

FREE

WYMONDHAM Magazine

ISSUE 49 | MAY 2021

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

DO EWE LOSE SLEEP CHOOSING AN ESTATE AGENT?

COUNT THESE SHEEP AND CALL US IN THE MORNING*

*Or any time you like, we're open 24/7

-  1 Working Evenings,
Saturdays & Sundays
-  2 All Accompanied Viewings
-  3 Dedicated Personal Agent
-  4 Drone Photography &
Bespoke Video
-  5 Premium Portal Listings &
Social Media Campaigns
-  6 2D & 3D Floorplans
-  7 No Minimum
Contract Term
-  8 No Cancellation Fee
-  9 No Sale - No Fee



Get Your **FREE** Online Valuation Report
Call 24/7: **01953 665 785** or visit:
EweMoveWymondham.co.uk

EweMove respects any existing sole agency agreement already in place with another agent.

CONTENTS

WYMONDHAM TO BLOOM ONCE AGAIN

Welcome to May's issue of *Wymondham Magazine*, and it's so nice this month to be able to include news of events being planned as things start to get back to normal. From Monday 17th May, most businesses will be able to open and indoor hospitality will be permitted, which will be a great relief to our pubs, cafes and restaurants. Also this month, Greening Wymondham is encouraging us to help save our hedgehogs. I have three in my garden and regularly put out food and water for them - learn what you can do to help on page 17. Next month will be our 50th issue (how time flies!) and it's another printed edition as well as a digital one. To include your news, get in touch at news@wymondham-mag.co.uk.

Kate, Editor

Preparations are underway for Wymondham in Bloom 2021 to once again brighten the town with beautiful floral displays this summer. The team of volunteers hope to exceed the 2019 participation, when more than 60 businesses joined in with hanging baskets, window boxes and even chairs, a dolls house, a bird cage and a welly boots overflowing with flowers.

In 2019, Wymondham won three awards in its very first attempt at the Anglia in Bloom regional finals, winning Best New Entry, Best Young People's Project (under 12s) (Ashleigh School Farm) and Best Commercial Area (Wymondham High Street/Market Street). In addition, in the Biodiversity category, Toll's Meadow was a certificate-winning finalist. Overall, Wymondham achieved a Silver Gilt Award in the large town category - the second-highest level of recognition possible.

The Anglia in Bloom competition this year will be a virtual one, and Wymondham will do its best to win awards by submitting photos to their judging committee in July.

Following the April meeting of the Town Council's Finance Committee, a grant application for Wymondham in Bloom has been approved. This will allow business floral displays to be subsidised at up to 50% of the cost, doubling the plant power for all to enjoy.

The grant will also allow the purchase of new road barrier planters to create a grand flowery entrance to the town centre at the Fairland Street/Avenue Road junction. These will be watered and maintained solely by volunteers, so please let the team know if you would like to lend a hand.

For more information contact Kim Carsok, Coordinator of Wymondham in Bloom, at wymbloom@gmail.com

NEWS IN BRIEF 15

BUSINESSES RE-OPEN 16

SAVE OUR HEDGEHOGS 18

WHAT'S IN A PHOTO 18

TALES FROM THE POTTING SHED 19

STAR THROWERS / BOOK REVIEW 20

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT 21

IMPACT ON DIVORCE ENQUIRIES 22

WHAT'S ON 23

NEXT DEADLINES 24



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



NORFOLK FAYRE RETURNS TO WYMONDHAM

Norfolk's travelling fayre is making a long-awaited return to Wymondham Football Club on Saturday 29th May, bringing a range of music, stalls, performances, food and fun – all of which raise funds for the social enterprise's local projects.

ClearCompany brings together artists, businesses and musicians to showcase their skills at multiple venues around the region, and also contribute to projects that benefit Norfolk enterprise and community.

COVID-19 protocols will be in place to continue to keep visitors safe, including track and trace QR codes to scan on entry, hand sanitizer available on arrival and at every stall, and numbers monitored to prevent overcrowding.

Julie Briggs, Director of ClearCompany and Wymondham resident, said: "We are thrilled to be back in Wymondham where ClearCompany was born. This is an opportunity for businesses who may have missed most of their pop-up trading opportunities last year to get back out again and connect with the community in a safe outdoor space with distancing in place. It's also a way for the community to connect safely too."

The music line up includes five-piece band Knotted, acoustic artist Kevan Taplin, Norfolk's rising star Ronan Williams, Wymondham's own Tom Holland-Hare, and more to be announced.

Wymondham entertainer Mr Sam the Magic Man will be hosting the fayre with magic, games and prizes to be won. It all kicks off at the Football Club at Kings Head Meadow from 12noon until 8pm. Entry to the fayre is £2.50 per adult, and children enjoy the fun for free.

Established and registered in Wymondham to support and nurture local enterprise, ClearCompany unites food vendors, bakers, craftspeople, musicians, and a variety of local businesses to create safe, socially distanced events and promote Norfolk business opportunities. The non-profit group is offering first refusal for stalls and performance slots to Wymondham businesses and musicians before extending the offer county-wide.

"We are extremely mindful of the challenges COVID-19 raises, so we have consulted local authorities closely and carefully devised a day that we hope the community can really enjoy," said Julie. "All being well, restrictions are on course to lift later in summer and we are really looking forward to adding in face painting, dance, workshops and more games when it's safe. We've lots of plans involving lots of local businesses and entertainers."

ClearCompany launched its online shop earlier this year. It includes Rosie Pacey's print of The Green Dragon, along with a range of Norfolk arts, crafts, jewellery and produce and provides an opportunity for browsers to buy online and continue to shop local.

COMMUNITY PICNIC SAVE THE DATE

A group of local volunteers is planning a community picnic to help bring people together whilst also raising some money for Nelson's Journey, a Norfolk-based charity that supports bereaved children and young people.

The picnic will be held at Wymondham Rugby Club on the afternoon of Sunday 27th June, so pop it on your calendar. People are being encouraged to bring their own picnic, although there will be some refreshments on sale too.

The organisers are also keen to use this event to raise awareness of some of the many organisations that can provide support to help people's wellbeing. They also hope to showcase some of the many local community groups and clubs that people may like to join as we emerge from the restrictions of the pandemic.

To keep updated as more information about this event is available, follow the Facebook page Wymondham Community Picnic. More details will also be published in June's issue of *Wymondham Magazine* as arrangements are firmed up.

If you run a community group who may be interested in taking part or you'd like to volunteer to help with this event, you can contact the organisers via their Facebook page.

Below: a scene from the Wymondham community picnic in 2017, which attracted over 400 people.



Saturday 29 May
Noon – 8pm Wymondham FC

WYMONDHAM FAYRE

Music, Bar, Stalls, Street Food



ClearCompany
Serving Norfolk Communities

WYMONDHAM JAZZ PICNIC SET TO RETURN

Providing Covid regulations allow, the hugely popular Wymondham Jazz Picnic will return on Saturday 24th July. Originally the centrepiece of the Wymondham Music Festival, the event will now be organised by the Wymondham Rotary Club assisted by members of the Satellite Rotary Club and by Wymondham Lions. Their aim is to bring live musical entertainment back to the town after a long period when that has not been possible because of COVID-19.

As in the past, this outdoor event will be staged on Becketswell meadow between 6pm and 9pm. The Dixiemix jazz band will again be on stage, and it is hoped that as many families as possible will come along to enjoy the music, bring picnics, chairs and rugs and enjoy a fine summer evening.

A free shuttle bus service between Central Hall car park and Becketswell will operate throughout the evening. More details will be published nearer the time.

There will be no charge for entry but the organisers hope the audience will be generous in donating in collection buckets at the end of the evening. This year, in addition to coffee and ice cream stalls, there will also be a grand tombola. Proceeds from the collection and tombola will be donated to local charities, many of which have seen much reduced income during the recent lockdowns.



Costs of the event will be covered through sponsorship and by grant aid from Wymondham Music, the successor body to the Wymondham Music Festival committee, which has now ceased to organise musical events.

Over the next few weeks the organisers will be seeking sponsors and soliciting businesses and individuals for tombola prizes. The contact telephone number for anyone interested in either being a sponsor or contributing a prize is 07715 699211.

2b@1 Hypnotherapy

online appointments now available

Are you struggling with

- Anxiety or Stress
- Fears or Phobias
- Weight Control
- Addictions
- Sleep Issues
- Low Self Esteem or Confidence



Unlock your potential

Do you want to discover how Hypnotherapy can help?

Call today to book your FREE consultation

07925 140 931 info@2bat1.com www.2bat1.com

DIP AND DIVE COMES TO CENTRE PAWS

Centre Paws Norfolk has come alive again since lockdown lifted with a number of new businesses opening on the site and customers flocking back to enjoy the doggie facilities.

The centre, on the Barnham Broom Road out of Wymondham, has been surviving on self-service takeaway from the Blackberry Tearoom since January, but after restrictions were lifted on 12th April has been able to welcome back its staff and open outside seating to customers.

It has been extremely busy since, and with a newly built canopy on the front of the cafe, thanks to a South Norfolk Council winter adaptations grant, it has meant customers can sit outside while being protected from the elements.



But with the recent dry and sunny weather all the outside seating has been busy and more tables have since been bought to meet demand.

The opening of the Canine Dip and Dive Wymondham pool at the centre on Friday 23rd April brought a flurry of



excitement and customers have been quick to book swim sessions for their dogs. The weather could not have been more perfect on opening day with all shapes and sizes of dogs enjoying the water under the careful guidance of new instructor Tillie. The pool franchise is owned by Sarah Wright of Tom & Toto dog walking business and is the third Canine Dip and Dive pool, which was founded by Andy and Jo Brownlie.

The centre has also seen the opening of the Small Animal Clinic by Victoria Banerji. This is a dedicated rehab and therapy massage clinic for all creatures great and small. Ms Banerji has done extensive training both in the UK and the US on animal massage and has recently completed a training course in hydrotherapy which she plans to develop at the centre in the near future.

With the campsite, grooming salon, agility lessons and other canine sports such as flyball, gundog training and ringcraft starting up again the owners of the centre said they were feeling very positive about the year ahead.

Kathryn and David Cross, who opened the centre in 2018, said: "We are delighted to see so much activity here once again and to see people enjoying their leisure time with their dogs. After such a difficult year it feels that such a positive reopening and first few weeks out of lockdown that we will be able to really move forward now and have a fantastic summer. We have a real family of businesses here now, working together and supporting each other and it feels great to have such a buzz about the place."

FITNESS FACILITIES NOW OPEN IN SOUTH NORFOLK

South Norfolk Council's leisure centres are now open and are welcoming customers back.

All the Council's gyms, plus their swimming pools at Diss and Wymondham Leisure Centre, opened on 12th April. Their 3G pitches, tennis courts and outdoor classes are also available for customers to book.

This is the latest phase of a staggered reopening of the Council's facilities. Leisure Operations Manager Daniel Infanti said: "It's fantastic to finally be opening up the centres again and welcoming our members back. Over the next couple of months, we will gradually be

reopening all of our facilities when it is deemed safe to do so."

From Monday 17th May, indoor classes, such as HIIT, Yoga, and Pilates will be back on offer and children will once again be able to have fun in the Bananas soft play.

On Monday 21st June, the Council plans to reopen all their facilities.

Manager Daniel Infanti said: "We will still be operating in a Covid-secure way to keep our residents and members safe, so for example you may have to book certain things online before using our facilities and maintain social distancing, but all being well, we will be offering our full range of facilities again on 21st June and we are extremely excited to be opening our doors again."

For more information and to book, visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/visitors/leisure-centres



Amazing sight

Don't miss a thing this summer. With 42% of people noticing changes to their sight in lockdown,* it's never been more important to get an eye test. Book online today.

Specsavers

Book an eye test at [specsavers.co.uk](https://www.specsavers.co.uk)

Longwater Sainsbury's William Frost Way Tel 01603 537 001

FOODBANK CONTINUES TO PROVIDE SUPPORT

By Arnie McConnell.

We continue to see a steady stream of requests for support at our Help Point foodbank. As we do not operate a voucher system, we are able to respond to appeals for help immediately. When income suddenly dries up, or savings run out, we can provide food, advice, and essential household items, without fuss or delay.

In the last few weeks, we have noted an increase in people who find themselves in this situation. For many of us, it is unimaginable to be unable to get through a day without asking a stranger for support. Although the people concerned see their dignity ebb away, we are always mindful that it takes great courage to ask for help. All our volunteers are on hand to support in a practical way. We do this with compassion and utmost respect for anyone who is struggling. Often, I have heard a volunteer say as they reflect on the twists and turns of their own life say: 'But for the Grace of God go I...'. The level and quality of support we offer to those who are marginalised reflect the type of community we are and our response to those in need defines the world we find ourselves in.

Some weeks ago, a gentleman arrived in our carpark just as we were closing our foodbank. It transpired that during the week he had walked to Wymondham from South London. We made him a hot drink and food. We tried to secure a bed for him, but the local government services were unable to locate a vacancy. Our parish priest, Fr. Pat Cleary, agreed that we needed to do more than just give our visitor a parcel of food and then send him on his way into a cold Norfolk evening. We therefore paid for two nights' accommodation in a hotel in Norwich, collected him on the Monday and managed to find the gentleman long-term accommodation through the city's Pathways Project.

If you would like to support our work, please drop off some food or essential items from the list below to the narthex of the Roman Catholic Church, 1 Norwich Road, Wymondham NR18 0QE on Tuesdays or Saturdays between 10am and 11.30am. For further information about other ways you can help, please contact us at: community@wymondhamrcchurch.org.uk



Items in demand:

- Tinned meat- especially meatballs
- Tinned fish
- Tinned vegetables
- Tinned soup
- Pasta sauce (but no dry pasta!)
- Add hot water noodle meals
- Tinned fruit
- Small packs of sugar
- Tinned custard
- Biscuits
- Chocolate
- Long life dairy milk
- Long life soya and oat milk
- Shampoo and conditioner
- Toilet rolls
- Deodorant male and female
- Nappies- especially size 6 and 8

THREE FORMER MINIS' PLAYERS OFF TO TOP PROFESSIONAL CLUBS

Wymondham Rugby Club is celebrating after three friends who played for one of the club's young sides are set to join some of the biggest clubs in the country.

Jake Garside, Will Hobson and Billy Evans were teammates in Wymondham's Spartans squad, winning Minis and Youth trophies across the Eastern region. Six years later and now aged 18, all three are off to professional clubs: Jake to Northampton Saints and Will to Harlequins, both in the Premiership, and Billy is joining the academy at top Championship side Ealing Trailfinders.

Neil Davies, U18s coach at Wymondham, said: "It's just a brilliant achievement for all three and reflects not just their talent but all the work they've put into the game. We couldn't be more proud of them."

Will left Wymondham when he went to boarding school. Jake stayed with the club until he was signed by Saints' junior academy - and was back helping to coach the U8s last month - while Billy still plays for the club's Colts.

Jake said: "Billy and Will have always been big lads and as one of the smallest in the squad it wasn't much fun being tackled by them - which is probably why I put a lot of effort into learning to run round them!"

Saints' coach Will Parkin said: "Jake's athleticism - specifically his speed - is seriously impressive, so hopefully he can continue to develop in that area. He is a skilful No.9 too, with his delivery and variety of kicking really standing out.

"I'm excited to see how good he can be within a full-time environment."

Jake and Will are both part of England's U18 training set-up. They will join three other Wymondham graduates in the Premiership: Will Evans at Quins, Tommy Freeman at Saints and Ollie Ashworth at Leicester Tigers.

Below: Jake Garside with Tommy Freeman.



MORE ROADWORKS SET FOR FAIRLAND STREET

Parts of Fairland Street will be closed to traffic from Monday 3rd May to Wednesday 9th June, from 7.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday. This is to allow essential drainage maintenance on Fairland Street between the junctions of Avenue Road and Fairland Hill.

Pedestrian access will be maintained at all times.

A fully signed official diversion route will be in place while the drainage maintenance works are in progress, with the one-way system on Fairland Hill reversed so people can bypass the roadworks and drive on to Market Street.

Vehicle access to businesses and homes within the limits of the works will be maintained from the Fairland Hill end of the closure.

The County Council would like to thank people for their patience while these essential drainage maintenance works are carried out. The work, which will cost £47,500, will be carried out by Norfolk County Council's Community & Environmental Services Department and their contractors.

Contact Care Personal Lifeline Alarms



A Contact Care lifeline provides you
with help and reassurance
at the touch of a button

24 hour monitoring
365 days a year



Just £3.70
a week and a
£40 installation
fee

Installed by us throughout
East Anglia

0800 917 4680



NO OPEN GARDENS FOR 2021

Sadly, the organisers of Wymondham Open Gardens have decided not to hold the event in 2021. Although the signs are looking good, it's still not certain that the next stage of the Government's 'roadmap' for emerging from lockdown can take place as expected. Social distancing may still be required in June, which would not be practicable for smaller gardens, and some gardeners (and potential visitors) might not feel safe yet.



It is hoped that the popular event will return in June 2022.

EACH SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

East Anglia's Children's Hospices (EACH) is looking for volunteers to help keep their charity shops open and raise vital funds.

With many shop volunteers currently unable to lend a hand due to the pandemic, the number of hours' support EACH normally receives is down more than 50%. The charity is facing a financial deficit over the next 12 months following disruption to fundraising and retail, but at the same time their care and support is more important than ever as vulnerable families become exhausted from shielding.

Just a couple of hours a week can make a difference. There are many ways to help, from sorting donations and dressing windows to running the till and listing items on eBay. To find out more, pop into your local shop (which in Wymondham is opposite the Market Cross), to chat to the team and arrange a taster session. Alternatively, visit www.each.org.uk/retail-volunteers, call 01223 205183 or email volunteerservices@each.org.uk



Pleased to see you campaign launches

Broadland District and South Norfolk Councils are helping local businesses to bounce back with their 'Pleased to see you' campaign. The campaign aims to support local shops, hairdressers, outdoor dining venues and other local retailers that reopened on 12th April. Shoppers and visitors will see brightly coloured bunting, posters and banners in towns and surrounding villages that encourage people to shop locally and stay safe.

As well as helping to make local shops and amenities attractive to visitors, the councils are also re-emphasising the 'Hands Face Space' messaging to help avoid any further surges or a return to lockdown.

To further support businesses and boost customer confidence, the councils are offering businesses the chance to take part in a COVID Safe Certification process. This will lead to a certificate that they can put on prominent display, once they have met the requirements and had this validated during a visit from a member of the councils' Environmental Health team.

WYMONDHAM SENDS ITS CONDOLENCES TO THE QUEEN



Council Offices
Ketts Park
Harts Farm Road
Wymondham, Norfolk
NR18 0UT

Town Mayor:
Kevin Hurn

Town Clerk:
Trevor Gurney
Phone: 01953 603302

The Private Secretary to The Queen
Buckingham Palace,
London,
SW1A 1AA.

13th April 2021

Dear Sir

On behalf of Wymondham Town Council and the people of Wymondham, I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Her Majesty The Queen and the Royal Family.

We remember with fondness the many occasions upon which HRH Prince Philip, The Duke of Edinburgh visited Norfolk.

The Duke of Edinburgh was a dedicated public servant and a faithful companion of Her Majesty and we, along with people across the country and indeed the world will feel his loss in so many ways.

He will be remembered through his charitable work and especially through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme, in which thousands of children from Wymondham and throughout the country have participated in since its inception in the 1950's.

Throughout his life the Duke demonstrated exemplary dedication and commitment to serving his country and supported numerous charities. A source of strength and support to our monarch, he stood by her side through many years.

The Town's Union Flag is flying at half mast, as the people of Wymondham remember a truly inspirational and extraordinary man.

I have the honour to remain her Majesty's most humble and obedient subject.

Yours faithfully

Cllr. Kevin Hurn

Mayor of Wymondham

 **LOYAL TAXIS** 

24 Hour Private Taxi Hire

01603

619-619

01603

444-555

WYMONDHAM TO NORWICH CITY CENTRE FROM £17.00

HETHERSETT TO NORWICH CITY CENTRE FROM £12.00

ALL MAJOR AIRPORTS AT COMPETITIVE PRICES



MNR LAUNCH LEVEL CROSSING APPEAL

The Mid-Norfolk Railway (MNR) has launched a public appeal to raise funds to contribute to the rebuilding of the Kimberley Level crossing, which crosses the B1108 Norwich-Watton road.

The essential work follows on from the successful rebuilding of the Yaxham Road level crossing at Dereham last year. The appeal is to raise £25,000 towards the total cost.

Charlie Robinson, the Chairman of The Mid-Norfolk Railway Preservation Trust, which owns and operates the railway, said: "This work is essential to maintain and upgrade our operating line and must be done this year. As a result of COVID-19, the MNR like every other heritage railway has had to deal with the financial impact of not operating last year. We have therefore launched this public appeal to help finance the work. Donations however small will be gratefully received."

Donations can be made online via the MNR website at www.mnr.org.uk/kimberleyappeal or directly by bank transfer to MNRPT at NatWest Bank, Sortcode: 60-07-47, Account Number: 52109003 using the reference 'Kimberley Appeal' or by cheque made payable to MNRPT to: Mid-Norfolk Railway Kimberley Appeal, The Railway Station, Station Road, Dereham, NR19 1DF.

Those who donate over £200 will receive a complimentary pair of tickets for a standard operating day. The tickets will allow the donor to book a travel day of their choice.

Refurbishing the level crossing is the next stage of the essential refurbishment of the running line from Wymondham to Dereham and in addition to the level crossing itself the line through Kimberley Park station will be replaced, as will the short section from the level crossing to the end of the recently relaid running line over Danemoor Bank that was relaid as part of the contract with Greater Anglia.

The newly laid line will therefore continue the gradual process of replacing the wooden sleepers with concrete for the running line, with the objective of ensuring easy maintenance for the long term. The crossing itself will remain a gated crossing, being operated by a MNR volunteer crossing keeper. The work will however see the rails and road deck renewed utilising the new state of the art technology that was installed at Dereham. This will be to the benefit of the local residents as it will reduce the noise from road traffic as it crosses the level crossing.



FROM CARE, TO COMMUNITY, TO 100-MILE FUNDRAISER

Swinging closed the door and exclaiming "I'm not going out there" wasn't an option at Dell Care. There were clients to care for, things to do and a local community to support.

Once COVID protocols were in place and staff and clients were safe, it gave time to think about changes they could make with a positive impact. This started out with refreshing their branding, which went from purple to jade green as a reminder that "we should all be trying to be green." Reducing staff travel time and having longer visits to clients to ensure they are cared for properly has always been top of the priority list.

The winter was long and the mood of everyone was noticeably down, so to cheer people up, Dell Care focused on the local community and began running a series of competitions and giveaways on their Facebook page which gave people a space to reflect and share about their lockdown experiences, the first being hobby focused with three winners chosen at random to receive prizes from local businesses such as an afternoon tea, flowers and wax melts. These then continued with a second giveaway and a third, with a fourth en-route with the message always being about sharing.



The fourth giveaway running soon on the Facebook page www.facebook.com/dellcarenorfolk will be some crochet bunnies that have been lovingly made by hand.

Recent world events have brought activities and the health benefits that come from those into focus for Dell Care and their

clients, where they are actively encouraging clients and the wider community to get involved with crafts, jigsaws, baking, sewing and other hobbies.

In May, Dell Care manager Heather Websdell will be walking 100 miles to raise money for Breast Cancer Now in memory of all the clients past and present who have been affected by breast cancer. The hope is to raise at least £150 through JustGiving. The details can be found on the Facebook page.

ONE COMMUNITY, ONE BOOK BACK FOR 2021

Community-run bookshop Kett's Books was able to re-open to customers on 12th April. "With the sun shining and people feeling safer, being open has felt almost like a celebration," manager Tracy Kenny told *Wymondham Magazine*. "It's been fantastic having customers back in the shop to enjoy our books. After all, books are meant to start conversations, so it's a lot easier to do that when you can welcome people in."

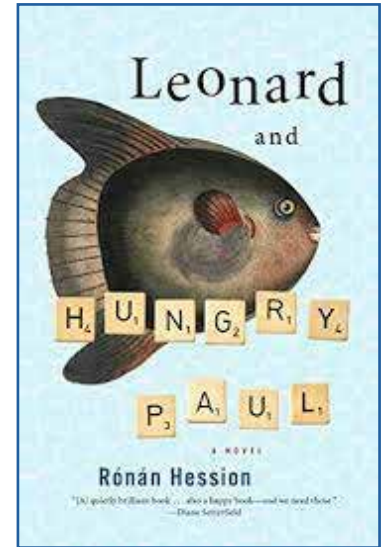
Its town-wide book group project 'One Community, One Book' is back for 2021 to encourage reading and discussion at a community level.

Says Tracy: "2021 will be the third year we've run One Community, One Book, so many will already be familiar with our initiative to share a single title book across the whole town. We devised the project in 2019 to help people one book become really familiar, so that even those who do not normally read will be able to join in the conversation.

"Because we want it to be suitable for everybody, we're really excited about this year's choice, coming out of lockdown. *Leonard and Hungry Paul* by Rónán Hession is about two friends trying to navigate a world that's bigger than they are. They play board games and look at the stars. It's simple, but it's very funny, and never harsh – only encouraging. Our readers are loving it, then buying multiple copies to share with their friends, asking them to pass it on. It's truly a book

for sharing with a community, because it's actually about enjoying the company of the people around you.

"We want children to join in a conversation, too, so this year we've also chosen a book for children to share. Mitch Johnson's new book *Pop!* will be our One Community, One Book selection for kids. It's got a stolen secret recipe, a chase across America, corporate greed, plastic pollution, and the dangers of overdoing the sugar. It's great fun, and we've sent a preview copy to a teacher in each of the local schools, to invite them to join us for online events with Mitch in the spring and the autumn."



Leonard and Hungry Paul author Rónán Hession, who lives in Dublin, will be in conversation with Kett's Books in an online event on Friday 14th May at 7pm. To book email events@kettbooks.co.uk.

The first school event with *Pop!* author Mitch Johnson will be on Friday 25th June at 10am. Email outreach@kettbooks.co.uk to discuss how your school can work with Kett's Books.

Hansells Solicitors

Commercial & Private Legal Services

- Clinical Negligence ■ Debt Recovery ■ Employment ■ Family
- Notary Public ■ Personal Injury ■ Will, Trusts & Estate Planning
- Power of Attorney & Deputyships ■ Commercial ■ Conveyancing
- Commercial Property ■ Dispute Resolution ■ Charities

Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority No 50602 Authorised and Regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority

Norwich
Cambridge House
26 Tombland
Norwich NR3 1RE
01603 615 731

Aylsham
1 Norwich Road
Aylsham
NR11 6BN
01263 734 313

Cromer
10 Church Street
Cromer
NR27 9ER
01263 512 003

North Walsham
4 Grammar School Road
North Walsham
NR28 9JH
01692 404 351

Sheringham
Waterbank House
Station Approach
Sheringham NR26 8RA
01263 822 176

Wymondham
10 Fairland Street
Wymondham
NR18 0AW
01953 857 578

info@hansells.co.uk ■ www.hansells.co.uk

CHUBBS THE 'CHRISTMASAURUS' WINS PHOTO CONTEST

Chubbs, an 18 month-old bearded lizard belonging to Megan Long, was the winner of Radio Wymondham's recent 'Pets in Fancy Dress' photo contest. Competitors were asked to submit photos of their much-loved pets in costume to the station's Facebook page. "We got some smashing pictures," said Radio Wymondham Director and presenter Sophie Garrod, "but it was Chubbs, in his seasonal Christmas hat, who garnered the highest number of 'likes' from visitors to our Radio Wymondham Facebook page - despite the fact that we actually are some way from Christmas at the moment. It certainly seemed that Chubbs was everyone's PET-icular favourite!"

Chubbs' victory brought a £25 gift voucher for proud owner Megan, as her win was announced on-air in a special animal-themed edition of Sophie's own regular programme 'The Sophie Sessions' on Monday 26th April. And owner Megan was also able to request a favourite music track to be played on the show. "I've only just found out that Chubbs, much to my surprise, is in fact a female lizard - so I chose 'Cover Girl' by RuPaul!" says Megan.

"Arranging simple contests like this is one of the things we have been able to continue with during the pandemic crisis," continues show presenter Sophie, "but like everyone else, we can't wait for Covid restrictions to be eased further so that Radio Wymondham can once again engage much more closely with the local community that we're here to serve. We're really looking forwards to being able to get 'out and about' once again, with the radio station attending local events, and being able to invite guests into the studio for interview to talk about local clubs and societies and events that they're organising - getting back to a much more 'normal service'.



"If you'd be interested in becoming a Radio Wymondham member, supporting the not-for profit Community Interest Company by becoming a show sponsor or taking advertising space, or if you're interested in actually presenting a show on-air, then do get in touch," adds Sophie. "There's a simple contact form on our website at www.radiowymondham.com and a warm welcome awaits."

Radio Wymondham is currently an online only radio station. You can listen on line 24/7 at www.radiowymondham.com and you'll find the station on Alexa and Google devices and on many major radio streaming apps and platforms.

WELCOMING WYMONDHAM'S NEW PET-FRIENDLY TRAVEL AGENCY

On Friday 30th April @missiejtravel Wymondham's pet-friendly travel agency joined the team at Centre Paws.

Owner Melissa left her role as Assistant Head at Ormiston Victory Academy to focus on her young family and has now returned to her love of travel and animals. "I worked in the travel industry straight out of university for a few years and after becoming a teacher made good use of the holidays to travel. It's lovely to be back in the industry, helping others find their ideal holidays."

In response to the Covid pandemic, Melissa explains that a lot more people have now got a dog, and haven't had to navigate finding and booking a holiday to include them before. "There are a lot of people who don't know where to start or think that they now need to compromise on the quality and price of a holiday. Or have to leave their pet at home. This isn't the case and the great thing about my

travel agency is that we have contacts with all major travel suppliers, as well as the smaller more boutique and individual accommodations so that we know how to find your pet-friendly holiday which meets your needs and budget."

Melissa says that they don't charge for their service and that holidays booked through them do not cost more than booking directly. "The way the travel industry works is that commissions are already built into holiday prices. @missiejtravel you gain your own private travel agent who does all the hard work."

As a member of the Inteltravel Brand (founded in 1992), Melissa is ABTA bonded. She can be contacted online, by phone or in person on the last Friday of each month between 9.30am and 1pm at Centre Paws.



In brief...

HEDGE AT HOME

Wymondham-based online music show 'The Hedge at Home' is growing all the time and becoming popular with viewers and artists from Europe and the USA. The live streams start at 7.45pm every other Saturday, with the show beginning at 8pm. This month, on Saturday 8th May joining from The Netherlands is top folk guitarist and singer Sophie Janna (pictured), and on Saturday 22nd May is a special live show from a field in Oxfordshire, with Bob Carter, surprise guests and a legal (socially distanced) audience.

To join in, visit www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome or catch up with previous programmes on YouTube.



HERITAGE SOCIETY TALK

On Thursday 27th May Wymondham Heritage Society is holding another talk via Zoom. 'When the past collides with the present,' by author and historian Phyllida Scrivens will start at 7.30pm and members will be advised of the link. Anyone wishing to join the society should contact Sue Edes on 07870 602217 or email suewhs@btinternet.com

EVENTS AT THE ABBEY

On Saturday 22nd May artists are encouraged to take part in Art in the Abbey Grounds. Bring your easel, paints and supplies and join a friendly group creating art around the Abbey. The following day, on Sunday 23rd May, will be a Picnic at the Abbey. From 12noon bring your own picnic and a kite, ice cream will be available!

IN-CHURCH SERVICES TO RESUME

On Sunday 23rd May, Wymondham Baptist Church will be re-open with restricted numbers due to social distancing requirements. The service can also be joined online, see www.wymondhambaptist.org.uk for more.

METHODIST CHURCH NEW WEBSITE

Wymondham Methodist Church has launched a new website at www.WymondhamMethodistChurch.com. The church meets every Sunday morning at 10.30am by Zoom and anyone is welcome. Email contact@WymondhamMethodistChurch.com for joining details.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY WINDMILL HOUSE

Windmill House residential home would like to send a very big thank you to Katherine Ford, Ali Stern and Jack Brock, Dianne Fernee, Wymondham Alpacas and Sue Simpson for making their 10th Birthday such a special fun-packed day recently.

SOCIAL CLUB RE-OPENS

All being well, Wymondham & District Ex Service's Social Club is due to re-open on Monday 17th May in line with the Government's timetable.

COMPETITION WINNERS

In March's issue we ran a competition to win a copy of *Surrounded by Barn Owls* by Gavin Bickerton-Jones, a Getty photo contributor and member of Wymondham Photographic Society. Congratulations to winner Tina Lowe, who correctly identified that there are five native species of owl in the UK (we accepted answers of four or five, as the little owl was introduced to the UK in the 1970s). Congratulations too to Micki Hobbs, who won our runner-up prize of an artistic barn owl photo print.



LOCAL ELECTIONS

On Thursday 6th May residents in Norfolk will vote on who represents them as the Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner and at Norfolk County Council.

And here in Wymondham, we will also be electing three new Town Councillors, with two vacancies in North Wymondham and one in Central Wymondham following the resignations of Councillors David Roberts, Jack Hornby and Wednesday Batchelor.

A list of candidates is found below:

Norfolk County Council

- Christopher Bunting (Labour)
- Suzanne Nuri-Nixon (Liberal Democrat)
- Robert Savage (Conservative)
- Paul Sutcliffe (Green)

Wymondham Town Council (North Wymondham)

- Kathryn Elizabeth Cross (Conservative)
- Jordan Victor Murrell (Conservative)
- Julian Adrian Fulcher (Liberal Democrat)
- Lucy Rebecca Elizabeth Nixon (Liberal Democrat)
- Doug Underwood (Labour)

Wymondham Town Council (Central Wymondham)

- Richard James Elliott (Conservative)
- Louise Kathleen Tingley (Liberal Democrat)

Norfolk Police and Crime Commissioner

- John Peter Crofts (Liberal Democrat)
- David John Moreland (Independent)
- Giles Rackley Orpen-Smellie (Conservative)
- Michael Rosen (Labour)
- Martin Kenneth Albert Schmierer (Green)

BACK TO BUSINESS!

Celebrating re-opening

Monday 12th April was a day of celebration for the businesses of Wymondham, as the Government eased restrictions as part of their roadmap out of lockdown. Non-essential shops were allowed to re-open, and hospitality venues were permitted to serve customers outdoors, with no need for them to order a substantial meal with alcoholic drinks and no curfew.



The new outdoor terrace at The Queen's Head

Most of the town's pubs have duly thrown their doors back open, with the exception of The Feathers on Town Green, which is planning to open on Tuesday 18th May, and The Railway near the station, which intends to re-open on Wednesday 19th May. Wymondham's pubs have made a huge effort to provide comfortable outside dining space to comply with regulations, with The Queen's Head notably launching a new covered



The Green Dragon garden

terrace. The team at The Green Dragon have had a particularly busy month, as they also celebrated opening their new pub, The King's Head in Hetherset.

Many people in Wymondham have been back enjoying the simple pleasures of a pint, tea and cake or a restaurant meal. Says Brendan Gray, owner of the Station Bistro, echoing the sentiments of many proprietors: "It is great to be back open again! I was busy during lockdown getting the garden renovated ready for when we could open for outside dining, and it's great to see people enjoying the garden. We had a busy opening weekend which was excellent and it was really nice to see our regulars and lots of new faces too."



Seating under the blossom at the Station Bistro



Enjoying a pint outside The Cross Keys

"We are having a phased re-opening starting with a two-day week working up to a five-day week in order to readjust and ensure good service," adds Kathryn Ford of the Mad Hatter's Tearoom opposite the Market Cross.

"A lot of our customers we haven't seen since March 2020 so I'm looking forward to seeing them again. I know most of them can't wait to come back and have a natter over tea and cake. We re-open for indoor seating from 17th May and will reintroduce our famous afternoon teas - until then we will still

have our normal menu with lots of homemade loveliness!"

Some businesses managed to offer a takeaway service during lockdown, including The Lemon Tree on Damgate Street. Manager Aideen Summers is pleased now that customers are able to sit outside the café. "It's been great to have people sitting outside again. Good to hear people happy and laughing - fingers crossed the sun stays shining! It's also so lovely to have our other businesses back open in the town." >



Colourful outside seating at The White Hart



Customers back outside *The Lemon Tree*

Over at The Hen House at Cavick House Farm, Annabel Barber and the team have been busy getting the outdoor seating ready for their farm cafe. "We've sanded, painted, changed signs, moved sheds, checked and re-checked guidelines, sanitised and made sure there is plenty of space for customers to safely queue and sit down to enjoy coffee and homemade cakes!" says Annabel.

including George Reeves on Market Street, which sports a smart new sign and paintwork, and Wardrobes on Fairland Street. Explains Wardrobe's owner Michelle Fernandes: "The forced

regulars back enjoying the revamped shop, but also we've been really pleased to welcome so many new customers too, many of whom had not visited Wymondham before.



Outside tables at *The Hen House*



Seating fit for afternoon tea at *The Mad Hatters*

"The first week went brilliantly, not chaotic like we had imagined and the response from customers was lovely, many eager for some retail therapy too. It's been great to get some normality back. Local support over the past year has been phenomenal and we will be forever grateful.

"We hope to re-open our heated sheds on 17th May, and our caravan site is back open and available to book now."

The April re-opening also came as a relief for Wymondham's 'non-essential' retailers, some of whom used the opportunity to refresh their shop,

Covid closure was a great opportunity to completely refurbish the shop both inside and out to achieve a bigger and brighter feel.

"The re-opening was not as manic as last summer but I have already welcomed back lots of my regular ladies. Although the weather has been dry and bright, the temperatures sadly have not reflected this - but once they improve I have no doubt that the town will be even busier with both regulars and visitors."



Wardrobes sporting colourful bunting

Another store with a fresh new look is Elementals Magikal Emporium on Market Street. Gary and Samantha Wootton were unlucky with the timing of their new shop, which only opened in autumn 2020, but have not let it get them down. "It's been great to see our



Samantha and Gary at Elementals

"During lockdown we toyed with the idea of opening an online store, but lockdown has caused challenges obtaining stock as well, so instead we have used the time to find new UK-based crafters and expanded our range of magickal items to include a whole new apothecary area."

It's a sentiment we often express in *Wymondham Magazine*, but it bears repeating once again. Our town would be nothing without its local, independent pubs, cafes, restaurants and retailers, all of whom have borne a financial brunt in the pandemic. Please do support them (in Covid-safe fashion) if you can - and roll on Monday 17th May!



Calling Wymondham... HELP OUR HEDGEHOGS!

For many of us in the UK, hedgehogs are our favourite mammal, not least because they're a gardener's best friend. They dearly love a beetle, bugs and slugs. For those of us lucky enough to see them in the evenings or at night, they snuffle attractively, lumber sweetly and roll into a ball defensively. Or hole up in a pile of leaves or an open compost area.

Greening Wymondham is joining the fight to help hedgehogs.

Fewer of us are seeing hedgehogs in our gardens or parks or night time walks. They're in serious decline - officially classed as "vulnerable to extinction". We can all guess why. They love a hedge, hence the name. So when they trot a mile or more a night to feed or find a mate they have found fewer and



fewer safe pathways. Intensive agriculture is one problem, with the removal of hedgerows over decades. Our ever busier and new roads are another. Sadly early

hedgehog counts worked out population figures mainly on those squished.

The good news for hedgehogs in Wymondham is that Norfolk appears to be one of the tiggies' last stands. And they are currently doing better in urban gardens than rural areas where we've lost 50% in the last decade. However, urban hedgehogs are also threatened by loss of habitat. As our garden fences and walls have become more secure, the barriers we have created prevent hedgehogs from accessing our gardens. This is where Wymondham residents can help by creating Hedgehog Highways.

These are holes in or under garden fences and walls, just large enough for hedgehogs to pass through. They are 13cm diameter holes (the size of a CD), most commonly in gravel boards. To make your own in a wooden gravel board, you only need a CD to draw around, a drill and a jigsaw.

If that's more than you can do, advice and help will be available from Greening Wymondham's Hedgehog at Wymondham's Farmers' Market on Saturday 15th May from 9am to 1pm, with competitions and more information.

One Greening Wymondham supporter has made four small holes in his fence, regularly used by hedgehogs. He also has a hole in his gate, a bit more obvious. He currently has prickly visitors most nights. And fewer obstreperous beetles.

Hedgehog Street was an idea put forward by the British

Hedgehog Preservation Society and the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species. They actively campaign for Hedgehog Highways and their website www.hedgehogstreet.org is where to go for how to make your own highway hole and to find companies which supply gravel boards (wood or concrete) with ready-made holes. There are even volunteers who can come to help you. HOLES MEAN HODMEDODS. Err... or HEDGEHOGS!

What's in a photo?

MAYPOLE DANCING

By Philip Yaxley



Dancing round a maypole has been a tradition in this country for centuries, particularly in "the merry month of May" and on May Day, the first of the month, itself.

The first picture of maypole dancing was taken at 2.45pm on 6th May 1935 during the town's celebrations to mark the Silver Jubilee of King George the Fifth. The children taking part were from the then Browick Road Junior School and they were watched by hundreds of spectators. Their display took place on the King's Head Meadow, then the town's centre for outside events. In the background can be seen the old Tithe Barn, originally built to hold yearly tithes paid in kind. It is now gone and Orchard Way occupies the site.

The second photo shows children from Browick Road First School dancing round the maypole in 1987. This was taken on their own playing-field next to the school with teacher Maureen Dodman supplying the music.





Tales from the POTTING SHED

Hello Ole Partners. My gardening tips this month...

• Broad beans should be through now and a second sowing can be made. Sow a row of garden peas too

• If you took last month's advice about salad onions they should soon be ready. Water the row well and prise the biggest ones out with a large screwdriver. Cut off the roots, wash well, and add to your salad bowl

• If you planted lettuce in a pot they should be ready to plant out in odd corners of your garden. Once the pot is empty put a fresh handful of compost in and plant another lot of seeds

• It's a bit early for runner beans but French beans, being slightly hardier, can now go in. If frost threatens they are easily covered with garden fleece

• Early potatoes should now be in. If frost is due cover the emerging shoots with soil. They will soon push through this and no harm will be done

• Why not try a row of white turnips? If lifted when small and cooked as though they were early potatoes they will make a different and tasty addition to your Sunday roast

• Swede can also be sown now but take much longer to mature.

As I sit here I'm thinking of my time as a judge for the Carleton Rode and District Ploughing Association from the 1970s onwards. This was an event organised by the Greenwood family of The Ashes in Carleton Rode. Competitors had to drive a tractor and plough in a straight line over a piece of ground set aside in one of their fields – often in Old Buckenham. There were many competitors with a large

variety of different classes. One group of competitors used to travel up from Suffolk every year to take part in the competition and one or two of them would generally go home pleased with the fact they had won a class.

It was both a rural spectacle and a great social occasion among the farming community. Most importantly there was always a large refreshment tent so everyone could quench their thirst!

There were classes for the youngsters and ladies as well as men. Also present was a man with a pair of horses harnessed to a plough and anyone who thought themselves good enough could drive these horses over a set course. This was much more difficult than you might think as you had to drive the horses with one hand on the reins and the other hand had to be on the plough handle to keep it upright. Several ladies would have a go but they usually relied on the keeper of the horses to drive them.

Each section had a cup or trophy of some description for the winner to display in his or her cabinet. These trophies were held by their respective winners until the following year. The cups and trophies were presented at an annual dinner held in the autumn in Carleton Rode Village Hall. I remember my employer, the late Diana Penson, having a beautiful cup made and presented to the



Association. Unfortunately, due to a misunderstanding, the correct name and address of the winner was not recorded properly one year and after being presented it became lost. Miss Penson was not amused. I'm not sure if it's ever been found but I do hope so.

Judging a ploughing match is a difficult task and I was privileged to be considered good enough to be a judge. I held the position for many years and I was very reluctant to give it up but, due to my failing eyesight, I could no longer see the entire length of the furrow and it was not fair for me to judge others' work.

I do hope that this virus will have passed us by the late summer so we can once more have a day out watching competitors driving their tractor as straight as they can – I would love to see this spectacle again.

Until next time, moined 'ow yer go.

Owen

Robert Kett Court resident Owen James, 95, is a true 'Broad Norfolk' speaking character. Once a resident of Bunwell Street, he now runs a residents' gardening club with help from his town councillor daughter Annette.



Left: 1973 ploughing match at Old Buckenham - Walter Greenwood (standing), local businessman Peter Haylock (kneeling on left), Owen kneeling on the right. Top: Another ploughing match, 1980s or early 90s. Walter Greenwood on the left and Owen on the right.

An update from



Star Throwers

Holistic Cancer Support Charity

By Victoria Pigg, www.starthrowers.org.uk

Our Support Services

We continue to provide support for cancer patients and carers during these times. Our current support includes: cancer information sessions, counselling, fatigue management support, nutrition sessions, reiki and our writing for wellbeing group. All our services are free of charge and available to all (age 18+) with any type of cancer at any stage of a diagnosis and beyond.

Quote from a recent service user: "I found speaking to Tina very helpful and I think knowing you have something like Star Throwers to go to for advice and support when you either have cancer or are supporting something with cancer is very comforting."

Cash 4 Charities - collect tokens for Star Throwers

We need your help! We have registered as one of the local charities taking part in the EDP 'Cash 4 Charities' campaign to win a share of £20,000! All you need to do is collect the tokens printed in the participating papers (EDP, Evening News, etc.) from 26th April to 3rd July. Please bring these to the shop or centre or contact us and we can collect the tokens from you, your support is very much appreciated.

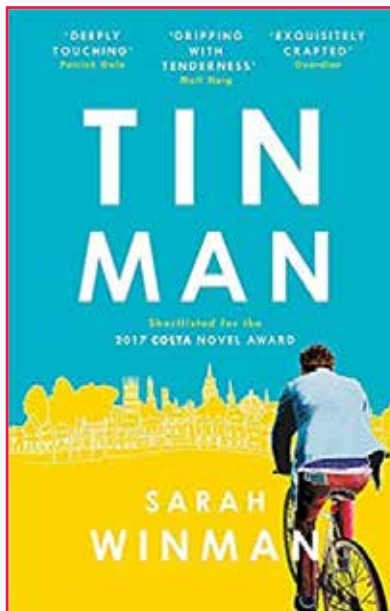
A big thank you!

Thank you to everyone who has been back to visit our charity shop in Wymondham and make donations, we are so happy to see you all back. Thank you to the team at Kerry Foods Ltd who have walked 1 million steps for Star Throwers raising over £400! Thank you to everyone who took part in the latest Wymondham Rotary Satellite quiz and the winning team for choosing to donate their prize of £319 to Star Throwers. Thanks to everyone's continued support we are able to continue to support people affected by cancer.



BOOK REVIEW

Tin Man By Sarah Winman



Sarah Winman's spectacular and lovingly written *Tin Man* follows two men - Ellis and Michael - and their lives growing up in Oxford. The title is a link to The Wizard of Oz, and thus the Yellow Brick Road: the road that leads to freedom, 'homecoming', independence.

(In this novel, the colour yellow is used as an avenue for the characters to feel hope or inspiration, such as a copy of Van Gogh's Sunflowers that Ellis's mother treasures. Yellow forms a contrast against purple - the colour that the novel's

second half's AIDS victims are terrified of spotting on their bodies - and thus provides a source of light and hope.)

The novel follows these two boys, their very close friendship (mixed with homosexual romance) growing up, and how their relationship has changed in the adult world, amidst a variety of factors and other characters (including the woman Ellis ends up marrying, Annie). The characters are intricately drawn and very endearing. Although Winman has quoted Ellis's wife Annie as the most important character, my personal favourite was Michael.

Ellis's narrative - first half - is told in the third person because he is reserved, distant, and stuck in the structure of his post-traumatic life cycle without the ability (or even the desire) to break out of it. He expresses his emotions through pictures and drawing rather than through words. Michael's narrative, on the other hand (second half), is told in the first person, because he is far less aloof. He's a writer. He is much more open about his feelings, much more passionate, and much more centred around words and language. (Hence why I liked him more - a guy after my own heart!)

Friendship, loss, tortured romance, mental anguish - all the ingredients are there. It is clear why several reviewers upon this book's release declared that they needed many tissues to get through it. Sarah Winman, with her neat and effective new novel, has achieved the admirable feat of making half a nation cry!



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

Trusted Locks



Ray Stiff recently moved to Wymondham and brought with him a successful locksmith business. Re-named Trusted Locks, Ray shares with us his experience of starting up again in our Norfolk town..

I have recently moved to Wymondham with my wife, Sue from Lincoln due to Sue's work commitments. Sue started working with our daughter, Natalie, a couple of years ago helping with her company, Trusted Law. The more time we spent in Wymondham and visiting Norfolk the more we liked it and started talking about moving. When Natalie asked Sue to be more involved in her business by becoming the Office Manager, we decided that it was a great time to relocate.

We only moved to Wymondham in December 2020 and over the last few months during the most recent lockdown, I have been rebranding to Trusted Locks Local and starting to promote myself locally.

I had my own successful Locksmith business in Lincoln called RGS

Locksmiths, so it was natural that I would set up again here in Wymondham to help the local residents with their locksmith needs.

To give a little background information, I served in the Royal Air Force for 22 years at home and abroad. After I was discharged from the Royal Air Force, I went on to work for the Ministry of Defence (MOD) for 14 years before taking voluntary redundancy.

In January 2012, I started to train as a locksmith with the UK Locksmiths Association and set up as RGS Locksmiths in Lincoln. I quickly realised that I enjoyed meeting different people and I enjoyed helping them out. In February 2015, I continued to improve my skills by completing the NCFE Level 3 Advanced Lock Picking Course with MPL National Locksmiths Training School.

After further training in March 2016, I was awarded the City & Guilds Accreditation Locksmiths Certificate. For peace of mind, I do carry my picture ID card issued by the MPL National Locksmiths Training School with me when I visit my customers.

Personally, I have been married to Sue for 41 years and have two grown up daughters and three wonderful grandchildren – twins Jessica and Jack, and younger granddaughter, Charlotte.

I have already helped a few local residents with a lock replacement, window lock and handle replacement and an emergency lockout so it's great to see that people are starting to get to know my business. As a mobile locksmith, I carry most of my locks and supplies with me which means that I can normally complete the job in just one visit.



Here's a review from one of our local customers: "Fantastic service, wore a mask and social distanced. He fixed all the problems I had, very fair priced also. Thank you for helping fix my doors," says Ellie Tracey.

It is great to have such a warm and friendly welcome from the people that I have met so far. Myself and Sue are looking forward to exploring more of Wymondham to see what it has to offer, once the lockdown has been eased.

If you would like to find out more about the service I offer, please visit my website www.trustedlockslocal.co.uk or follow us on Facebook @ Trustedlockslocal. And of course, if I can help you in anyway feel free to get in touch on 01953 528658.

HAS LOCKDOWN HAD AN IMPACT ON DIVORCE ENQUIRIES?

Written by Sarb Gosal, Spire Solicitors LLP

The first few months of 2021 have been spent in lockdown, causing couples and families to spend increased amounts of time together. This has, in many cases, acted as a catalyst for break-ups that may already have been on the cards, especially if previous separate routines had served to mask problems.

Lawyers often talk about 'divorce day' in January, but this year has been different due to the pressures and stresses of COVID-19. While troubled couples may have tried to stand together to offer support with home-schooling at the start of the year, the reality is that proximity exacerbates tensions and with children now back at school, lots of couples are seeing it as an appropriate time to start the divorce process.

At present, the only grounds for divorce are:

- The marriage has broken down irretrievably through adultery, unreasonable behaviour, or the rarely-used ground of desertion.
- Two years of separation where both parties agree to divorce.
- Five years of separation in which case the consent of the other party is not required.

Couples seeking a no-fault divorce will have to wait until Autumn 2021 even though proposed legislation removing fault from the divorce process has reached the finishing line of its parliamentary journey. Under the new legislation, it will be possible for couples to make joint divorce applications, alongside the current option for one party to initiate the process.

In the meantime, we need to support couples in navigating the process and help them avoid a recriminatory approach, which is even more important when children are involved. So, what can you do to achieve a "Good Divorce"?

- Communication – sitting down and speaking with your spouse, if safe to do so, or with the help of a mediator or counsellor.
- Support – speaking to family or friends or indeed a counsellor about how you feel.
- Choose a process that supports your goals – if you engage in an adversarial Court process then you can expect more conflict in the future.
- Advice – meet with a solicitor who is a member of Resolution. A solicitor will be able to advise on your options, assist in the negotiation of your settlement and draft documents to record your agreement. An independent financial adviser will also be able to look at your options for perhaps raising a mortgage, investing a lump sum maybe



to produce replacement income for the future and on pension sharing, so often now a feature of many divorce settlements.

Divorce is hard to contemplate and go through at the best of times, and in a world subject to the effects of COVID-19 this is particularly true. However, it is important to remember that divorce serves a crucially important function in allowing people to move on from unhappy and unhealthy relationships. And while the journey may be stressful, the outcome should offer a new beginning and increased happiness.

If you would like to discuss any points in this article further, please contact Spire Solicitors LLP on 01953 606351 for all your legal needs.



Outstanding advice &
legal expertise
for the region



WHAT'S ON?

Sunday 2nd May

Sunday Service Livestream
9.30am, by Wymondham Abbey
www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live

Sunday Worship - 'Heaven help the home: Home as church' by Rachel Spencer
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Via Zoom
www.wymondhambaptist.org

Church Service
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom
tgc.2016@outlook.com

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

Thursday 6th May

Read My Mind - #TimeToTalk about reading for men's wellbeing
7pm, via Facebook. By Norfolk Libraries
www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesUK

Saturday 8th May

The Hedge At Home
8pm, by Rob Duhig, with guest Sophie Janna (from The Netherlands)
www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome

Sunday 9th May

Sunday Service Livestream
9.30am, by Wymondham Abbey
www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live

Sunday Worship - 'Heaven help the home: When love says no' by Paul Smith
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Via Zoom
www.wymondhambaptist.org

Church Service
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom
tgc.2016@outlook.com

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

Monday 10th May

Mini Artists Class
10am to 11.30am and 1pm to 2.30pm, stART Studio. For ages 1 to 5
www.facebook.com/events/454625082504815

Online Quiz
8pm, by Slow Theatre Company. Live on YouTube, Facebook and Twitch
www.facebook.com/slowtheatrecompany

Friday 14th May

Meet author Rónán Hession
7pm, by Kett's Books, via Zoom
events@kettsbooks.co.uk

Sunday 16th May

Sunday Service Livestream
9.30am, by Wymondham Abbey
www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live

Sunday Worship - '10 lessons from Joseph: The hero arises' by Paul Smith
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Via Zoom
www.wymondhambaptist.org

Church Service
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom
tgc.2016@outlook.com

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

Monday 17th May

Mini Artists Class
10am to 11.30am and 1pm to 2.30pm, stART Studio. For ages 1 to 5
www.facebook.com/events/454625082504815

Wednesday 19th May

AGM
7pm, Wymondham RFC
www.wymondhamrfc.com

Thursday 20th May

Read My Mind - #TimeToTalk about reading for men's wellbeing
7pm, via Facebook. By Norfolk Libraries
www.facebook.com/NorfolkLibrariesUK

Saturday 22nd May

Art at the Abbey Grounds
From 11am, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

The Hedge At Home
8pm, by Rob Duhig, live from Oxfordshire with guest Bob Carter
www.facebook.com/thehedgeathome

Sunday 23rd May

Sunday Service Livestream
9.30am, by Wymondham Abbey
www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live

Sunday Worship, Pentecost - '10 lessons from Joseph: Do you know why you were born?' by Paul Smith
10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Via Zoom
www.wymondhambaptist.org

Church Service
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist Church. Via Zoom
tgc.2016@outlook.com

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

Picnic at the Abbey
From 12noon, Wymondham Abbey
www.wymondhamabbey.org.uk

Monday 24th May

Mini Artists Class
10am to 11.30am and 1pm to 2.30pm, stART Studio. For ages 1 to 5
www.facebook.com/events/454625082504815



MARKETS

Every Friday

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

Third Saturday
(15th May)

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

WHAT'S ON, continued...

Online Quiz
8pm, by Slow Theatre Company. Live on YouTube, Facebook and Twitch
www.facebook.com/slowtheatrecompany

Thursday 27th May

When the past collides with the present, by author and historian Phyllida Scrivens - talk for Wymondham Heritage Society 7.30pm, via Zoom
www.wymondhamheritagemuseum.co.uk

Saturday 29th May

Wymondham Fayre
12noon to 8pm, Wymondham Football Club
<https://clearcompany.org.uk>

Sunday 30th May

Sunday Service Livestream
9.30am, by Wymondham Abbey
www.youtube.com/channel/UC-egQ30CpJ64aJQYnFvzlcA/live

Sunday Worship - '10 lessons from Joseph: Do you know who you are?' by Paul Smith 10.30am, by Wymondham Baptist Church. Via Zoom
www.wymondhambaptist.org

Church Service
10.30am, by Wymondham Methodist

Church. Via Zoom
tgc.2016@outlook.com

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

Norfolk Libraries online

Every day

Virtual Just A Cuppa
10.30am, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Tuesdays

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

Just A Cuppa (Babies & Toddlers)
11am, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Reading Friends
2pm, 6pm & 7pm, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Shut Up and Write
4pm, via Zoom. For young people aged 13-16
www.facebook.com/events/356479102243391/

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

Wednesdays

Just A Cuppa
10.30am, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Digital Health Hub
12.30pm, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

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

Thursdays

Just A Cuppa (Bumps & Babies)
11am, via Zoom
libraries.icconnect@norfolk.gov.uk

Fridays

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

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



Printed and delivered to every house in Wymondham!

WYMONDHAM Magazine

Next issue (print/digital):
Out 28th May. Copy deadline: 21st May

Subscribe to the monthly digital magazine for free online at www.wymondham-mag.co.uk

Whilst every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication, Wymondham Magazine can accept no responsibility for any error or omission that may arise. This magazine may not be sold or reproduced in any form or by any means, electronically or mechanical, without prior consent of the publishers and copyright holders, Wymondham Magazine.

©2021 Wymondham Magazine