

Miscellanea

FREE!

The Quarterly Mattishall People's Magazine Winter 2023 Issue 97

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Bob Dylan

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Miscellanea

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From the Editor

Well, here we are at the end of another year. We've welcomed a new King, experienced the driest month in May in recent times and then the wettest, in July. There have been lots of hopes and disappointments in the world of sports but closer to home, we have lost Mattishall FC who now play in Bradenham. But do not despair, read John's latest episode on Page 4, we may be welcoming a new team to Mattishall!

We are fortunate to have a poet in our midst, Mike Hamill, who regularly contributes some of his work for us to print and he hasn't disappointed in this issue. (p32) and we have a new contributor, Richard Watson, who will be writing about his time – and experiences, as an AA Man (p24)

This issue contains some other good news and bad news. I'm delighted to report that Mattishall Community Hub is going from strength to strength (see page 9 for more information) but we also see the demise of the Mattishall Society. This has been running for over 50 years but is now having to fold. A great shame and a loss to the village (see p7) but thankfully there are still many groups and clubs running to keep us active and enjoy social interaction.

We asked in the last issue for some volunteers to help deliver Miscellanea to everyone in Mattishall and Welborne but unfortunately we need to repeat our appeal! Our team of distributors work really hard to get the magazine out on time but they can't cover it all without some more help. It is only four times a year so if you can help, Lizzie would be delighted to hear from you. (More details below)

Lastly, the Miscellanea Team would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy 2024.

Anne



Brainteasers December 2023

Brainteaser 1 of 5

Adam, the sculptor, has made a giant cube out of wooden boards measuring 2metres by 2 metres. Adam can see all six sides of his cube from where he is standing.

Where is he standing?

Answer inside back cover

CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME TO HELP DELIVER MISCELLANEA FOR US?

We are looking for someone to deliver in the Rayners Way/Orchard Rd area (approx 115 magazines) but this could be shared by a couple of volunteers. It would be great if there is anyone who has moved into the Kingfisher Estate who would like to take on delivery there, (will be 55). The magazine is produced 4 times a year.

If anyone thinks they can help please contact me on 01362 850491.

Lizzie



John Norton

Episode 7.

MATTISHALL ROVERS

A few months ago, when I heard it on the grapevine, I found it hard to believe that Mattishall Football Club as a separate entity was no more. It had amalgamated with Bradenham where all the new team's home matches would be played and it seems that the mighty Easton is now playing on the hallowed South Green turf. I don't know any of the ins and outs but reckon it must have been a multi million pound deal in an effort to get financial security and climb up the league ladder. But it left me pondering how could a large and vibrant village like Mattishall not have its own football team? What would the vast horde of supporters think about travelling all the way to the other side of Shipdham to see their team?

Waiting for my prescription in the pharmacy the other week I got talking to Trevor Talbot. We often share our thoughts on football matters and we started reminiscing about the Mattishall FC we grew up with in the 50s and 60s. Trevor was a left back in those days and made appearances for the club before asthma slowed down his burgeoning career. There was a first team and a reserve side playing in the Dereham and District League which meant that virtually every match was a local derby with all the associated tribal rivalry. When I couldn't get to Norwich to watch the Canaries, or if they were playing away, I would queue up to stand on the touchline at Turner's Meadow to watch one of the Mattishall teams. In fact I got quite addicted to the extent that when I left home for College in 1967 my mother would send me a copy of the Dereham and Fakenham Times and I would cut out the league table and stick it on the wall and face the subsequent ridicule of my house mates. I became known (amongst many other things) as "Mattishall Man" because every week in the paper there would be at least one report featuring a "Mattishall man" doing something which warranted a mention due to a heinous crime or getting married or something.

Turner's Meadow was not much like Wembley, apart from the fact that as long as it had rained it was mostly green. It was located in Welgate near the old Congregational Church where houses have now been built. During the week cattle would sometimes be grazing so before a match there was often a cursory attempt to undertake cow pat clearance. But quite honestly, depending on the consistency of the pat and the wetness of the weather, the pats could provide a nice soft landing when sliding in for a tackle.

The teams would change in a corrugated iron hut and don what was then a maroon shirt with yellow trimmings. I don't know when or why the kit was, I think, changed to blue. I liked the maroon and yellow because it was quite similar to the red and yellow kit of Melchester Rovers featured in the Tiger

comic where the famed strikers Roy Race and Blackie Gray were instrumental in the Rovers being the most successful club of all time by winning the league and the FA Cup every year during my childhood. In fact I think they're still at it.

There was a pre match ritual during the warm up, repeated at half time, when it seemed most of the players would have a fag. Woodbines were popular. My father used to give me one when I was 14 and I tried so hard to smoke because everybody did it. But despite resorting to menthol flavoured Consulates I could never manage to inhale. What a lucky break that was for me. Think of the fortune I've saved. My father was determined to find a cheap substitute for tobacco to smoke in his pipe to the extent of trying lavender and even sugar beet pulp. Think of the hallucinations that could give you.

The Mattishall teams consisted solely of local lads. None of this stuff about bringing in high profile players from the other side of Dereham. Every village in those days seemed to have a few big families. I remember in particular the Burrell boys from Clint Green. There was John, Stanley, Ray, Gordon, Micky (my best pal at Yaxham Primary School), Steven and I think some girls (I may have missed some out!). They were all salt of the earth characters and good and hard players. When watching the recent Rugby World Cup final it was remarkable that New Zealand fielded three brothers. Well, that's nothing compared to Mattishall when there could be as many as 4 or 5 Burrells playing at the same time.

I particularly remember the goalie "Tarzan" Lancaster who was another from a large family. He lived up to his name being an immense and strong bloke who filled the goal. Anybody jumping for a corner kick with him wouldn't know what hit him.

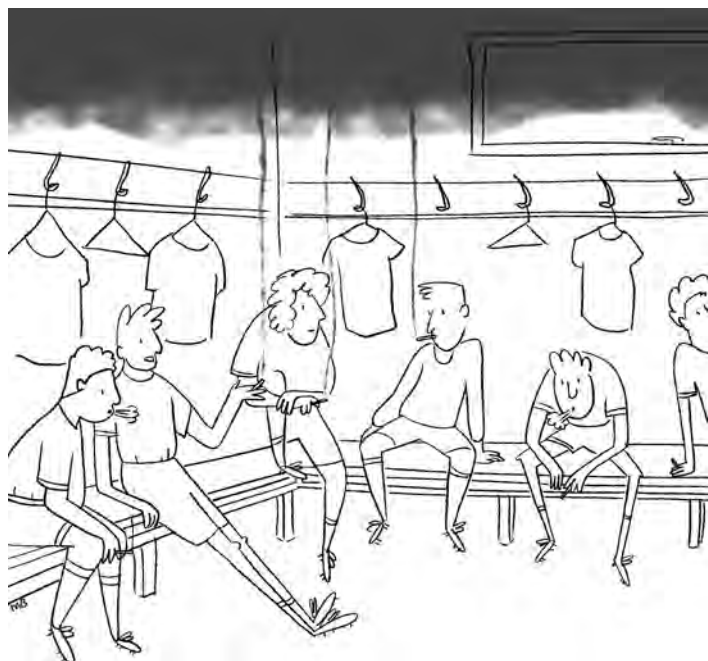
While the match was being played us younger lads would have our own game on the meadow alongside the pitch using discarded jackets or jerseys to act as goal posts. We'd use a spare football which was a brown all leather affair with stitching which could be opened to reveal the valve used for inflating the bladder. When the ball got wet it soaked up the water and made it very heavy. How anybody managed to kick it for any distance above ground level was a mystery to me - even with the big, studded, clod hopping boots that were worn. And when someone on the main pitch got the ball into the air, or if the goalie fly kicked it forward, you have to hand it to those who unflinchingly headed it, especially if the stitching made contact with your forehead. The number of stars that must have been seen - a bit like smoking sugar beet pulp.

One year Mattishall did pretty well in one of the County competitions and had a good cup run. The local interest and excitement was such that a coach was hired to take supporters to an away match as far away as Thorpe which was unheard of. I'm pretty sure we lost, nevertheless it seemed to me that Mattishall was really hitting the big time and before long Europe would beckon.

With all that soccer heritage it begs the question of how can Mattishall do without its own football team? I think I may have come up with a solution. A new team should be formed called Mattishall Rovers. After all the name Mattishall is not that much different to those other fictitious Rovers of Melchester. It has the same number of letters and several common ones. The strip should revert to maroon and yellow and mirror the colours worn by Roy Race and his boys. Someone in the village must have a meadow which could be made available every other Saturday in return for which cow pats would be removed and stored for manure. There must be a few Burrell grandchildren or relations around who could form the core of the team. And the icing on the cake would be a free Woodbine for each player before the game and at half time if requested – failing that a drag on a sugar beet flavoured vape would be made available.

Trevor Talbot can be manager and I'll be coach. I've still got my schooldays Terry Venables football boots hanging in the garage that could do with an airing.

Who's up for it?



Illustrated by Michael Blackman

Brainteasers December 2023

Brainteaser 2 of 5

Replace the letters with numerals (0 – 9) to make this equation work (each letter represents a different numeral)

SEVEN + SEVEN + SIX = TWENTY

Answer inside back cover

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The Mattishall Society

END OF AN ERA

Fifty one years ago, Alan James ran one of the two garages in Mattishall. His was on the corner of Dereham Road and Welgate. He and his wife, Marjorie, lived in Orchard House, Welgate and it was Marjorie who started the Mattishall Society.

Initially, the Society was about conservation - planting trees and hedges and keeping a watchful eye on planning applications. My husband, Bill, and I were among the founder members. To raise funds there was a modest membership fee and interesting speakers were engaged for the monthly meetings. When Alan retired, the James's sold up and moved to Shropshire. Alan's garage closed and houses were built on the site and in Orchard House's large garden.

Marjorie would probably have been amazed that the Society continued for fifty one years. But on 13th November, 2023, those members attending the AGM voted unanimously to close the Society. The current committee, (Chris Hawkins, Rita Cooper, Madeleine Fowler, Carol Colledge, Jenny Davies and Paula Hawkins, led by the President and Chairman, Ray Cooper) have served collectively for over eighty years and had decided to stand down. Despite giving a year's warning of this decision, no one came forward to take over, so there was no alternative but to close the Society. At an 'extraordinary' meeting, the outgoing committee will ask members' approval for their proposed disposal of remaining funds, within the Society's constitution.

Having served as Secretary to the Society for three years, written accounts of the many varied speakers for Miscellanea and produced the publicity posters, I shall miss the interesting talks and opportunities to chat with other members but, I suspect that like many others, advancing years and other responsibilities prevented me from offering to serve again. Most members are retired. Sadly, time to move on.

Following the business part of the meeting, Trevor Bliss told the story of helping to save a Vulcan bomber from the scrap yard. It is one of only three remaining in the UK which can power itself down a runway but is not safe to fly. It lives in a hangar at Southend Airport and can be visited on Vulcan Visiting Days. Events are held to finance its upkeep. For further information, visit acrovulcan.com, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

Anna English

Dereham Walkers are Welcome

07561 813243

www.DerehamWaW.org.uk/



Our short (under 4 miles) walks programme will continue on the first Friday of each month through 2024 and will start at 10:15 unless otherwise advised: the starting point may vary (though will always be near Dereham town centre), so please check on arrangements. Other than that, you don't need to book - just turn up at the right time in the right place. Please note that short walks do not have programmed refreshment stops, but there are usually a number of short halts for people to collect and catch breath, so if you want to bring something to eat and/or drink, there will be opportunity to consume it. The walk will be led at a reasonable pace - we do not rush, but we do need to make progress for the group as a whole; if you have any questions about our speed, please raise them with us. You should come with decent footwear (especially when it's been wet) and suitable clothing.

We are also continuing with our 'Easy Tuesday' walks, with the next on 12 December. As with all of these walks, it will be no more than two miles, on good surfaces and expected to take about an hour. The pace will be steady with regular pauses to catch breath and afterwards there will be an opportunity to have social chat and some refreshments (bring your purse). These walks will continue on the second Tuesday of each month, meeting outside Dads and Lads (Cherry Tree car park) at 10:00. If you think this might be for you and want more details, please contact Sue at sue.rothwell@outlook.com. Please note that if you need personal support in order to take part, you will need to arrange this yourself; we regret that we are unable to provide it for you.

Our programme of longer walks doesn't follow a fixed pattern; we're still finalising details for the rest of 2024 but there will be our now traditional 1 January walk and the plan for the rest of the year is to include some circular walks from Dereham, some using the train or the bus to get out of town and walking back and at least one totally away from Dereham.

We look forward to seeing you over the next few weeks. Please note that all walks will go ahead unless the weather is really bad (we've cancelled just one walk in the last 6 years), but do check if you're in any doubt or want more information.

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MATTISHALL COMMUNITY HUB

One year on ... and still going strong! When we put on our first, taster, session back in October 2022 we weren't quite sure what response we would get but we needn't have worried. The response has been encouragingly positive and through advertising and 'word of mouth' we now have a regular attendance of around 30 people. Everyone who comes to our free, monthly sessions automatically becomes a member of Mattishall Community Hub and we have now built up a core membership of over 60 local residents - and we hope to welcome many more in the coming year.

In our early days we were very grateful to Mattishall Parish Council for helping to fund our activities. We've also been able to raise additional funds through donations and one-off events (such as the Table Top Sale which we held in September this year, where we did a roaring trade in sausage and bacon butties!). However, we are very pleased to report that we recently, successfully applied to Breckland District Council for a grant as part of the Inspiring Communities initiative. This money will enable us to continue to put on our monthly sessions for another year and help us to provide social and community opportunities to everyone in our village and local surroundings.

For those who aren't quite sure what we're all about, Mattishall Community Hub is a non-profit organisation set up and run, completely voluntarily, by ordinary members of our community to provide a place where local residents can come together to enjoy social contact in a warm and friendly environment. The pandemic showed us just how important human contact is to our wellbeing and that nobody should have to feel isolated or lonely. It's really just about good, old-fashioned neighbourliness - something that is often difficult to maintain in the modern world.

We have one more session this year on Tuesday 5 December which, of course, will have a Christmas theme. The SqueezEast concertina group will, once again, be entertaining us with seasonal music to sing along to and our very own local storyteller, Roisin, will be relating some festive tales. There will be fun Christmas quizzes out on the tables and, as well as our usual refreshments, there will, no doubt, be a mince pie or two!

We will kick off 2004 on Tuesday 6 February when our first session will include a short AGM and from then on we will be holding regular, monthly sessions on the first Tuesday of each month, meeting at Mattishall Memorial Hall. We are also planning to organise more one-off community events next year and would welcome your suggestions. MCH is your community hub and we'd love to have more local residents come and join us in 2004.

Wishing you all a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year.

Helen, Carol, Anne, Nicky & Mary (the MCH Team)
Contact: Helen Brook (Coordinator) mch23@btinternet.com



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2024

First Tuesday of the month
starting Tuesday 6 February 2 - 4pm

Mattishall Walking Group



The walking group meet every week (alternate Tuesdays and Fridays) and the length of walk is determined by who turns up and weather conditions but generally it is about 4 miles. We meet at All Saints Church at 10.30am and are a friendly group that enjoys a chat while we walk. Each week our walk is advertised on Nextdoor but if you want further information, please email me Hazel Goodall on hazelnutmum@yahoo.co.uk.

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Mattishall & Lenwade Surgeries

Vaccine Update

Eligible patients that have not yet had a flu jab can contact Reception to arrange an appointment.

This includes anyone over 65 as at 31/3/2024 and patients in 'at risk' categories including some chronic disease patients, carers, household members of immunosuppressed patients and healthcare workers.

All children aged 2/3 are eligible for a nasal flu vaccine at the surgery and all school aged children up to Year 11 are eligible via the school program.

We also offer vaccines against Shingles and Pneumococcal disease at regular mini clinics throughout the year and patients can check their eligibility with Reception staff or when attending for a nurse appointment.

We often invite patients via text message with a link to book an appointment so please make sure we have an up-to-date mobile number recorded on your patient record. It is also helpful to know if you decline any of these vaccines so that we know that you do not want to be contacted further.

If you are contacting Reception regarding vaccinations, please call after 10am to avoid our busiest time.

PPG

The PPG continue to do great work and support us in many ways, including facilitating a meeting each quarter to discuss updates with members of the practice team. We last met in October and gave an update on our plans and investments to improve efficiencies for our staff and patients. We are looking at ways we can improve communications internally particularly regarding medication queries. We also plan to provide in depth training to upskill our counter staff so they can assist with patient queries.

If you are interested in joining the PPG, please email mattishalladmin.d82039@nhs.net with 'PPG' in the title.

Medical Student Volunteer

If you are willing to volunteer to be seen by medical students, please email mattishalladmin.d82039@nhs.net with 'STUDENTS' in the title.

Charity fundraising

We have a team of staff within the practice that have been working hard behind the scenes to provide staff with fun interactive ways to raise money for various charities. These include Macmillan coffee morning where staff brought in sweet and savoury delights and raised £72.24. We also did 'Wear it Pink' for breast cancer awareness which included healthier pink snacks and raised £31.35. We have a Christmas jumper to raise money for 'Save The Children' on 7th December.



Mid Norfolk Primary Care Network additional services

Did you know that our reception team can offer patients appointments for additional services? More information will be provided in the next edition, meanwhile please be aware of what is available: -

- First Contact Physio
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- Mental Health Worker
- Clinical Pharmacist

Pharmacy Update

One of our biggest contributors to the queue is patients coming in early to collect medication. Please allow us 7 working days to process repeat prescriptions.

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Robotic Dispenser

Thank you to all our patients for their support, understanding and patience whilst the dispensing robot was installed, and the shop fitted out. We are up and running and very pleased with the progress. The Team have adapted extremely well to our new dispensing process and are already feeling the benefits. Naturally we have experienced some teething problems.

Our shop is stocked up with plenty of Christmas goodies so do come and have a look. We will be planning to restock the shop and always welcome suggestions of items patients. If you have any ideas, please put a note through the prescriptions letter box for us to consider in the future.

Christmas and New Year opening

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- **MONDAY 25TH DECEMBER**
- **TUESDAY 26TH DECEMBER**
- **MONDAY 1ST JANUARY**

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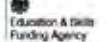
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Brainteasers December 2023

Brainteaser 3 of 5

Mrs Brown is late getting to the shops. She buys the last five apples in the greengrocer, but she has six children, herself and a husband. How does she share the fruit equally between the family members?

Answer inside back cover

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Desert Island Discs



Hello everyone!

My name is Matt Plunkett, I am 52 years of age and have lived in our lovely village of Mattishall since 2004 with my wife Steph and 5 children (Ryan, Liam, Callum, Alex and Lily). I am a qualified chef and have worked in some of the pubs/restaurants in our region for 25 years but now currently work as a caterer in the Prison Service, a job I very much enjoy and have been doing now for the last 13 years.

In my spare time, some of you may have seen me treading the pavements of our lovely village - running, I also love getting my bike out on the road going to some of the amazing places around our area. Over the years I have run the London Marathon three times and done four "100 mile" sponsored cycle rides to raise monies for some very good children's charities.

I feel we are very blessed to be in such a lovely village that has so many good places to run and cycle, some of the views are breath-taking and having grown up in Norwich, when I see some of the views when I'm out running or cycling I realise just how lucky I am to be part of this amazing area!

Of course, one of my other passions is music, I absolutely adore it and the qualities and variety it offers. I love going to a gig or a show, especially the small hall venues or maybe mid-way to arena size. I feel it's something special to see one of your favourite artists or bands in a small venue. I've been very blessed to see some excellent acts over the years such as The Sex Pistols, Morrissey, Ian Dury & The Blockheads & The Specials to name but a few, I just love the buzz of it!



I am also an avid vinyl fan too. I love the sound and character it offers, but don't get me wrong, I also hold a special place for cds and cassettes, as well as being the owner of a varied online Spotify catalogue, which always enlightens my wife Steph when she hears the different varied taste of music I have!

But that to me is the joy of music, it offers so much variety for everyone to enjoy. My hobbies also extend to singing. I used to be lead singer in a covers band for a couple of years and am now a member of "The Invidia Voices" singing group who I've been singing with for over a year. It's great to be involved with something I enjoy so much and the great memories it creates too! So here goes for my selection for Desert Island Discs which certainly hasn't been easy to say the least!....

1 My first choice is without doubt from one of my favourite male vocalists of all time, **Buddy Holly** and his band **The Crickets** and the song **True Love Ways**. I absolutely adore this song, it has everything you could wish for in a ballad, with the amazing **Buddy Holly** delivering the song to note perfection is such a fine example of his amazing voice.

True Love Ways really is a lovely ballad, and I would also recommend the version they remastered with the London Philharmonic Orchestra in 2018, an absolute masterpiece. I can just listen to it over and over again, an absolute classic and amazing talent that was sadly taken from us far too soon but who's legacy still lives on today.

2 My 2nd choice is **Tiny Dancer** by **Elton John**. This has to be one of my favourite Elton John hits, it was certainly a tough decision as for many years I always stood by "Your Song" as my favourite, but then one day I came across **Tiny Dancer** and my opinion changed straight away! I just loved it as soon as I heard the opening piano melody and then the intriguing lyrics, better still this song always reminds me of my daughter Lily because she used to dance a lot and she likes this song too.

3 My 3rd choice is **Baby I Love You** by **The Ronettes**. To me **The Ronettes** had everything a girl band should have and were amazing to watch perform! From their finesse and amazing bee-hive hair styles to their amazing vocals which, to me, just epitomised a true girl group! It sounds amazing with its powerful backing harmonies and their leading vocals. It is a true credit to their short but phenomenal time as a girl group back in the 60's. Well worth a listen!

4 My next choice is **Heroes** by **David Bowie**. I've always been a big Bowie fan and love his music, this was a hard choice as his catalogue is phenomenal! However, this song **Heroes** really is an outstanding piece of work by the great man himself. Great song by a true legend!

5 My 5th choice is **Everyday is like Sunday** by **Morrissey**. I love listening to the Smiths so was always interested in their lead singer Morrissey's work after they split, he is great entertainment to watch and listen to! I had the pleasure of seeing Mr Mozza in Gt Yarmouth back in 2009 and felt honoured to see this legendary frontman perform at Britannia Pier especially as he cancelled the rest of his tour due to throat problems.

He had done some great solo work in his career but without a doubt this is my favourite right from the opening guitar riff to the very catchy chorus, it's an absolute belter! Wish they played this on the radio more!

6 My 6th choice is **(Forever) Live & Die** by **OMD**. I like a lot of 80s music and bands, but in particular **OMD** who are still around today. They've done some really good catchy music over the years but this is a mixture of ballad/synth pop but very catchy and has a really good chorus which drew me to this song.

7 **Ashes** by **Embrace** is my 7th choice. One band I've been to see live quite a bit over the years and who to me has done some superb material, is **Embrace**. Their album "Out of Nothing" is one of my favourite albums and consists of some great songs, including this one **Ashes**. If there's ever a song to lift your spirits and get the crowd going at a gig, then this song definitely does it for me every time I hear it!. Brilliant song from a great band, definitely worth a listen!

8 Song No 8 is **Everyday** by **Slade**. I'm a massive fan of **Slade** and without a shadow of doubt one of my favourite bands of the 70's! Their lead singer Noddy Holder offers so much power in his vocals and certainly adds much character to their superb catalogue. It is such a powerful rock ballad and it just reminds me what a great iconic band they were.

9 My 9th choice is **How soon is now?** by **The Smiths**. As mentioned earlier I love listening to **The Smiths**, an amazing iconic band who sadly parted ways, but had a huge influence on so many bands over the years. Their music catalogue is phenomenal along with some great albums and front covers too! The song **How soon is now?** does it for me every time I hear it! Morrissey's energy and vocals are just sublime and the whole song is so powerful and great to listen to. Superb!

10 My final choice is **Born to Hand Jive** by **Sha Na Na** from the classic movie "Grease". I'm a big fan of the musical "Grease", an absolute cracking film. One of my favourite scenes is at the Rydell High dance where we are treated to some great dancing and songs, including this one **Born to Hand Jive**, a brilliant song and one I always can't resist dancing to at any party! Great song and film that really look and sound great!

So, there you have my selection of "Desert Island Discs", I have really enjoyed putting this list together, certainly not as easy as you think!

Special thanks to Anne for giving me this opportunity to put this list together.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2024!!

Brainteasers December 2023

Brainteaser 4 of 5

A snail starts to climb a wall one morning. The wall is 10 metres high. The snail makes good progress during the day, climbing at a rate of 3 metres a day. However, it slips back 2 metres every night.

How many days does it take the snail to reach the top of the wall?

Answer inside back cover

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Mattishall Youth Club

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10-16 years
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Miscellanea ^{Youth!}

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***** Scouting is for GIRLS and BOYS aged 6 – 14 *****

GROUP NEWS

Beavers: New school year and new Beavers joined us. We knew the District had a hike planned for us, so we did our Emergency Aid badge. Part of this meant we visited Dereham Fire station, and everyone had a go on the hose, spraying water.



The Beavers hike was at Marham, an area none of us knew, so it really tested our map reading. We completed the hike and dealt with the First Aid incident we found. We then had a go with the crossbows and planned, then built, our own Lego machines.

Cubs had an action-packed term, starting with a hot camp at Wells-Next-the-Sea with a host of activities including a bit



of crabbing in the harbour. We finished for half-term joining Beavers in a Medieval Combat session which was a huge hit - literally!! With members donning protective gear for their own battles.

The physical activities continued on our return with a trip to a martial arts studio. All the cubs tried their best and did very well with such a new experience. The rest of the term is equally as busy as we try our hand at making Christmas cakes and have a fun outing to Quasar. Everyone will definitely need a rest!

Scouts: Two teams of scouts took part in the District Team Challenge Hike in October near Marham. They had to navigate between check points, completing team challenges at each one. This gave all those taking part an opportunity to push themselves to walk all day in unfamiliar territory and to work together on the activities. Scouts have also been working to complete their Pioneering Badge by building basic ballistas. At half-term, scouts enjoyed a camp at Garvestone where they managed to cook their dinner on open fires, despite the rather wet weather, improved their tomahawk skills and explored the local area.



Group News: Young people and leaders from all our sections joined with the rest of the village for the Service of Remembrance on Sunday 12th November.

BEAVER SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 6 - 8 TUESDAYS 6.15 – 7.30PM Contact Su McKinnell on 07514 032678

CUB SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 8 - 10 WEDNESDAYS 6.15 – 7.30PM Contact Emma Day – email: eeyore41983@aol.com

SCOUTS - GIRLS AND BOYS AGED 10 - 14 MONDAYS 7 – 9PM Contact Ann Futter – ann.futter@live.co.uk



Mattishall Primary School

Inspired by 'Where the Wild Things Are' by Maurice Sendak, Reception created their own 'Wild Thing' puppets. They explored different vocabulary to describe the wild things from the book and created their own puppet show to role-play as their 'Wild Thing' characters.

The Year 1 classroom became a crime scene. The animals from the book 'Cave Baby' by Julia Donaldson had escaped. The children had to identify the animal footprints and create some wanted posters.



While looking at still life art, Year 2 conducted a colour study trying to create all the colours in the piece of art they were studying.



In Science Year 3 looked at healthy diets, performing an experiment to compare the fattiness of different foods. They made predictions of what foods had the most fat in them and then ranked these from 5 (having the most) to 1 (having the least).

As part of their History Topic 'Invasion', Year 4 visited West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village. They explored different buildings, the museum and handled some original and replica objects, discussing their possible significance or use. They tried on some Anglo-Saxon clothing and gathered in the Hall and asked excellent questions of the Village expert.



Year 5 investigated the effects of air resistance by making their own parachutes using different materials and testing how effective they were. They changed the canopy shape and size to see if this made a difference and timed how long it took for the parachute to reach the ground from a set height.

Year 6 learnt about the circulatory system. They tested different ways to find their heart rate and used this to test the hypothesis: Children with lower resting heart rates can sprint faster than those with higher resting heart rates. Using the data collected, the children will create scatter graphs to see if there is a correlation.





A message from the Headteacher – Mr Chapman

We have had a really busy Autumn term and over the last few months have recruited six new members of staff. We have had children taking part successfully in Norfolk schools sporting competitions such as Cross Country and Tag Rugby; we have reintroduced trips to help enrich the curriculum; and our Year 4 children recently went to West Stow to look at the reconstructed Anglo-Saxon settlement. We also have several clubs ongoing, which are well attended. These include bell ringing and dodgeball and more are planned for the New Year.

To support the development of curriculum areas, we are looking for local people who can come into school and talk to children about their professions, helping also to raise aspirations. Previously we have had a dental nurse, a vet, a GP, a member of the police, an author and illustrator, and someone from the Fire Service. Please contact Mrs Findlay via the school office if you are interested or know of anybody who can support this.

We have recruited a lot of new reading volunteers who attend our school on a weekly basis to support children with reading development. We really appreciate their support and the children they work with get that little bit of extra time reading 1:1 and discussing the texts, allowing them to have a deepened understanding and to develop a love of books.

Our fundraising team have also been successful, organising

a pumpkin carving competition and a school disco. They are currently organising our highly rated Christmas raffle. You are more than welcome to purchase tickets from us. Please contact the school office for more information.

Brainteasers December 2023

Brainteaser 5 of 5

How many drops of wine can you put into an empty wine glass?

Answer inside back cover

Mattishall Primary School
(Part of Synergy Multi Academy Trust)
kindly asks that **dog owners do not walk their dogs on the school grounds at any time.** This includes the large back field as it is part of our learning environment and property of Synergy Multi-Academy Trust.
Thank you for your understanding.




Children's play area



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Senior Slot

Upcoming Dates for free Creative Socials:



Join Rosy May for some joyful movement and dancing in December's Creative Socials:

- Dereham Library, Friday 15th December 1-3pm

In the new year, join us in January with Tessa Wingate for some singing and songwriting:

- Dereham Library, Friday 19th January 1-3pm

Join Rachel Burchell for February's Creative Socials and take part in some natural leaf printing:

- Dereham Trinity Methodist Church, Friday 16th February 1-3pm

For March's Creative Social, come along and enjoy some Egyptian dancing with Kay Wheatley:

- Dereham Trinity Methodist Church, Friday 16th March 1-3pm

All Creative Socials are free to attend and hot drink and cake is provided.

Please could you let us know you would like to attend by visiting ticketsource.co.uk/creative-arts-east or by calling 01953 713390 or by email at info@creativeartseast.co.uk

Coming up for Afternoon Events:

The Shock of the Old – Terrence Blacker

Written and performed by Terence Blacker with directorial help from Dillie Keane.

In this hilarious and spirit-lifting new show, songwriter and author Terence Blacker celebrates one of the great challenges of life - the art of ageing with style. With songs described by Gyles Brandreth as "witty, wistful, wonderful", plus anecdotes and a dash of wisdom, he shows how getting old can be the best, most liberating - and funniest - part of your life.

When and Where: Monday 29th January 2024 1pm at Dereham Memorial Hall, Dereham, NR19 1AD. Tickets are free but voluntarily donations are welcome.

Tickets available at ticketsource.co.uk/creative-arts-east, call 01953 713390 or email info@creativeartseast.co.uk.

For more information visit brecklandartsforhealth.co.uk or contact us at info@creativeartseast.co.uk.

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Do You Remember?

1. Fish & chips wrapped in newspaper.
2. Glass bottles with a refundable deposit
3. 78rpm records.
4. Party telephone lines.
5. Milk delivered in glass bottles.
6. Television in black & white only.
7. Beat bobbies both day & night.
8. The coal man delivering.
9. Shilling-in-the-slot utility meters.
10. Your G.P. making house calls.
11. Television rental services.
12. Scouts & Guides bob-a-job week.
13. Two films shown per sitting.
14. Conductors on the buses.
15. Usherettes at the cinemas.

If you remember up to 5 - You're a whippersnapper

If you remember up to 10 - You're gettin' there.

If you remember all 15 you're;
"Older Than The Hills".



CRIMEWATCH MATTISHALL

PC 898 Paula Gilluley
Breckland Community
Engagement Officer

Paula.Gilluley@norfolk.pnn.police.uk

Well, the nights are drawing in and the weather has certainly turned. Shop window displays are full of enticing gifts, seasonal light displays are being turned on in our towns – it can only mean one thing – we are fast approaching the Christmas season! In these final weeks of the year many of us will be purchasing gifts for friends and family to open on Christmas Day and these items, often expensive, are a target for opportunist thieves. With this in mind, Norfolk Constabulary have launched our “Keep It Christmas” campaign. This crime prevention campaign encourages Norfolk residents to protect themselves, their family, friends, and property during this time of the year but also reminds potential perpetrators of the consequences of illegal actions during the festive period. Here are some of our top tips to having a safe and crime-free Christmas this year:

- When going on your Christmas shopping trips be careful where you park your car. Try to choose a well-lit space covered by CCTV and if possible, avoid dropping purchases off at your car mid-way through your shopping trip. If you must return to your vehicle mid-shop to drop off shopping, make sure it is stored out of sight in the boot and make sure you lock and secure your vehicle when you leave it. Keep it hidden, #KeepitChristmas.

- Drink spiking is a serious crime with serious consequences. Don't spend Christmas behind bars. Keep it out, #KeepitChristmas.
- Don't leave presents under the Christmas Tree if they are visible from windows and doors, and for gifts you want to keep hidden until the big day, keep them in a secure place and avoid sheds or garages. Make sure your windows and doors are locked whenever you leave the house this winter and at night to keep others out. Take care about what you post on social media. Try not to advertise expensive gifts you have purchased/received and don't broadcast when you are going to be away from your home. Keep it locked, #KeepitChristmas.
- Had a few drinks last night? Don't take any risks, you might still be over the limit today. Drink driving is a serious crime with serious consequences. When planning social events arrange for a designated driver. Keep it cautious, #KeepitChristmas.

You can get more crime prevention advice from our website, www.norfolk.police.uk and you can follow this campaign on our Twitter pages by following the hashtag #KeepitChristmas.



The Retired Librarian

Well, it's beginning to look a lot like Christmas and unusually, this year, it comes without the burden of Christmas shopping. Not even a cocktail sausage, for Robin and I are being entertained by his lovely sister and family. Not for me the trawling of the supermarkets for vegan or gluten-free goodies, I have a year off. Neither do I need to buy presents other than the obligatory bottle for the hostess, as we haven't exchanged gifts for many a year. I'm quite heady with power.

Naturally, things were different when I was a child and presents featured large. I can honestly say that during my early years, I did love a good doll. That's not to say that I didn't receive many guns and related armaments, though never a Tommy gun which I craved. I had pistols and six shooters, bows and arrows and one Christmas a cool Man from UNCLE target set. I could be Napoleon Solo or Ilya Kuryakin according to my whim and shoot down THRUSH from the TV set. My poor, beleaguered husband played the same game with two friends and was relegated to reserve so never got to play the main characters, a point that still rankles. I was quite the tomboy then and to be honest, in today's climate, the powers that be would have had me in breast binders before you could say Trans Exclusionary Radical Feminist. But I digress, dolls...

My first doll was a lovely plastic baby complete with crib and a whole wardrobe of hand knitted clothes, courtesy of my industrious mother and grandmother. I absolutely doted on him (all my doll babies were boys) and dressed and redressed him until the clothes became rags. I never gave him a name. That soon changed when the Christmas I was six, I received a huge box containing a white-suited 'real' hair doll called Jonathan...it said so on the box. He was fashioned into a cuddle position and would sit astride my hip perfectly. I did take my old doll to one side and explain carefully that he had not been replaced, that he would always be my first doll, as I put him away. Jonathan remained my greatest present for a while and was the reason I named my first son Jonathan. That two other Jonathans were in the same school year as he was in sixth form, was either coincidence or the other mothers had been given the same doll at six. He, the doll, not my son, eventually ended up being scalped by my naughty little sister, and yes, she was.

By this time, I was playing with other little girls who had their own dolls, I went to Susan Hill's house up our road and would be allowed to hold her Teeny Tiny Tears. I longed for a Tiny Tears, but apparently, I had enough. Julie next door had a Hamble from Playschool and I thought she was adorable to cuddle, soft-bodied and all. Kim Goldspink had a Sindy doll and I managed to pick up a Paul from a school jumble sale. I was elated when she agreed to swap my Paul for her real hair version. My new Paul had a very cool brown suede jacket that fit Sindy too. We played for hours on her bedroom floor. I never had a Barbie, but did get instead, a Tressie whose hair could extend through a hole in her head. Nobody wanted to swap her, and she fell out of favour quite quickly.

In between Pauls, I had a ragdoll called swinging Kate. I would literally swing her around by her long cloth arms, less so my daughter of the same name. Uniquely, among



Tina Cooper

my friends I also had a ventriloquist dummy by the name of Titch, as in Titch and Quackers. Ray Allen was the puppet master on television who performed largely with a doll called Lord Charles, a monocle-wearing toff. Titch was a schoolboy complete with uniform blazer and tie. I couldn't throw my voice and never got beyond "gottle of gear" but loved playing with him despite his having a hole in his back. I would still tuck him up in bed at night.

One of the best dolls though was my Action Man. It cost twenty-one and six! It took weeks of saving my one shilling a week pocket money, many books of Green Shield stamps and a well-trodden ten-shilling note picked up from a puddle outside the fish shop, before I could afford it. Even then I asked Stephen Sillett to go in and buy it for me from Selina's toy shop, as I was too embarrassed to go in myself. The clever thing about getting an Action Man was that my parents were never short of present ideas because you could buy numerous outfits and equipment for it. I particularly enjoyed the husky pulled sled and white parka combination one Christmas and was entertained by a German soldier uniform and accompanying rifle and anti-tank mines. I'm sure I haven't made that up.

Naturally, as I got older my thoughts and dreams turned to other things. I was desperate for a Sasha doll, but they were five pounds. They still sell for hundreds second hand, but they were way out of my young reach. Fancy having a doll that was wearing towelling mules. Bliss, but not to be. Soon, I was hoping for record albums and books for Christmas and dolls fell out of favour, but for a long while, they were cool and played with all the time. I think they set me in good stead for being a mother, if all I had to worry about was dressing the children.

None of them ever had a white parka.

On the road with the AA

Part 1



I arrived in Norfolk on the 9th May 1983 for a job interview with the Automobile Association. The journey from my home in North Yorkshire was a long one, but it was worth it. I had been a Breakdown and Recovery Patrol Officer for six years,

and felt that it was time to move on. The Superintendent who interviewed me agreed, and I was offered the job of District Sergeant, working under the local Inspector.

By late June, I was in the county learning the job and getting to know the Patrols on my team. I was also house hunting, and sometime in August I arrived in Mattishall one morning and stopped at the garage on Dereham Road, at the junction with Welgate. There was a mechanic at the petrol pumps, and I asked him where I could find Gregs Close. He told me - and forty years later I'm still here! But the garage and petrol pumps have gone, along with a number of other shops and facilities.

The village was perfect for our needs; my wife was pleased that there was a first and middle school, a surgery, Post Office and a good selection of shops.

My new job involved several areas of responsibility: Health and Safety, discipline, vehicle maintenance, performance targets and a few others, like emptying AA telephone boxes of cash.

In those days, before mobile 'phones, the boxes were well used and it was the Sergeant's job to drive around the allocated area, picking up the cash and banking the proceeds. My boxes were in North Norfolk. There were three: one near Langor Bridge garage on the A1067, near Pensthorpe. Another on the A148 south of Sheringham, near Sheringham Park, and the third one at Hevingham on the A140.

One day the Inspector took me on the route, so I would get to know my way around. We left the depot at Bowthorpe, in Norwich one morning, and arrived back late in the afternoon. The Inspector was not one to rush about. He was in his later years, and had been in the job for a long time. We arrived at Langor Bridge and I emptied the box. As we drove towards Sheringham, he diverted onto a minor road leading to a track and a remote farm. Here, he had a long chat with the farmer, and eventually we left with a selection of vegetables, which he had purchased at a 'good price'.

After emptying the box at Sheringham Park, we diverted again, this time into Sheringham itself, and we had lunch at 'The Lobster' near the sea front. On we went to Hevingham, and then to a bank in Norwich, so that he could sort out his finances, and I could pay in the cash from the telephones. On future trips I found that the total journey took in the region of two hours or so - not all day!

After that it was back to the office at the Transport Depot at Bowthorpe, and then some planning for another day out picking up stores and equipment, from our other depot at Peterborough.

More stories of life with the AA in the next issue.

Richard Walton

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Roundabout

Community Pages, News from Community Groups & Societies, Social and Church Events. What's on in and around Mattishall

DROP IN

Our coffee morning takes place every Thursday from 10am until midday in All Saints Church, Mattishall. This is a great opportunity to meet new people, socialise, and chat while enjoying a cuppa, biscuits and cake.



Anyone can come along, all ages are welcome. We do not have a set charge for refreshments but if possible a donation (suggest £2), is appreciated to cover our costs. Not bad for unlimited tea/coffee/biscuits in a warm environment.

If anyone feels in need of support for any reason then please have a chat with me, Lizzie. We have lots of links with organisations and places where you can get support, or you may just feel lonely.

Our last meet up for this year will be on the 14th December when we have our Christmas Party, (entertainment, games, present draw and singing with lunch at midday). We are then closed for 2 weeks reopening on 4th January 2024

LIZZIE'S BOOK LOVERS CLUB



The club meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in All Saints Church, Mattishall.

We are not a conventional book club, we don't have set reading. Each month we bring along the books we have been reading and then briefly tell the rest of the group about them and usually offer to swap amongst the rest of the group. This is a good way to find out about different authors and find something new to read, at the same time making new friends and enjoying a cuppa and cake while discussing the books. We are a very friendly group and love chatting!

We do appreciate small donations to help with costs if possible.

Our next meetings are 13th December/10th January. Will be lovely to see new members.

Lizzie

SINGING FOR FUN AND WELLBEING

Singing can be great fun and very good for lifting mood and general wellbeing.

This is a very light hearted sing song using well known songs from various eras ranging from Vera Lynn to Rock and Roll.

Anyone is welcome to come along and join us, no matter what your voice is like!

We meet every month on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 1-2pm in All Saints Church, Mattishall.

Our next sessions will be 13th December, (including some Christmas songs) and then on 10th January.

Lizzie

Mattishall Methodist Church

Weekly Sunday Services at 2.30 p.m.

Weekly Bible Study - Thursdays 2 p.m. to 3-30 p.m. alternate weeks with Garvestone (ring Fred for details on 850750)

Carol Service - Sunday 17th December at 2.30 p.m. with Mrs Pippa Cook.

World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 1st March at 2.00 p.m.

Mothering Sunday Service - Sunday 10th March at 2.30 p.m. with Mrs Avril Temple.

Chapel Anniversary Service - Sunday 21st April at 2.30 p.m. with Rev Andrew King.

See Noticeboard for details. All welcome.

Meeting Rooms for hire - Enquiries to Fred on 850750.

Church Services at Mattishall

Sun 3 Dec 2023	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Sun 10 Dec 2023	9.00 Traditional Worship, 10.30 Contemporary Worship 15:00 Oasis Parents and Children Service
Sun 17 Dec 2023	9.00 Traditional Communion Service 10.30 Contemporary Communion Service 18:00 Village Carol Service
Sun 24 Dec 2023	16:00 Christingle
Mon 25 Dec 2023	10:30 Christmas Celebration Communion
Sun 31 Dec 2023	10:00 New Year's Eve Communion Service at St. Michael's, Hockering
Sun 7 Jan 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Sun 14 Jan 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship 15:00 Oasis Parents and Children Service
Sun 21 Jan 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Sun 28 Jan 2024	9.00 Traditional Communion Service 10.30 Contemporary Communion Service
Sun 4 Feb 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship

Sun 11 Feb 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship 15:00 Oasis Parents and Children Service
Wed 14 Feb 2024	19:30 Ash Wednesday Communion Service with Ashing at St. Peter's, Yaxham
Sun 18 Feb 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Sun 25 Feb 2024	9.00 Traditional Communion Service 10.30 Contemporary Communion Service
Sun 3 Mar 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Sun 10 Mar 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Parade Service for Mothering Sunday
Sun 17 Mar 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship 15:00 Oasis Parents and Children Service
Sun 24 Mar 2024	9.00 Traditional Worship 10.30 Contemporary Worship
Thu 28 Mar 2024	18:00 Maundy Thursday Communion and Supper
Fri 29 Mar 2024	11:00 Good Friday Walk of Witness, starting at the Evangelical Church 14:00 Hour before the cross at All Saints, Welborne
Sun 31 Mar 2024	9.00 Traditional Communion Service for Easter 10.30 Contemporary Communion Service for Easter

Thu 28 Mar 2024	18:00 Maundy Thursday Communion and Supper at All Saints, Mattishall
Fri 29 Mar 2024	14:00 Hour before the cross at All Saints, Welborne
Sun 31 Mar 2024	9:00 Traditional Communion

Other Events

- Christmas Activity Afternoon, Sunday 3th December 2023 – fun, food and Father Christmas before the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony on the Village Green.
- Community Choir Concert, Friday 22nd December 2023, 19.30 (see p9)

Church Services at Welborne

Sun 3 Dec 2023	15:00 Carol Service led by the Salvation Army
Sun 10 Dec 2023	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 17 Dec 2023	9:00 Traditional Communion
Sun 24 Dec 2023	21:30 Christmas Eve Communion
Sun 31 Dec 2023	10:00 New Year's Eve Communion Service at St. Michael's, Hockering
Sun 7 Jan 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 14 Jan 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 21 Jan 2024	9:00 Traditional Communion
Sun 28 Jan 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 4 Feb 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 11 Feb 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Wed 14 Feb 2024	19:30 Ash Wednesday Communion Service with Ashing at St. Peter's, Yaxham
Sun 18 Feb 2024	9:00 Traditional Communion
Sun 25 Feb 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 3 Mar 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 10 Mar 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 17 Mar 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship
Sun 24 Mar 2024	9:00 Traditional Worship and Palm Sunday procession



Bridge Club



Scrabble



Ten Pin Bowling



Darts

Plus theatre, cinema, exhibitions, lunch



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INSPIRING WOMEN OF MATTISHALL

Please come and join us at our next meeting, where a friendly welcome awaits you.

7.30 pm Memorial Hall 2nd Wednesday each month

Speakers and Subjects

14 December
"Christmas Party"
The Cats - Musical Entertainment

10 January 2024
"My Life as a Story Teller"
Roisin Murray

14 February
"Annual Meeting"
"Beetle Drive"

13 March
"Crystal Healing and Colour Therapy"
Carolyn Weston

For more information please contact either
Jackie Tooke
01362 858447
or
Pat Hamilton
01362 850286

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Keith Hudson 01362 850729, 07708085676

E mail keith-hudson80@hotmail.com

News from Mattishall Sports & Social Club

We recently had Rockin Pagan entertaining us with all the best rock and roll songs. We also held a fundraising night for the play area with a race night and an amazing Halloween party. Both events were very well supported by all the mums, dads and children. A very big thank you to everyone involved. There are bingo and quiz night coming shortly, see the notices around the village and our Facebook page for more information. Fortunately, with all the events and fundraising, we are not far off the final total needed for the new play area so hopefully, all is looking good for the Spring.

Music dates: Peddler on 25th Nov: Step Back on 3rd Dec and for New Year's Eve we are pleased to welcome Collins and Wilson.

Christmas opening hours are: Christmas Eve 2pm – 11pm; Christmas Day 12pm – 3pm and Boxing Day 12pm – 4pm. Tickets are now on sale for New Year's Eve, £5 with a free drink for members.

New darts league just started on Thursday evenings, Monday evening is pool night and football is in full swing on Saturday afternoons so why not pop in for a pint and enjoy the sport.

BOWLS CLUB

The club is getting ready for the 2024 season and now is the time to consider joining the club which has been active since the 1970s.

During the season, the members get together to play in a mix of internal competitions and more social able games. The green is in use nearly every day of the week, including evenings and Saturdays. And for more competitive games, members play in local leagues.

We are a club for all ages – we have members from early twenties to 100. Whether you are someone who has never played before or a more experienced player thinking of joining, please come along and meet us and give the game a try!!

Bowls is accessible to most people.

We are based next to Mattishall Social Club and there is plenty of parking.

Our first day of the 2024 season is Saturday 20th April starting at 2 pm. If you would like to talk to us about some try out days, please call me over the next few months.

So come and have a go – it will not cost you anything in the trial sessions. We lend you the bowls of suitable sizes and offer tuition. Flat soled shoes/trainers will be needed on the Green, but dress is casual and comfortable.

You might find yourself a new pastime offering outdoor gentle exercise throughout the summer!!

Please contact Gerry Goldner, on 07908 205023/ 01362 289038

Darts

The second John Ketteringham Memorial Darts Tournament took place at Dereham Football Club on Friday 3rd November. It was a good turnout of current and former Mattishall darts players, some that couldn't make it last year for the inaugural event.

Sixteen entrants played a 501 format, best of three legs, knockout tournament and the winner was Bryan Head beating current Mattishall S&SC 'a' member Kevin Bugg in a close final. Their awards were presented by John's brother, Peter Ketteringham and special thanks were given to Matthew Goddard and Nick Starling for organising a great evening of darts.

The evening before at Dereham Football Club, Paul Taylor of Mattishall Swan 'b' darts team received a special award at the Dereham Darts League finals night in recognition of his perfect 9 dart leg earlier in the season.



THE LINK

The Link Cinema Reminiscence Session



We had never seen the hall so full for a meeting of The Link. It was lovely to see the queue for the "Box Office" before the session started and

full house in the auditorium. Tickets were swapped for ices or a drink during the intermission, served by our appropriately dressed usherette from her tray.

And didn't we reminisce! The old times came flooding back with old show tunes, children's songs from Cinema clubs, scenes from our favourite films, who we went with, when



we got chatted up in the queue, what we would have been wearing, with dressing up as well provided by the wonderful Angela Bishop who brought the session to us.

Stories shared and memories relived. Smiles on faces as we left.


We hope that some of the 40 or so people who came might come to our Link sessions. We meet twice monthly on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 10 till 12 noon. All people with a dementia diagnosis are very welcome to come with their carers, and they may wish to join the carers group which is held concurrently.

For more information, please contact

Lin Thompson - coordinator 0776 9573499



THE LINK



**MATTISHALL DEMENTIA
SUPPORT GROUP**

**Living with Dementia?
Do you want some company?**

Why not try Mattishall Dementia Support Group?


WHERE? Mattishall Methodist Church
WHEN? 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month
10am till 12 noon

For Refreshment, chat, games, music and singing, fun and laughter
Advice and information
Separate carers group

A voluntarily run and funded group for the benefit of people diagnosed with dementia and their carers

Tel: Lin - 0776 957 3499
For more information, or to volunteer.

Happy Christmas to Mattishall from all at the LINK



Mattishall Parish Council News

LATEST NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL

Upcoming events!

LITTER PICKING

Save the dates for our upcoming litter picking events!

7th January 2024

30th March 2024

Help us keep our village tidy!

THANK YOU SO MUCH

We have collected in total 39.7kg of rubbish.

14kg in June

9kg in July

9.2kg in September

7.5kg in October

Thank you for your help in keeping our village tidy!

AN AFTERNOON OF CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES

Sunday 3rd December
Christmas activities and Santa's Grotto 2-4pm at All Saints Church.

Followed by refreshments and Christmas songs on the Village Green at 4pm with the switching on of Christmas Tree Lights at 5pm.

Mattishall Neighbourhood Plan

The Parish Council has now launched an eight week consultation (known as Regulation 14) to allow everyone to have their say on the future of Mattishall.

The Neighbourhood Plan is a document used by Breckland Council when making decisions on planning applications. It contains 25 policies which focus on the environment; Housing; Community; Economy and Transport. Alongside the Neighbourhood Plan, a detailed Design Guide has been prepared to help ensure new development is well designed and appropriate to our village.

You are encouraged to make your views known on the draft Neighbourhood Plan by accessing the relevant documents and completing the on-line questionnaire at www.mattishallpc.info.

Paper copies of the questionnaire are available in shops and various locations in the village. If you have difficulty locating a questionnaire or for further information please contact the Parish Clerk at clerk@mattishallpc.info

Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed at the Poultec reception, South Green, All Saints Church, Mattishall and the Breckland Council office reception, Walpole Loke, Dereham.

All comments which must be received by **8th January 2024** will be considered before the plan is formally submitted to Breckland Council.

Open Spaces Working Group (OSWG)

The OSWG are eagerly anticipating the handover of the new allotments, woodland and wildflower meadow at the Kingfisher site. We are planning a managed woodland / meadow and community allotment that we hope will give pleasure to residents.

In addition, the formation of an Allotment association will be discussed with allotment holders on 11th January at the Memorial Hall. In order for the Association to function, volunteers would be needed for the committee. This will give tenants a say in how their allotments are managed!

THE PARISH COUNCIL

Graham Clarke (Chair)
 David Fowler (Vice Chair)
 Richard Turner
 David Piper
 Janice Smith
 John Pickering
 Mike Onassis
 Roisin Murray
 Bob Burrell
 Anita Rose (Parish Clerk)

Further details of councillor responsibilities, details of meetings and minutes are on the website. If you would like to discuss anything related to the Parish Council, please contact the Clerk.

clerk@mattishallpc.info
 07831 422700

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Monday 4 December

Meetings to be held at Poultec, South Green 7pm

Refreshments provided

Mattishall Parish Council would like to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and New Year!



WE NEED YOUR HELP TO PROTECT MATTISHALL FROM FLOODING AND THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Do you know what Riparian Rights and Responsibilities are?

If a watercourse/ditch is shown as being part of your property on deeds or Land Registry map then it is **your responsibility** to properly maintain it. However, if any of your land borders a natural watercourse, has natural water running through or under it, or you have a ditch adjacent to your property you are likely to be a Riparian Rights owner. Under Riparian Rights, you may be surprised by the extent of your responsibilities and why it is extremely important you adhere to them.

Being aware of your responsibilities under Riparian Rights, and those of your neighbours, would be prudent and would allow you to protect not just your property but that of your neighbours as well from the risk of flooding. These are only some, but not all, of your responsibilities under Riparian Rights:

YOU MUST ALLOW the water to flow naturally and keep the watercourse clear of debris at all times.

YOU MUST MAINTAIN the bed and banks and any trees & vegetation thereon.

YOU MUST NOT alter or block or obstruct the watercourse in any way

YOU MUST NOT increase the risk of flooding and erosion for you or your neighbours land.

YOU MUST NOT pollute the water

It is important that WE ALL take the necessary steps possible to help minimise the risks of flooding in Mattishall. By working together, we can achieve this and also help offset the effects of climate change. Failure to acknowledge your duties under Riparian Rights could lead to prosecution if you do not carry out your legal responsibilities.

Additional information is available here:
<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/3246/Drainage>

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/rubbish-recycling-and-planning/flood-and-water-management/information-for-homeowners/living-next-to-a-watercourse/watercourse-maintenance>

These links are available on the Parish Council website.



The Christmas Visitor

The clatter upon the snow filled roofs,
Announces the arrival of reindeer hooves.
The jolly man in the bright red robe
Smiles, as across the roof he strode.
He lifts one leg and does gently put
His shiny boot into the chimney soot.
And with a smile and a cheerful grin,
He steps right over and slides right in.
Now he's down inside the house,
He must be as quiet as the mouse
He tiptoes softly to each bed
And lovely presents he has left.
Glittering gifts that shimmer in light,
Wrapped in paper and ribbon so bright.
The festive tree, decked with baubles of glass
And trinkets that glisten, glow, and dance.
Presents delivered. Santa must now retire
He collects the gifts left down by the fire
Golden mince pies and a drop of beer
And carrots aplenty for the reindeer.
He climbs back into the laden sleigh
Calls to Rudolph and the rest: lets' away!
Up into the dark and snow laden sky
To the next children, we must quickly fly.
So, into the dark night, Santa roams,
To visit more children and call at their homes.
As he leaves, his shouts are filled with cheer,
As he calls. Ho, Ho, Ho. Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year.

Mike Hamill



A Journey

They met on a train. They talked about the journey.
Working in banking, had much in common.

A loud bang. Lights out. The train toppled, shouting,
screaming Darkness, pain. Then suddenly lights.
Rescuers coming.

The two travellers found themselves in the same
hospital.

Many weeks later they met again. This time on a bus.

Time passed, they became friends and lovers.
They married. Still no train travel.

Look where it got them?
Meeting, pain, meeting again, love, marriage.
And now divorce.

Doris Rich

Remembrance

There is no sound, but we know they are there.
The silence comes loudly, in whispering prayer
The feet in cadence, march a measured pace.
With heads held high, in perpetual grace.
Can you hear the silence, does it fill your mind?
Are their heartbeats, with yours entwined?
Can you hear them sing Tipperary. Over and over
Or even the words of the White Cliffs of Dover?
Will you recall those that laid down their lives.
And those, with injuries, who still survive.
Listen carefully, no warriors will condemn
As you lift up you hearts and repeat.
We will remember them.

Mike Hamill



St Andrew – Patron Saint of Scotland and so much more

Scotland celebrates St Andrew's Day on 30th November but St Andrew is also the patron saint of Russia, Romania, Ukraine and Barbados. Apart from these countries, he is the patron saint of Amalfi in Italy, Patras in Greece and Esqueira in Portugal among others and patron saint of singers, spinsters, maidens, fishmongers, fishermen, women wanting to be mothers, gout and sore throats.

Andrew was a fisherman before he and his brother Simon Peter became two of the 12 disciples of Jesus. He was baptised by John the Baptist and was the first disciple of Jesus. In the Greek Orthodox tradition, he is known as "Prōtoklētos" (Πρωτόκλητος) - literally "the first-called". Andrew was born in Bethsaida, in Galilee, which is now Israel. He was crucified on 30th November 60 AD, by order of the Roman governor Aegaeus. He was tied to an X-shaped cross in Greece, and this is represented by the white cross on the Scottish flag, the Saltire, since at least 1385.

His remains were moved 300 years after his death to Constantinople, now Istanbul, by the Emperor Constantine. While he was generally revered in Scotland from around 1,000 AD, he didn't become its official patron saint until the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320. Legend has it that St Andrew's first relics ended up in Scotland thanks to St Rule or St Regulus, a Greek monk who had a vision in which he was told to take them to the ends of the earth for safekeeping. His journey took him to the shores of Fife, where St Andrews now stands.



St Andrew

There are many legends relating to St Andrew but the following is one of the more popular ones. In AD 832 Óengus II led an army of Picts and Scots into battle against the Angles, led by Æthelstan, near modern-day Athelstaneford, East Lothian. The legend states that he was heavily outnumbered and hence whilst engaged in prayer on the eve of battle, Óengus vowed that if granted victory he would appoint St Andrew as the patron saint of Scotland. On the morning of battle white clouds forming an X shape in the sky were said to have appeared. Óengus and his combined force, emboldened by this apparent divine intervention, took to the field and despite being inferior in numbers were victorious. Having interpreted the cloud phenomenon as representing the *crux decussata* upon which St Andrew was crucified, Óengus honoured his pre-battle pledge and duly appointed St Andrew as the patron saint of Scotland. The white saltire set against a celestial blue background is said to have been adopted as the design of the flag of Scotland on the basis of this legend.

A local superstition uses the cross of St Andrew as a hex sign on the fireplaces in northern England and Scotland to prevent witches from flying down the chimney and entering the house to do mischief. By placing the St Andrew's cross on one of the fireplace posts or lintels, witches are prevented from entering through this opening. In this case, it is similar to the use of a witch ball, although the cross will actively prevent witches from entering, and the witch ball will passively delay or entice the witch, and perhaps entrap it.

Despite the fact that St Andrew has stood as Scotland's patron saint for so many years, it wasn't until the 18th Century that the popular celebration of his day became commonplace. The tradition of celebrating on 30th November was not even technically started in Scotland, but by a group of ex-pats in the USA who were keen to reconnect with their Scottish roots. More recently, St Andrew's Day has become more and more special to Scots and each year on 30th November, people across the country gather together to celebrate St Andrew and share good times. The day is usually marked with a celebration of Scottish culture, including dancing, music, food and drink, with parties going on long into the cold winter night.

Here are some Scottish sayings to get your tongue round:

- Gonnae no' dae that! – *Don't do that*
- Yer bum's oot the windae – *You're talking rubbish*
- Am a pure nick – *I don't look very presentable*
- Ah umnae – *I am not*
- Ma heid's mince – *My head's a bit mixed up*
- Yer oot yer face! – *You're very drunk*
- Yer aff yer heid – *You're off your head – a little bit daft*
- I'll gie ye a skelpit lug! – *I'll slap your ear*
- Whit's fur ye'll no go by ye! – *What's meant to be will be*
- Lang may yer lum reek! – *Live long and stay healthy*

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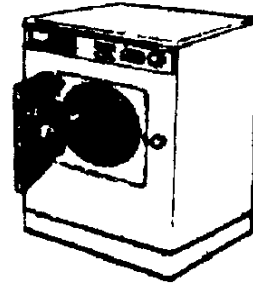
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USEFUL LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS

Mattishall's:

All Saints Church Office	01362 858873
Community Car Scheme (Wendy Flew)	01362 858445
Parish Council Clerk (Anita Rose)	07831 422700
Pharmacy	01362 858540
Post Office	01362 850232
Primary School	01362 858451
Surgery	01362 850227

District Councillors

Paul Claussen	01603 880454
Paul Plummer	07717 690938
Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital	01603 286286
Norfolk Swift Response	0344 8008020
Breckland Council Offices	01362 656870
Dereham Library	01362 693184
Dereham Police Public Enquiry Office	01953 424242
Konectbus (No 4)	03300 539358
Age UK	0800 6781602

Norfolk County Council

Mobile Library Timetable—Mattishall

Wednesdays—normally every 28 days

Location	Arrival Time	Departure Time
Orchard Road	11:50	12:05
Daffodil Way	12:10	12:30
Willow Close	12:35	12:50
Lime Tree Close	12:55	13:10
Hunter Avenue	14:45	15:00
Smithson Drive	15:05	15:20
Cedar Close No 3	15:25	15:40
Parkers Road	15:45	16:05
Burgh Lane	16:10	16:25
All Saints Walk	16:30	16:45

Next dates:

24th January 21st February
20th March

Please note this information is subject to change or amendment both on a permanent and temporary basis. For all enquiries about this route please call 01603 222303

Answers to Brainteasers

- 1 Adam is standing inside his cube
- 2 $68782 + 68782 + 650 = 138214$
- 3 She makes a fruit salad
- 4 It takes 8 days. It starts the 8th day at 7 metres up, and reaches the top at nightfall on that day.
- 5 Just the one. After that the glass isn't empty.

Winter Quiz

Answers from the last issue

(1) Top of the shell (2) George VII (3) Nottinghamshire (4) 29 (5) £2 (Old Kent Road) (6) White (7) No of seats required to win an overall majority in Parliament (8) Red, white and blue (9) Charing Cross (10) 25

Congratulations to **Julie Robinson** who won our voucher for Café Verde.

With a chance to win the next voucher, email your answers to miscadvert@yahoo.com by 7th January

1. Waterloo is the largest station in the UK but how many platforms does it have?
2. Which is the only living token in the original set of monopoly?
3. Which country has the most islands?
4. The mini and the M1 were created in which year?
5. Tony Hadley is the lead singer of which band?
6. How much is the pink worth in snooker?
7. How many colours are there in the Japanese flag?
8. Fye Bridge Street in Norwich holds what record?
9. Which was Shakespeare's first play?
10. Which coin was removed from circulation in December 1984?

Miscellanea Production Schedule

to be ready for w/c	Adverts and payment submitted by	Reports & articles submitted by:	Printed and ready for delivery
March 2024	Fri, 1st Mar	Wed, 6th Mar	Fri, 22nd Mar
June 2024	Fri, 31st May	Wed, 5th June	Fri, 21st June
September 2024	Fri, 6th Sept	Wed, 11th Sept	Fri, 27th Sept
December 2024	Fri, 8th Nov	Wed, 13th Nov	Fri, 29th Nov

Our advertising rates per issue are:

size	black and white	colour
1/8 page	£20	£30
1/4 page	£35	£52.50
1/2 page	£65	£97.50
Full page	£125	£187.50

We offer 5% discount if you pay annually in advance.

Contact details: Telephone Anne on 01362 858744 or 07515417225 Email miscadvert@yahoo.com



Mattishall Golf club is filled with lots of golfing options for players of all abilities and ages. You do not need to be a member to visit and play our course or make use of our facilities.

- We have a modern clubhouse with terrace which overlooks our 9-hole course, with 18 tees that challenges experienced players, but is also a great course for those new to the game. We have one of the longest par 5 holes in the county. The course is available for members and non-members.
- A six bay covered driving range for you to practice, learn and improve on is available for members and non-members.
- Our Golf Academy offers the latest Trackman Simulators and a 9-hole Indoor Crazy Mini Golf course, both of which can be played come rain or shine. Alongside the Academy building runs our function room which is available to hire privately. We also offer activities such as pool, table tennis and a bouncy castle.
- We have two PGA Professional Golfers on site to help with all your golfing needs, tuition or to purchase golf equipment from our Pro Shop, located in the Academy.
- Mattishall Golf Club is the perfect place for individuals, friends, families, birthday parties, stag and hen parties, corporate events or just a fun afternoon or evening out. We know golf is a social game so we've made the Academy the place to socialise with its own licensed bar and on-site catering serving hot and cold drinks, burgers, pizzas and loaded fries. Please pop into see us for a drink on our terrace, to make a booking or to make an enquiry, we will be happy to show you around.
- The perfect venue for a birthday party with indoor facilities which are not weather dependant.

