

# Broadland<sup>news</sup>

AUTUMN/WINTER 2023



Celebrating our  
community heroes

## Finding homes for Ukrainians



In September, our teams hit the streets of Broadland to encourage people to offer homes to Ukrainians, who were already in the area and looking for new hosts.

The roadshows took place across the market towns within the district, providing more information on what's involved in hosting families and individuals through The Homes for Ukraine scheme set up by the government.

Our Chairwoman, Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou, said: "Some settled Ukrainians are looking to move on from their original hosts. They have been living in the UK for around 18 months, many have jobs and are well integrated into community life.

"The support our residents have offered has been amazing. These people have lost almost everything and to offer them a home and a chance to rebuild their lives is an incredibly generous thing to do."

If you have empty accommodation to house Ukrainian families, you could receive £500 tax free a month, with no implications to your benefits.

Contact 01508 533987 or email [H4U@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:H4U@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk) to find out more.

## Useful contacts

Broadland District Council main switchboard:  
01603 431133 Monday – Friday 8.30am to 5pm  
Website: [southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](http://southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)



@BroadlandDC



@BroadlandDistrictCouncil

## Support for anyone who is feeling vulnerable:



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

Call Help Hub: 01603 430431  
e: [helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:helphub@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)



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### Christmas opening hours

Friday 22 December	8:15 – 5pm (Normal opening hours)
23 – 26 December	Closed
27 – 29 December	8:30 – 4:30pm
30 - 31 December	Closed (Weekend)
1 January	Closed (Bank Holiday)
From 2 Jan	Normal opening hours





# A message from the leader

I'm absolutely delighted to be writing my foreword for the latest edition of Broadland News and very excited about our new administration making a real difference in all communities across Broadland.

It has been a busy few months, and I'm thrilled to see so many great news stories for us all. We recently held our Community at Heart Awards evening where we celebrated the work of so many hard-working volunteers and groups across the district. It

was heart-warming to hear all their wonderful stories and be able to thank them all for the excellent work they do.

Nominations for our Annual Business Awards are open now and there is the opportunity for us all to vote in the two categories for favourite Retailer of the Year and favourite Pub of the Year.

As well as our usual services supporting residents and business, we have recently completed our purchase of new properties to help support those who have need of temporary accommodation and this forms part of our commitment to prevent homelessness and offer support for those at risk.

As part of our programme to increase support for community groups, we have both doubled our member ward grants which now offer up to £1,000 funding support, and launched a new Community Grant Fund for slightly larger local community projects offering funding for bids of up to £15,000. Do get in touch with your local councillor to discuss these opportunities.

And finally, on behalf of all our Councillors and the One Team, I wish you all a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Councillor Sue Holland,  
Leader of Broadland  
District Council**

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# Meet our Chairwoman

**CLlr Karimi-Ghovanlou, who represents Taverham North, became a district councillor in 2019.**

She started her career in architecture, after being only one of two women on a four-year building course at college. Her first job was as an Architectural Technician at Feilden & Mawson Architects, which is one of the reasons Caroline is so passionate about the Council's Design and Enhancement Awards.

She said: "I left to start a family and eventually went back to part-time work in retail when

my youngest was two years old, ending up as Store Secretary in the newly-opened House of Fraser."

Her next move was to Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital as Directorate PA, before she left to help look after her disabled grandson. It was at this point she became interested in becoming a councillor.

"I've always enjoyed being part of my community", reveals Caroline, "and when I heard my local parish was updating a playground near my home, I talked to one of the district councillors and asked for an accessible roundabout; there were no places my wheelchair-bound grandson could play in the local area.

"On hearing that the parish wanted to update a much larger playground, I decided to join the parish council so I could be a voice for SEN children and include items that would be suitable for disabled children.

"In 2019, I was approached to stand for District Council, and was completely amazed when I was elected. I try to use my voice to

highlight disability needs in the district, especially where planning is concerned."

Every Chairperson chooses a charity that they raise funds for. Caroline has chosen The Hamlet Children's Centre and Vision Norfolk (Young People and Families).

She said: "They are very personal to me as my grandson attends both. They support families with disabled children and have been invaluable to many as a place for children to go, who would not otherwise socialise and be able to join 'normal' activities."

When she's not working or spending time with her family, Caroline can often be found at the local garden centre.

"Taverham or Aylsham are my favourites," she confides, "and I often pop into Aylsham for the delicious pastries at Bread Source, or lunch at The Black Boys, and then browse in the many charity shops for a bargain. Another favourite destination is the picturesque village of Heydon."







**Businesses in Broadland and South Norfolk are once again being recognised for their outstanding achievements in our annual business awards.**

Businesses based in the two districts are invited to nominate themselves in any of the ten categories to be in with a chance of winning a prestigious award.

Our Cabinet Member, Cllr Martin Booth, said: "We have a wide variety of businesses operating across

both districts, from huge multi-nationals to one-man bands, in sectors as diverse as agriculture, retail, life sciences and tourism. It's these businesses, and the determination of the people behind them, that help our local economy to thrive. This is a chance for them to get the recognition they deserve."

The categories recognise the diversity of businesses operating in the two districts, and they are:

- **Business Growth**
- **Business Innovation**
- **Employer of the Year**
- **Environmental Impact**
- **Excellence in Advanced Manufacturing**
- **Excellence in Insurance, Financial and Professional Services**
- **Food and Drink Producer of the Year**
- **New Business**
- **Small Business of the Year**
- **Tourism Business of the Year**

The awards ceremony will take place at Norwich City Football Club on 5 March 2024. The Business Awards are sponsored by local law firm Birketts LLP.

Closing date for entries is 15 December 2023. To nominate and vote, search Broadland and South Norfolk Business Awards.

Headline sponsor



**WIN!**

**Support your favourite business!**

Vote for your favourite Retailer of the Year or Pub of the Year and you could win £100 of shopping and pub vouchers. Visit our website and vote, for your chance to be entered into a prize draw. There will be two Broadland winners, one for each category, so make sure you enter both and show our local businesses how much they mean to you!



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# Business Builder helps over 200 entrepreneurs

Since we launched our Business Builder scheme last year, we have helped over 200 businesses secure grants totalling almost £700,000.

This investment has accelerated growth and supported start-up companies, creating jobs and boosting the local economy.

Alongside investment, business owners have also been able to access advice and training, tailored around each business and its specific needs.

Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Martin Booth, said: "For many entrepreneurs, taking the next step in growing a business can be challenging. Lack of funds or a gap in knowledge or skills can put a stop to the best of plans. This is where Business Builder can make a difference.



Yolanda Wetteland, founder of trii, a sustainable and solid body-care brand, received a Build Up Grant via the scheme, and she said: "The grant meant I could book a digital marketing consultant to optimise my website in terms of product presentation and customer experience. It's made my website more professional and, really importantly, appropriate for a luxury brand. Critically, this all happened just as I was starting to pitch my trii range to online retailers – and I know that the website played a major part in landing these new contracts, so the timing worked out perfectly. The Business Builder grant made a significant and critical difference to my business, exactly when I needed it."

People looking to launch a business, but don't know where to start, can also get help through the scheme. Our team can work out if the business is viable and provide a free in-depth online training course which covers everything a first-time entrepreneur needs to know. Once established, they can come back and apply for a Build-Up Grant to take the next step.

For rural businesses, the Rural England Prosperity Fund has also provided a welcome pipeline of significant grants to assist investment in capital equipment, with all applications going through Business Builder.

Search for Business Builder on our website to find out how we are helping businesses in our district.



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Sign up for the Business Newsletter to keep up to date with all the latest business news, including funding opportunities and dates for the next Business Breakfast – great for networking and finding out about further help that's available.



# New residents on the rise

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**Bakery company Weddell & Turner is the latest business to move into our Broadland Food Innovation Centre on the Food Enterprise Park, to the west of Norwich.**

The company which specialises in producing luxury gluten-free and dairy-free cakes and bakes was founded in 2015 by Helen Adshead, when she spotted a gap in the market.

She said: "I spent years not being able to enjoy celebrations, because I couldn't eat the food, or didn't enjoy the gluten-free and dairy-free alternatives on offer."

Applying her biochemistry background and working with professional chef and close friend Daniel, they set about developing and testing cake recipes. Soon they were producing a popular and ever-expanding range of delicious high-quality 'free from' cakes and bakes.

Helen said: "This is such an exciting step for our business. It's ideal as we are constantly innovating, and developing new bakery products that are both gluten-free, dairy-free and, most importantly, so delicious that everyone loves them regardless of their dietary needs. The Centre will give us the professional space to test new ideas and produce much greater volumes to meet our orders."

Our Cabinet Member, Cllr Martin Booth, said: "Giving local businesses the space to grow and to be in a position where they can expand their product line is at the heart of our ambition for the project. I welcome Helen, Daniel and her team to the Centre and wish them huge success for the future."

The £11.4m Broadland Food Innovation Centre is a business hub for new and growing food and drink enterprises. Developed

by Broadland District Council, it opened in September 2022 and consists of 13 food-grade units, sensory tasting facility and test kitchens and meeting spaces. Other tenants include Farmyard Frozen, PrepKing, Old Rectory Preserves and Norfolk Spirits Company.

For more information, please visit [foodinnovation.broadland.com](https://foodinnovation.broadland.com)



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# Our community heroes celebrated

Give your community some love

**On Friday 20 October we celebrated the stars of our district at our Community at Heart Awards held at The Space, Norwich.**

Nine winners were congratulated on their amazing contribution to their community and the difference they have made to other people's wellbeing.

Our Chairwoman, Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou, said; "It was a fantastic evening and I was completely

overwhelmed with the stories of kindness and generosity of all our winners and nominees. It's the people and the way they care and look out for each other that gives Broadland this wonderful sense of community and makes it such a special place to live. This was a great chance to celebrate them and say thank you."



Main sponsor:



## Green at Heart Award

**Sprowston Community Garden**

Set in a quiet corner of Sprowston, the small community garden provides a restful place for residents to sit and relax. The volunteers transformed a barren patch of grass in to a lush, vibrant garden full of herbs and vegetables, which act as a foodbank for local residents. They also host events including bug discovery days, Easter egg hunts and Christmas light trails.



## Volunteer of the Year

**Avril Thomas**

Avril volunteers for St William's Way Knit and Natter Group, in Thorpe St Andrew. She works with a team who knit for charity, producing booties, warm bags, hats and scarfs for the Norfolk and Norwich Baby Unit and St Martin's. They also knit trauma teddies, as well as blankets and other items of clothing for the Ukrainian refugees being hosted in the area. Avril also volunteers for the Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers, distributing wool to knitting groups across the district.

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## Special Recognition Award

**Peter & Theresa Barton & Vladyslava Davydiuk**

Peter and Theresa hosted a family - Olena, Vladyslava and Dmitriy – fleeing the war in Ukraine, welcoming them into their home as one of their own. When Olena was able to return home to Ukraine to be with her husband and son Dmitriy, Vladyslava was keen to remain in the UK to stay with her friends and continue her education. Peter and Theresa did not hesitate to offer to foster Vladyslava so she could stay living with them.





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### *Community Hero*

**Dave Savory**



Dave is the Chairman of the Bure Valley Conservation Group, using his previous experience to aid conservation efforts across the district. He also volunteers for several other local charities and groups, including being a Trustee for Acle Land's Trust and Chairman of Acle Preschool. When the preschool was facing a difficult period, he went above and beyond to recruit and support the new manager and guide the team.

Sponsored by:



### *Community Group of the Year*

**Aylsham Community Church**



This local group aim to bring the community in and around Aylsham much closer together. The team of volunteers run a community café, provide a local space for the Citizen's Advice Bureau and host a community fridge. They also offer support and supplies to Ukrainian refugees that have settled in the area.



### *Inspiration of the Year*

**Sandra Hughes**



Sandra supports those in her community affected by dementia. She volunteers in several Dementia Cafés and as a Dementia Friends Ambassador with the Alzheimer's Society. She goes out in the community to support those with dementia and educates others about the effects of the disease and how they can better support people living with this illness.

Sponsored by:



### *Young Hero of the Year*

**Abigayle Nicholls**



Abigayle has been volunteering at the Norwich Penguins Swimming School for two years, teaching 12 classes a week. She enjoys seeing the children she teaches progress and improve, using her lessons to further educate them on water safety. Abigayle has also worked hard to expand her skills into training competitive swimmers.



Sponsored by:



### *Business in the Community Award*

**Aylsham & District Care Trust**



Aylsham & District Care Trust offer a wide range of services to help people continue to live independently and to combat loneliness in the community. This includes offering day trips to local areas of interest and tourist attractions, as well as a vibrant community café, where people feel safe, warm and welcome.

### *Helping Hand Award*

**Sally Aldridge**



Sally is part of several volunteer groups around Acle. This includes Acle Good Neighbours, the local foodbank and Acle Voluntary Aid. Through her various roles, she supports elderly and vulnerable residents by providing them with food and transport to hospital appointments and a safe space to sit, enjoy a delicious meal and good company.

# £100,000 for good causes



**Our Community at Heart Lottery has raised more than £100,000 for the local community.**

This money has been paid directly to a wide variety of good causes across the district, such as charities and community projects, since the lottery's first draw in 2021.

Every supporter has contributed to raising these funds for the 88 local non-profit groups who have signed up, as part of a fun and effective way to raise money for their valued services in the community.

Our Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Natasha Harpley, said: "It's been absolutely amazing to see the lottery making such a difference. The funds raised have helped deliver services that have proven to be vital to many, especially during the pandemic and the ongoing cost of living crisis. I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of our supporters."

To further help our registered good causes, we have provided free bespoke social media training at our dedicated training facility, Carrowbreck House, so they can grow their membership and supporters.

Norwich Door To Door's Funding and Community Engagement Manager, Kathleen Shirley, said: "Funds raised ensure our buses get out on the road and that beneficiaries remain actively involved in their communities. By getting people out of their homes, the charity helps relieve loneliness, improves wellbeing and encourages independence."

Taverham Band's Jim Hamshaw, said: "During the pandemic, the band was, effectively, 'mothballed' for

almost two years.

The lottery has helped greatly in the short term, by way of 'keeping the lights on' as far as continuing outgoings were concerned when engagement income was nil."

Slow Food Aylsham Chair, Patrick Prekopp, said: "Lottery funding has enabled us to create two recipe books for foodbank users, and afford to print more of them to help people cook simple, healthy food."

Not-for-profit groups that benefit Broadland residents can sign up to be part of the lottery for free at any time via the lottery website. Search Community at Heart Lottery to find out more. As well as receiving 50% of the profits from tickets they sell, they also receive marketing materials and get their own Community at Heart Lottery web page.

Broadland's Community at Heart Lottery gives players the chance to win weekly cash prizes up to the £25,000 jackpot for just £1 per ticket. 50% of the £1 ticket goes directly to a good cause of the player's choice and a further 10% goes to the Council's Keep It Going grant funding pot, which supports not-for-profit projects that bring communities together and may be facing barriers to sustain themselves due to the rising costs of living.

Search our website for Community at Heart Lottery to purchase tickets. Tickets cost £1 per week. Players must be 18 or over.



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# Taking pride in our community

**Hellesdon Community Centre is undergoing a transformation to make it accessible to all and fit for the future. It's recently had a new roof and solar panels added and we have given the Parish Council a £27,500 Pride in Place Grant to help make much-needed changes to the inside.**

The grant will be used to fully redevelop the existing changing and toilet facilities at the Centre, enabling everyone to have easy access to them.

Hellesdon Parish Council Chairman, Bill Johnson, said: "Of paramount importance is the improvement of the facilities for the elderly, physically disabled, those suffering with degenerative mental illness such as dementia, and those wishing to use baby changing facilities. We wish for these groups to feel as welcome and comfortable in Hellesdon Community Centre as those without these characteristics."

"A welcoming community centre with good facilities will help encourage people into the building and this in turn helps improve social wellbeing and reduce loneliness."

Our Pride in Place Grant is funded through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and provides funding for town and parish councils and voluntary and charitable organisations to enhance the local community.

Proposals should foster a sense of local pride and belonging and build resilient, healthy and safe neighbourhoods that people want to live and work in.

We are looking to support projects that enhance community engagement and volunteering opportunities, provide an innovative response to local problems, develop new or existing community facilities, or to sponsor feasibility studies that will allow us to understand local needs to develop appropriate community facilities in the future.

For more information, search for Pride in Place Grants on our website.



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# Twelve Feast Ideas for a Love Local Christmas



Christmas is nearly here, with the very best feast of the year coming up. Here are some ideas on how to make it extra delicious and fun by shopping locally.

While you're picking up your Love Local ingredients, enjoy exploring festive market towns and farm shops dotted across our beautiful district and stop in cosy cafés and pubs along the way.

## 1. NORFOLK TURKEY

Order ahead with your local butcher and ask them for top tips for a perfect roast. While you're there, stock up on pigs in blankets and freshly made pork stuffing. Try Hewitt and Grant Butcher's Shop on Coltishall High Street, or the butcher's counter at White House Farm in Sprowston.

## 2. ROAST POTATOES

Look out for sacks labelled Buxton Potato Company or any other locally-grown potatoes. Scrub, peel, parboil and roast for a satisfying crunch.

## 3. CARROTS

Ask your favourite greengrocer like Norfolk Farm & Deli in Reepham for sweet carrots and then peel, chop and cook at the lowest heat possible in a saucepan with butter and salt and lid on top.

## 4. CHOCOLATES

Carousel Chocolates and Bon Bons in Red Lion Street in Aylsham have delicious selections of luxury truffles and more.

## 5. NORFOLK RUM OR GIN

Enjoy some special Christmas spirit with St Giles' Spiced Orange & Cranberry Gin and Norfolk Rum's Spiced Rum, flavoured with notes of Christmas cake, cinnamon, caramel and more. Look out for these beautiful bottles from local distilleries.

## 6. SAUSAGE ROLLS

If you haven't got a favourite, then try Diane's Pantry in Reepham. Perfect for feeding hungry visitors.

## 7. MINCE PIES & GINGERBREAD

Bakeries and tearooms in your high street, like Bread Source and Flour & Bean in Aylsham's market square, are full of inspiration for anybody who likes a sweet Christmas treat.

## 8. CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS & CAKE

Farm shops and delicatessens, like Black Barn Farm in Salhouse, are the place for finding locally-made-with-love Christmas puds and bakes.

## 9. CHEESE

The Lemon Tree Deli in Moulton St Mary celebrates cheese like nobody else. Find all the crackers and deli treats to go with it too. Release your inner mouse this Christmas.

## 10. CHUTNEYS & PICKLES

Boxing Day sandwiches are always better with chutney made in Norfolk. You'll be spoilt for choice in any farm shop, like the Blofield Farm Shop.





## 11. SPROUTS

Love them or hate them, they are a Christmas staple. Harvest, the Greengrocers in Aylsham, grow a range of winter veg in their family-owned field. On the day, give someone else the job to chop into quarters, fry quickly with bacon or chestnuts, add a tiny bit of gravy and cook for a few minutes until tender. You might even hear someone asking for seconds!

## For less than a tenner!

Some budget inspiration for stocking fillers.

- ★ Pretty jar of jam, try any farm shop like Cannells by the River in Reedham
- ★ Chocolate truffles, any chocolate or farm shop
- ★ Wildflower vase, Flower Folk florist in Reepham Market Square
- ★ Mini craft kits, try Wool Shak in Moulton St Mary or Sew Simple in Taverham
- ★ Small soft toys, try Bon Bons in Aylsham or Very Nice Things in Reepham
- ★ Beautiful eco housekeeping kit from Koti Store
- ★ Books, try the Book Hive in Aylsham

## One gift solution for a whole family

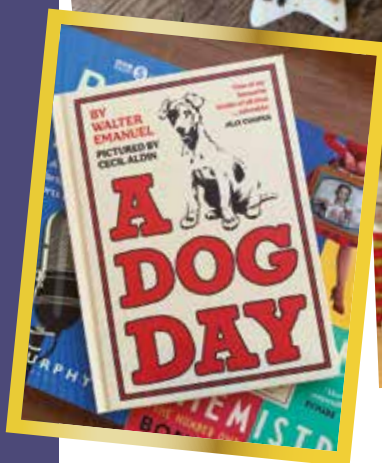
- ★ Vouchers for The Bug Parc or Whitwell and Reepham Railway
- ★ Visit to Pettits Animal Adventure Park near Reedham
- ★ Afternoon tea at Heydon Village Tearooms

## Festive style

Head to your local boutiques, vintage and charity shops to find new outfits perfect for all the festivities, like Whispers Boutique in Taverham and Priscilla Bacon Hospice pink box shop in Drayton.

## 12. SET THE TABLE

Craft shops and interior shops are the best for Christmas table inspiration. Good places to start are Wallflower & Wallace in Heydon and Koti Store in Reepham.



Sending a big

Love Local

Thank You

Whenever you support local businesses, you're giving them a great Christmas present too because your support means a lot. Even if it's only a few pounds, you're making a big difference.

# Recycle better this Christmas

## ✓ Please do

### Christmas cards and envelopes



Do recycle if made of paper.

### Wrapping paper



Do remove all tags, bows, ribbons and Sellotape and try the 'scrunch test'. If it stays in a ball once scrunched it can go into your recycling bin.

### Christmas crackers



Do separate your crackers out once you've used them. Any cardboard and paper can be recycled, if they don't have glitter or foil on them.

### Food waste and vegetable peelings



Do put all cooked and raw food leftovers, peelings and cores into your food waste caddy.

### Food and takeaway plastic and foil containers



Do rinse any plastic food trays, pots, and foil containers and put them in your recycling bin.

### Glass bottles for water, drinks and wine



Do rinse glass bottles and jars, put the lids on, and put them in your recycling bin.

### Electrical items and batteries



Do use our weekly collection service to dispose of old electricals and batteries on your rubbish and recycling bin collection day.

## ✗ Please don't

Don't recycle if covered in glitter or foil. Dispose of these in your rubbish bin.

Don't put it in recycling if it doesn't stay scrunched, pop it in your rubbish bin. If it's glittery or has foil on it, it can't be recycled.

Don't put other items in the recycling bin, such as plastics, ribbons, any foil or glittery card, these need to go in your rubbish bin.

Don't put any oils, liquids, food packaging, cling film or foil into your food waste caddy.

Don't put dirty, food-stained containers in the recycling bin.

Don't put wine or drinking glasses, or broken glass into recycling. It should be carefully wrapped and placed in your rubbish bin or taken to your nearest recycling centre.

Don't put any electrical items or batteries in your rubbish or recycling bin. This can cause fires.

## Full steam ahead this Christmas

Visit the Bure Valley Railway this festive season for a special Christmas experience.

On the 1, 7, 15 of December you can ride the Noel Night train. Enjoy Aylsham Station all lit up and decorated, whilst listening to Aylsham Brass Band playing festive favourites, before boarding a special evening steam train for a 60-minute journey through Norfolk's night sky.

From 2 - 24 December families can take a trip on the Festive Express and visit Santa in his Grotto, where they will receive a special present.

Blow away the post-Christmas blues with a Mince Pie Special from 27 December - 3 January, with a free mince pie for every full fare-paying passenger.

To book visit [bvrw.co.uk](http://bvrw.co.uk)



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We have doubled our Ward Members' grant funding to £1,000 and, in addition, created a Community Grant Scheme (CGS) panel to enable Councillors to each award between £1,000 and £15,000 to community groups.

Cllr Steve Riley, Cabinet Member for Finance, proposed these changes over the summer. He said: "We are committed to empowering communities and promoting positive change from the ground up. I'm delighted that we will be able to better help community-led projects flourish and make a lasting difference in the lives of our residents."

Members' Ward grant funding is available now to community projects – search 'Broadland Member grant' on our website for details of how to apply.

Successful recent applications include 1st Sprowston Brownies, who received £445 from Cllr Martin Booth to purchase outside games equipment as well as crafting, cooking and sewing equipment and materials.

Cllr Booth, said: "Sprowston Brownies offer girls a space where they can grow in confidence, feel supported, have fun and experience adventures, as well as developing new skills. This grant has helped them to expand what they offer without asking cash-strapped families for more."

Reedham Community Association was recently awarded £500 to buy portable speakers for outdoor events, with a grant supplied through Cllr Grant Nurden. These were recently used at the Bonfire Night celebration and outdoor productions from RCA Theatre Company.

Pictured above is Cllr Nurden with members of the RCA Stage School, who are rehearsing for the Christmas party and carols on 2 December at Reedham Village Hall. RCA Stage School's next production will be 'A Heist Before Christmas' from 21-23 December at Reedham Village Hall.

Cllr Lisa Starling used her £1,000 ward funding to improve facilities at 1st Horsford and St Faith's

Scouts. She said: "The toilets were at least 20 years old and not suitable for people with disabilities. The kitchen was not user-friendly; now they're able to add sinks and draining boards, as well as improve cupboard space."

Sprowston Youth Engagement Project's Urban Adventure Garden (UAG) project has benefitted from £498 thanks to Cllr Ken Leggett. This green space helps hard to reach young people who are at risk of anti-social behaviour. Cllr Leggett said: "Our grant helps them use more of the site and deliver positive activities."

With our new CGS, your local district councillors can access between £1,000 and £15,000 for you – just contact them to make the application for funding. The CGS Panel will meet to consider requests.

You can find your local district councillors' contact details on our website.

# Get active, feel better

## BROADLY ACTIVE

If you think you could benefit from being more physically active, you can be referred to our long-running Broadly Active scheme by any health care professional via a new service called Active NoW.

Active NoW is an NHS-funded centralised service covering all of Norfolk and Waveney.

You're eligible to be referred to Active NoW if you have a stable long-term health condition that could be managed or improved by being more active, or you are physically inactive (less than 30 mins of moderate intensity exercise per week). Once referred, you'd be contacted to discuss

your health, wellbeing, lifestyle, and the various exercise options suitable for your individual needs. Referrals take just two weeks.

Our Cabinet Member, Cllr Natasha Harpley, said: "This coordinated approach makes the exercise referrals process more consistent. Active NoW makes it simpler for us to improve physical activity levels for residents who could most benefit from being more active."

One local resident said: "The referral worked seamlessly from Active NoW to starting with Broadly Active. I felt reassured and supported ... I enjoy the exercises, have rebuilt my confidence in my body, and I have been able to return to work."

Another participant said: "I'm very happy, the instructor is nice and she explains things well. I didn't wait long to get on the course from when my referral was made."

"Broadly Active gave me the confidence to exercise and lose weight," said Tracey from Aylsham.

"Since taking part in Broadly Active my general health has improved beyond compare and my ailments have improved. The instructors are wonderful, kind and considerate, but give you that extra little push when needed," said Veronica, fellow Aylsham resident.






**MARRIOTT'S WAY**
**10K**


## Marriott's Way a runaway success

**On 8 October, 390 runners gathered in Aylsham to compete in the Marriott's Way 10K.**

Runners of all ages and abilities lined up at the starting line before our Chairwoman Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou fired the starting gun.

They ran along the old railway line through beautiful Broadland countryside before arriving to cheering crowds in the picturesque Reepham Marketplace.

Cllr Jan Davis, who ran on the day and has participated for the last three years said: "It was

great to see so many people taking part and as always there was a wonderful atmosphere. I'd like to thank all the volunteers who helped to make this event so special."

Cllr Karimi-Ghovanlou handed out medals to all participants and the winners trophies.

Congratulations to Carl White from Bure Valley Harriers who completed the course in 36 minutes 11.8 seconds and to Amy Clarke of City of Norwich Athletics Club who finished in 41 minutes .02 seconds.

## Celebrating a decade of parkrun

**In October, over 400 people celebrated Catton parkrun's 10th birthday with a fancy-dress themed event.**

The council, alongside Active Norfolk, provided the start-up funding and supported the creation of the weekly 5k run in Catton Park which originally boasted ex-Olympic 10,000m legend, Paul Evans as co-Event Director.

Over the past decade, there have been 454 events. 12,637 finishers have completed the course 126,513 times with 1,333 different volunteers supporting them.

Our Chairwoman, Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou, who fired the starting gun, said: "parkruns are such a great way to keep fit and have fun, whatever your age or ability."



Old Catton and Sprowston representative Cllr Ken Leggett MBE took part and walked the course in 1hr 15 minutes. It was his 59th official parkrun – still exercising and feeling the benefits in his 90s!

Blickling also celebrated their 10th birthday in November, another popular parkrun event the council helped to establish alongside Active Norfolk.

parkrun is a global, free, weekly, timed event where anyone can walk, jog or run 5k at 9am on Saturday mornings. In Broadland, parkruns also take place in Brundall and Lingwood and there is also a junior parkrun at Blickling on Sunday mornings.

# Prioritising the planet together

**Broadland District Council declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency at its Full Council meeting on Thursday 27 July. Here we catch up with our Cabinet Member for the Environment, Cllr Jan Davis, to find out what this means for Broadland.**

## **Cllr Davis, why has the Council declared a climate emergency?**

The Council declared a Climate and Biodiversity Emergency to recognise an urgent need to act on the causes and impacts of climate change and the threats to nature.

The main cause of climate change is burning fossil fuels such as oil, gas, and coal. When burnt, fossil fuels release carbon dioxide into the air trapping the sun's heat which leads to global warming.

As a result, we see more extreme weather events like heavy storms and strong winds. Hotter and drier summers result in heatwaves and wildfires. Drought and localised flooding are seemingly contradictory impacts. It appears 2023 is set to be the hottest year on record by a significant margin.

## **People understand the term climate emergency, but what is a biodiversity emergency?**

Biodiversity comprises animals, plants and microorganisms that support life on earth. We rely on this biodiversity to provide us with the air we breathe and the food we eat. Climate change affects our local environment which impacts directly on nature resulting in an alarming and continuing loss of wildlife and plants.

## **What is the Council doing to help stop climate change and what can residents do?**

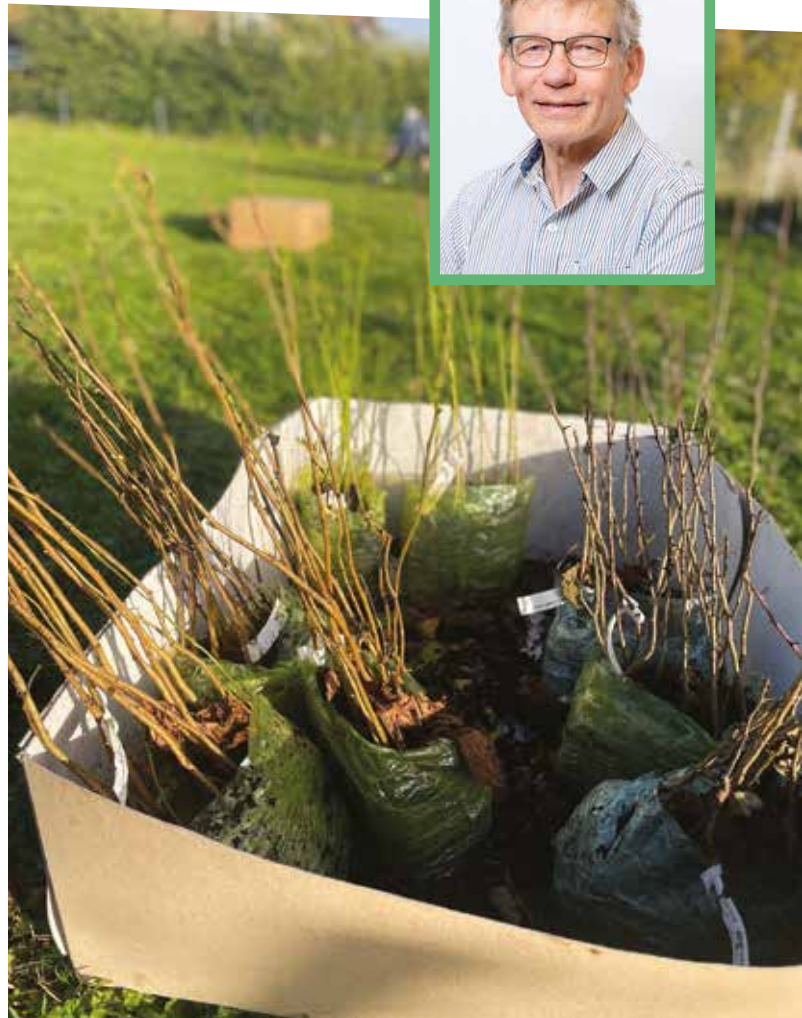
We can all take measures to minimise the amount of carbon dioxide and other harmful gases entering the atmosphere. As a council we have an environmental strategy to become carbon neutral, "Net Zero", by 2030. We support residents, businesses, landowners, and communities to improve the natural environment and reduce Broadland's overall carbon footprint.

Trees and hedges support wildlife, capture carbon, protect our soils, reduce flood risk, improve our physical health and mental well-being, and can create jobs. Grants of up to £1,000 are available for local hedge and tree planting projects (see opposite page).

Broadland leads the Norfolk Warm Homes Partnership which offers grants up to £38,000 to low-income households off the mains gas grid for energy efficient measures which reduce carbon emissions (see opposite page).

Interest-free loans of up to £5,000 are available to homeowners for energy efficient improvements such as solar panels, insulation, heat pumps, and double glazing. There is help and advice on our website under "Saving energy at home".

The Council recognises the urgency and further programmes are under development. We will work with residents and businesses to tackle the challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, together.





# Tree grants for a healthy future

19

**Since September 2021, we have helped our residents plant 8,000 trees through our Tree Planting Grants.**

Grants of up to £1,000 are available to communities, local businesses, farmers and individuals, looking to plant trees or hedgerows.

Cllr Jan Davis, said: "Trees and hedgerows support our wildlife and reduce carbon dioxide, they can also support people's wellbeing and enhance the appearance of the district."

Our Community Tree Planting Grants for community groups, town and parish councils and charities can fund the cost of trees, planting, fencing, tree

guards and aftercare, with projects that plant a large proportion of saplings preferred.

Our Landowner Tree Planting Grants for local businesses, farmers and individuals, provide funding for trees and guards. The minimum project size is 25m of hedgerow or 125 trees.

Applications are welcome at any time, but trees need to be planted by the end of March to have the best chance of survival.

For more information search for Tree Grants on our website.



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## Funding for green home improvements

**Improve your home's energy efficiency, by applying for a Home Upgrade Grant.**

Grants of up to £38,000 are available for energy efficiency improvements, such as loft, cavity wall insulation and renewable air source heat pumps.

If you own your home, do not have mains gas central heating and meet one of the below criteria then you could qualify for fully funded home improvements:

- Owner-occupier in receipt of a means-tested benefit.
- Gross annual household income of £31,000 or less or £20,000 after mortgage or rent payments.

The energy-efficient measures will reduce homeowners' carbon emissions, helping the UK

towards its 2050 net zero target. All grants are subject to survey, your home's suitability and the Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating, which must be rated D-G.

Landlords will need to contribute a minimum of one third of the total costs.

The funding is being distributed through the Warm Homes Scheme, formed from the County's Local Authorities and led by Broadland District Council.

Please visit [norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk](https://norfolkwarmhomes.org.uk), or call 01603 430103 to speak to a member of our friendly team today.



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# New homes for people at risk of homelessness

**As living costs have risen, we have seen a three-fold increase in people in need of temporary accommodation, often though no fault of their own. To help house those at risk and to reduce our annual costs, we have invested £2.2 million in seven new houses.**

The homes off Dereham Road in Norwich will provide temporary accommodation for up to 35 people and will save us around half a million pounds per year, as we will no longer be so reliant on bed and breakfast accommodation to house residents at risk.

Our Cabinet Member, Cllr Natasha Harpley, said: "These homes will provide a refuge for people at risk of homelessness and will save the Council a significant amount of money.

"They are close to local amenities, work and education opportunities and many support services. Our fantastic team will be on-hand, as they always

are, to give residents all the practical help they need, so they never have to face homelessness again."

The Council work hard to prevent homelessness and if they are notified of a rough sleeper, will immediately step in and offer temporary accommodation.



“

We believe that no one should have to sleep on the streets, so we have a very robust system in place to ensure that help is always available.

**Cllr Natasha Harpley**

## Meeting rooms on the Horizon

**Modern business facilities are now available for hire at our new HQ at Broadland Business Park.**

The Horizon building is the perfect place to host a business meeting, conference, training event or seminar for up to 100 people. Situated just off the A47 Postwick junction on the Broadland Business Park, The Horizon Building is easily accessible with plenty of free parking on site.

Our Cabinet Member, Cllr Dan Roper, said: "We have a fantastic modern building with great

facilities in an ideal location. It makes financial sense to hire out our meeting rooms when they aren't in use and it will also benefit local businesses too.

"We have rooms that can accommodate 20 to 100 people, with all the modern-day meeting facilities you'd expect and free fast wi-fi access. So if you're looking at bringing people together, then look no further than the Horizon."

There are several meeting rooms available, all accessible on the ground floor and equipped with projectors and screens enabling hybrid-meetings.

Food can be arranged with a local caterer and tea and coffee can also be provided in house. Free wireless internet access is also provided, ensuring that guests can be continually connected.

Find out more on our website: [southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](http://southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)



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**Nutrient neutrality has had a profound impact on many parts of the country and has stalled thousands of desperately needed homes. One of the most significantly affected areas is here in Norfolk where districts have been unable to grant planning permission for new homes for the last 18 months leading to a backlog of approximately 16,000 new homes.**

While it is acknowledged that the Government is continuing to seek a 'silver bullet' solution to the restrictions arising from nutrient neutrality, in this vacuum of uncertainty there is a need to deliver local solutions to re-start our growth agenda.

In response, councils in Norfolk have formed a unique partnership to address this potentially catastrophic impediment to growth. Four Councils – South Norfolk, Broadland, Breckland and

North Norfolk – have established a new joint venture company called, Norfolk Environmental Credits (NEC). The company will provide a trading platform for nutrient offsetting and other environmental credits, including Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG).

Norfolk Environmental Credits is designed to secure largescale nutrient mitigation from projects such as changes in use of agricultural land, septic tank conversion and water infrastructure enhancements, etc. These credits are then parcelled up by the company and sold to developers to offset the equivalent amount of nutrients arising from their new development.

Cabinet Member for Planning, Cllr Stuart Beadle, said: "NEC's first deal will provide credits to offset approximately 5,000 new homes and the company will prioritise

the needs of SME builders to ensure they can secure much-needed cash flow. Assuming an average house price of £300k this equates to a £1.5bn initiative which will have a profoundly positive impact upon the respective districts."

Norfolk Environmental Credits has launched its new website [norfolkenvironmentalcredits.co.uk](https://norfolkenvironmentalcredits.co.uk), allowing housing developers to calculate their additional nutrient load and register an interest in purchasing credits as they become available. The website also provides a mechanism for landowners and interested parties to come forward with potential nutrient mitigation solutions that the joint venture may wish to invest in.



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Norfolk  
Environmental  
Credits

# Arresting development wins top award



**This year's Design and Enhancement Award winners were announced at our Community at Heart Awards on 20 October.**

The new Broadland Gate Police Station took the top spot in the design category and The Lodge in Drayton scooped first prize in the enhancement category.



Chair of the Awards Panel, Cllr Caroline Karimi-Ghovanlou, said: "These awards give us the opportunity to celebrate the local expertise, hard work and vision involved in creating and restoring beautiful and functional buildings that enhance our district and protect its special character."

"As always, we received some fantastic entries of exceptional quality. We were so impressed with the attention to detail and the carbon-cutting design of the new police station, and the lodge just wowed us with its transformation that was so sympathetic to the character of the existing building – both very worthy winners."

Broadland Gate Police Station was built for Norfolk Constabulary and designed by Chaplin Farrant Architects, with the aim of bringing the local police services into a single space to create an efficient operational base. Judges were impressed with its use of quality materials, low carbon design, the use of renewable energy sources and how well it embedded into the landscape.

The Lodge at Drayton has been converted by developers Hidden Talent Homes. A significant local building built in 1914, it has been transformed into eight individual homes consisting of five apartments and three townhouses.

The conversion of the manor house also enabled the preservation works to the ruin of the original 15th century lodge in the grounds, removing it from the Buildings at Risk Register. This was overseen by conservation architect Ruth Brennan with SJ Restoration undertaking the work.

Two High Commendations were awarded in the Design category. Taverham Park Avenue built by Fleur Homes and designed by Hudson Architects impressed the judges, as did Woodland Drive, Drayton built by Beauchamp Homes and designed by A Squared Architects.

Bridgefoot Cottage built for the Salle Park Estate, designed by Hawkins Architecture with GMP Architecture overseeing the construction, was also awarded a commendation.

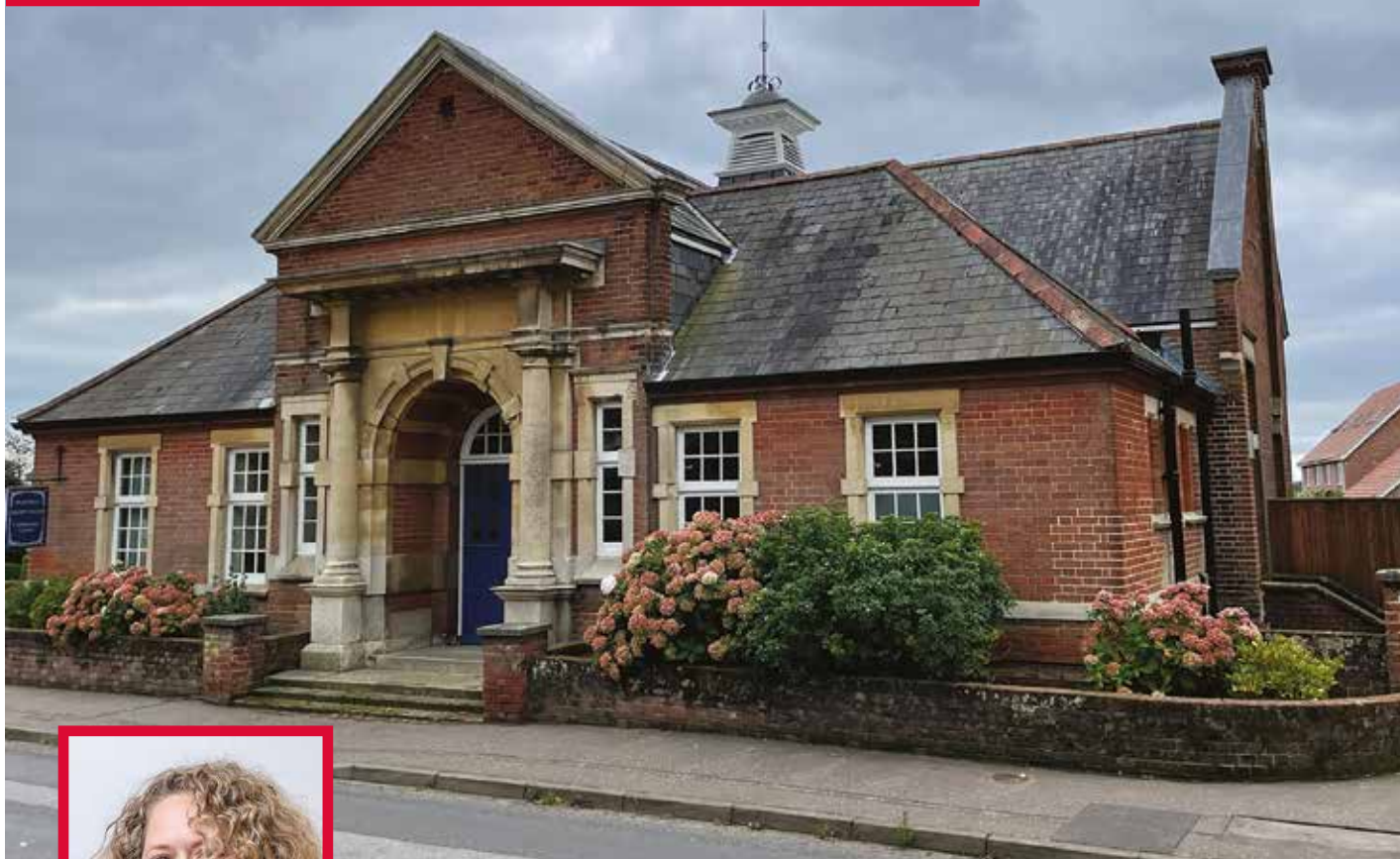
A High Commendation was also given in the Enhancement category with Tyby Farm and Hall View Barn developed by Sean O'Hanlon, designed by Claxton Hall Architectural Ltd., and built by Gaskin Builders Ltd.





# Appealing courthouse granted reprieve

23



**Part of a historic building in the heart of Blofield has recently been restored, thanks to a £5,000 Heritage at Risk grant.**

The grant was used to restore the leaking and rotting cupola on the roof of the grade II listed Blofield Courthouse. The cupola, an important architectural feature of the building, needed to be removed from the site to be fully repaired.

Our Deputy Leader, Cllr Natasha Harpley, said: "I am delighted to see this historically significant building restored to its former glory. It's vital we retain our

heritage for future generations to enjoy and this building can now continue to be at the heart of village life for many years to come."

The cupola is a roof-top feature on the courthouse which helped provide ventilation and extract the smoke when people (including the judge) smoked in the courtroom and is a key feature of the building.

The building, owned by the Parish Council, is now in use for community activities, such as fitness classes and film screenings and rooms are available to hire.

Each year, we grant aid a small number of projects. Organisations with a listed building or structure in need of repair and considered 'at risk' that could



benefit from a grant should contact Chris Bennett on 01508 533828 or email [chris.bennett@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:chris.bennett@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

# Handyperson+ Service

- practical help
- support
- advice

Cost effective small household adaptation and repairs for older Broadland residents

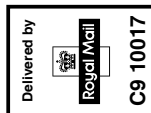


## Contact us:

**Phone:** 01603 430518

**Email:** [handyperson.bdc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:handyperson.bdc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

**Website:** [www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/help-stay-existing-home/handyperson](http://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/help-stay-existing-home/handyperson)



If this item is undelivered or for postal address:  
Broadland District Council, Horizon Business Centre, Peachman Way,  
Broadland Business Park, NORWICH, NR7 0WF

# CHRISTMAS

## bin collection day changes



**IMPORTANT:** There will be no garden waste bin collections from 25 December 2023 to 5 January 2024. Garden waste collections will recommence on Monday 8 January.



Recycle your real Christmas tree by leaving it beside your garden waste bin on your normal collection day from 8 to 19 January.



Keep up to date with collection changes by downloading the Broadland Bin Collections app via the App Store or Google Play.



### Your rubbish and recycling collections will be late.



Normal collection day	Collection day change	Days late
Monday 25 December	Wednesday 27 December	2
Tuesday 26 December	Thursday 28 December	2
Wednesday 27 December	Friday 29 December	2
Thursday 28 December	Saturday 30 December	2
Friday 29 December	Tuesday 2 January	4
Monday 1 January	Wednesday 3 January	2
Tuesday 2 January	Thursday 4 January	2
Wednesday 3 January	Friday 5 January	2
Thursday 4 January	Saturday 6 January	2
Friday 5 January	Monday 8 January	3
Monday 8 January	Tuesday 9 January	1
Tuesday 9 January	Wednesday 10 January	1
Wednesday 10 January	Thursday 11 January	1
Thursday 11 January	Friday 12 January	1
Friday 12 January	Saturday 13 January	1