing times earlier this year. This also extends to all of those NHS staff and volunteers that have worked hard to deliver a first class vaccination program to protect us against Covid-19. I suspect this vaccination program will be continued for quite some time to give us the immunity we need.

I must also send a massive thank you to all the local volunteers and charitable organisations that helped us navigate through the pandemic. We can all learn from these wonderful people and apply some of their kindness to our everyday lives. Let us continue to keep an eye on our elderly neighbours, perhaps drop a Christmas card through their door with a short message and a phone number beneath the message to let them know they have someone to call on if they need help. Such thoughtful acts can mean so much to many people,

especially at Christmas.

I look forward to the remainder of my term of office, and still feel an immense sense of pride to be Mayor of this wonderful town. Please take care of yourselves and continue to look out for others. May I take this opportunity to wish every one of you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Cllr Kevin Hurn

Meeting dates – Council and Committees

The Town Council normally meets on the first Tuesday of each month with the Finance & General Purposes and the Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism Committees meeting on the third Tuesday, during alternative months. Planning applications are dealt with by the Planning, Lighting & Highways committee which meets on both the first and third Tuesdays monthly. Dates until April 2022 are set out below. The complete list is available on the Town Council's website with agenda being published seven days before the event giving starting times.

January

- 4th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 18th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism

February

- 1st Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 15th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

March

- 1st Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 15th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Leisure Environment Enterprise & Tourism

April

- 5th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Town Council
- 19th Planning Lighting & Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

Civic Awards

Wymondham Town Mayor, Cllr Kevin Hurn bestowed two Civic Awards this year.

The first of the two Awards was awarded to Arnie McConnell at the Mayor's Civic Reception which took place in September this year. Arnie raises funds for a number of community projects, including The Community Kitchen, The Community Fridge and Help Point. These projects support families and individuals who are experiencing financial hardship and food poverty and tackle food waste in our society. In October 2019 Arnie was recognised by Norfolk Constabulary when he won a Community Citizen of the Year Award for his outstanding contribution in helping to keep Norfolk safe.

The second Award was presented to Philip Yaxley (pictured) who is a Wymondham born and bred local historian who founded, and is the longest serving member of, the Wymondham Heritage

Society. Philip has assisted the Wymondham Heritage Museum with displays and exhibitions and has written many publications for them. He has also been a Trustee of many other groups, societies and charities and has written numerous books about Wymondham. In 2000 Philip became one of the founding members of the Regal Experience Group to keep the Regal Cinema running for open days and special events at the Wymondham Ex Services Club.

It gave Cllr Hurn a great deal of pleasure to present both Arnie McConnell and Philip Yaxley with their well deserved Civic Awards.



Who are your councillors?

As a result of the elections in May 2019, and subsequent by-elections, the following have been elected to serve until the next Local Government elections in May 2023 (May 2025 for County Councillors), representing Wymondham on the county (NCC), district (SNC) and/or town councils.

Central

Mr R Elliott	07733002897	richard@topbarnnorfolk.co.uk	WTC
Mr R Savage	01953 603722	robert.savage@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	WTC, SNC
Mr K Hurn	01953 798492	kevin.hurn.kh@gmail.com	WTC, SNC
Mr I Flatt	01953 603398	ianorchardflatt@hotmail.com	WTC
Ms K Carsok	07941 514766	kcarsok@gmail.com	WTC

East

Mr P Broome	01953 600829	pbroome.309@gmail.com	WTC
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North

Mrs Y Astley	07912 628095	yvette.astley72@gmail.com	WTC
Mr A Holden	01953 857316	tholden88@yahoo.com	WTC, SNC
Mr J Murrell	07504 695203	jordimurrell@hotmail.co.uk	WTC
Miss P Hubble	01953 604113	pennylibdem@gmail.com	WTC
Mrs K Cross	01953 606996	cllrkatheryncross@gmail.com	WTC
J Hornby	07778 385913	cllrjhornby@gmail.com	SNC

South

Mr J Halls	01953 600720	julian.halls@talktalk.net	WTC, SNC
Mrs A James	01953 605554	annetlibdem@gmail.com	WTC
Mrs S Nuri-Nixon	01953 601108	suzannelibdem@gmail.com	WTC, SNC

County councillors

Wymondham

Mr R Savage	01953 603722	robert.savage@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk	NCC
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Forehoe

D Elmer	07575 578972	daniel.elmer.cllr@norfolk.gov	NCC
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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REACHES IMPORTANT MILESTONE

After nearly 18 months of hard work and consultation, a team made up of a range of local community representatives, residents and elected Town Councillors has produced a draft version of the Wymondham Neighbourhood Plan and would like the community to tell us what you think. This 'pre-submission consultation' draft Plan will be available for comment from the start of December until mid-January 2022. Copies of the document will be available online on the Town Council website and Facebook page along with feedback forms that can be completed and emailed to office@inghampinnock.com. Alternatively, hard copies have been placed in the Town Council reception and the Library.

The Neighbourhood Plan Team has been meeting every few months since 2020 and many residents have kindly dedicated lots of time and energy to the Plan's development. Over that period the Team has:

- Undertaken background research on local social, economic and environmental conditions in Wymondham and the surrounding area
- Undertaken initial community consultation to understand local aspirations, concerns and ideas (Winter 2020/21)
- Been on a series of structured 'walkabouts' led by specialists

to understand different areas within the town and particular issues of interest or concern

- Held workshops to discuss different aspects of life in Wymondham and to develop policies
- Undertaken a second round of community consultation to test a draft vision, objectives and draft policies for the Neighbourhood Plan (Summer 2021). The draft policies prepared reflected what people had told them earlier in the year and were all well supported.

A series of policies have been developed and the Plan is now ready for what is referred to as the 'pre-submission consultation stage'. Reflecting on feedback from previous consultation events, amongst other things, policies focus on:

- Protecting and enhancing the town centre including Wymondham's many historic buildings
- Protecting important views of the Abbey from around the town such as from Chapel Lane and protecting important views out into the countryside
- Improving access to the countryside and increasing the provision of 'green infrastructure'

After this current consultation the Plan will be revised in light of community feedback and a number of 'submission documents' will be prepared. The Town Council will then submit the Plan and these documents to South Norfolk Council who will oversee the completion of the process, which includes an independent examination and a local referendum.

Livewire

presents

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**Saturday 4th December 2021
at 7.30pm**

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Back Lane, Wymondham**

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available from 01953 851543
also available on line via
www.livewireoperacompany.co.uk

*Due to Covid-19 we will not be providing refreshments.
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Talent is visible everywhere you turn
Independence is promoted in every aspect of the day
Originality is encouraged to help you on your way
Nurture is something that we never forget

We love Reception here at Robert Kett!



TOTALLY LOCALLY WYMONDHAM

By Tracy Kenny

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? The Totally Locally team are 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...

Aideen Summers | The Lemon Tree Cafe

We purchased The Lemon Tree Café Bar six years ago. At that time it was known as the LT Café Bar. We changed it back to its original name. The Lemon Tree name seems to fit the atmosphere and surroundings.

Before we purchased the café, my husband David and I had spent all of our lives in Aviation. We'd been living in the south of England. He was Customer Services and Director at Monarch Airlines and therefore got to reply to all the difficult complaint letters! I worked as an Aircraft Dispatcher for British Caledonia, City Flyer, and British Airways. I was responsible for aircraft safety, all supportive services, and an on-time departure. Having spent 40 years in a very demanding industry, we decided on a different pace of life. 10 years ago we found a new home in Tacolneston.

For the first few years in Norfolk we carried on with our careers, working mostly remotely. We didn't know a soul, and that was hard in the beginning, having left so many friends in Sussex. Our first new friends we met at the local pub – food brings people together!



We were converting our house and getting to know Wymondham, and I sold a few bits that wouldn't fit in the new kitchen conversion to Trisha at Ebony next door to the café. A few years later when we were looking for another project my husband came across this opportunity online. We came in and had a cup of tea, to think about whether this is something we'd want to do. I loved the feel of the place – and then I saw my old plate rack on the wall. It was as if it was waiting for me, and so it was meant to be.

We went home and talked to our grown-up children. Sam and Lucy both had their own jobs, but they weren't really doing what they wanted. So they said straight away that they would join us, and we started this as family.

The previous owners were lovely. We spent a week with them before we took over, and then they stayed around for a week after, so we were able to transition smoothly. Since then we have gone from strength to strength and haven't looked back.

Even though I hadn't ever done anything like this before, I'd always had a passion for cooking. Even while the children were young I'd do christenings, weddings, funerals, big parties, and cook for friends. I do all of the cooking, everything fresh: I make homemade sourdough and brioche, I bake all the cakes and scones and cookies. I even make the baked beans and the pickle that goes in the burgers.

The days are long but it's so nice to be around people who have time to talk to you. We have 13 people who work here, and I love being in the kitchen and listening to the banter and to them laughing with our customers. My team is the best, and I just couldn't do it without them. We do it together. They work hard and eventually



everybody learns to do everything, so we're a really strong team. But then the youngsters are here to get experience, and they grow up and move on, and that's always sad, but we've given them a good start. When we get new staff in, all the customers are patient, and it means we can give someone else a great opportunity.

My neighbours are wonderful. Trisha's the best. All the neighbours buy from each other, and we're doing deliveries all the time across the street or next door. Reeves, Enchanted Willow, RSPCA, Fosters, Spires, Reno Wines, Justin from the Green Dragon - they all come in and order. They're very supportive, and it works both ways. Merv supplies some of our bread, and the eggs come from Cavick Farm. All the fruit and veg comes from Norwich. I think our furthest supplier is in Suffolk!

We did takeaway and delivery during lockdown, especially afternoon teas on Mother's Day. We supply the Afternoon Teas to Imagine Spa in the Leisure Centre, and we're developing our vegan offering – it's best if you ring a day ahead and we can make sure we prepare something really special. We always have a vegan chocolate cake that everybody loves, and also vegan sausages, so we are able to design a breakfast.

We have a very loyal customer base, crucial to a business in our growing town.

In brief...

ARTIST OPEN WEEKEND

Award-winning local artist and author Patrick Boswell will be opening his studio from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 27th and Sunday 28th November, featuring oil paintings of local landscapes, beach scenes, prints and books for sale. The studio is located at the end of Spinks Lane, off the B1172.

EACH CHARITY FUNDRAISER

Customers of Wymondham Sports Bar have helped raise a phenomenal £1,540 for East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) after a fundraising event in October. Many local businesses donated raffle prizes, and a special mention goes to Adie Fiddy, whose sponsored head shave raised a large percentage of the donation.

NUMBER 24 CLOSED

Jonathan and Isobel at Number 24 have announced that their restaurant is now closed permanently after 19 years. In a post on social media, they thanked their customers for their support and loyalty over the years: "We have been overwhelmed with the kind words, cards and gifts we have received. All our staff have been fantastic and we couldn't have operated without them. We haven't made any plans for what's next but will keep you posted."

FESTIVE FLOWER WORKSHOPS

Ragged Robin Florists will be holding Christmas flower arranging workshops this month, including the popular wreath making classes. Visit www.raggedrobinflorist.co.uk to see a list of dates and to book a place. They also offer DIY kits so you can make a beautiful wreath in the comfort of your own home, available until Saturday 11th December.

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EVENTS

Wymondham Garden Centre will be holding two late night shopping events

this month, on Wednesday 1st and Wednesday 15th December from 5pm to 8pm, featuring face painting and activities for children, plus mulled wine for the adults and a raffle in aid of Wymondham Dementia Support Group.

CHRISTMAS AT THE METHODIST CHURCH

Wymondham Methodist Church wishes you a very happy and joyful Christmas. In addition to the usual 10.30am Sunday service, and Tuesday coffee mornings, on Christmas Eve there will be a traditional Carol service led by Rev Steve Cullis at 6pm, and on Christmas Day a 10am morning service will be led by Rev Mary Cousins. On Boxing Day will be a Zoom service. The church will also be open from 12noon to 5pm on Sunday 5th December as part of Wynterfest - go and see the decorations, look at the display of cribs and enjoy some mince pies.

ABBEY CAROL PROCESSION

Wymondham Abbey is organising a Carol Procession on Friday 10th December from 6pm. Meet at the Abbey for warm mulled wine or spiced apple drink and mince pies, then process around the town singing Christmas carols. Everyone welcome.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

On Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th December will be the High Oak Christmas Tree Festival at Morley Saint Botolph. Get into the Christmas spirit with trees decorated by organisations, schools, churches and individuals from around High Oak. Refreshments will be available, with a raffle and children's crafts. On the Sunday at 2.30pm will be the Wicklewood Guides Carol Concert, and a Christingle Service will be held at 6pm.

NEW BUSINESS

A new hair salon has opened recently in Wymondham. Hair Kandi can be found at 8 Whartons Court - welcome!



HAMPERS FOR CHRISTMAS

Wymondham's Hub Community Project is providing hampers to help those who will struggle to afford Christmas this year. Each hamper will include everything needed to make Christmas lunch and a small gift for children up to the age of 10. Readers are being asked to help by nominating families in need following similar successful initiatives in previous years.

Debbie Rose, from Hub Community Project, says: "Christmas is a time for good news, joy and enjoying a family meal together. But for some Christmas is a struggle as they do not have the finances to meet day-to-day needs, so a full festive meal is just not affordable. This is especially so this year as the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic linger and we are all seeing fuel and food costs increase. We want to show love and care to these families by providing a delicious, traditional Christmas lunch with all the trimmings."

To nominate a family contact: Debbie Rose, Hub Community Project, The Hub, Ayton Road, Wymondham, NR18 0QJ, 01953 798505 or email: info@hubproject.org.uk by Monday 13th December. Hampers are available for families living in and within a five-mile radius of Wymondham. Please ensure nominations include name, address, contact telephone number, number of adults, gender and ages of children and any special dietary requirements. Please also specify whether or not a hamper would need to be delivered.

FESTIVE HOLIDAY FUN

A programme to keep children active and support families over the Christmas holidays has opened for booking. Dozens of activities including drama, sports, and arts and crafts, are once again available for all children aged between four and 16. They are free for those eligible for means-tested free school meals. Called Big Norfolk Holiday Fun, the programme is being run by Norfolk County Council and Active Norfolk. The majority of sessions will take place between Monday 20th and Thursday 23rd December. Details can be found at www.activenorfolk.org/bigholidayfun

WOOD AVENS LIGHTS

The display of Christmas lights at Wood Avens Way on Hart's Farm is happening once again in 2021. This year residents are raising money for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital - www.justgiving.com/fundraising/wood-avens-lights

GREETINGS FROM WYMONDHAM

A small selection of postcards and photographs from Christmases past in Wymondham...

In the heyday of postcards there was a huge variety of designs which were overprinted with the names of cities and towns across the country, enabling senders to post birthday, festive and Easter greetings to loved ones, like this example of a Wymondham Christmas postcard from the early 1900s.

Postcards were hugely popular in the Victorian and Edwardian eras, and with up to three postal deliveries a day they were an important form of communication. Many people collected the postcards they received in albums, which were passed down the generations, giving us an interesting insight into times past.

The reverse of this card is from a mother to her daughter, probably during the First World War years, and reads as follows on the reverse...



My Dear Daughter,

Just a PC to wish you a very Merry Xmas. I hope you will have a nice time. We shall be very quiet here. I hope you got your parcel safe and enjoy your

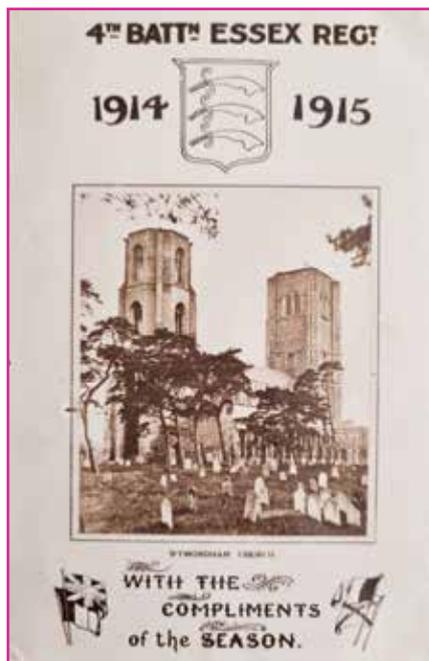
cake. I hope you have heard from Dadda. He was well when I heard last. Thank you for the nice cards, we received every one.

Thank you. With love and kisses from your loving Mother.

XXX

Christmas Greetings from the Essex Regiment 1914

G Company of the 4th Service Battalion arrived in Wymondham in November 1914. Many of the soldiers were billeted with families mainly around the Norwich Road and Town Green areas, and stores were set up in Church Street. The higher ranks received the better accommodation whilst some of the men would have slept in stables. They were however made very



welcome by the families and were fed well by the ladies of the houses. There are many photographs taken of the soldiers during their stay in the town. The Christmas cards from their stay served as souvenirs and provide us with a fascinating glimpse into the early months of the Great War in Wymondham and the gratitude held by the men of the Essex Regiment. They stayed in the town until the end of January 1915.

A Standley Christmas

Head of her family, Rosa Jane Standley of Town Green Wymondham, sits proud and ready to serve the Christmas pudding in a family photograph from around 1946.

Rosa's late husband Charles Harvey Standley had founded his ironmongers shop in 1886 and moved to Town Green with his family in 1895. Charles died in 1932 and his son Eric and his wife Gladys kept the business in operation. Family links to printer and stationer George Reeve were made when Eric's sister Doris and George married in 1942. Eric's sister Marie had married Reg Seager in 1933 and their son Brian would take on his uncle's, George Reeve's, printing firm following George's passing in 1977. Eric's other sister Elsie had worked as a Red Cross nurse in World War One at the Voluntary Aid Detachment Hospital at Abbotsford in Vicar Street. Elsie married the Reverend Thomas Featherstone, a Primitive Methodist minister, in 1918, and they went on to have two sons, Deryck and Alan.



Left to right seated: Eric Standley, Gladys Standley, Rosa Jane Standley, Doris Reeve (nee Standley) and Reg Seager. Left to right standing: Rev. Tommy Featherstone, Elsie Featherstone (nee Standley), Marie Seager (nee Standley), Brian Seager, Philip Standley, Pamela Standley, Alan Featherstone.

Dickensian Evening 1987

Brian and June Seager of George R Reeve Ltd, printers, stationers and booksellers of Market Street, pictured on Dickensian Evening 1987 in their neighbour's premises of Wymondham Travel.

The Dickensian event was in its infancy at this time but local businesses were keen to participate and get in the festive mood by offering late night shopping, mulled wine and mince pies galore. The event has had many forms and changes over the years but remains the highlight of the town's calendar, and currently is known as Wynterfest.



A G Proctor & Son Christmas window

A cosy Christmas shop window from 1993 - A G Proctors shoe shop



with a traditional display of Christmas cards and usual selection of traditional slippers, which were always a staple gift to be given to many parents and grandparents. One Christmas, Colin Proctor sold a record over 1,000 pairs!

Colin's father Arthur George Proctor opened a shoe repair and cobblers shop in Bridewell Street in 1914, before signing up for The Great War and serving in France. Returning from the war Arthur reopened his shop and in 1930 moved to the old Goat public house in Church Street. Arthur died in 1963 and the business was passed on to his son Colin, who had >



> worked with his father since he was 14. The shop was extended into the former Rose and Crown pub on Damgate corner in 1971. Colin served the town extremely well, offering a fabulous fitting, sales and repair service to young and old alike. Colin retired in 1995 and the business then passed to his son Terry. After being run by three generations of the Proctor family the shop ceased trading in 2012 and the building is now the RSPCA charity shop.

Colin Proctor with assistant Heather Whitham, dressed to welcome customers in Victorian attire at Wymondham's Dickensian evening in 1987.

Over 60s Christmas Party

Some over 60s members enjoying their Christmas dinner at the WI Hall on Norwich Road in about 1960. Hartie Clover is far right on the front, whose husband William was Master Bell Ringer at Wymondham Abbey. Does anybody recognise anyone else?

The Women's Institute Hall was built in 1927 and many of the town's social events were held there including plays, fairs, dances, rollerskating, parties exhibitions and trade fairs. The hall closed in 1965 and the site was sold, with housing now standing there.



Image credit: Eastern Counties Newspapers

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find us on

An update from



By Victoria Pigg, www.starthrowers.org.uk

Star Throwers continues to support people affected by cancer; we are now able to offer the following sessions in-person (by appointment): information sessions, counselling, nutrition, fatigue management, massage, indian head massage, reiki, hypnotherapy and reflexology. Please contact us to find out more.

Come along and visit our shop which will be open as part of Wynterfest on Sunday 5th December from 12noon to 4pm. We have a huge selection of Christmas items and clothing – don't forget to buy your raffle tickets whilst you are there to be in with a chance of winning a cupcake making class worth £500!

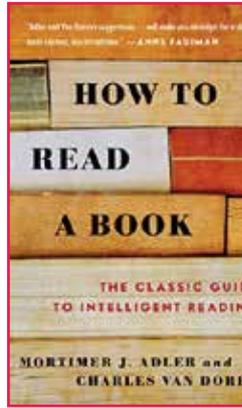
We were incredibly grateful to be one of the local charities supported by the Coop Community fund - we received a donation for £4,486.38!! Thank you so much to our local supporters who chose to support Star Throwers when buying Coop products.

We are holding our second Star Throwers Charity Ball at Barnham Broom Hotel on Saturday 26th February 2022. Tickets are nearly sold out but we are looking for corporate sponsors - email victoria@starthrowers.org.uk.

BOOK REVIEW

How To Read A Book

By Mortimer Adler and Charles Van Doren



Most of the reading population is (quite rightly) hard-wired to take with a pinch of salt titles of this effect: "How To..." followed by something of a basic characteristic, such as How To Talk, How To Think, 7 Simple Steps to Guarantee Success, etc., etc. Mortimer Adler's *How To Read A Book* might be the first one I've found which is not only written with great care, intelligence, and authenticity, but leaves me fully convinced of the validity of its advice and the rewards that could be reaped from returning to it in later life.

First published in 1940 by Adler, and then revised with the co-authoring of Van Doren in 1972, this practical guide advises the reader for the critical reading of great books of any tradition. The writers begin by outlining the four levels of reading (in increasing complexity): elementary, inspectional, analytical, and syntopical. Before outlining each approach in more detail, he establishes the four questions that an active reader (regardless of the level) should always ask:

- 1) What is the book saying as a whole?
- 2) What is being said in detail, and how?
- 3) Is it true, or in part?
- 4) What of it?

After a thorough breakdown of the first three reading levels, Adler then applies his rules to individual genres: imaginative literature, history, practical books, philosophy, social sciences, and more, before outlining syntopical reading and ending on a motivating note on what good books can do for us.

The most wonderful and enduring thing about this is that it teaches you to read everything. It teaches you to read epics, poetry, short stories, novels, plays, science, maths, political treatises. It teaches you how to read under time constraints. It teaches you how to read daunting books (his argument is that all good books should daunt you).

It also teaches you to analyse without destroying your love for reading. Possibly the book's most applause-worthy moment is his proposition that Shakespeare has been ruined across generations of teaching by slowing it right down to scene-by-scene analyses, before the class have even read it properly. Read the whole play in one go, he suggests, and read it quickly. On a first reading especially, it is far more beneficial to have only understood 50% of it and to have still got a sense of the whole, rather than burning yourself out trying to analyse the first line. The detailed analysis will be easier and more enriching when you come back to it afterwards.

For scholars, students, or anybody who just loves to read – *How To Read A Book* is a must.

CHRISTMAS TREES
WYMONDHAM YOUNG FARMERS
DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR ON:
 DATE TO BE CONFIRMED

Free delivery within a 5 mile radius of Wymondham
 £2 delivery outside
 £7 per foot
 To order
 Call Molly Sellar on: 07496551240
 Money raised going towards The Spinal Injuries
 association and Wymondham young farmers

CAN I ASK MY EXECUTORS TO SELL MY HOME WHEN I DIE TO HELP PREVENT A DISPUTE AMONGST MY FAMILY?

Written by Lisa Myhill, Spire Solicitors LLP

Even if your family get along well, you may be worried about whether they would agree on what should be done with the family home if you were to die.

If you give your house to your children in your Will there are various ways in which they can choose to deal with it. For example, they could sell it and split the proceeds between siblings, one sibling could buy the other out and become the sole owner, or the house could be let out and rent divided. Occasionally, siblings will disagree on what to do.

Even the best sibling relationships can come under strain when deciding what to do with the family home after the death of the last surviving parent. It can get particularly difficult if one sibling would like to keep the property but cannot afford to buy out the others who would prefer to sell it.

If you believe there may be the possibility of your children disagreeing over what happens to your house when you die, you can try to prevent this by making your wishes clear now through communication with your children and a well drafted Will.

The first step may be talk to your children and lay out your wishes. This will mean there won't be any unpleasant surprises that could cause arguments later. It also allows

time for each sibling to prepare emotionally and perhaps financially for the desired outcome.

The second step is to review your Will. You can direct your Executors to sell your home when you die and if you consider this to be the best option, your solicitor can draw up a Will that expresses your wishes and helps to achieve this.

It is important you give specific details of how you want your children to inherit the sale proceeds rather than the property itself.



You may wish to express direction in your Will for how the sale of your property will be carried out. This can include who will sell it and whether it is on the open market, or by auction. It may be important to make sure that the property or the sale proceeds do not fall into what is known as 'the residue of your estate', if the residue benefits anyone other than your children, or benefits your children in unequal shares.

Our highly regarded and friendly wills, tax and probate team can talk you through the process of dealing with your property in your will to help reduce any disputes amongst your children when you die.

If you would like to discuss any points in this article further or are looking for independent advice relating to contentious probate or creating a will, please contact Spire Solicitors LLP on 01953 606351.



From my perspective

By Councillor Suzanne Nuri-Nixon

The lack of access at Wymondham Station platform 2 for disabled people, those with luggage, baby buggies and even cycles has been well documented over the years. Various protests and campaigns have taken place with many different individuals and groups getting involved. With the announcement last autumn of £600,000 plus to solve the problem from the Transforming Cities fund, it seemed hope for affected travellers was just around the corner.

However, although the money has been earmarked, it must be spent by March 2023. In the time since the awarding of the funding to now, nothing seems to have been done and time is ticking on.

Groups such as Wymondham Access Group (WAG) are more than concerned that not only will the deadline for the necessary improvements to be made pass but also that the improvements will not include any consultations with them as a disability rights' group. A couple of weeks ago, Neil Seach from WAG and myself both spoke on BBC Radio Norfolk about the problems we face in Wymondham and also about the worry the money will disappear.



Why does this matter? Because surely those affected the most by lack of access should be consulted on how they think the issue can be solved, after all they live their everyday lives hampered

by access issues we take for granted. Our town, lovely as it is with quaint architecture and narrow picturesque streets, is not really conducive for those in wheelchairs or mobility problems. We can't change Wymondham but we can look to how solve accessibility issues, particularly at the train station.

And that means while we look at a means to get people from the affected groups onto the platform, how they access the station itself should be considered. For example has anyone considered that disability parking spaces are necessary? WAG has.

We know there are people at Norfolk County Council working on this (though they are very poor at keeping local councillors informed of their progress) but they have not reached out on any design aspects of this project and that is worrying. For accessibility to truly work it has to include ALL stakeholders.

Without their input, we could end up with a botched job, potentially thousands of pounds of public money wasted and back at square one with no proper access at platform 2.

What's in a photo?

CHRISTMAS IN WYMONDHAM

By Philip Yaxley



A carol service around the Market Cross in December was a major and atmospheric event in the Wymondham calendar from the late 1950s when this photograph of one such occasion was taken by the photographer Philip Chapman, who passed it to me. Music was provided by the Salvation Army Band. In the 1960s Father Christmas, sponsored by a vibrant Wymondham Chamber of Trade, toured the town distributing sweets to waiting children.

In 1986 came the first Dickensian evening, organized by the Wymondham Lions with the Chamber of Trade soon taking over. It proved a highly popular evening with a packed programme of events ranging from communal carol singing and the arrival of Father Christmas to the presentation of the Wymondham shop assistant of the year award and the switching on of the Christmas lights. Then there was the magical Wynterfest, put together by a group of volunteers, the Town Team, and staged on a December afternoon. It offered live entertainment and attractions at various venues round the town, including a craft fair and Santa's Grotto, Nativity displays and a Christmas tree festival. Recently Steam Punk has entertained, but Wynterfest returns this year. Through the decades glittering Christmas lights have added sparkle to the town's festive season.





Tales from the POTTING SHED

H ello Ole Partners. My gardening tips this month...

- Keep bird feeders and water dishes full. Remember to wash them regularly to reduce the chance of disease
- Cover your outside tap and put hoses in the shed to avoid the chance of frost damage and potential leaks
- Clean your tools and greenhouse ready for next year
- If you are growing sprouts for Christmas lunch remove any yellowed leaves so fungal diseases don't get a hold
- Rake up leaves in beds and borders as they can harbour pests and slugs.

One year in the mid to late 1940s I did long turns in the lambing pens for the then owner of Shrubbery Farm in Carleton Rode and, as a bonus, he allowed me the shooting rights on his 200 acre farm. The only proviso the farmer made was that I should share my game bag with him at the end of the day. Well, times were hard in Norfolk then; fresh meat was still rationed and nowhere near as readily available as it is today. I was not about to turn my nose up at the chance to fill our family's cooking pot and perhaps make a shilling or two from birds I could sell on to other hungry people, even if it did mean giving him half of what I shot, so I agreed to this deal. Times are different now and you must remember I was shooting to eat, not for sport.

The one thing I lacked was a good gun dog but I had the perfect solution in my mate Fred, someone I had known from my childhood growing up in Bunwell. To be honest, we did not have that much in common really other than both enjoying a good day out with our guns but we got on

well. Fred's labrador was used to being loaned out on shoot days and enjoyed his work so much he would follow just about anyone with a gun! The other advantage in getting Fred to accompany me was that Fred could drive and had his own vehicle, an old and noisy V-8 Ford - much better than me having to ride my trusty bicycle. I checked if the farmer was happy for me to bring Fred along and permission was given happily.

Both of us were known for being good shots and we proceeded to have a wonderful afternoon (in those days I worked a half-day on a Saturday so I had already done several hours of labour). The dog was brilliant and nosed out anything we shot that fell out of sight. At one point a bird Fred shot fell into a meadow over Shrubbery Farm's border. I knew the owner of that other farm and felt sure he would not mind if I stepped on his land so I walked off with Fred's labrador following happily behind me. It took a while but the dog did not give up and, around 20 minutes later, my ex-GPO mailbag - repurposed as a gamebag - had another cock pheasant in it.

The heavy clay soil of the farm became extremely difficult to walk as the ever increasing load of our game bags weighed us down. By 3.30pm we had eight brace (16) birds safely tucked away in our bags. It was time to call it a day and drive back to see the farmer. Before we did that though I told Fred

I would hang my gamebag up in the hedgerow. Fred knew what I was about and did not question me. Off we went to the farm house. "I heard so many shots today the two of you must have overflowing bags," said the very happy looking farmer.

I shook my head sadly. "I'm afraid Fred was having a very off day and hardly managed to hit a tailfeather, he just wasted a lot of cartridges" I told him. "I was relatively lucky and Fred's old dog was on top form though, so we have two brace for you."

I let him take his pick of the birds in our one bag and he seemed happy with the four he chose. After a few more convivial words and cheerful goodbyes we set off in the V-8 back to the hedgerow to collect the other, overflowing, bag from where it was hanging before heading home. Now, you may feel that what we did was immoral, but I felt justified because I had put in many hours of overtime with the lambs that year and my hard work had paid off with some of the best lambs the farm had ever produced; all had fetched a very high price at market. Somehow, the farmer had 'forgotten' to pay me my lambing bonus and I saw this as a way of redressing the imbalance. Never cross a James!

My mother was extremely happy with what I took home and we had a very tasty meal or two from my haul. Those were often hard but frequently happy days.

Until next time, moined 'ow yer go.

Owen

Robert Kett Court resident Owen James, 96, is a true 'Broad Norfolk' speaking character. Once a resident of Bunwell Street, he now runs a residents' gardening club with help from his town councillor daughter Annette.



WHAT'S ON?

Friday 26th November

Crib Night
7pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Ska Souls - live music
8.30pm, The Robert Kett
www.facebook.com/PubRobertKett

Saturday 27th November

Christmas Fair
10am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Art Cafe
11am to 5.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Mini Artists' Saturday
2.30pm to 4pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Walkway - live music
9pm, The Cross Keys
www.facebook.com/keyswymondham

Big C Pop Up Craft Stall
10am to 4pm, 2 - 4 Allenbrooks Way
www.big-c.co.uk

Sunday 28th November

Table Top Sale
10am to 2pm, North Wymondham Community Centre. £5 per table, raising funds for the upkeep of the hall

Sunday Service - What a Christian believes: Why Church?
10.30am, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

Church Service
10.30am, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Sunday Service
10.30am, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Sunday Service - Advent Sunday
11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Life Drawing and Lunch
11.30am to 3.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Monday 29th November

Pabulum Café
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Tuesday 30th November

Wymondham Methodist Church Coffee Morning
10am to 12noon, Town Green Centre
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Wednesday 1st December

Late Night Shopping Evening
5pm to 8pm, Wymondham Garden Centre
www.facebook.com/wymondhamgc

Thursday 2nd December

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

Advent Wonderings
11am to 12.30pm, Wymondham Abbey.
Includes lunch, booking essential
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Crib Night
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Friday 3rd December

Pabulum Café
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Meeting Point
10.30am, Town Green Centre
01603 812619 (Linda)

Saturday 4th December

Art Cafe
11am to 5.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Clay Kids Saturday
11am to 12.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Mini Artists' Saturday
2.30pm to 4pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Psychic Night with Wayne McHugh
6.30pm for 7.30pm, Wymondham Town Football Club. Tickets £10
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Livewire Celebration of Christmas
7.30pm, Central Hall. Tickets £8 (under 13s free)
<https://livewireopera.wixsite.com/livewire>

Red Leaf - live music
8pm, Ex Services Social Club
www.redleaftheband.com

The Hedge At Home
8pm, by Rob Duhig
www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome

Sunday 5th December

Church Service led by Mr David Ingham
10.30am, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Sunday Service Livestream
10.30am, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Sunday Service
11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Wynterfest
12noon to 5pm, Town Centre
www.wymondhamtownteam.org

Roots Community Café open
12noon to 5pm, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

Disco
3.15pm, Ex Services Social Club
www.facebook.com/events/1732905123581411

WTFC Quiz
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Monday 6th December

Pabulum Café
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Tuesday 7th December

Wymondham Methodist Church Coffee Morning
10am to 12noon, Town Green Centre
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com



MARKETS

Every Friday

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

Country Market
10.30am to 12.30pm,
Wymondham Library

Third Saturday (18th December)

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

Practicing Presence
11am to 2pm, Wymondham Abbey. Includes lunch, booking essential
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Wymondham Ukulele Group
7.30pm to 9.30pm, The White Hart
www.wymondhamukulelegroup.com

Wednesday 8th December

Big C Huge Big Book Sale
10am to 3pm, 2 - 4 Allenbrooks Way
www.big-c.co.uk

Thursday 9th December

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

Cup of Caring
10.30am, The Hub, Ayton Road
07747 616531 (Libby)

Advent Wonderings
11am to 12.30pm, Wymondham Abbey. Includes lunch, booking essential
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

The Wildlife of Chile by Mike and Pam Merrick - a talk for Wymondham Nature Group (WyNG)
7.30pm, Town Green Community Centre. Tickets £2
www.facebook.com/WymondhamNatureGroup

Wymondham Ukulele Group
7.30pm to 9.30pm, The Feathers
www.wymondhamukulelegroup.com

Crib Night
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Comedy Night & Cocktails
8.30pm, The White Hart
www.facebook.com/thewhitehartwym

Friday 10th December

Pabulum Café
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Meeting Point
10.30am, Town Green Centre
01603 812619 (Linda)

Carol Procession
6pm, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Bingo Night
7pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Saturday 11th to Sunday 12th December

High Oak Christmas Tree Festival
11am Saturday to 5.30pm Sunday, Morley Saint Botolph

Saturday 11th December

Art Cafe
11am to 5.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Festive Table Top Sale
11am to 3pm, North Wymondham Community Centre. £5 per table, raising funds for PACT
07957 992766 (Jenny Moseley)

Mini Artists' Saturday
2.30pm to 4pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Community Carol Singing. Led by Louise Tingley of Creative Singing Studios
5pm to 6pm, North Wymondham Community Centre, Lime Tree Avenue
07851 370666 (Tony Vale)

Sunday 12th December

Sunday Service
10.30am, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

Church Service led by Rev Steve Cullis
10.30am, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Sunday Service
10.30am, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Sunday Service
11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Wymondham Helicopter Group presents A Christmas Charity Concert with the Taverham Band
3pm, St Remigius Church, 27 Norwich Road, Hethersett. Tickets £10
helen.normani@uwclub.net

Monday 13th December

Pabulum Café
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Tuesday 14th December

Wymondham Methodist Church Coffee Morning
10am to 12noon, Town Green Centre
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Evening Advent Candle-Lit Meditation
6pm to 7pm, Wymondham Abbey. Booking essential
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Wednesday 15th December

Late Night Shopping Evening
5pm to 8pm, Wymondham Garden Centre
www.facebook.com/wymondhamgc

Thursday 16th December

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

Crib Night
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Friday 17th December

Pabulum Café
10am to 1pm, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Meeting Point
10.30am, Town Green Centre
01603 812619 (Linda)

Saturday 18th December

Art Cafe
11am to 5.30pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Mini Artists' Saturday
2.30pm to 4pm, stART Studio
www.start-studio.co.uk

Sunday 19th December

Sunday Service
10.30am, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

Church Service Communion @ Hethersett Methodist Church
10.30am, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Carol Services
10am and 4pm, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Sunday Service
11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Carol Service
5pm, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

WTFC Quiz
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Monday 20th December

Pabulum Café
10am to 12noon, Fairland Church Centre
www.wymondham-dementia-support-group.org.uk

Tuesday 21st December

Wymondham Methodist Church Coffee Morning
10am to 12noon, Town Green Centre
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Wymondham Ukulele Group
7.30pm to 9.30pm, The White Hart
www.wymondhamukulelegroup.com

Thursday 23rd December

Wymondham Ukulele Group
7.30pm to 9.30pm, The Feathers
www.wymondhamukulelegroup.com

Crib Night
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Christmas Eve

Crib Service
5pm, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Traditional Christmas Carols Service led by Rev Steve Cullis
6pm, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

WHAT'S ON, continued...

Bingo Night
7pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Midnight Mass
11.30pm, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Christmas Day

Christmas Morning Service
10am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Christmas Morning Service
10am, Wymondham Baptist Church
www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk

Christmas Morning Service
10am, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Christmas Morning Service led by Rev Mary Cousins
10am, Wymondham Methodist Church
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Boxing Day

Zoom Church Service led by Briant Smith
10.30am, Wymondham Methodist Church
ZoomChurchService@outlook.com

Sunday Service
10.30am, Hope Community Church
www.hopecommunitychurch.co.uk

Sunday Service
11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Tuesday 28th December

Wymondham Methodist Church Coffee Morning
10am to 12noon, Town Green Centre
www.wymondhammethodistchurch.com

Thursday 30th December

Crib Night
8pm, Wymondham Town Football Club
www.wymondhamtownfc.co.uk

Friday 31st December

New Year's Eve Celebration
6pm, Wymondham Rugby Club. Tickets £5
www.tickettailor.com/events/wymondhamrugby/602352

New Year Party
8pm, Wymondham Sports Bar. Tickets £5
www.facebook.com/WymondhamSportsBar

Red Leaf - live music
10pm, The White Hart
www.facebook.com/thewhitehartwym

Norfolk Libraries online

Tuesdays

Bounce And Rhyme
10am, via Zoom. Fortnightly
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Reading Friends
6pm & 7pm, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Shut Up and Write
4pm, via Facebook
www.facebook.com/events/356479102243391

Young Reading Friends
4.30pm, via Zoom. For people aged 13-16
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Wednesdays

Knit And Knatter
2pm, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Thursdays

Just A Cuppa
4pm, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Reading For Wellbeing
7pm, via Zoom. Fortnightly
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Fridays

Drop In And Craft
3pm, via Facebook
www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesUK

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



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