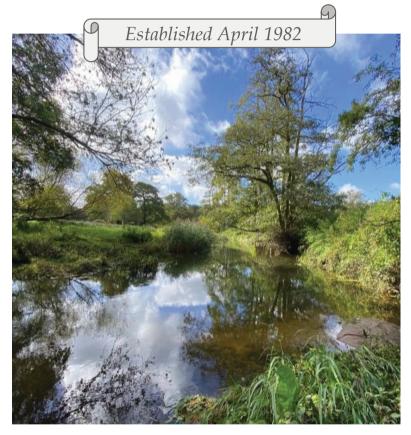
Mardler

BROCKDISH & THORPE ABBOTTS



Edition No. 258 August-September 2025

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Wednesday	Art group (10.00am) Badminton (3.00pm & 5.00pm)	Art Club Sue Hughes	01379 855414
Thursday	Yoga (10.15am) Carpet Bowls (7.30pm)	Badminton Roger Woodrow	01379 669016
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	for ½ page and £20 for a full or further information please	South Norfolk Help Hub	01508 533633 0845 269078
	idith Chambers, see above.	Waveney Food Bank	01379 870506

Editorial 3

I hope you have all been enjoying the summer so far. Last issue, I mentioned we needed a spot of rain. As I write, we have torrential rain and my garden is breathing a sigh of relief after the blistering hot weather we have had. The rain certainly didn't put off our inspirational Pink Ladies last month, as they chugged along the lanes in the annual Tractor Run, raising funds for Cancer Research UK. I'm sure they all appreciated their supporters who braved the weather with them. August is usually a guieter month socially, with many people away on holiday. However, I am pleased to see lots of summery events are on in the area over the next two months. Wingfield Barns have an excellent arts and music programme, and Syleham and Thorpe Abbotts Village Halls are both holding VJ and VE Day events respectively. So if you fancy a day or evening out, why not support your local villages? Finally, apparently - and who knew? - August 13th is National Left Handers Day, so to the 10% of our readers who are left handers enjoy your special day! Remember, it is free to publish articles and letters in The Mardler, so please send them in to the team. Hopefully, any formatting questions are answered below, but drop me a line if you are unsure.

Jo Slater, Editor

REMEMBER

Closing date for entries in the October / November 2025 issue is <u>Friday 29th August</u>. Articles received after this date <u>will not be included</u> in the next issue.

Format Information for submitting articles

<u>Written articles:</u> Please send as a word document, google doc, or contained within the body of an email. This is so the editor can check or amend articles for spelling, punctuation and grammar, as well as formatting the article to fit the page.

<u>Images or posters:</u> Please send as a pdf or jpeg. Please check your image is the correct dimension before sending (A5, to fit either portrait or landscape).

Please note that any pdf/jpeg articles containing written content must be checked for spelling, punctuation and grammar <u>before</u> submittance as they **cannot be edited.** They must also be of a font size suitable for resizing to an A5 format. Any pdf / jpeg article deigned to be error-ridden or of an illegible font size will unfortunately not be published.

Harleston Library

https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/40193/Harleston-Library

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is now well underway. To celebrate this year's theme of 'Story Garden', we have created our very own Story Garden in our new wildlife area. Next time you are passing, please pop in and see how many stories and rhymes you can find hidden amongst the long grass.

Over the school summer holidays, our usual Wednesday 'Family Time' will be starting at 2.00pm each Wednesday. We also have some extra-special bookable events taking place.

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.

To learn more about becoming a Norfolk Home Library Service Volunteer, please visit royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk, call 01603 397998, or email norfolkhls@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk.

Mobile Library

Visits Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts every 4 weeks on a Thursday. Next visits are the **7th August** and **4th September 2025**. Stopping at:

- Brockdish Grove Road, 12.10 pm
- Thorpe Abbotts, Village Pump, 12.35 pm



Harleston Library

https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/article/40193/Harleston-Library

August Dates for your Diary

(all activities are free of charge with refreshments, no need to book) Events highlighted with * must be pre-booked.

<u>Every</u> <u>Monday</u>	2.00pm-3.00pm 3.30pm-4.30pm	Just a Cuppa. Join us for free refreshments and lively conversation! LEGO Club	
<u>Every</u> <u>Wednesday</u>	10.30am-11.00am 11.00am-12.00pm 2.00pm-4.00pm	Bounce and Rhyme (for babies and toddlers) Stay and Play (for babies and toddlers) Family Time (craft and games for families)	
Every Friday	2.00pm-3.00pm	Book Café (drop-in session for book lovers)	
Wednesday 6th August	11.00am -12.00pm	* Wild Garden Art. Join us for an hour of fun using objects from nature in art and craft	
	2.00pm-3.00pm	Meet and Make (Adults)	
Wednesday 13th August	2.00pm-3.00pm	Knit and Natter	
Wednesday 20th August	2.00pm-3.00pm	Meet and Make (Adults)	
Friday 22nd August	1.30pm–2.15pm OR 2.30pm-3.15pm	* Rose Feather. Make your own picture books and design your own seeds. Suitable for ages 4-8 years.	
Wednesday 27th August	11.00am-12.00pm	* Little Green Fingers Craft and Story Time. An hour of crafting based on a nature-themed story. Suitable for ages 5-	
	2.00pm-3.00pm	years. Knit and Natter	

Details of all our events can be found on our Facebook page. To be kept up to date please visit: www.facebook.com/dissharlestonlongstratton or keep an eye on our notice board just inside the main library door.

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Borderhoppa Outings for August 2025

- Monday 4th August: Aylsham (Market Day) & Taverham Nursery Centre

 £20.00
- Thursday 7th August: Holt Town and Garden Centre £25.00
- Monday 11th August: Waveney River Boat Trip and Carvery at The Wherry Hotel - £30.00 (Includes bus fare and ticket for boat, lunch extra)
- Thursday 14th August: Aldeburgh & Thorpeness £20.00
- Monday 18th August: Halesworth & Lunch at Dunwich £20.00
- Thursday 21st August: Cherry Lane at Fritton followed by Lunch at The Bell Inn, St. Olaves - £20.00
- Thursday 28th August: Bure Valley Railway, Wroxham to Aylsham and return, with time for lunch and shopping in Wroxham after - £30 (Includes train ticket)

Borderhoppa Outings for September 2025

- Monday 2nd September: Wroxham Town £18.00
- Monday 9th September: Lunch at The Thatcher's Needle, Diss £8.00
- Thursday 12th September: Alder Carr Farm Shop & Crafts £15.00
- Monday 16th September: Lunch at The Black Horse, Thorndon £8.00
- Thursday 19th September: Attleborough Town (Market Day) £15.00
- Monday 23rd September: Cherry Lane Garden Centre, Pulham £8.00
- Thursday 26th September: Hillcrest Nurseries, Stanton £10.00
- Monday 30th September: Thetford Town / Garden Centre £15.00

To book or for more information please call 01379 854800 or visit our website www.borderhoppa.org.

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A Village Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for their kind messages, cards and help at the sudden death of Richard.

The Wiles Family, Brockdish

Brockdish Carpet Bowls

As I write, we're reaching the tail-end of the Waveney Summer League, and looking ahead to book our fixtures for the Winter. Our games have been a mixed bag so far, but one thing for certain is that they've been great fun!

As ever, roll-ups at Brockdish Village Hall happen every Thursday evening, from around 7.15pm. We only skip roll-up if there's a home match, and we now have a schedule on the hall noticeboard for easy reference, so if you fancy giving carpet bowls a try, come along!

Peter Croxson Chairman, 01379 668630

Waveney Heritage Centre - Thank you

On behalf of the Trustees of the Waveney Heritage Centre, I would like to thank Brockdish and everyone who took part in the 2025 Village Garage Sale. It was a great success and a very enjoyable day. Thank you all again,

Jill Edwards Secretary/Trustee

Michael Last Landscapes

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Brockdish Village Hall Updates

The Village Hall has had some updates this month:

 Outside Space: Geraniums were planted in tubs by the entrance to give a bit of summer colour. A big thank you to John and Jackie Spooner for the donation of the plants.

- We would also like to extend thanks to Ben and Lisa for stepping in to keep the VH clean and tidy while our lovely Peter was indisposed.
- Dog-Friendly Addition: A dog bowl has been placed for furry visitors to enjoy while their owners relax on the bench.
- Interior Makeover: The Hall has received a mini facelift with a fresh coat of paint and some new window coverings. Many thanks to Neil Major for his time and effort painting.
- A small shed has been added to the front of the Village Hall (next to the phone box). There are books inside that you are welcome to swap with a book that you think someone else would love to read. The rules for the shed are on the inside of the door. There is a box at the bottom for donations to Harleston food bank. Please do not leave perishable items.

Save the Dates

Saturday 6th September: Quiz night. 8pm start, £5 per person with a maximum of 6 per team. Are you clever enough to win? To reserve your table call Peter.

Saturday 6th December: Join us for the Christmas tree light switch-on! This year, the Brockdish Christmas tree will have a new home. Come along to see it being lit, enjoy drinks, snacks, and Carol singing. All proceeds will help to keep your village hall open for another year.

Whats on this August/September at Wingfield Barns



Saturday 26th July – Sunday 31st August, 10.00am – 4.00pm: International Mini Print Exhibition. FREE Entry. We are delighted to welcome back our annual mini print exhibition in collaboration with ADOGI in Barcelona. Alongside Little Gems from HWAT and then a Photography Exhibition with Dod Hamilton and Jack Heydon.

Friday 5th September 7.30 pm: Gainsborough Piano Quartet – Classical Music Concert. Join us for world class evening with a quartet of professional musicians who have played for Nigel Kennedy, Yehudi Menuhin, Katherine Jenkins, Simon Rattle, the Queen, Princess Diana and more. The programme will include Mozart and Faure piano quartets, and Piazzolla. Tickets Online: wegottickets.com/event/666801

Saturday 13th September 7.30pm: Quiz Night. Our popular quiz night returns so grab a team of 4/6 and book your table via the email below, or call 01379 384505. Tickets £5pp, including nibbles on the table. A brilliant community night out.

Saturday 20th September 7.30pm: An evening of Classical Music with Tenor Marcello Palazzo and Pianist Orlando Grant. Programme will include music from Scriaban, Quilter, Butterworth and Vaughan-Williams. Tickets Online: wegottickets.com/event/668669

Saturday 27th September 7.30pm: Lost Dog Dance present Juliet and Romeo – Dance/Theatre. In collaboration with Creative Arts East a brilliant night of Dance /Theatre and Comedy combine as we find Shakespeare's famous lovers now in their 40s and hitting mid-life crisis point. Directed by Olivier nominated Ben Duke a night not to be missed. Q&A post show with the performers. Tickets Online: wegottickets.com/event/667807

Whats on this August/September at Wingfield Barns

Sunday 28th September 7.30pm: India Electric Co. Returning to their roots, this acoustic performance will showcase their new album. A great night of sometimes Folk, sometimes not... do join us. Tickets Online: wegottickets.com/event/659075

Coffee/cake available on site in our Community shop/Café. To book tickets go to our website www.wingfieldbarns.com. Follow the links above, for more information contact office.manager@wingfieldbarns.co.uk 01379 384505.





3rd October 2025 10.00am - 11.30am Brockdish Village Hall

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News from Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall

2025



At the back of the Village Hall

Saturday, October 4th with the Waveney Volunteers for Nature

We are delighted that the Waveney Volunteers for Nature will be leading the way on Saturday, October 4th to work on the area at the back of the VillageHall.

Earlier in the year 15 of us worked hard to prepare the ground for grass and wildflower seeds only to be scuppered by the dry weather.

WVfN have kindly agreed to come and help create a wildlife haven at the back of the hall, which will comprise of a dedicated wildlife area and grass lawn for seating. We are very grateful for their knowledge and expertise and we are hoping that residents from the Village and beyond will join us for this event.



Sponsored Walk - Thorpe Abbotts Goes Walking

Sunday, September 28th

As part of our ongoing fundraising activities on Sunday, September 28th, the Thorpe Abbotts Walking group will stride forth once again but this time they will be sponsored per mile. There will be two routes of 3 or 5 miles and we are hoping that the funds from this activity will secure the running of the hall amenities for the forthcoming year. There are now 34 people in the group and although not everyone walks every month, we are hoping that as many people as possible will join us.

More information will be provided in the monthly Village Hall Newsletter in regards to both of these activities.





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Diary Dates

- Saturday 16th August, 1.00pm 4.00pm: V J day event
- Friday 29th August, 8.00pm: Christmas Bingo
- Friday 19th September, 7.30pm for 8.00pm: Quiz evening
- Friday 26th September, 8.00pm: Bingo in aid of Friends of Mendham School Association

On Saturday 16th August we would like to invite you to join us on J's Meadow if the weather is kind, for a VJ day event, in aid of Fressingfield Royal British Legion. J's Meadow is our piece of community land opposite Syleham and Wingfield Village Hall. We are promised an authentic Jeep, some costumed re-enactors and much more! Tea and cakes will be by donation, whilst the BBQ will be reasonably priced, and pay as you eat. For the bar and BBQ cash or card are accepted. There will be a raffle, music, some games and perhaps some races. The event will run from 1.00pm to 4.00pm. Parking at the village hall. Come and join us!

Christmas Bingo, in aid of our Village Hall, on Friday 29th August! Obviously we shouldn't mention Christmas but we won't be holding a Bingo session in December as it falls on Boxing day. We promise no turkey leftovers! Tinsel, mince pies, lights, tree are all possibilities however. Be ready to start just after 8.00pm. Bar open and raffle. Buy crisps and chocolate from the bar or bring your own snacks. Bingo in September, Friday 26th, is in aid of the Friends of Mendham School Association. Details as above minus mention of Christmas!

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts Allotment Association

BATAAA is run by a committee of volunteers for members of the local community. 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 (250m²) and half (125m²) plots available, and there is water on site.

To find out more about the allotments or to check plot availability please email Rebecca at bataaa@hotmail.co.uk or ring Roy on 01379 854868.

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Waveney Volunteers for Nature

Our good work on the commons and other areas continues and we have also gained a few more members – so all is well – but that's not to say that we would not welcome any other new members joining our happy band.



One hopeful piece of news is that Norfolk County Council appears now to be taking notice of our ideas for the old school playing field. Nothing is 'signed and sealed' but the Council's interest is a hopeful sign for us and for the Parish Council. Our aim is to restore and enhance the wildlife area of the field, create public access as an extension to Foredale Common and to continue the educational use of the site by involving schools in its creation and management. We are now building up to our Open Day on Sunday 21 September. We plan a fun day for kids on the Common, off Common Lane, and in the Village Hall where there will be refreshments laid on by the Village Hall Committee (a big thank you there). Between 10.00am and 4.00 pm we'll have a range of activities to interest all and based on the theme of Nature's Architecture. The Parish Council will also be there promoting our 'Wildlife Friendly Village'. Book the date now!





Pink Ladies Tractor Run, Sunday 6th July 2025



Thank you to Ben Poole and Fred Slater for the photos.

Walking in The Waveney Valley by Paddy, Brockdish

Small Things

In the corner of drawers
I find the smallest of things
Kept safe, in case, infused with you
Feeling the soft, hard, dull, shiny thing
Full of your thoughts of usefulness
On a rainy day.
I hold them close in my closed hand
Remembering the smell of you
The light and warmth of you
Now gone, out of the rain and the wind
But here in my hand,
In the smallest of things.



20

Paddy

August

I walked a lot after my partner died, especially during the cold winter of 2012, mainly because I couldn't sit still. We had been together for 23 years, and the loss was profound. Walking turned out to be the best of therapies, getting me through each day of loss one step at a time. It helped calm the agitation in my body and soothe the grief and rage in my mind. Processing as process. Gary Rogowski writes about being a carpenter and a walker. He reckons walking and thinking share the same heart beat and I agree. Walking frees the mind to focus without diverting awareness of what's around you. I set out yesterday to walk up the hill to Syleham in order to find a path I might not have trodden before - a rare thing. I stopped first at the river bridge in the village, and looked over the old brick wall to see what was happening down there. Sunlight through the trees was hitting the river in patches, causing grey/blue smudges of reflected light on the water surface, alongside a bright yellow ochre as the light hit the riverbed. These patches were like openings into the life of the river, and through them I suddenly saw several huge fish, (pike or trout?), a foot or so long, swimming back and forth into the shadows, then back into the light. In the shallows, small fry were jumping to catch flies. I set off again up the hill in the heat of the day watching the swallows and dragonflies skimming the barley fields. Coming off a hill round a beet field, in the shadow of the hedge, I spotted a young hare hopping around outside a corrugated tin grain store by the road. Coming down

Local Interest 21

Walking in The Waveney Valley

to the road. I stopped to look at my map, and the young hare reappeared out of the field and came loping towards me. I stayed very still, hardly breathing, and it came to within a yard of me and sat down. We both stared at each other for quite some time, until it decided I might be a threat and left, running, as only hares can, back into the field. It was the most beautiful half-grown creature, sleek and slim and all ears, eyes and legs. The fact that the animal could trust me for so long a moment was like a blessing connecting me to the earth. It feels rare and very special to encounter wild animals in this way, like the dog otter I met crossing the road in front of me as I drove home late one night. Again, we stared at each other for a while in complete mutual surprise before he trotted on. When the hare left. I set off again and found the track I was looking for, but couldn't get the beauty of the animal out of my mind. The track took me back to Syleham, and from there the familiar territory home. This landscape seems so tame in comparison to that walked by Gary Rogowski - he writes about hiking in the spectacular mountains and river valleys of Oregon - but I doubt his pleasure is greater than mine.



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Quiz Night

Saturday 6th September 2025 No Brockdish Village Hall 7.30pm for 8pm start



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Intriguing Places to Visit: Woodbridge Tide Mill By Susan Sindall



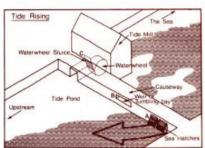
Woodbridge, in Suffolk, offers much for the visitor.....winding streets with pretty houses, interesting independent shops, a bustling quay and sailing club and a magnificent fifteenth century church. Arguably, one of the most fascinating buildings is the Tide Mill, an excellent working example of our industrial heritage and one of only a very few in the world still producing flour.

Tide mills are usually situated in river estuaries, away from the effects of waves, but close enough to the sea to have a reasonable tidal range. They were once common across Europe and beyond, and archaeological finds have found evidence of mills dating back hundreds of years. A medieval tide mill still operates at Rupelmonde near Antwerp. An exceptionally well preserved example, believed to date from around 691-692 AD was excavated in the Ebbs Fleet valley in Kent during construction of the HS1 railway on the way to the Channel Tunnel.

Of the twelve remaining UK examples, several have been converted to homes or businesses, but there are currently two in working order: Place Mill in Christchurch, Dorset, and the one in Woodbridge (there was a third but operation at the Eling Tide Mill in Hampshire is currently suspended).

A tide mill is a water mill driven by the rise and fall of the tide. A dam with a sluice is created across a suitable tidal inlet, or, a reservoir is built in part of the river estuary. The mill at Woodbridge uses this latter method. As the tide comes in it fills the reservoir through a one way gate that automatically closes when the tide begins to fall. The stored water is released when the tide is low and turns the water wheel, as pictured overleaf.

Intriguing Places to Visit: Woodbridge Tide Mill







Other examples of tidal mills at Lisle de Brehat in France and Rupelmonde.

Records show there was a mill in Woodbridge in 1170 but the present building was erected in 1793 and was in continuous commercial use producing flour until 1957. It fell into disrepair but was reopened as a museum in 1973, and after further restoration work the entire mechanism was later restored to working order. There are three floors to visit containing imaginative displays which explain the mechanism and reveal much of the history of the building. You can also learn about some of the people whose lives centred around the mill. On the ground, or pit floor, when the tide is right, the Miller can be seen at work controlling the machinery and producing flour. There is a sitting area for watching the short introductory film plus access to the boardwalk to view the mill pond and the great oak water wheel. Stoneground flour produced at the mill using locally grown wheat can be purchased from the small ground floor shop. When the sacks of wheat arrive at the mill they need to be moved to the top floor; a visit will reveal how this is done!

Access to the stone floor and the crown floor is via a rather steep open staircase but well worth the effort. (There are videos of the upstairs machinery on the ground floor) Every floor reveals more of the mechanism and contains fascinating displays, working models and information and the higher you go, the more memorable the views over the River Deben, whatever the weather. A campaign is currently underway to raise £60,000 by September in order to complete much needed specialist repainting. A fascinating and very enjoyable day out but DO check the tide times before you go if you want to see the wheel turn and hear all the creaking and clanking, splashing and grinding! Details of times on their website, plus best places to park.

A word from Rosedale.....

Is there a correct way to grieve? When faced with a bereavement for the first time, we might naturally look to what grief experts have to say on the subject. There are many different theories about grief and how we might work through it. These different theories can be helpful to a point but can sometimes become a stick with which to beat ourselves. We can be made to feel that were not grieving 'properly' if we do not fit into the formula set out by a grief model. The truth is the only real expert on your grief, is YOU. Your grief is as unique to you, as is your relationship with the person who has died. We all have different personalities and ways of responding that are unique to us.

We can think of grief as a tangled ball of wool. Emotionally we can feel up and down, confused, angry, guilty, sad, relieved and as if we don't know which way to turn. We can feel there is no way out and we can't see the end. It is important to remember that:

- There is no right or wrong way to grieve.
- There is no set time period for grief.



Others may suggest that you should be 'over it' by now. However, we can continue to grieve for our loved ones for the rest of our lives. Initially the grief is raw and all consuming, but usually over time this does ease. Though difficult, we do find a way to continue with life and the 'new normal' we are faced with. We will always think about them, love them and miss them, especially at certain times or on days when their absence is more deeply felt. My experience is that over time grief becomes something that we learn to live alongside. I think of it as two parallel lines running alongside each other:

Everyday life:	
My grief:	

We do both at the same time. In reality the two are not separate but intertwined. We continue to grieve whilst also living life. We do not work through grief, come out the other side, then continue on as if nothing has happened.

A word from Rosedale.....

In reality, we take the people we love with us, as we move forwards with life.

To find out more about joining one of Rosedale's Bereavement Support Groups call 01379 640810 or visit our website rosedalefuneralhome.co.uk

Sarah Howard
Rosedale Funeral Home Bereavement Support Group Facilitator



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The Book Club Recommends...

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Raising Hare by Chloe Dalton

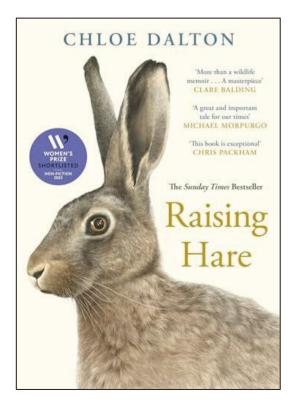
reviewed by Judith Chambers

Raising Hare is a Memoir. It is Dalton's debut book and was shortlisted for the Women's Prize for Non-Fiction 2025.

It was written in the early days of the Pandemic, when the author relocated to a house in the country, from London. On a cold February day, after setting off for a walk, the author finds a tiny leveret, seemingly abandoned by the side of a track. Her first instinct is to protect it and pick it up. She decides to leave it to see if the mother returns. It is still there hours later, and she decides to act.

She documents the hare's survival in the most extraordinary and beautiful way. Her determination to ensure the hare does not become domesticated is admirable. Caring for the hare opens the author's eyes to the natural world. She develops a new appreciation for nature and becomes more aware of how humans affect the habitat around them by their actions.

It is a tale of survival which remains with the reader long after the book is finished. I have no hesitation in recommending it to you.



Jokes

Why did the bicycle fall over? It was too tired.

What do you call a bear with no teeth? A gummy bear.

Why was the Maths book sad? It had too many problems.

What's blue and not heavy? Light blue.

Why don't skeletons fight each other? They don't have the guts.

Conundrum

There are 2 trees in a garden (called "Angel" and "Black") and in both trees are some birds.

The birds of Angel tree say to the birds of Black tree that if one of you comes to our tree, then our population will be double yours.

Then the birds of Black tell the birds of Angel that if one of you comes here, then our population will be equal to yours.

How many birds in each tree?

Answer on page 39



Conundrum from Mathsisfun.com





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A message from Councillor Martin Wilby

Congratulations to all of the Pink Tractor ladies and all of the back-up support for their recent annual tractor run with Annie leading from the front. It's great to see all the tractors colourfully decorated along with their drivers smiling and waving, dressed in their colourful outfits. A very special congratulations to Annie and John Chapman who have been the main organisers for the tractor runs over the last 21 years for both being made MBEs in the King's Birthday Honours list.

Projects that are aimed at increasing sales and footfall in market towns will be able to apply for grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 through an initiative being rolled out across the whole of Norfolk. Organisations and businesses are being invited to apply for the Love Your market Town fund's Pride of Place grants to fund ideas designed to encourage people to visit and shop in their local towns more frequently. The scheme is supported by Norfolk County Council and the district councils and applicants have until 31st August to submit their ideas. For further details visit

www.newangliagrowthhub.co.uk/loveyourmarket-town

All town councils and parish councils have been contacted by NCC with details of our successful Parish Partnership scheme which is now in its 12th year. The County Council has provisionally allocated £300,000 on a 50/50 basis (there is an upper limit on NCC funding support of £25,000 per bid) to fund schemes put forward by Town and Parish councils to deliver projects that are priorities for local communities. We are particularly keen to encourage and support first-time bids. Acceptable schemes could be, improved footways, bus shelters, village gateways and Speed Awareness Mobile Signs (SAM2/SAM3). The closing date for submissions will be 01 December 2025.

Norfolk Libraries are inviting families to take part in the Reading Agency's 2025 Summer Reading Challenge, encouraging children to explore the magical connection between storytelling and the natural world with this year's theme, Story Garden – Adventures in Nature and the Great Outdoors. The Summer Reading Challenge is a free activity for children aged 4-11. It's all about reading for fun, aiming to improve children's reading skills and confidence over the summer holiday. Children can read anything they like and collect stickers for their reading as well as take part in nature-themed activities at their local library. For under 5s there is a mini challenge, so they don't miss out.

A message from Councillor Martin Wilby

NCC has been recognised as one of the best places in the country to be an apprentice earning a coveted spot in the 2025 'Top 100 Apprenticeship Employers' list. Ranked 54th overall, NCC stands out as the highest-ranked local authority in the country. The rankings take into account feedback from apprentices on RateMyApprenticeship.co.uk. NCC scored 9/10 based on their reviews, with one apprentice saying their time with NCC was 'the best decision I ever made'. NCC currently has 566 apprentices, with 49 more awaiting enrolment. To explore apprenticeship opportunities with NCC visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/apprenticeships

Best Wishes

Martin



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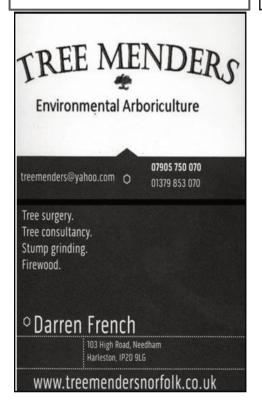


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Clerk: Teresa Hines (01379 308617)

Email: clerk@brockdishandthorpeabbottsnorfolkparishes.gov.uk

www.brockdishandthorpeabbotts.com

At the scheduled meeting held on 22nd May, Cllr Christine MacKenzie was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Enrico Castagnetti was re-elected as Vice Chair. Other Councillors are: Derek Clark, Adam Cobbold, Sarah McCluskey and Susanne Russell. At our meeting held on 26th June, we were pleased to co-opt a new Councillor, and welcome Stuart Woodruffe. We now have our maximum number of Councillors. At our meetings we are joined by County Councillor Martin Wilby and District Councillors Clayton Hudson and Delme Thompson. Members of the public are most welcome to attend.

<u>Planning www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning</u> <u>Applications: pending decision</u>

- 2025/1752 Agricultural Building, South of Hilltop Farm, Hall Rd, Brockdish. Variation of condition 2. To revise design to incorporate balcony on south side (rear) of dwelling on consented permission 2024/223 (which gave permission for demolition of existing agricultural building with part Q approval and erection of new replacement dwelling & garage with additional residential garden land). Date of decision 11/04/2025.(removal variation of condition). Decision: Approved by SNC and supported by PC.
- 2025/0777 Rose Cottage, Scole Road, Brockdish. Installation of through floor lift

Buildings at Risk Register: 37 The Street, Brockdish. Continuing deterioration of the property has been referred back to the Compliance Officer at SNC for a further review (including a site visit).

At recent meetings we continue to discuss and monitor speeding/traffic calming (using persuasive measures and the Police Safety Camera Team), flood issues, biodiversity, LGR and BESS.

Brockdish and Thorpe Abbotts Parish Council

Members of the public have made us aware of access issues with Public Footpath 9 (NCC has contacted the land owner), street name plate 'The Street' in Thorpe Abbotts (to be replaced) and dog fouling, particularly in Grove Road, the Village Green in Brockdish and Mormor Lane in Thorpe Abbotts. Please clean up after your dog. 'Bag It and Bin It'. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 31st July 2025 7pm WHC, Brockdish
- No scheduled meeting is held during August
- Thursday 25th September 2025 7pm Thorpe Abbotts Village Hall

Dates for your Diary: Saturday 6th December 2025, 5.30pm Christmas Tree Light Switch-On at Brockdish followed by refreshments in the Village Hall.





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Tasty Courgettes

Courgettes are easy to grow and highly productive. They are prolific croppers with just a couple of plants providing enough to feed a family. For those growers amongst us, no doubt you are sick of the sight of courgettes by now. Hopefully the recipe below will be a new twist to reignite your love of the vegetable.

Courgette Curry (Serves 4)

Prep – 20mins, Cook – 40mins

Ingredients:

3 medium courgettes

2-3 tbsp sunflower oil

1 red onion, halved and finely sliced

1-2 red chillies, finely chopped

40g ginger, peeled and finely grated

4 garlic cloves, finely grated

2 tsp garam masala

1 tsp ground cumin

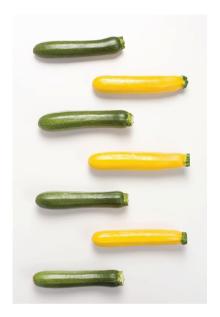
1 tsp ground turmeric

400g chickpeas, drained

400g chopped tomatoes

400g coconut milk

Basmati rice to serve



Trim the end of the courgettes, halve them lengthways and, using a teaspoon, scope out the watery seeds in the centre. Roughly slice the courgette halves, then roughly chop the seeds and reserve for later.

Heat 2 tbsp of oil in a large frying pan over a medium heat and fry the sliced courgettes until golden, around 8-10 mins. Remove from the pan, leaving the oil behind, then add the onion and further oil, if necessary, along with a good pinch of salt and pepper. Fry for 6-8 mins until soft, then tip in the chillies, ginger and garlic and cook for 2 mins until starting to soften. Stir in the spices and cook for 30 seconds.

Stir in the chickpeas and pour in the tomatoes, coconut milk and reserved courgette seeds. Simmer over a medium-low heat for 10mins before adding the courgettes back to the pan and cook for a further 8-10mins. Serve with basmati rice and your choice of sides.



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Brockdish Church

As a Church, we have decided that all our Harvest Gifts will go to support the Waveney Food Bank this year. The Harvest Festival is on Sunday 28th September. We will ensure that any donations we receive will be taken to the food bank. Thank you for your generosity.

Ann Cork (Churchwarden)

Church Contacts

Benefice Administrator	Mon to Fri 9.15am to 1pm
------------------------	--------------------------

admin@7churches.org.uk 01379 851148

Facebook.com/7churches.org.uk

Brockdish Church Warden Ann Cork - 01379 668635

Thorpe Abbotts Contact Christine McDonald - 01379 669116

Church Service Times - August and September 2025

3rd August	Brockdish 9.30am	Morning Prayer
10th August	Brockdish 9.30am	Morning Prayer
	Thorpe Abbotts 9.30am	Morning Prayer
17th August	Brockdish 9.30pm	Morning Prayer
24th August	Brockdish 9.30am	Morning Prayer
31st August	Brockdish 9.30am	Holy Communion
7th September	Brockdish 9.30am	Morning Prayer
14th September	Brockdish 9.30am	Morning Prayer
	Thorpe Abbotts 4.00pm	Harvest Festival
21st September	Brockdish 9.30 am	Morning Prayer
28th September	Brockdish 9.30 am	Harvest Festival

Answer to conundrum (page 28): The solution is 7 and 5. 7 on Angel tree, and 5 on Black tree.



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