



news Broadland

SUMMER 2025

You can view this magazine online at
southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

Commemorating VE Day

On 8 May, we proudly commemorated the 80th anniversary of Victory in Europe (VE Day), a momentous occasion marking the end of World War Two in Europe.

To help our communities honour this historic milestone, we awarded over £4,500 in grants to support commemorative events across our parishes and towns. Thanks to this funding, 17 community-led events were brought to life – each one reflecting the spirit of remembrance, unity, and celebration.

Events included traditional afternoon teas, parades, historical workshops, 1940s-themed music and dancing, and poignant remembrance services. These gatherings not only paid tribute to those who served but also brought neighbours together to reflect on the enduring importance of peace and community.



Celebrations at Hoveton Village Hall

Useful contacts

Broadland District Council main switchboard:
01603 431133 Monday – Friday 8.30am to 5pm

Website: southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

 @BroadlandDC

 @BroadlandDistrictCouncil

Editorial

Marketing and Communications Team,
The Horizon Centre,
Peachman Way,
Broadland Business Park,
NORWICH, NR7 0WF,
t: 01603 430124
e: jointcommsteam@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk

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- ▶ Help with obtaining the basic essentials
- ▶ Feeling isolated
- ▶ Worried about issues at home, including relationships
- ▶ Money issues

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A message from the leader

Welcome to the summer edition of the Broadland News magazine.

As many of you will have read in the media, we are going through a time of change, and change is always difficult, especially when it's being imposed upon you. The government has decided that from 2028 Broadland District Council will be dissolved and replaced by an unitary authority. This is not something we have asked for and certainly not something we want, but rather than complain we are working hard to ensure what comes next is the best it can be for both Broadland and local democracy.

In the meantime, I can assure you that while Broadland District Council still exists, we will continue to deliver the services that we know you, the residents of Broadland value so much. In the stories that follow you will read about some of the wonderful examples of how your local council touches your day to day lives and the positive impact we have on the district.

You will read about how we support and celebrate our local businesses and offer grants to get new and exciting ventures off the ground, while helping established businesses to grow. You will see how we support research, especially in the food and drink sector, and how we encourage job creation.

As a district council, we are close to our communities, we understand what makes Broadland unique and we celebrate that uniqueness supporting local initiatives, local groups and delivering local infrastructure. We work closely with volunteers, and we are proud to say a heartfelt 'thank you' to the people who go that extra mile to improve the lives of their neighbours and the places where they live.

We also understand the need and our duty to protect and improve our local environment. You can read about our ongoing investment in our open and green spaces, giving residents an opportunity to spend quality time together with friends and family, outside in the fresh air, surrounded by wildlife.

I hope you enjoy the Broadland News and have a fabulous summer!

Leader of Broadland District Council, Sue Holland



Big Changes Ahead: Understanding Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution

The way local services are run in the region is set to change. The Government has announced plans to abolish all the existing councils in Norfolk and replace the current two-tier system of local government with unitary councils. This means that each unitary would take responsibility for all local services, from housing and waste collection to social care and road repairs.

This change, which we have not asked for, is known as Local Government Reorganisation (LGR), and is being driven by central government. We have until September 2025 to submit proposals, and we expect new unitary councils to launch by April 2028.

At Broadland District Council, we believe the best option for the future is a three-unitary model. This would create three single councils. One for the Greater Norwich area, one for the eastern, coastal side of Norfolk, and one the rural side of the county, to the west. We believe that three unitary council is the best option to help protect the identities of our local communities, support our businesses and economic growth, and reduce duplication, saving taxpayers an estimated £7.6 million.

It is important to understand that LGR is not the same as devolution. Devolution is about transferring powers and funding from Westminster to the region, creating a new elected Mayor to oversee areas like transport, skills and housing across Norfolk and Suffolk. In contrast, LGR focuses on how your local services are delivered and governed day-to-day.

Both changes are significant, but they serve different purposes. By supporting a three-unitary model, we can help ensure that any future council structure is local, responsive and fit for the years ahead.



Photo by J Bass

Protecting What Matters Most

As your local council, our priority is to make sure these changes work for you. Local Government Reorganisation will directly affect the services you rely on, such as planning, benefits, recycling, and community safety etc. We believe decisions about those services should be made by local people who know and understand the communities they serve.

That is why we believe a model that retains a local focus, not one large, remote council covering the whole of Norfolk is the best option available. A single super-council risks losing the connection to local people and places, while we believe a three-unitary structure offers the right balance. It is large enough to benefit from efficiency, but still small enough to reflect and respond to local needs.

We have always thought that local government is about putting people first, shaping services around place, and planning for long-term progress. If we must change, then the three unitary model gives us the opportunity to design services around modern life while retaining local democratic representation.

Your Voice Matters

We know that changes of this scale can be confusing and even concerning. That is why we are committed to keeping our residents informed every step of the way. In the months ahead, we will be asking for your views on how local government should work in the future. These changes will not happen overnight, but they will shape how our

communities are supported for decades to come.

Local government may not always make headlines, but it touches nearly every part of daily life. The decisions made now about its future will matter for years. This is our chance to make sure the new system reflects the things that matter most: people, place and progress.



For more information



Championing local innovation at food hub



During his time as Chairman, Cllr Adrian Tipple visited the Broadland Food Innovation Centre to see firsthand the impact of the Council's investment in the region's food and drink sector. The visit, which took place on Friday 25 April, was an opportunity for Cllr Tipple to meet with the innovative businesses that call the centre home.

The Broadland Food Innovation Centre, located at the Food Enterprise Park near Norwich, is a hub for food and drink SMEs and start-ups. It offers state-of-the-art facilities, including food-grade production units, sensory and test kitchens, and conference spaces. The Centre aims to foster innovation and growth in the local food industry, providing a supportive environment for businesses to thrive.

During his visit, Cllr Tipple toured the facilities and met with several business owners, including Club Cultured, Norfolk Rum and Coastal Health.

He said: "The Broadland Food Innovation Centre has been a game-changer for our region's agri-food sector and is a testament to what can be achieved when we invest in our local businesses and provide them with the resources they need to grow and prosper."

"The Centre is perfect for food manufacturing, and by bringing these businesses together, it has innovation and collaboration at its heart. It was a pleasure to meet such dedicated and motivated business owners and to see how they are working together to support each other."

One of the businesses Cllr Tipple visited was Coastal Health, a manufacturer of health supplements supplying high street retail and distributors.

CEO Troy Linton said: "Coastal Health produces a full range of health supplements in capsule or powder form for high-end, customer-facing clients - where quality control, purity and traceability is 100% essential. As soon as we heard this centre was in construction, we waited

for a unit as we knew it would be perfect. It's helped us secure significant customers, who are impressed by the whole facility's food safety environment and confidential security. As we've grown, we have also employed more people."

Cllr Tipple added: "It was fascinating to meet Troy and learn about this highly technical and fast-growing area of food production."

The Broadland Food Innovation Centre is home to eight thriving businesses.

For those who are not tenants, there is still an opportunity to join the vibrant food and drink community by becoming a virtual member. Additionally, the Centre offers the option to hire state-of-the-art kitchens and meeting spaces for a few hours.

Businesses that join the F&D community at the Centre benefit from numerous opportunities to connect and collaborate with other enterprises and key contacts along the supply chain.

For more information about the Broadland Food Innovation Centre and its services, visit their website.



@broadland
foodinnovation



Business Builder investment pays dividends

Focalise Finance is the latest local business to benefit from our Business Builder Scheme, reaping the rewards of our comprehensive support.

With a combined 15 years of experience in the finance industry, Mikey Seago and Lewis Buckley are transforming finance broking with a more personal and human touch. At Focalise Finance, they work with a diverse panel of 70 lenders to support businesses with their asset investments.

The dynamic pair have benefitted from our business support from the very start of their venture, as Mikey Seago explains: "We learned about the grants at the Business Breakfast and applied for Business Builder support as soon as we decided to launch our company. Although we were confident in our business acumen, the online Foundation

Course made us consider areas we hadn't fully explored. In fact, we still use some of the handy templates today."

"After launching Focalise Finance, we applied for the Build Up grant, which allowed us to invest properly in marketing. We're proud of our branding, website, and marketing plan. With a professional marketing strategy in place, we continue to reap the benefits of this initial investment."

Lewis added: "Our Business Builder experience was fantastic! From start to finish, the process was incredibly easy, and everyone involved was extremely helpful. Business Builder's core values of being supportive and helping local businesses were definitely reflected in our experience."

Cllr Martin Booth said:

"By supporting and investing in our new and existing businesses, we are bolstering our vibrant economy, creating jobs and bringing increased wealth into the district."

Our Business Builder programme offers training, advice and access to grants to help businesses of all sizes thrive in the district. We also host business breakfasts – a fantastic opportunity to network and learn about new opportunities. Plus, we can help with relocating and finding premises, and we recognise and celebrate outstanding businesses through our awards.

Visit our website to see how we can support your business and sign up for our Business Support Newsletter for regular updates.



Businesses net Top Awards at Carrow Road



In March, the district's most outstanding businesses were honoured at the **2025 Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards**, held at **Norwich City Football Club**. Sponsored by **Birketts LLP**, the event celebrated innovation, resilience, and success within the local business community.

Cllr Martin Booth said: "This was a fantastic opportunity to celebrate those businesses that are thriving within the community, driving our economy, and demonstrating best practices at every level. Congratulations to all the finalists and everyone who put their business forward."



New Business: Beeyutiful Home at White House Farm in Sprowston. Owner Kate showcases her passion and creativity in every product, and her dedication, hard work, and community spirit have led to growing customer loyalty and exciting expansion plans.



Business Growth: Alpha 7 Motorsport Ltd, providing services to the Caterham 7 community. They have expanded from two cars to nineteen in record time and built a trusted national brand, driven by a passion for motorsport and a commitment to inclusivity.



Broadland Small Business of the Year: The Hungry Otter at Salhouse Broad, committed to high-quality, locally sourced, and environmentally friendly products. The food van has strong customer loyalty and actively engages with the community.



Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering: L&G Engineering, recognised for their innovation in burner technology, continuous growth through investment, and commitment to youth training.



Business Innovation: iBoxit, for tackling the environmental impact of expanded polystyrene with their biodegradable solution. This not only helps reduce landfill waste and ocean pollution but also supports the food industry.



Environmental Impact: The Locks Inn Community Pub at Geldeston, awarded for their carbon-neutral commitment and use of solar power.



Tourism Business of the Year: The Ironmongers Boutique in Aylsham, a stunning 4-star, Grade II listed hotel. Blending modern features with historic charm, they are playing a key role in the renaissance of this Norfolk market town.



Excellence in Insurance, Financial and Professional Services: Sekura.id, providing anti-theft solutions to retailers. Judges were impressed by how they have simplified a complex, highly regulated problem.



Food and Drink Producer of the Year: Simply Roasted Crisps, known for their triple-cooked crisps with no artificial flavours and 50% less fat. Their unique cooking method gives them a distinct edge.



Employer of the Year: GroWild Kindergarten Ltd, led by Holly and her passionate team. Their commitment to professional development, wellbeing, and a transparent and supportive environment set them apart.



Broadland Business Builder Exemplar: Tibbs Fitness, recognised for their smart growth from a two-person gym in a garage during lockdown to a thriving business serving 155 clients.

As voted for by you



Highly Commended: The Cheese Truckle for Business Growth, Norfolk Wealth Management for Excellence in Insurance, Financial and Professional Services, and Ampersand Brew Co for Food and Drink Producer of the Year.



Broadland Retailer of the Year: The Goat Shed, a farm shop that has become a destination for fresh local produce, with recent additions of a bakery, deli, and butchery. Their focus on sustainability and environmental practices sets them apart.



Broadland Pub of the Year: The White Horse at Upton, a community-run pub that impressed with its new tap room for real ale enthusiasts. With traditional pub fare, chef's specials, events, and a community shop, the pub is a real hub for locals.

The Councils would like to thank sponsors: Woodforde's Brewery, Pasta Foods, CNC Building Control, Big Sky Living, Hethel Innovation, Panel Graphic, InTouch Systems, Citrus Security Shredding, Mirus Aircraft Seating, Adnams, FIG (Financial Industry Group), Jarrold Training, Pub is The Hub and competition sponsor Holden Group.

BROADLAND & SOUTH NORFOLK

Business Awards 2025

Freezing tax, fuelling progress

In March, in a move that was welcomed by households across Broadland, the Council announced a freeze on its share of Council Tax. This positive news came amidst a challenging financial climate and demonstrates the council's commitment to delivering value for its residents.

Cabinet member, Cllr Steve Riley said: "Despite facing significant headwinds, including a 5.9% cut in core government grant funding and ongoing inflationary pressures, this administration has successfully navigated these challenges. Through diligent efforts to find efficiencies and generate income, Broadland District Council has not only protected essential services but is also strategically investing in key priorities."

During his speech to Full Council, Cllr Riley highlighted a string of achievements that underscore the Council's commitment. These included the adoption of the Greater Norwich Local Plan, securing substantial funding for nutrient mitigation work, and playing a crucial role in unlocking housing developments previously stalled by nutrient neutrality issues. The Council has also proactively addressed the need for temporary accommodation by purchasing new homes.

Cllr Riley reaffirmed the Council's commitment to fostering a vibrant local economy. He said: "Through our Business Builder programme, we've invested over £558,000 directly into local enterprises. This funding has provided essential grants, expert mentoring, and targeted training to help businesses grow and thrive."

He also emphasised the Council's dedication to employment and skills development:

"Our Building Futures programme has made a significant impact—over 140 residents have received tailored employability support, and 30 new apprenticeships have been created, opening doors to long-term career opportunities."



In addition to economic initiatives, Cllr Riley highlighted the Council's ongoing investment in community wellbeing: "We've allocated £50,000 to support a wide range of community projects, with an additional £18,000 dedicated to smaller grassroots initiatives that make a real difference at a local level."

While the Council is responsible for collecting Council Tax on behalf of other bodies such as Norfolk County Council and the Police and Crime Commissioner, it has no control over their charges. Broadland Council's element constitutes less than 6% of the total Council Tax bill.

The decision to freeze our portion of the Council Tax underscores our commitment to providing excellent value for its residents. At just £134.91 for the year, or £2.60 per week, Broadland's Council Tax charge highlights the Council's efficient management and dedication to serving its community effectively without placing an additional financial burden on residents.



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Race to sign up for Marriott's Way 10K



Our highly anticipated Marriott's Way 10km run returns for its 17th year on Sunday, 21 September. With limited spaces available, we encourage everyone interested to register as soon as possible.

Starting in Aylsham, the route follows the old railway line through picturesque countryside before finishing in Reepham's quaint market place.

Council Chair, Cllr Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou, said:

"Over the past few years, this race has become increasingly popular, attracting participants from all over the country. The run is flat and mostly off-road, perfect terrain for both seasoned runners and those new to running, thanks to the softer ground.

"So, whether you're an experienced runner or looking for your next fitness challenge, sign up today to secure your spot on the starting line!"

Sponsored by Orsted, the event raises funds for the Council's essential community services and the Chair's chosen charity.

Entries are £18 per affiliated, £20 per non-affiliated person and £65 for corporate challenge entries of 4 runners.

Visit our website and sign up today.

Orsted



Summer fun sorted with Tot2Teens!

Get ready for a summer packed with excitement, creativity and unforgettable memories with our Tot2Teens programme! Running from 23 July to 2 September, every Monday to Friday (excluding bank holidays), we've got something for everyone.

This year, we've teamed up with some fantastic partners including X Adventures, Hautbois House and Lab Media to bring you a dynamic mix of activities. Plus, don't miss our

special two-day Minecraft session.

Join us for our Family Fun Days on 25 July, 8 August, and 22 August packed with hand-on activities for all ages, surprise guests, and plenty of free goodies to take home.

Whether you're looking for adventure, creativity, or quality family time, Tot2Teens has it all. Visit our website to explore the full programme and book your spot today!



New community space unveiled

On 11 May, Brundall Memorial Hall unveiled a brand-new outdoor community space during their VE Day celebrations. This new area, complete with seating and a beautiful sensory garden, was partially funded by £9,000 from our Community Grant Scheme and received an additional £16,000 from the National Lottery.

Last year, the team successfully overhauled the Lounge, a room at the Hall used for various events and clubs, which now opens onto the new outdoor space. District Councillor for Brundall, Cllr Eleanor Laming, contributed her £1,000 ward grant towards the improvements.

She said: "Brundall Memorial Hall is a small independent charity and has been at the heart of the community for over 80 years. It's a vital part of village life and it's crucial we maintain and improve it for future generations."

Manager Jeanette Lovatt said: "The Hall is bustling with activity almost every day. It serves as the meeting place for the WI, the

Brownies, and various youth groups and clubs, including local history and fitness clubs. We host numerous events and meetings and the parish council is based here. The new outdoor space significantly enriches our offering, providing a welcoming and free area for everyone in the community to enjoy."

The Memorial Committee has now turned its attention to the old concrete tennis court at the back of the Hall, with plans to create a free multi-use sports area.

Community Grant Scheme funding of £1,000 to £15,000 is available for community initiatives that enhance local people's quality of life. For more information, or to see if your project is eligible, please contact your local District Councillor or visit our website.



Fund helps communities thrive

Over the past two years we have invested £518,885 into 43 community projects through our Pride in Place grant. This substantial amount has been matched by the benefiting communities, contributing an additional £608,845.

This investment has significantly enhanced our residents' health and wellbeing, while fostering a strong sense of community pride.

Cabinet Member for Communities and Housing, Cllr Natasha Harpley, said:

"The grant's impact has been felt throughout the district, with numerous community projects flourishing. By closely supporting our communities and addressing their needs, we now have improved facilities that bring people together, enhance their wellbeing, and help communities thrive."

The funding has been used for various projects aimed at improving the quality of life for local residents. These include the development of community buildings, promoting sustainability through green infrastructure,

rejuvenating outdoor spaces such as play areas and green spaces, improving outcomes for young people, and celebrating local heritage.

In Great Plumstead, we awarded The Walled Garden and Café £24,500 for a new Men's Shed. Over 100 community events have already been planned, which will bring people together and combat social isolation, including a regular whittling group, bushcraft events, photography sessions and a cycle maintenance group.



Former host of The Krypton Factor, Gordon Burns, cut the ribbon at the new Men's Shed



Andrew Carty, Chair of The Walled Garden management committee, said: "We run lots of events at The Walled Garden, but we don't get very many men attending them. This grant has helped us to build something that will hopefully attract more men to come along, do something creative and improve their wellbeing at the same time."

In Haveringland, we awarded £2,025 for three new heritage boards, recently unveiled by local children. These boards provide an overview of Haveringland's rich history, including the story of RAF Swannington, and encourage people to explore the village and connect with its past.

New accessible play equipment has been purchased and installed at Aylsham's recreation ground thanks to Pride in Place grants totalling £55,000. The grants also funded essential resurfacing work, making the area safer and more accessible for children of all ages and abilities. Additionally, the town council used some of the funds to explore the feasibility of a pelican crossing on Burgh Road.

Cllr Harpley added: "We are fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers who take immense pride in their communities and strive to make a difference. Thank you to everyone who has helped bring these projects to life, creating a legacy that will be cherished by future generations."



The Pride in Place Grant was funded through central government's Shared Prosperity Fund. The scheme has now closed. For more information about other funding that is available, please visit southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communities.



Scan me



CELEBRATE OUR UNSUNG HEROES

Do you know someone who goes the extra mile to help others? A dedicated volunteer, an inspiring young person or a local organisation making a real difference to your community? Now's your chance to shine a spotlight on their incredible work by nominating them for our **Community Awards**, sponsored by **Clarion Housing**.

Whether they organise community events, support vulnerable people, or help to protect the environment, you'll be able to nominate them in one of our eight categories.

They are:

Healthy & Active Award – Celebrating those who encourage health, wellbeing, and active lifestyles.

Young Achiever of the Year – Honouring an inspiring young person making a positive impact.

Volunteer of the Year – Recognising a dedicated volunteer who selflessly gives their time.

Connecting Communities Award – For those who bring people together and strengthen community bonds.

Green at Heart Award – Rewarding environmental champions who help protect our planet.

Shortlisted nominees will be invited to a special awards night on 16 October 2025 at the Royal Norwich Golf Club, where the winners will be announced. Winners will receive a £250 donation to give to a local charitable organisation of their choice.

It's quick and easy to nominate your local hero. Visit southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/broadland-community-awards and tell us why they deserve to be recognised. Nominations close on 31 August 2025.

Business in the Community Award – Showcasing businesses that go above and beyond for their community.

Community Organisation of the Year – Recognising groups that make a meaningful impact.

Lifetime Achievement Award – Celebrating someone who has devoted a lifetime to helping others.

Rising Star Award – An individual or newly formed community organisation that has recently begun their volunteering journey.

Cllr Natasha Harpley said: "These awards celebrate the extraordinary individuals and groups who give their time, energy, and passion to make Broadland a better place to live, work and visit."



Broadland
**Community
Awards 2025**



More than a shop: new supermarket redefines support

A brand-new social supermarket has opened in Rackheath, launched by local charity Social Moments and made possible thanks to funding from Broadland's Health and Wellbeing Partnership and support from the Norfolk Community Foundation.

More than just a place to buy affordable food, Social Moments is building something different, a lifestyle brand that proves community support can be inclusive, welcoming and full of pride.

Chantelle Tyrrell, CEO of Social Moments, explains: "As a mum, I know what it feels like to be juggling work, parenting, bills, emotions, doing everything you possibly can and still feel like you're not getting anywhere. But it's not us failing. It's society that isn't

set up to support real people in real situations.

"We're not building a charity in the traditional sense. We want to build a 'lifestyle brand' focused on affordability, community, and human connection."

Membership to the Social Shop costs £3 per year, giving families access to affordable cupboard staples, cleaning products, pet food, and a wide range of donated fresh items including fruit, vegetables, and bakery goods. The team is working hard to expand the offering to include dairy, meat, gluten-free and organic options.

Food is currently sourced through the Nourishing Norfolk Network by the Norfolk Community Foundation and FareShare, alongside generous local donations, partnerships, and national networks.

The Health and Wellbeing Partnership, which brings together leaders from various organisations tackling social, economic, and environmental factors, has a history of delivering impactful projects such as Mindful Towns and Villages, Help Through Crises, and Social Prescribing in Secondary Care.

Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Cllr Natasha Harpley, said:

"By joining forces, the partnership is making a profound impact on the community's health and wellbeing. The new social shop is a testament to the power of collaboration, showing how we can support local families and transform lives when we work together."

You can find out more about the work of the Health and Wellbeing Partnership on our website.





Ancient woodland safeguarded for future generations

An ancient woodland and County Wildlife Site near Strumpshaw has been purchased by Buckenham Ancient Woodland Trust (BAWT) thanks to funding from the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) and Broadland District Council.

Council Leader and Chair of the GNGB, Cllr Sue Holland said: "Buckenham Wood is a vital green asset, highly valued by local residents for recreation, relaxation and connection with nature and this project will ensure the woodland's long-term health and accessibility for people living in the village and the surrounding area."

BAWT has received £104,000 funding from the GNGB's Infrastructure Investment Fund to deliver a comprehensive 5-year Woodland Management Programme.

Overseen by a project co-ordinator, the programme will boost biodiversity, enhance the tree canopy, restore footpaths and improve access. Regular tree assessments and safety measures will be conducted, and species diversity and public usage will be tracked using camera traps and counters. Additionally, interpretation boards, deer fencing, bike stands and benches will be installed.

BAWT secured the necessary funds through the Pride in Place Community Grant Fund, awarded by Broadland District Council and matched by Green Infrastructure S106 funds.

The Greater Norwich Growth Board is a unique partnership made up of Broadland District Council, South Norfolk Council, Norwich City Council and Norfolk County Council.

To find out more about BAWT and to volunteer, please visit buckenhamancientwoodland.org/home



NEW VISITOR CENTRE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Work is underway at Broadland Country Park's new visitor centre.

Funded by the Greater Norwich Growth Board, the centre which will also include a café, is expected to open by the end of the year, featuring accessible pathways and toilets, educational displays, and spaces for workshops and events.

Cllr Holland said: "We understand the importance of green spaces for health and well-being, and these upgrades will make Broadland Country Park a more enjoyable and accessible place for all."



The Council is committed to eco-friendly construction practices, aiming for net zero CO2e emissions from the café and visitors' centre by integrating renewable energy systems and using sustainable materials. Efforts will be made to preserve the landscape and achieve a 10% biodiversity net gain.



Dates for your diary

20 June, Bats and Nightjars (nearly) Solstice

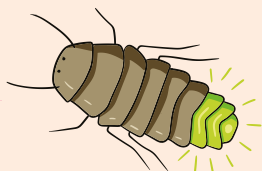
Join Jules and friends for a Night Safari! Experienced guides will take you on a twilight walk through the park on the lookout for glow worms, tawny owls, bats and nightjars.

25 July, Family Fun Day: Strange Fascination Theatre – War of the Worlds

Experience an open-air show featuring captivating storytelling, handmade puppets, engaging characters and high drama.

8 August, Family Fun Day: Tots to Teens

Calling all young explorers! Get ready for an exciting geocaching adventure. Discover hidden treasures, solve fun puzzles, and explore the great outdoors with your family and friends.



22 August, Family Fun Day: Strange Fascination Theatre – DinoJam

DinoJam is a family-friendly puppet theatre show that brings the prehistoric world to life! Join us for an unforgettable journey where dinosaurs roam, mysteries unfold, and excitement awaits at every turn.

Tots2Teens will also be on hand with plenty of fun activities to keep children of all ages entertained.

September

Celebrate over 1,000 hours of volunteering at Broadland Country Park. Enjoy a recognition ceremony, live music, fun activities and delicious food. Come and celebrate community spirit, and connect with nature!



For more information and to book visit our website.



Heritage project honours WW2 Friendly Invasion

Earlier this year, we launched "The Friendly Invasion" project which aims to share the powerful stories and experiences from a time that transformed East Anglia more than any event since the Norman Conquest.

Funded by a £20,000 Pride in Place grant, the TFI Project is a collaborative effort by heritage organisations across East Anglia. Its mission is to ensure the stories of this pivotal era are not forgotten.

Cabinet Member Cllr Natasha Harpley said, "The arrival of the American airmen, dubbed the 'Friendly Invasion,' was transformative for East Anglia. This project honours their contributions and preserves their memory for future generations."

Central to the project is an online information hub on the Visit East of England website, featuring an archive of the Friendly Invasion story and a guide to local Bomb Group museums. Additionally, a new festival website promotes events that celebrate the lasting impact of these brave individuals. Visit thefriendlyinvasion.org.uk to discover live performances, activities, and community events that bring people together.

Journey into the past

Explore Aylsham and Haveringland through our new self-guided walking and driving tours that trace the footsteps of wartime servicemen and women. With thirteen airbases nearby, thousands of American service

personnel, along with Commonwealth and Dutch air forces, passed through these towns, leaving a rich legacy.

Be sure to visit, RAF Oulton Museum at Blickling, Haveringland St Peter's Memorial Church, featuring an interactive Heritage Hub and Norwich Aviation Museum.

The project also highlights nearby towns like Harleston, Diss, and Wymondham, and includes the 100th Bomb Group Memorial Museum at the historic Thorpe Abbots airbase—a must-see.



Download the tour maps, visit thefriendlyinvasion.org.uk or follow facebook.com/thefriendlyinvasionfestival



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New green vision for Greater Norwich

In May, the Greater Norwich Growth Board (GNGB) launched its Green Infrastructure Strategy.

The strategy, developed in partnership with public, environmental, educational, health and third sector organisations, focuses on delivering environmental benefits to residents including: nature-rich places, active and healthy communities, thriving

economies, improved water management and resilient, climate-positive environments.

Cllr Sue Holland, Chair of the GNGB, pictured here at the launch, said: **"This strategy demonstrates our commitment to sustainable growth while supporting the environment. Our collaborative approach will help guide the development of green spaces across the area and by working together, we**

can create a greener, healthier and more resilient Greater Norwich for current and future generations."

The GNGB is a unique partnership of Norfolk County Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk District Council, and Broadland District Council.



Join the fight against food waste

During Food Waste Action Week, our enthusiastic recycling team has been out and about, meeting residents in supermarkets across the district. They chatted with over 1,000 people, sharing their best tips on reducing

food waste and encouraging everyone to buy their fruit and vegetables loose.

Cabinet Member Cllr Jan Davis said: "It's shocking that the average family of four throws away over £1,000 worth of

food every year. We hope our advice helps people waste less food and save more money!"

For more information on how to reduce food waste, please visit our website.



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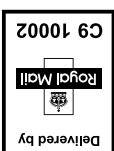
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