

THE  
*Mardler*  
BROCKDISH & THORPE ABBOTTS



**Edition No. 247 October - November 2023**

**THE MARDLER is FREE and delivered to all  
houses in Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots**

**Also available on-line at [www.themardler.org.uk](http://www.themardler.org.uk)**

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*The views expressed in The Mardler are not necessarily those of the Editorial team. The Editor reserves the right to amend or alter any copy received.*

## BROCKDISH VILLAGE HALL TIMETABLE

Tuesday	Rest and Restore (7.00pm)
Wednesday	Art group (9.00am) Badminton (3.00pm & 5.00pm)
Thursday	Yoga <i>starting 12th Oct</i> (10.00am) Tea Dance (1.30pm) Carpet Bowls (7.30pm)

From local events and history to Parish Council news, please look at the village website:

**[www.brockdishandthorpeabbotts.com](http://www.brockdishandthorpeabbotts.com)**

## ADVERTISING IN THE MARDLER

If you are interested in advertising, the current rates are £25 for ¼ page, £50 for ½ page and £100 for a full page, which covers the 6 issues from 1<sup>st</sup> April annually. The cost for less than 6 issues is £5 per issue for ¼ page, £10 per issue for ½ page and £20 for a full page. For further information please contact Judith Chambers, see above.

<b>Harleston Surgery</b>	01379 853217
<b>Emergencies</b>	111
<b>Police</b> Harleston and Diss	101
<b>NHS Direct</b>	111
<b>Electricity Power Cuts</b>	105
<b>Gas Emergencies</b>	0800 111 999
<b>Anglian Water</b>	03457 145 145
<b>South Norfolk Council</b>	01508 533633
<b>Brockdish Village Hall</b> <i>Bookings Jill Edwards</i>	01379 669057
<b>Thorpe Abbots Village Hall</b> <i>Bookings Robert Buck</i>	01379 668663
<b>Waveney Heritage Centre</b>	01379 668285
<b>Carpet Bowls Club</b> <i>Peter Croxson</i>	01379 668630
<b>Art Club</b> <i>Sue Hughes</i>	01379 855414
<b>Badminton</b> <i>Roger Woodrow</i>	01379 669016
<b>Yoga</b> <i>Belinda</i>	07856 216735
<b>Rest and Restore Class</b> <i>Janet</i>	07951 714477
<b>South Norfolk District Councillor</b> <i>Clayton Hudson</i>	01379 676259
<b>South Norfolk County Councillor</b> <i>Martin Wilby</i>	01379 741504
<b>Parish Clerk</b> <i>Teresa Hines</i>	01379 308617
<b>South Norfolk Help Hub</b>	01508 533633 0845 269078
<b>Waveney Food Bank</b>	01379 870506

Welcome to this autumnal edition of The Mardler. Since the last issue, there have been a couple of changes to the editorial team. We say farewell to Linda Bell, and thank her for the years of dedication she has given to the magazine. Enjoy your Mardler retirement, Linda! Linda's shoes have been filled by Ben Poole from Brockdish. I'm sure you will all join me in welcoming Ben into The Mardler family.

Our front cover is courtesy of Thorpe Abbotts post box. Since the King's Coronation, various knitted toppers have appeared on the post box, and this month's creation featuring a hedgehog, toadstool, leaves, acorns and conkers, all recreated in yarn, seemed the perfect seasonal display. Whatever will appear on the post box next? Watch this space.

As you will have hopefully noticed, The Mardler is now printed in full colour by our new printers. If you would like to publish your advert or article in The Mardler in colour for no extra cost, please contact the editorial team.

### REMEMBER

**Closing date for entries in the December 2023/January 2024 issue is 2nd November 2023. Articles received after this date may not be included in the next issue.**



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**Activities and Services at Harleston Library**

***Tel: (01379) 852549, email [Harleston.lib@libraries.norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:Harleston.lib@libraries.norfolk.gov.uk)***

October sees the launch of our new Meet and Make group. Bring along your own crafts from home, or have a go at one of our 'Come and Try' sessions (materials provided). No need to book, just turn up and join in. Refreshments available. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 2.00pm onwards. We will also be launching our new Make and Play sessions for children aged 4+. No need to book, but children must be accompanied by an adult. 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, 3.30pm onwards.

On Saturday 14th October, there is a Meet the Author event. Come and meet Katharine Quarmby. She will share her exciting new book, which starts here in the Waveney Valley, and talk about her journey as an author. Booking advisable.

In half term, we will be holding a Halloween-themed activity afternoon on Friday 27th October. This event will run from 2.00pm – 3.30pm, and there will be lots of activities to try and fun to be had. Optional fancy dress.

Dates for your Diary (all activities are free of charge with refreshments available):

- ❑ Every Monday: Lego Club, 3.30pm-4.30pm
- ❑ Wednesday 4th October: Meet and Make (Adults), 2.00pm-3.00pm  
Make and Play (Accompanied children aged 4+) 3.30pm-4.30pm
- ❑ Wednesday 11th October: Knit and Natter Group 1.30pm-3.00pm
- ❑ Saturday 14th October: Meet the Author 2.00pm- 3.30pm (Booking advisable)
- ❑ Wednesday 18th October: Meet and Make (Adults), 2.00pm-3.00pm  
Come and try watercolours (materials provided).  
Make and Play (Accompanied children aged 4+) 3.30pm-4.30pm
- ❑ Wednesday 25th October: Knit and Natter Group, 1.30pm-3.00pm
- ❑ Friday 27th October: Half Term Halloween Fun 2.00pm-3.30pm

### **Activities and Services at Harleston Library**

For more information about our one-off events PLEASE NOTE we have a new Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/DissHarlestonLongStrattonLibrariesNorfolk/>

#### **Opening Hours:**

Monday: 8am-7pm (Staffed 11.30am-7pm)  
Tuesday: 8am-7pm (Open Libraries all day)  
Wednesday: 8am-7pm (Staffed 10am-7pm)  
Thursday: 8am-7pm (Open Libraries all day)  
Friday: 8am-7pm (Staffed 11.30am-7pm)  
Saturday: 8am-4pm (Staffed 11.30am-4pm)  
Sunday: 10am-4pm (Open Libraries all day)

### **Bringing the Library to You**

Our Home Library Service delivers books and other media free of charge to people unable to get to their local library due to poor health, mobility issues, or caring responsibilities. To use this service please contact the Norfolk Library and Information Service on 0344 800 8020 or email [libraries@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:libraries@norfolk.gov.uk).

To learn more about becoming a Norfolk Home Library Service Volunteer, please visit [royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](http://royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk), call 01603 397998, or email [norfolkhlis@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](mailto:norfolkhlis@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk).

### **Mobile Library**

Visits Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots every 4 weeks on a Thursday. Next visits are **5th October**, **2nd November** and **30th November**.

Stopping at:

- Brockdish Grove Road, 12.10 pm
- Thorpe Abbots, Mill Road (opposite Westview), 12.35 pm



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Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall Committee presents

# Candlelit Pumpkin Hunt

Saturday 28th October, 5pm

Meet at the Village Pump if you dare!  
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Contact Paul Slater for more details tel. 668585

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**Thank You**

On behalf of the residents of Brockdish, a huge thank you to the Parish Council for arranging the cleaning of the Brockdish War Memorial in the Churchyard. It has taken a long time to get done, but it truly does look magnificent.

***Jan Croxson***

I've been told that a kind person found my old cat when she died recently, and gave her burial. My deepest thanks for that kindness. She was 19 years old and old age finally defeated her. Thank you, whoever you are for putting her to rest.

***Jane Mould, Thorpe Abbotts***

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**Waveney Volunteers for Nature**

Work continues on both commons, and we are pleased to hear the many comments appreciating what is being done and the enjoyment the community is getting from it. On the prospects for the old school playing field, there are two pieces of news. Firstly, it transpires that, contrary to local folklore, the land was not donated to the school, but was actually purchased by Norfolk County Council, so that puts a bit more of a problem in our way. The Parish Council has, however, applied to register the land as an 'Asset of Community Value' which gives the community the first option to make a bid for the land if and when it is put up for sale. Secondly, the County Council has gone quiet in its responses, but we have picked up on the development that the County Council has been given £1/3m to prepare a 'Local Nature Recovery Strategy', and so we have made the case that the old playing field and adjoining the common could contribute to that strategy. We'll keep trying!

Our first AGM will take place on 10th October at the Waveney Heritage Centre. Everyone is welcome to join us for the evening, to hear about our progress and to contribute any ideas or views that they have.

We have also been taking an interest in 'BeeLine', which is a scheme for developing the connectivity between gardens and green areas in a community, thereby helping our wildlife. When we have explored this further we'll see if this is something that could be adopted in Brockdish. As always, your views would be welcomed.

***Derek Clark***

***Treasurer, Waveney Volunteers for Nature***  
**Brockdish Common - A polite request**

It seems a shame that after all the hard work by a group of volunteers to make the Common a place where the community can enjoy nature and peace and quiet, that irresponsible dog owners are not clearing up after their pets. The Common is not a dogs toilet. There are bins available on the Common and around the village for dog waste to be deposited.

### **Brockdish Carpet Bowls**

It is pleasing to see that numbers have increased over the last months. As members have increased this has enabled us to enter the Waveney Winter League. However, new faces are more than welcome to come along on Thursdays at 7.15pm, in Brockdish Village Hall. We are a friendly club, and have the time and patience to help new players, so why not come along and give it a go!

***Peter Croxson***

***Chairman, 01379 668630***

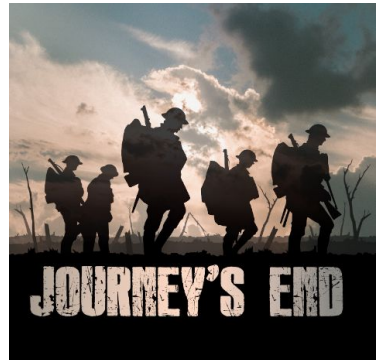
### **Roughcast Autumn Tour** **November 8th - November 19th**

RoughCast present one of the greatest of all English war plays. Journey's End shows the effect of war on a group of young officers. R.C. Sherriff's ground-breaking play remains one of the most powerful and successful pieces of modern drama and one of the most acclaimed examples of literature that deals with the tragedy and horror of conflict. Set over the course of four days leading up to a massive German attack on the British trenches in 1918, Journey's End charts the tension and claustrophobia as the new recruit to the company, Lieutenant Raleigh, discovers that Captain Stanhope, his former childhood friend and hero, has changed almost beyond recognition.

Performances at:

- Beccles Public Hall (8th)
- Diss Corn Hall (9th)
- Fisher Theatre Bungay (10th & 11th)
- The Cut, Halesworth (17th)
- Wingfield Barns (18th & 19th)

Tickets £12/£6 (students), all performances start 7.30pm. Proceeds from programme sales will be donated to the Royal British Legion.



To book, call 01379 586745, visit the venues, or find more details at [www.roughcast.co.uk](http://www.roughcast.co.uk).

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### Borderhoppa Outings for October/November 2023

- Mon 2nd Oct: Fish & Chip Lunch at Norman's, Harleston, Fare £8.00
- Mon 9th Oct: Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Fare £8.00
- Thurs 19th Oct: Lunch at The Black Horse, Thorndon, Fare £8.00
- Mon 23rd Oct: Latham's, Potter Heigham and lunch at Poppylands Tea Room, Horsey, Fare £20.00
- Thurs 26th Oct: The Range and lunch at The Copper Beech, Fare £18.00
- Mon 30th Oct: Notcutts Garden Centre, Norwich, Fare £15.00
- Mon 6th Nov: Bressingham Garden Centre, Fare £8.00
- Thurs 16th Nov: Lunch at The Red Lion, Needham, Fare £8.00
- Mon 20th Nov: Thetford Town & Garden Centre, Fare £15.00
- Mon 27th Nov: Taverham Garden Centre, Fare £18.00

To book or for more information, please call 01379 854800, or visit our website [www.borderhoppa.org](http://www.borderhoppa.org).

**MacMillan Coffee Morning**  
**Friday 6th October, 10.00 - 11.30**  
**Brockdish Village Hall**



Come and enjoy coffee, cake and a chat. Everyone is very welcome. Coffee mornings can help change lives! Donations of cakes and/or raffle prizes would be much appreciated, thank you.

***Ann Cork, 01379 668635***



[www.waveneyheritage.com](http://www.waveneyheritage.com)   [www.waveneywireless.org](http://www.waveneywireless.org)   [waveneyheritagecio@gmail.com](mailto:waveneyheritagecio@gmail.com)   Registered Charity No. 1192646

## Events List October and November 2023

Wednesday, 18th October, 7.30 pm

Talk by Graham Moore: 'Waveney Wireless – a brief history of broadcasting in the UK', to include some interesting items from our museum.

Wednesday, 8th November, 7.30 pm

Talk by Gary Alderton: 'WW1'. Gary will show us and talk about a collection of WW1 artefacts brought back by local people.

Sunday, 26th November, 10.30 am - 2.00 pm

Christmas Craft Fair. After the success of last year's fair, plans are for bigger and better this year.

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### Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall IP21 4LT

We have some varied events in the next couple of months - we hope you can join us for some of these.

- Saturday 14th October from 6pm: we will be running our very first Mini Oktoberfest. Come and join us for German-inspired food, German and local brews.
- Saturday 21st October, 10.00am - 11.30am: come and join us for a coffee and a chat, look around newly decorated areas of the hall and admire the local photographs. Free entry and raffle.
- Saturday 4th November, 10.00am - 2.00pm: Craft Fair, our first for several years. Some amazing local people showing their incredible talents. You may be inspired to purchase some early Christmas presents, or find some beautiful and practical gifts. Free entry and raffle.
- New Year's Eve: Big Ant's Disco will take us into 2024 - SWSSC members free, £5 non-members, more details to follow.
- The Sports and Social club is open each Tuesday and Friday from 8pm. Pool, darts, board games available, along with free wifi.

The Village Hall is available to hire for parties, meetings, get togethers. See [sylehamandwingfieldhall.org](http://sylehamandwingfieldhall.org) for contact details.

J's Meadow: This community open space is opposite our village hall, just a short walk down the footpath. The pedestrian gate is always open so come and gaze at the views over the Waveney Valley, use the games equipment, or use the chairs and bring a picnic. We are pleased to say that the play and exercise equipment that was installed earlier in the year is being put to good use. Everyone loves the nest swing!



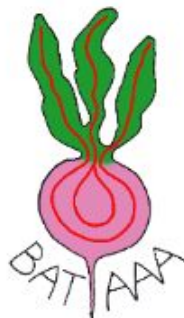
## Village Notices

### **Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Allotment Association (BATAAA) – plots available now**

BATAAA is run by a small committee of volunteers for members of the local community. The allotments are situated at the end of Church Road in Brockdish, just before the bypass. Having an allotment is an excellent way of getting your daily exercise whilst growing healthy food for the table, so why not give it a go?

We have a small number of full (250 m<sup>2</sup>) and half (125 m<sup>2</sup>) plots available, and there is water on site. We may consider smaller plots if there is interest in this.

To find out more about the allotments or to check plot availability please email Rebecca Abraham, BATAAA Secretary, at [bataaa@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:bataaa@hotmail.co.uk), ring Liz on 01379 669016 or find us on Facebook.







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Thorpe Abbots Village Hall Committee  
welcome you to

*Happy Thanks-quizzing*



**Saturday 25th November**  
**7.00pm for 7.30pm start**

Teams of 6 people maximum  
£5 per person  
(to include light supper of  
jacket spud and toppings)  
Fully licensed bar

*Pre-booking essential*  
*Contact Paul or Jo Slater for further details*  
*Tel 668585 Mobile 07919264126*  
*jogslater@hotmail.com*

## The Mardler Poem

### Growing old gracefully

Today, dear Lord, I'm 80  
And there's much I haven't done  
So I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81.  
But then I haven't finished all I want to do,  
Will you let me stay a while until I'm 82?  
So many places I want to go  
So very much to see  
Do you think you could manage to make it 83?  
The world is changing very fast  
There is so much in store  
I'd like it very much to live until I'm 84.  
And if by then I'm still alive,  
I'd like to stay till 85.  
More planes will be up in the air  
So I'd really like to stick  
And see what happens in the world  
when I'm 86.  
I know dear Lord! It's much to ask  
(And it must be nice in heaven)  
But I would really like to stay  
until I'm 87.  
I know by then I won't be fast  
And sometimes will be late  
But it would be so pleasant  
To be around at 88.  
I will have seen so many things  
And had a wonderful time  
So I'm sure that I'll be willing  
to leave at 89.  
Maybe!

Remember, it's not the number of days  
in your life that count, but the quality  
of life in your days.



17

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### **Memory Lane: Brockdish Sports Teams**

These photos were found by Paul Meen of Brockdish. They seem to show bowls and cricket teams, and the background suggests they were taken in Brockdish. Do any readers recognise any of these faces and give some further insight into the teams? Please contact the editorial team if you can help.



Memory Lane: Brockdish Sports Teams



Paul's Carpentry

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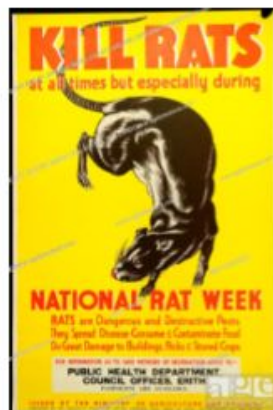
### National Rat Week 6-13 November 1939 to World Rat Day 2023

#### *Local History by Elaine Murphy*

Browsing through the archives of the Diss Express, looking for inspiration, I could not help but be struck by a headline advertising a nationwide week of destruction of rats just after the outset of World War Two in October 1939. Voracious destroyers of grain stocks, it was estimated (not sure how) that rats, caused over £100 million worth of damage annually to food stocks. This was later revised to £70m, a month later to £60m. Truth is, no one had any idea but clearly rats were a perpetual menace.

A public information campaign persuaded farmers and everyone who stored grain and other foodstuffs to kill rats especially, but also mice. The Ministry published a special leaflet, after passing a bill in 1919 to encourage the extermination of rats. Bulletin no. 30, gave guidance on how to tackle large numbers of these unwelcome 'critters'.

It was the job of the local sanitary inspector to persuade farmers to organise rat hunts with dogs, ferrets and guns. But mostly poison was used, especially Red Squill (the powdered bulbs of a Mediterranean plant, *urinea maritima*), since the toxic action was relatively specific to rats, but also some less targeted poisons like barium carbonate and phosphorus laced bait, (Rodine was one brand), not at all friendly to other wildlife.



*Posters for Rodine rat poison and National Rat Week, 1939*

### And Now for Something Different:

#### National Rat Week 6-13 November 1939 to World Rat Day 2023

This was not the first 'rat week'. It had been tried before with varying degrees of success since the late 19th century. How much it all cost is not recorded, nor whether the special weeks had made any difference. No statistics were collected, no one had a clue whether excess rats had been exterminated during rat week or not. The Minister of Health certainly didn't know, but it did not stop the government from planning further weeks in subsequent years. In 1922, an MP, Dr Addison, asked the Minister of Health for numbers, but Sir W Davison Bt, the Health Minister, could only say "It is believed that the efforts of last November resulted in heavy casualties". Sceptical, Dr Addison replied "In view of the elaborate circular sent out by the Ministry to the local authorities, does the Right Honorable Gentleman not think it would be desirable to have some rather better statistics than he has presented to the House this afternoon?", adding "If the Hon. Baronet can suggest any way by which we can count the rats poisoned in their holes, I shall be glad to know of it."

Clearly feeling a little mischievous, a new MP, Will Thorne, one of the first Labour members and a Trade Union activist, asked "Have all the rats roaming in and about this House been killed yet?"

A little rumble of amusement went round the chamber, but the minister did not rise to this particular bait.



*Will Thorne, MP*

The local public health committee for Depwade was highly sceptical of this official initiative, especially when Norfolk County Council announced they would pay tuppence a carcase (i.e. two old pennies) for every rat killed and presented in one piece, which the Ministry had specifically warned against, since the 'incentive' merely led to a hiatus in normal vermin eradication until the right week came round. Mr Easey on Hartismere Rural District Council suggested the local council should not cooperate because rats needed to be exterminated at all times, not just once a year and someone else pointed out that there were bushel sacks of dead rats that Hartismere Hospital boiler house had promised to burn and no-one was getting 2d a head for them. The scheme was bound to fail. Nevertheless, the scheme went ahead, although sadly we don't learn how much was paid out in total for rat carcasses.

### And Now for Something Different:

#### National Rat Week 6-13 November 1939 to World Rat Day 2023

In earlier eras, rat infestations attracted the new trade of Rat-Catchers. By the Victorian era, it was common knowledge that rats carried diseases, and thousands of them were known to infest sewers, factories and homes, as well as rural housing and farms. In the seasons when rats overran London, rat catchers were in high demand. “One pair of rats ... with their progeny, will produce in three years no less a number than 646,808 rats, which will consume day by day as much food as 64,680 men, leaving eight rats to starve”. To solve the rat problem, the demand for rat catchers was high and children were often employed. Many children preferred catching rats to cleaning chimneys, working in coal mines, or hawking wares. One reason rat catching was popular with youth was because it was lucrative. De-ratting English manors, wealthy houses and businesses earned rat-catchers wages that ranged from two shillings to one pound. But rat-catchers had to make an investment in at least a terrier or a ferret, so many rat-catchers were older youths. But let’s move on. Times change. Now it seems we must decide whether rats are friend or foe.



For some at least, the rat has become man’s new best friend (although not in our house!) According to the publicity for ‘Rat Awareness Week 2023, “Rats are friendly, intelligent and engaging companions. They are not nocturnal, which means they are feeling sociable when you are too”. According to the Pet Food Manufacturers’ Association, there are approximately 100,000 pet rats in the UK. There are as many rats as there are gerbils so many owners are enjoying their companionship.

**And Now for Something Different:**  
**National Rat Week 6-13 November 1939 to World Rat Day 2023**

“Rats are amazing animals with some amazing talents and qualities. Rats have suffered a bad reputation since the bubonic plague and people usually despise rats for stealing food and spreading diseases. But, those who have pet rats know that they are intelligent animals who are fun to be with. They need attention, care, and love, just like any other living being. In 2002, a group of pet enthusiasts started World Rat Day to create acceptance of these wonderful animals, allowing them to be part of our everyday lives.”

So if rats are your thing, save 4th April 2024 and celebrate, you’ve missed this year. Please let the author know how rats are enriching your lives with their ‘talents’. Meanwhile, the Brockdish adventurers who try every autumn to make a home in our barns and roof will be greeted with the same welcome as usual, but if anyone wants to adopt one, contact the Editor.

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## Thorpe Abbots Village Hall Upcoming Events

**Natter Mornings: 10.30am-12.00pm**

- **Thursday 5th October**
- **Thursday 2nd November**

**Bar Nights: 6.30pm onwards**

- **Friday 27th October**
- **Friday 24th November**



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### The Book Club recommends...

In this edition, one of our younger readers has recommended a book they have particularly enjoyed reading. Thank you to Adam Denney for his review. Remember, if you would like to write a review of a favourite book, either fiction or non-fiction, you can email me at [judecham@gmail.com](mailto:judecham@gmail.com).

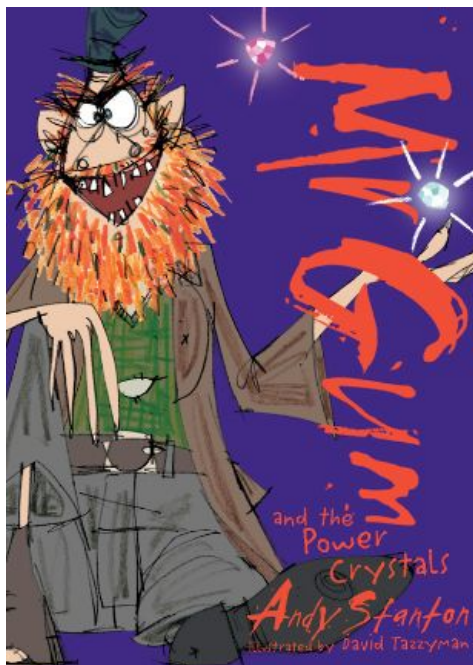
#### ***Mr Gum by Andy Stanton***

*Reviewed by Adam Denney, aged 6*

The Mr Gum series of books is about a little girl called Polly and a horrible, grumpy man called Mr Gum. He hates everything, including children, animals and corn-on-the-cob. The books are full of wacky characters such as an angry fairy who lives in the bathtub, a butcher called Billy William the Third, and a dog called Jake. They are very, very funny! The first of the series is called 'You're a bad man, Mr Gum', but there are, in fact, eight in total.

Adam Denney, of Thorpe Abbots, has kindly given a review for us. Adam says: 'I read the 4th book of Mr Gum (*Mr Gum and the Power Crystals*) and I really liked it. Mr Gum made me laugh a lot. I would recommend this book to everyone.'

These books are so popular and well written that they have won numerous prizes, including the Blue Peter book award and Roald Dahl Funny Prize. So, next time you are at the library or book shop and are wondering which book to choose for your children or grandchildren, why not consider Mr Gum?



## Jokes

What did the sunflower say when it heard a joke? *Stop pollen my leg.*

Why did the worker get fired from the pasta factory?

*For making a Fusilli mistakes.*

Why don't ladybirds play hide and seek? *They're always spotted.*

Why did Snoopy quit his job? *He was tired of working for Peanuts.*

What did the frog order from the restaurant? *French fries and Croak.*

## What N?

1 What N is home to the Gurkhas?

2 What N is to steer a ship?

3 What N is a lump of gold?

4 What N drew conclusions from a falling apple?

5 What N has the name Millhouse?

6 What N is a small bunch of fragrant flowers?

7 What N is a region in France famous for it's beaches?

*Answers on page 36*



**Quiz Night**  
**Saturday 18th November**  
**Brockdish Village Hall**  
**7.30pm for 8pm start**



- £5 per person
- Teams up to 6 people
- Light supper
- Bring your own alcohol



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## Local Interest

---

### **An Evening with Author Colin Sutton - Expression of Interest Brockdish Village Hall**

Colin is a retired Metropolitan Detective Chief Inspector. He has been portrayed on TV by Martin Clunes, in the Series 'Manhunt: The Night Stalker', and has also appeared in a documentary series entitled 'The Real Manhunter'.

Colin is giving his time for free, but there will be a charge of £5 per person, limited to 100 people.

Any profits will be split between 3 causes:

- Brockdish Church
- Thorpe Abbots Church
- Colin's chosen charity, "Cops UK"

Should you be interested in attending, then please contact Don Mackenzie so that he can finalise details with Colin and Brockdish Village Hall.

***Don Mackenzie***

***ddon.mackenzie@btinternet.com***

### **Latest Scams, Consumer Alerts and News from Norfolk County Council Trading Standards**

- Scam Alert: Letters claiming to be from the 'Chartered Trading Standards Institute'
- Scam Alert: Telephone Cold Calls claiming to be from your bank
- Scam Alert: Emails that claim to be from known contacts
- Rogue Trader Alert: Doorstep cold caller offering to repair driveways
- Recall Alert: Next recall their 'Kids Patent T-bar Bow Shoes' - item number T36725 and A73410 due to an issue with the strap that could lead to a tripping hazard

Reporting scams you receive helps us continue to build up intelligence on the scammers and how they target people.

You can report scams and get further advice from our partners, the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline: 0808 223 1133 (freephone)

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### **A message from Councillor Martin Wilby**

Along with many others, I recently attended the official opening of The Toddler Play Area on Harleston Rec. It was opened by The Lord Lieutenant for Norfolk, The Lady Dannatt MBE, who made the day very special by commenting about Harleston's resilience throughout the Covid pandemic, the tremendous community spirit in the town, and thanking the many local volunteers for what they do. There were many toddlers there to help Lady Dannatt with the cutting of the ribbon and to show us all how they use and enjoy the new equipment. A special thanks to Harleston Town Council, all of its staff and everyone else involved with this project.

The final round of LED upgrades to Norfolk County Council's Street Lighting is underway, cutting CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by over 200 tonnes a year. The work, which will replace traditional High Intensity Discharge (HID) lighting with the latest generation of LED lanterns, will take place over the next 24 months, and involve replacing 16,800 HID lights with LEDs. When complete, 100% of NCCs streetlighting will use low energy LEDs. The final phase of the move to low energy LEDs will save an estimated 1,099,032 kWh of energy per year, equating to approximately £380,000 p.a. at current electricity prices. This represents an estimated carbon saving of 227 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions each year as a result of the final stage of switching from HID to LED streetlighting.

With the bird nesting season over, people across Norfolk have a chance to do their bit to stop flooding and keep water flowing across their properties. Small, simple steps that ensure water can drain away from your home can cut down the likelihood of flooding, starting with tasks as simple as keeping drains, ditches, and watercourses clear and able to flow freely. After a years growth, many ditches and watercourses will benefit from clearing branches, and cutting back new undergrowth. Now bird nesting season is over, early autumn is the prime time for property owners to put in a little work to keep their properties safe. Outside the home, if residents spot any blocked or broken drains on Norfolk's highways they can report it via [www.norfolk.gov.uk/flooding](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/flooding), allowing Norfolk's Highways Team to clear them and keep our roads open. Also, now is the time of year to cut back your hedges and trees away from footpaths and the roadside so that people can use the footpaths safely and that vehicles can use the whole width of the roads.

### A message from Councillor Martin Wilby

Norfolk's £3bn tourism industry is to get an annual boost of more than £100,000 a year in the hope this will inject millions of pounds more into the county. County Hall agreed to the increased spend as part of hopes to become part of a new initiative that could unlock more Westminster cash which the county cannot currently bid for. Pete Waters, executive director of Visit East of England, said: "I'd like to thank NCC for this investment in tourism services. This will ultimately benefit and support our local destinations and businesses, the stars in our tourism firmament". It is hoped the new initiative could create 9,700 further jobs connected to tourism, and help make Norfolk one of the top destinations in the country for visitors.

NCCs award-winning Adult Education Services offers free part-time one year courses for students aged 19 or over who do not have a 1-9 in GCSE English and/or Maths. Last year 111 people took GCSEs with the service, 84% of maths GCSE students achieved Grade 4 or above and 73% of English GCSE students achieved grade 4 or above. The service also offers a range of other courses including access courses for learners of all ages which are available on a flexible basis during the day, evening, or online. Find out more by visiting the Adult Learning Website.

Best Wishes

***Martin***

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## @ Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

The Crafty Bombers is a club for busy kids who like to do busy things!

Each month there is a themed session with a variety of activities. Refreshments included. Toys and games are also provided to keep younger children occupied.

- **Sunday 22nd October, 10.30am**  
**Remembrance**
- **Sunday 19th November, 10.30am**  
**Christmas decorations**



For those who are unable to attend, please let me know and I will arrange a craft bag for you to do at home!

To cover the costs of materials, we ask for a donation of £1 per child. Any crafty donations also gratefully received!

For any enquiries please contact Jo Slater  
tel. 668585 / jogslater@hotmail.com

**Brockdish and Thorpe Abbots Parish Council*****Chairman: Christine Mackenzie (01379 668818)******Clerk: Teresa Hines (01379 308617)******Email: [brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com](mailto:brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com)***

Would you like to make a difference to other people's lives? Give something back to the community? Represent your local community? Your local parish councils make all kinds of decisions on issues that can affect the local community. Probably the most common topics that parish councils get involved with are planning matters (they are statutory consultees). We currently have one Councillor vacancy (voluntary role). For further information please contact Cllr Christine MacKenzie (Chair) on 01379 668818 or email [brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com](mailto:brockdishthorpeabbottspc@gmail.com)

**Planning [www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning](http://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning)**

- Application: 2023/2174  
Annexe at 32 The Street, Brockdish.  
Retention of change of use from annexe to holiday let.
- Permission in Principle Proposal: 2023/2196  
Land North of 23 Mill Road, Thorpe Abbots.  
New residential development of 3 dwellings
- Decision: 2023/1005  
Hall Farm, Scole Road, Thorpe Abbots.  
Change of use of existing building to light industrial unit. SNC approved, PC recommended refusal.

**Dates of next scheduled meetings**

Members of the public are most welcome to attend. Agenda posted on both village notice boards prior to the meeting.

- Thursday 26th October 2023, 7pm WHC, Brockdish
- Thursday 30th November 2023, 7pm Thorpe Abbots Village Hall
- No scheduled meeting is held during December

### **Speeding in Brockdish**

As residents are aware, speeding through the village has become more of an issue in the last couple of years. This has resulted in more visits from the Norfolk Constabulary Speed Safety Team. Previous data from the speed cameras did confirm there was a speeding problem.

The figures for the site at Brockdish are as follows.

15/06/2023: 5 offences (of which 4 were from Brockdish addresses)

15/07/2023: 5 offences (of which 2 were from Brockdish addresses)

18/07/2023: 4 offences (of which 2 were from Brockdish addresses)

25/07/2023: 3 offences (0 Brockdish address)

04/08/2023: 7 offences (of which 2 were from Brockdish addresses)

18/08/2023: 4 offences (0 Brockdish addresses)

27/08/2023: 2 offences (0 Brockdish addresses)

Therefore, in 7 visits, lasting approximately 45 mins each, a total of 26 speeding fines have been given out. 10 of those were issued to residents of Brockdish. That is just under 40%.

These visits will continue until further notice. **Please keep to the 30mph speed limit as you enter the village.**

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### Helping Wildlife

Butterflies are becoming scarcer, there are fewer garden birds, and bees are dying out due to harmful agrochemicals and habitat loss. We all have the chance to help wildlife, creating areas for habitation and to provide food.

Bees enjoy open types of flowers that they can fly straight into. It is best to choose plants that flower as much of the year as possible, including early flowers such as Helleborus and Mahonia which are crucial sources of nectar when there is not much else. Bee keeping is very popular nowadays, and helps to keep the honeybee population healthy. Logs drilled with holes are good for solitary bees, and bumble bee nest boxes can be bought or made.

A pond will encourage frogs and newts to visit, and also a multitude of insects, which are food for birds and amphibians alike. Shady, moist patches of low perennials will help frogs and toads if a pond is not possible. Rotting logs near amphibious habitation will become “insect hotels”.

To encourage butterflies, you may want to provide food for the little munching caterpillars. Stinging nettles and thistles are firm favourites. Butterfly boxes can be bought or made with long slits, where butterflies can enter. These have lots of rough surfaces inside for them to hibernate.

Garden shrubs and trees produce berries for birds to fill up on in the autumn and winter. It is important for gardens to have flowers that encourage insects for birds to eat, and that have enough space for building nests. Teasel and sunflower are great for seed-eating birds, whereas honeysuckle produces berries in autumn, provides shelter in winter and has flowers that attract insects in the spring and summer. A lot of bird-friendly plants are good for hedging and are useful for the gardener.

---

*Answers to ‘What N?’*

1.Nepal 2.Navigate 3.Nugget 4.Newton 5.Nixon 6.Nosegay 7.Normandy

Mustard Salmon and Veg Bake with Horseradish sauce

Serves 4. Preheat oven to 200°C/180°F/Gas 6

4 parsnips, sliced lengthways

4 small raw beetroots, thickly sliced

For the sauce:

6 carrots, sliced lengthways

2

tbps hot horseradish

2 tbps olive oil

150

ml creme fraiche

4 pieces salmon, skin on

1

1

tbps cider vinegar

2 tbps wholegrain mustard

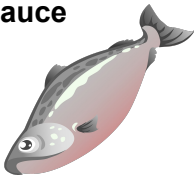
1

tbps chopped dill

Toss all veg in the oil, and season. Spread evenly on two baking trays and roast for 30 mins.

Season the salmon, and spread over the mustard. In the final 10 mins of veg cooking add the salmon to the trays.

In a small bowl, mix the crème fraiche, horseradish, dill and vinegar. Season and serve.



Blackberry Bakewell Squares

Makes 16. Preheat oven to 180°C/160°F/Gas 4

For the base:

For

the filling:

80g butter, melted

250g

softened butter

100g

150g digestive biscuits

5

golden caster sugar



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# The Annual Quiz

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October*

*Thorpe Abbotts  
Village Hall*

*Commencing 7.30pm  
Light Supper, Bar, Raffle*

*£5 per person*

*(tables up to 6)*

*In Aid of Church and Fabric Funds*

*Please book, no tickets available at the door*

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*or any member of the PCC.*

# DWS

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## **Ramblings from The Rectory**

***By Rev. Nigel Tuffnell***

Looking back through my articles I found the one for this time in 2020. It addresses the shock of Covid-19 when it looked as though we were coming out of the worst of the restrictions. Little did I, or anyone, know what the future actually had in store for us.

It is a warning that we never know what the future may hold. I know from my faith that life is a gift. A gift given to everyone. We have no idea how long we will have to enjoy this gift, nor how the gift of life will be affected by joy or sorrow. God rarely reveals the future to us, in detail. What he does give us is the resource that we need to live that future.

Whatever the future may hold, I also know how I, and any Christian, should live the days, months or years to come. We are to face it in with, “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” (Galatians 5.22 and 23). These are rightly called the “Fruits of the Spirit.” These wonderful and life enhancing qualities are gifts from God’s Spirit. They cannot be bought directly from God, they come through getting closer to God. A healthy relationship with God produces the fruits, just as a healthy tree or bush produces the delicious autumn fruits.

So, I cannot predict the highs or lows to come. I can though, be more prepared to live them well, with a little help from God’s Spirit. As Christmas approaches and the shops are lit up with lures to make us buy more and more. I pray that whatever Christmas pressures and joys await you, you have abundance of these good fruits in your life, “love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

God Bless,

***Nigel***



**All Saints Church, Thorpe Abbots**

**Gift Day**

Saturday 7th October 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

All Saints Church are holding a gift day to help with the maintenance of this Grade 1 Listed Church.

Please join us for tea and coffee at Thorpe Abbots Village Hall

We look forward to seeing you!



**Brockdish Church**

It is ironic that since being donated chairs for us to hold services outside, the poor “summer” weather has only permitted us to hold two! Who knows, with the climate’s odd behaviour, we could be outside in late Autumn!

The hedges have now all been cut, and weeds and ivy trimmed and removed. Peter has done the last big mow for this year, as he will be having a hip replacement and will be unable to take on this mammoth task until next year.

We look forward to seeing you all at the Remembrance Service, which is on Sunday November 12th at 3.00pm. As usual, we will commence outside and continue with a service in the church, for all those that wish to attend.

***Jan Croxson - Church Warden (tel.668630)***

Church Contacts

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Church Service Times - October and November

1st October	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
8th October	Brockdish 9.30 am Thorpe Abbotts 4.00 pm	Holy Communion Harvest Festival
15th October	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
22nd October	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
29th October	Brockdish 9.30 am	Holy Communion
1st November	Thorpe Abbotts 6.30 pm	Compline
5th November	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
12th November	Brockdish 3.00 pm Thorpe Abbotts 9.30 am	Remembrance Service Remembrance Service
19th November	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
26th November	Brockdish 9.30 am	Holy Communion



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