

HARNSER



*Magazine of The Broads Society
The Voice for The Broads*

October 2023

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JOIN THE BROADS SOCIETY NOW



Scan the QR code above with your mobile phone camera to download the Membership page of the Broads Society website. Applications to join the Society and payments can be made directly online.



Our Members share a common purpose to help secure a sustainable future for the Broads as a unique and protected landscape in which leisure, tourism and the local economy can thrive in harmony with the natural environment

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Disclaimer

Members are reminded that the views expressed in this journal are not necessarily those of the Broads Society nor those of the editorial team or any of its officials, but are the private views of our contributors and advertisers

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Cover photograph : River Bure at Coltishall © David Edleston

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER

It seems time is flying and with so much going on day to day for the Broads, we find ourselves moving towards another AGM and, of course, our Freshwater Conference, both in November. I hope we see many of our members at the AGM which again is being held at Norfolk Broads Yacht Club, Wroxham, for there is much to report and update you on plus good food to be had. Please do book your place.

Also here's a reminder that our Freshwater Conference is at the UEA on Saturday 25th November 2023 with many speakers already lined up. Tickets are £10, more details can be found on page 10 of this issue of Harnser.

So, what else is happening since the last issue? I mentioned questions put to the Broads Authority over Ranworth and tolls earlier this year, and that we were evaluating the figures. We received one written response from the BA that, amongst other things, quoted our Constitution. The Main Committee debated the responses and rather than a BA "bashing" exercise a critical friend approach was suggested. To that end, a meeting of the Main Committee with the BA will probably have taken place by the time this issue is published at which we hope to seek ways forward, suggest some solutions and hope that the Society can help the BA to re-engage with everyone. We look forward to more positive work and engagement.

Then, on a more positive note, recently, the Vice Chairman and I attended Parliament for the Campaign for National Parks' National Park Protector Awards and were pleased to see Nick Sanderson, BA Education Officer being, deservedly, nationally recognised for his works at Barton. Well done Nick (and team).

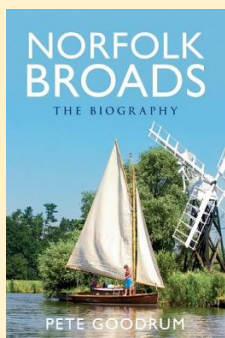
You might like to know I have more positive news. I appealed last issue for more volunteers and I am pleased to say we now have help with the Publicity team, collating and compiling Harnser. However, we are still seeking new Trustees and volunteers to help with events, social media and updating our website. If you are able to help, please feel free to contact our Administrator or myself for a chat.

Closing with the forthcoming CNP conference which is in Kendal this year. Our Vice Chairman and our Planning Committee Chairman are both attending and I am sure we will see any updates from there in the next issue

Paul Rice, Chairman

BROADS SOCIETY AGM 2023

The Annual General Meeting of the Broads Society is to be held on **Saturday 18th November 2023** at the Norfolk Broads Yacht Club, Wroxham. A hot lunch will also be available with a choice of menu prior to the meeting at 12.30pm. A separate booking form leaflet is enclosed with this edition of Harnser, which provides further details and should be completed and returned to the Administrator with your payment, to confirm a booking by 10th November 2023.



Following the formal proceedings, the guest speaker will be Peter Goodrum, local writer and broadcaster, who will be giving an illustrated talk on 'The History of the Norfolk Broads'. He is the author of a number of books on local history, including several on Norwich through the ages and 'Norfolk Broads The Biography'.

Details of the Audited Accounts are published on page 6, but further information, including the Agenda, AGM papers and lunch booking form are available on the Broads Society website at www.broads-society.org Please contact the Administrator if you require paper copies.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members who have recently joined the Society

- Martin Burgess, Hethersett
- Paul Smith, Nottingham
- Mr G H Bullard, Bradfield St Clare
- John Cornfoot, Maryland, USA – Life Member

AUDITED ACCOUNTS

The Broads Society

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
INCOMING RESOURCES			
Incoming resources from generated funds			
Voluntary income:			
Donations and subscriptions	2	11,731	12,757
Activity generated income			
Merchandise & competitions	3	1,749	1,750
Bank interest		415	11
Advertising income		862	1,085
Total incoming resources		<u>14,757</u>	<u>15,603</u>
RESOURCES EXPENDED			
Costs of generating funds	4	1,600	2,096
Charitable activities	4	15,497	15,664
Governance costs	4	150	150
Total resources expended		<u>17,247</u>	<u>17,910</u>
NET (OUTGOING)/INCOMING RESOURCES		-2,490	-2,307
Fund balances brought forward		<u>29,805</u>	<u>32,112</u>
Fund balances carried forward		<u>27,315</u>	<u>29,805</u>

Balance Sheet

As at 31 March 2023

	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets		
Cash at bank		
Current accounts	849	3,800
Business premium account	5,006	6
COIF charities deposit fund	21,460	25,999
General fund	<u>27,315</u>	<u>29,805</u>

The general fund represents those funds which are unrestricted and not designated for other purposes.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT 2023

I begin my Membership Report with an analysis of membership numbers. Total number of members at 1st September 2023 was 861 compared with 859 last year. The total is made up as follows (2022 figures in brackets): Life 193 (194), individual 334 (334), joint 306 (306), parish councils 15 (16) and corporate 13 (9). 22 new members joined since November 2022, four of those being corporate memberships.

The Publicity Team have attended events to try to generate interest in the Broads Society and bring in much needed new members. They have also been working hard to produce Harnser which goes from strength to strength and has received many favourable comments. Thanks must go to David Edleston for all the work he puts in to ensuring that The Broads Society has such a fantastic magazine.

I hope that the forthcoming Conference on 25th November will also generate more interest in the Society.

Christmas card and calendar sales last year generated a profit which was a welcome addition to funds and also helped with publicity. I hope members will continue to support this initiative. This year a calendar has been produced with photographs very kindly supplied by David Edleston, this proved very popular and again raises awareness of the Society and brings in additional funds.

Finally, a report on the 500 Club. We currently have 145 members which is sadly in decline. The prize money is £50, £20 and £10 each month for eleven months and an annual prize of £500 in November. The 500 Club generates additional income for the Broads Society, anyone wishing to join should contact me.

Sarah Vergette, Administrator

NOMINATIONS TO THE MAIN COMMITTEE

Nominations are invited for Officers and Ordinary members of the Main Committee. Nominations in writing should give the name of the proposer and seconder and, for individuals not currently serving on the Committee, should be accompanied by a short curriculum vitae. Each nomination, together with the written agreement of the nominee, should be sent to the Administrator, Sarah Vergette, 3 Rosebery Road, Great Plumstead, Norwich, NR13 5EA or by email to broads.society@sky.com in writing no later than 10th November 2023.

NOTES FROM THE BROADS SOCIETY MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING

10 July 2023

Broads Charitable Trust.

The first three Discovery Hubs at Salhouse, Beccles & Great Yarmouth Seafront have opened.

CNP

Rose O'Neill, Chief Executive CNP and team will visit the Broads in September and will meet with the Broads Society. Paul Rice and Paul Savage will attend the Park Protectors Awards in Parliament on 12th July. Duncan Baker MP will be in attendance.

Broads Society Climate Adaptation Conference

Speakers include Giles Bloomfield (IDB), Mark Collins, Rose O'Neill (CNP) and Tim O'Riordan. Steve Moncaster (BAWAG) will present re farming community issues. Deltares, Dutch water specialists, will present possible practical solutions. Rachel Parsons from Reuters who is researching saline incursion and solutions worldwide will be on virtual link. Grants to run the conference have been applied for. The Broads Authority, Natural England and the Environment Agency will be invited to attend.

Moorings

George Elliot continues to push BA for a de-masting area at Ludham Bridge. Keith Bacon reports moorings on Repps Bank at Potter Heigham are unusable.

Flooding

Paul Rice advised of new EA Catchment Officer. A section of alleviation on Horsefen Bank has had a partial breach, 75m of revetment works to be done. There is some progress with enhanced flood warning systems.

Water quality

Paul Rice advised that BA main committee voted against monitoring water quality. Fran Whymark and another BA Member proposed a pilot scheme to test the water but were defeated. Peter Mason advised in Europe waterways are monitored for emissions, the BA should be asked why they do not. Duncan Holmes had been approached by the Chair of Norfolk W.I., the Institute had voted to get behind a clean rivers campaign and offered their assistance. Keith Bacon suggested How Hill and Hickling Staithe should be good monitoring points. Tony Lumbard suggested the need to identify certain areas used by paddle boards and similar. Henry Cator suggested evidence gathering, identify problem areas and take water samples. The Broads Society could affiliate with the Rivers Trust to help them with water testing. Peter Mason thought primary schools could be involved to make children aware.

Questions to the Broads Authority

There was correspondence with Emma Krelle, Director of Finance at the BA and Bill Dickson. Responses will be circulated to the Main Committee. Dredging was cut from 50,000 cubic metres to 39,000 cubic metres. Research of mooring policy shows £100,000 of next year's budget spent at Neatishead with no BA liability for it. Questions

have been asked e.g., to Emma Hodds, local government Auditor about the budget and no reply received. Questions are being drafted for future BA meetings. The Broads Society should look at a way forward, to include meeting with BA on neutral ground. The BA Annual Governance Statement will be published soon. We need to scrutinise this then send factual information to the external auditor. Henry Cator suggests a lack of transparency and accountability with BA, a multi-stakeholder body to hold the BA to account should be reinstated. Keith Bacon suggested the Broads Forum should be reformed.

Broadsword

The BA want Broadsword to work with rangers and not their operatives in future. Broadsword is for giving public access to the riverbanks. Schemes at Johnny Crowe Staithe, Catfield will include students from Notre Dame High School doing Duke of Edinburgh. Quiet moorings at Potter Heigham will also be looked at.

Publicity Update

The Publicity Committee suggested reducing to two editions of Harnser, Spring and Autumn, with two newsletters in Winter and Summer. This could save around £2,000 for printing and mailing of Harnser. An advert will go in July Harnser asking for a volunteer to be assistant editor and to help with social media. Membership rates should be increased for new members: Single £20, Household £30, Councils £20, Corporate £50 and £100 (dependant on number of employees). Duncan Holmes reports that Facebook statistics show posts relating to nature were more popular than boating etc. with two thousand followers increasing by about forty a month.

AGM

Committee need to consider nominations for Lady Mayhew Trophy and the Broads Society Award.

Finance

The up-to-date accounts were circulated and approved.

Any Other Business

Paul Savage reported that latest BFI consultation is online but consultation closes this week. David Edleston suggested planning updates should go on the agenda for the Main Committee.

Paul Rice

FOLLOW THE BROADS SOCIETY ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER



Follow us on Facebook @broadsociety and Twitter @BroadsSociety for up to date news and information. You can also link directly to our Facebook and Twitter accounts from the Broads Society website.

BROADS FRESHWATER CONFERENCE 2023

Join The Discussion on the Future of the Broads Freshwater Environment

November 25th - Enterprise Centre UEA, Norwich

Tickets on sale now at www.broads-society.org

£10 per person

Includes Lunch and Refreshments



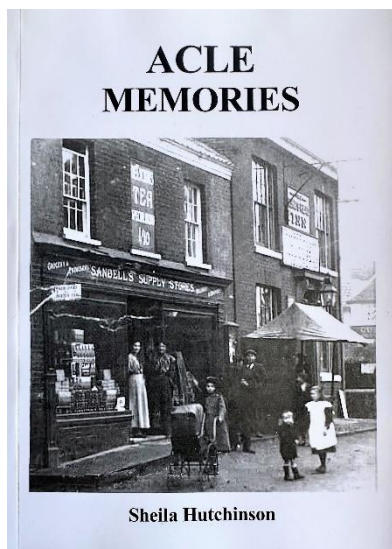
BROADS SOCIETY GIFT SUBSCRIPTIONS

Looking for an unusual gift idea? Why not consider an annual subscription to the Broads Society? From £20 for four editions of our magazine, *Harnser*, with news, views and articles on many Broads related topics, regular articles about the Broads, commentary from our campaigns and much more. Help the Broads Society to protect this unique part of our country.

Please contact the Administrator, details on page 3

BOOK REVIEW

Acle Memories



Acle Memories, which was published earlier this year, is the sixteenth book written by the Norfolk author Sheila Hutchinson. Sheila's writing career began when she helped to organise a reunion for the people of the Berney Arms, the isolated Norfolk community where she grew up. Her first book 'Berney Arms Past & Present' published in 2000, was a complete sell-out. Since then, she has written further books on Halvergate, Burgh Castle, Reedham (two), The River Yare, Freethorpe, Wickhampton, The Lower Bure, Cantley, Limpenhoe and Southwood, Beighton and Moulton St Mary amongst others, sixteen in total, a remarkable achievement and Sheila has become a highly regarded local author.

Acle Memories is dedicated to the late Brian Grint, known and loved as 'Mr Acle' and it was his book 'An Acle Chronicle' which inspired Sheila to find out more about this town. It has taken Sheila more than three years to complete the research for the book and during that time she has explored old newspapers, directories, registers and other publications and has spoken to many people to discover what life was really like in Acle over the years. Her compilation includes information on local buildings, pubs, events, fairs and markets, the railway, Acle Boat Dyke, wherryman, boatyards, Acle Bridge, regattas and many other topics and will be of interest to anyone who loves Norfolk, its history and its people.

The book is paperback with 152 pages and is well illustrated with numerous historic maps and old black and white photographs. ISBN 9780957462366 It is priced at £10 and can be purchased from Jarrolds, City Books in Norwich and other shops. Sheila can be contacted via her Facebook page 'Sheila Hutchinson Books'.

David Edleston

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The Broads Society


Southern Broads
Walks and Explorations
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*plus p&p

THE THREE RIVERS RACE

The internationally famous Three Rivers Race, organised by Horning Sailing Club, takes place on the Broads, usually during the first weekend of June.

Background

The Three Rivers Race is one of the oldest remaining on the Broads' sailing calendar. Running every year since 1961, it is also one of the largest inland yachting races in Europe, encompassing three rivers and two lakes or broads in rural Norfolk. Originally, the plan was to have boats crossing the estuary at Breydon Water with the three rivers being the Bure, Yare and Waveney. However, from a safety and tide aspect, this proved impractical, so the northern Broadland Rivers of the Bure, Thurne and Ant were used instead, and remain the Three Rivers of the Race to this day.



The current challenge sees helms negotiate a course in the order of 45-50 miles, depending on conditions, rounding four buoys located at Ludham Bridge on the Ant, on South Walsham Broad or Fleet Dyke, on Hickling Broad at the top end of the River Thurne and downstream on the River Bure somewhere between Stokesby and Six Mile House heading towards Great Yarmouth, starting and finishing at Horning Sailing Club on the upper Bure. The time limit for this is 24 hours from each boat's start time. There are also 4 mast lowerings required on the course to negotiate the pair of bridges at Potter Heigham and also the bridge at Acle both ways. Despite all of these obstacles and sometimes complex rigs, the fastest boats such as Norfolk Punts and visiting Thames A Raters can complete the race in as little as 7 hours, given favourable conditions. For those boats which cannot get back in time for a swift pint in The Swan, a cooked breakfast is provided at the finish in the clubhouse to revive weary sailors.

All the boats are tracked at Horning Sailing Club for safety purposes. A team of 10 fixed motor cruiser Guardships plus a range of other safety vessels keep an eye out for any problems and report back to base via radio. The efficiency of this system was underlined in 2001 when, for the only time so far in the race's history, strong winds

caused abandonment of the race. Having issued the command from base at 6pm, all crews and the vast majority of boats were either at their home moorings or back at Horning Sailing Club by 11pm, despite being up to 15 miles away by river, thanks to the safety network. Progress around the course is tracked using computer software, which allows the Race Controller to see in an instant on which stretch of water each competitor was last reported by a Guardship.



The start of the race is the time for spectators to view the fleet in one concentrated mass, waiting to be started in groups of around 10 boats upstream of the start line at Horning Sailing Club. The first start is usually at 11am and it takes over an hour to get the whole fleet started. Once the fleet has reached Thurne Mouth, yachts can usually be seen heading off in both directions, and this decision is probably the most critical one of the whole race, dependent as it is on wind, tide and boat performance. The Three Rivers Race really is a test of seamanship over a long period and covering a wide variety of areas from close-quarters boat handling at the start to light airs sailing overnight and control at the bridge zones. Crews have travelled to Horning from all over the World to take part in a variety of craft, including the impressive Thames A Raters, Norfolk Punts, Half-Deckers, Yeomans, Yare and Bure ODs (White Boats), Reedlings, Rebels, Wayfarers, Enterprises and other dinghies, traditional Broads River Cruisers and Production Cruisers. No single-handed craft are allowed.



Leaving from Horning, competitors make their way through the street at Horning, before sailing on the more open waters of the Bure once out of the trees. Then it becomes a matter of tactics - ensuring that the tides and winds work in their favour, choosing which order to sail the remainder of the route, which includes Fleet Dyke to South Walsham Broad, the River Ant to Ludham Bridge, under Acle Bridge to Stokesby (or further, dependent on wind conditions on the day) and under Potter Heigham Bridge to Hickling Broad.



As part of this course, it requires the raising and lowering of masts to get under the bridges - always a great spectator sport, with popular viewing points including Potter Heigham and Acle, where the crowds can enjoy the excitement. Today safety is at the forefront of the race organisers' minds, and the Three Rivers Committee, headed up by Kevin Saunders, has been planning the 2023 race since last year.

2023 Race

Hosted by Horning Sailing Club, in the heart of the Norfolk Broads, the race is a true spectacle not to be missed, as the myriad of boats set sail - where small dinghies such as the Norfolk Dinghy and Wayfarer can be seen sailing against the visiting Thames A Raters, with their tall masts standing at over 40 foot high!



This year a total of 103 boats took part, starting from Horning Sailing Club from 11am on Saturday 3rd June. They set sail in groups of around 10 boats at a time, starting with the Yeoman fleet. These were followed by the Wayfarer dinghies, then traditional Broads' boats including Yares & Bures, Waveney One Designs and mixed dinghies.

More traditional Broads' boats, including Reedlings, Rebels and Broads One Designs followed, then Half-Deckers and production cruisers. The faster dinghies, including Norfolk Punts and the Thames A Raters, started after a short gap.



With a fair wind behind them they all made their way down the River Bure before making their individual decisions as to which route to take in order to visit all the 10 marks, each of which is watched over by a Guardship with a rescue boat alongside able to respond to any emergency or search for any missing or long-overdue competitor.

Other marks, which had to be rounded were those at Ludham Bridge on the River Ant, near Stokesby on the River Bure, the Stracey Arms Windpump and in Hickling Broad above Potter Heigham bridges.



Some 50 river cruisers and hire cruisers make up the remainder of the fleet, from the highly competitive to those who just want the achievement of finishing the race. This is one of the things that makes the Three Rivers Race so special - it means something different to each entrant. It's fantastic that after over 60 years the race is still going strong and attracting competitors from all over the country (and even some from abroad) to take part. This year, 2023, the race included both previous winners and a number of sailors participating for the first time.

The MNA Boat Club Guardship “ELSA II” and her accompanying rescue dory were crewed by Club members Clive & Lois Edwards, RNLI Lifeboat crew members Malcolm & Jill Wright & Steven (Rocky) Woolford. They were stationed in South Walsham Broad at the end of the Fleet Dyke alongside the Marine Tech fuelling jetty whose owners were very supportive and allowed us to use their facilities throughout the whole 24 hours. Thank you Rod & Nina!

The overall winner was a Yare & Bure One Design “Dinghy Skipper”, which completed the course in 8 hours 24 minutes, followed by a Yeoman “Firefly” and a Wayfarer “Complete Fiasco”.

As regards our contribution of “ELSA II” as a Guardship we had a fairly frantic 18 hour period even before the race started because, on our way south down the River Ant from our mooring at Barton Turf, we suddenly started to experience a weird “surging” of our engine, which we thought might be a fuel filter. However, when checked, it was in fact perfectly clear. We were then led to believe it might be weed around our prop and/or rudder resulting in us spending £200 on a diver, only to find that there was no significant amount of weed affecting us!



So, at 10pm on 2nd June, less than 12 hours before we were due to lay our mark at South Walsham, we had an engineer, Rob Fearson, from Sutton Staithe Boatyard who very kindly turned out and finally diagnosed the problem, which was a wholly unexpected lack of oil in the gearbox – the cause being a leak in the gearbox cooler allowing all the oil to mix with the cooling water and then pumped out through the exhaust! Refilling the gearbox enabled us at least to get to our mark at South Walsham on time the following morning, and to get most of the way home on the morning after the race had finished without further trouble – needless to say a new gearbox cooler is now being installed!

Very fortunately we had some much appreciated support from Richard & Rachel Card, in their handsome motor cruiser “Ness Nomad”, who escorted us down the Bure and Fleet Dyke to lay our mark on the Saturday morning and then remained anchored in South Walsham Broad throughout the day in order to ferry Jill & Nikki back to Horning before we commenced our “night watch”. Having “Ness Nomad” and Richard & Rachel’s sailing dinghy available on stand-by to relieve us if we had any further trouble during the race was a huge relief, in addition to which they were great company and

help with recording the bunches of competitors rounding the mark, so a huge “thank you” to them is due.



Clive Edwards

Photographs © David Edleston

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Events in and around the Broads over the next few months, which may be of interest to Members

- 15 October : Fungus Family Fun, How Hill, Ludham. Drop-in activities and guided walks. Booking essential for guided walks 01692 678763
- 19-29 October : Broadland Ghosts' Halloween Trail, Museum of the Broads, Stalham (further details www.museumofthebroads.org.uk)
- 18 November : Broads Society AGM, Norfolk Broads Yacht Club, Wroxham, Guest speaker Pete Goodrum 'The History of the Norfolk Broads' (further details on page 5)
- 25 November : Broads Freshwater Conference, UEA, Norwich

THE BROADS TRUST

The Broads Charitable Trust is delighted to announce that three Broads Discovery Hubs have now been completed and launched. We reported in the July 2023 Harnser that a Discovery Hub at Salhouse Broad had been completed and a further two Hubs have now been erected at Beccles (Quayside) and Great Yarmouth (Seafront).

The Discovery Hubs will promote the National Park to visitors and local people and encourage sustainable exploration by bike, boat or on foot. As information points, they will explain the history, heritage, wildlife and landscape of the area and aim to encourage people to visit the many and varied aspects of the Broads National Park.

To enable this exciting project to deliver the first phase of the Discovery Hubs, the Broads Trust Trustees have worked tirelessly to gain funding from several sources including European funding, local authorities, charities and Richardsons Leisure Limited (the lead sponsor).

Two more phases of development are planned over the next 3 years and work is progressing to seek funding for around 15 sites over the next 2 years. These could include sites such as Hoveton Riverside, Stalham, Reedham Riverside, Oulton Broad, Upton Marshes and Loddon.

The Hubs vary in size – large, medium and small – and, as well as a wide range of information on posts and way-finding signage, many will have seating with larger ones also having a roof for shelter. The Beccles (Quayside) Discovery Hub is an example of the large design. The Hubs will also raise the profile of the successful Broads Charitable Trust's 'Love the Broads' fundraising scheme, attracting more donations to support much needed investment in projects around the Broads.



Discovery Hubs at Great Yarmouth Seafront and at Beccles Quay



Information boards at the Beccles Discovery Hub

Opportunities for businesses:

Discovery Hubs will offer opportunities to local businesses to promote their products, offering directions to local services, space to promote key local brands and sponsorship boards advertising local supporters of the project. A sponsorship package is available which provides lots of ideas for businesses to benefit from these unique information points and structures.

For further information on the Discovery Hubs and sponsorship opportunities please contact: Dave Ansell, Project Manager, email dave@lovethebroads.org.uk or Peter Howe, Trustee: 07887 480331

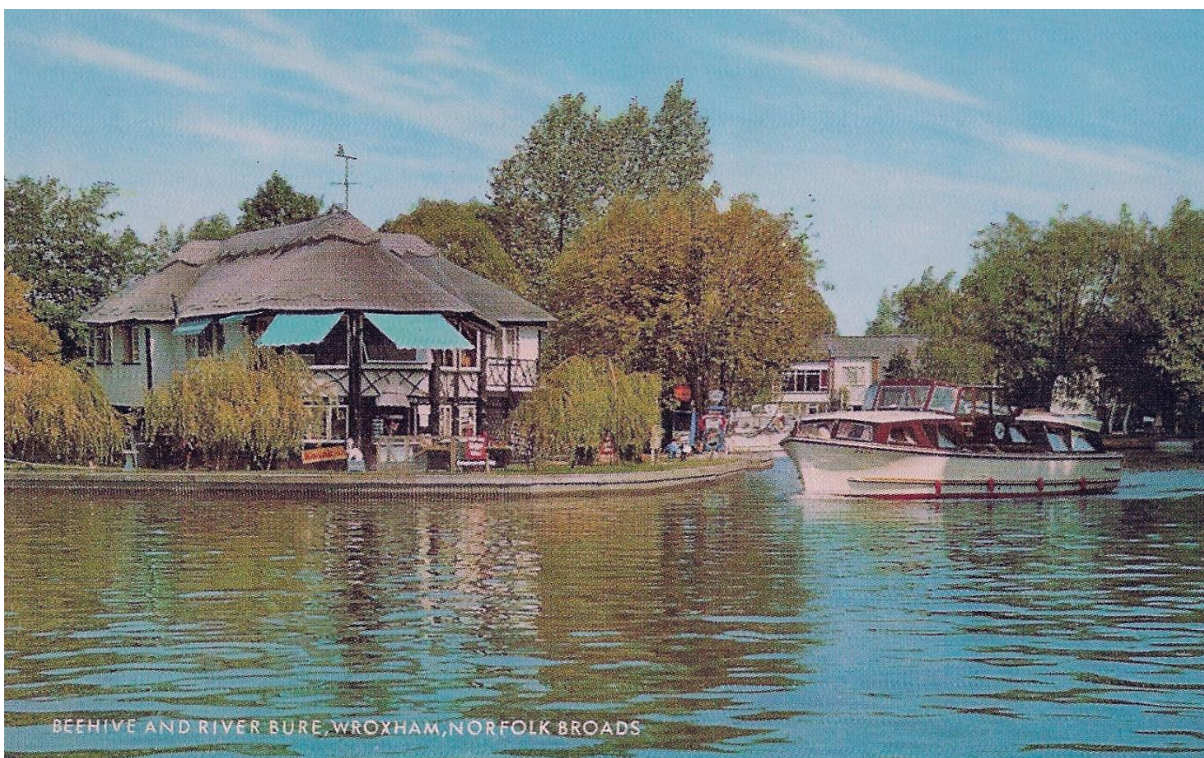

RICHARDSON'S
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 — IN THE BROADS NATIONAL PARK —

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THEN AND NOW The Beehive, Hoveton



These postcards © Colourpicture and © J Salmon Ltd., show the Beehive Provisions Store in the 1960s. The top postcard is postmarked 1970 and the store has adverts for 'Coca-Cola' and 'Kodacolor Film'. The Beehive is located on the Rive Bure at the entrance to Daisy Broad and was the home of Frederick Brinkhoff who established the

Brinkcraft boatyard in the 1960s with a fleet of classic wooden craft. The boatyard ran a provisions store from the Beehive, a popular stopping point for boat users. Brinkcraft later merged with W K Barnes boatyard to form Barnes-Brinkcraft.



Today, the Beehive is once again a private residence and it is included on the Broads Authority list of buildings of local architectural or historic interest.

David Edleston

CHURCHES AROUND THE BROADS

16. Woodbastwick : Church of St Fabian & St Sebastian



Woodbastwick village green with surrounding houses and church tower

The Church of St Fabian & St Sebastian, Woodbastwick is unique in England for its dedication. Evidence suggests that the dedication is in fact of mediaeval origin, although the two saints have nothing in common other than a shared feast day, Fabian being an early Pope and Sebastian, a martyr.

The church tower is a landmark feature, forming the backdrop in views from the attractive village green with its thatched wellhouse, which is surrounded by 19th century estate cottages, with biblical excerpts on their frontages.



View of the church from the south-west

The church is mediaeval, originating from the 14th century. It is Grade II* listed, built of flint with stone dressings and has a west tower, nave, south porch, north chancel chapel and a chancel. It was heavily restored in 1878-89 by Sir George Gilbert Scott, funded by the Cator family, with the flints used in this restoration being knapped at Whitlingham. Remaining mediaeval fabric includes the lower section of the tower and the chancel windows. The external wall of the nave has an attractive stepped gable and there is a statue of St Fabian in the porch.

Internally, the church has a tiebeam roof with crown posts, including an unusual tie-beam across the chancel delineating the sanctuary. Although much of the interior has been renewed, the restored mediaeval screen has fine ogee arch Perpendicular tracery and there are four mediaeval benches with poppy heads. The stained glass is 19th century with that in the chancel by Clayton and Bell and in the nave by Lavers, Barraud and Westlake. There are several 20th century memorials to the Cator family.



West tower and south porch; Stained glass to east window; View from south-east



Views of the church tower from the street and from the village green

There is parking available outside the church and the nearest moorings are at Salhouse Broad, around a 30 minute or so walk away. Refreshments are available at the nearby Fur & Feather, the home of the Woodforde Brewery.

David Edleston

WALKS AROUND THE BROADS

Horsey

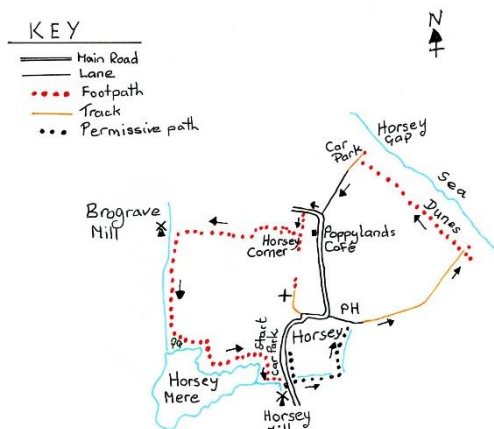


This 5-mile walk from the Wensum Ramblers starts at the Horsey Windpump National Trust Pay and Display Car Park. (Explorer OL 40 G/R TG 457224). The walk is not on a bus route.

From the beautifully restored Horsey Windpump, also known as a Drainage Mill, windmills old and new can be seen. The Somerton wind turbines are in view and the walk passes opposite Brograve Drainage Mill, now derelict. The 120 acres of Horsey Mere together with Horsey and Winterton Dunes are a bird-watchers' paradise and Horsey Beach is home to a large seal colony. On a calm sunny day swallowtail butterflies might be seen. The area is owned by The National Trust. The Permitted Path used at the start of the walk can be rather muddy in the winter months. Refreshments: The Staithe Stores Café next to Horsey Drainage Mill is open each weekend in March and November, then every day from the end of March to the end of October. The Nelson Head public house is just off the route, as is the Poppylands Café. There is a refreshment wagon at Horsey Gap, weekends till the end of October, and in the seal pupping season.



Seals at Horsey



Cross the road to the gate opposite the car park and take the National Trust permitted path straight ahead beside a dyke. On reaching a crossing dyke, go left through a gate. Follow the track with the dyke on the right, then go through a gate to the junction with a metalled lane. To visit the Nelson Head public house, turn left for a short distance. Otherwise, to continue the walk, turn right along the lane. Continue ahead, keeping the house on the right, along the signed track. Go past the metal gate and head towards the dunes, eventually going through a wooden gate.

On reaching the dunes there are two choices: (The state of the tide and the beach being closed during peak seal pupping, November to the end of January, could make this decision). Either turn left and follow the path on landward side of the dunes or keep ahead through the wide opening to the beach and then turn left along it. Continue for about three-quarters of a mile with the sea to the right to Horsey Gap where there is an informative notice board at the car park.

From the car park on the landward side of the dunes, turn left. (From the beach, turn left through another wide opening in the dunes and continue through the car park). Head away from the sea and go along a dirt track, which can be muddy. Continue to the road at a sharp bend (Poppylands Café is a few metres to the left). The walk continues to the right along the road for a short distance: there is just room to walk on the verge. Then, opposite the road sign, turn left into an unmarked footpath between fields with a ditch on the left. Continue to the end of the first field.



Looking back to Horsey Mill; Dyke across water meadows and Brograve Mill

Turn right at the end of the first field and, just before reaching the houses at Horsey Corner, follow the path left and right. At the metalled lane, turn right again and then almost immediately left at the finger post. Continue on this green track past a copse and over a plank bridge. Turn left and follow the path round to the right with a dyke on the left, walking towards the old windmill.

At the riverbank opposite the mill (Brograve Drainage Mill), turn left and continue beside the river (Waxham New Cut) for about half a mile. Then follow the path leftwards away from the river with a fence on the right, ignoring steps on the left. Follow the path as it bends right and left keeping beside the fence. Further along to the right there are wonderful views over the reeds to Horsey Mere with all the boats and an old thatched boat house. Ignore another set of steps on the left, and then follow the path to the right. On reaching the wide dyke turn left towards Horsey Windpump and left again back to the car park.

Further information about THE NORFOLK RAMBLERS' ASSOCIATION can be found at www.nofolkra.org.uk



Dunes at Horsey

Sue Walker



Horsey Dyke

All images © Ramblers' Association

MEMBERS' PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE BROADS

These images were submitted by Marc Chattle and were taken on the beach at Horsey Gap on 4 August 2023 showing the crashing waves and sandpipers walking along the shoreline.



If you would like to see your photo of the Broads featured in a future edition of Harnser, please send it to Harnser.Editor@gmail.com along with details of where and when it was taken. Images can be either portrait or landscape format and should be high resolution, at least one megabyte in size.

RARE SPOONBILL BREEDING SUCCESS AT HICKLING



We are celebrating the sight of fledgling spoonbills at Hickling Broad and Marshes – the first known breeding success in the Norfolk Broads for around 400 years. Our Hickling Broad nature reserve has become a haven for spoonbills in recent years, thanks to a combination of habitat management and an increasing British population. However, this is the first summer that chicks have successfully hatched. Robert Smith, our Senior Reserves

Assistant for Broads North, said: “It has been a privilege to monitor the spoonbills over the past few years at Hickling and now we can officially celebrate the return of a former lost breeding species to the Broadland landscape with the first fledged spoonbill here since the mid-17th century. “Watching the fledgling flying around the reserve and hearing its trilling begging call as it pesters its parents for food is a truly wonderful sight and sound. It shows that our work to enhance the habitats on our reserves and across Norfolk is hugely important to the survival of our wildlife, including visitors such as the spoonbill.”



Fledgling in flight and feeding with parent

© John Tallowin

The spoonbill is a large white heron-like species that stands at three feet tall and has a wingspan of four feet. It gets its name from its long bill, which has a flat spoon-shaped tip. The species is of European conservation concern and a very rare breeding bird in the UK. It is believed that there are just eight breeding sites in the whole of England. Spoonbill fledglings – known affectionately as ‘teaspoons,’ – on account of their shorter bills, can also be identified by the black in their wing tips. The fledglings at Hickling will commute between their nest in the trees and the pool at first, then move further afield when brave enough, before the family leave the nest for good and depart south. Poole Harbour is a key wintering spot for Norfolk breeding spoonbills. With a bit of luck, visitors to Hickling Broad and Marshes may be able to spot the adult spoonbills and fledgling out on Brendan’s Marsh or flying around the reserve. To maximise your chances of spotting the birds, binoculars or telescopes are advised.

For more information about Hickling Broad and Marshes, visit our reserve page or call the visitor centre on 01692 598276 www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/wildlife-in-norfolk/nature-reserves

THE BROADS : WINDMILLS AND WATERSIDE HERITAGE

The Broads: windmills & waterside heritage

Sun 2 July 2023: 11:00-16:00
Acle Recreation Centre (Bure Room), Acle, Norfolk, NR13 3RA



A FREE event featuring talks, films and displays.

A community drop-in event to celebrate the windmills and waterside heritage of the Broads. Various talks throughout the day. Exhibitors include Norfolk Windmills Trust, WISE Archive and local author Sheila Hutchinson.

Talks at 11:30, 14:00 and 15:00. Refreshments available.



As part of the Water, Mills & Marshes Project, a community drop-event event was held at Acle Recreation Centre on 2 July to celebrate the windmills and waterside heritage of the Broads. There were various illustrated presentations throughout the day along with exhibition material provided by the Norfolk Windmills Trust, WISE Archive and local author Sheila Hutchinson.

The first talk was on the work of the Norfolk Windmills Trust, presented by Amanda Rix, Historic Environment Officer (Mills and Community Engagement) at Norfolk County Council. The Trust celebrates its 60th anniversary this year, having been established in August 1963, following concern at the condition of several historic mills

throughout the County and operates as a registered charity for the preservation of:

- Windmills, watermills and drainage mills of historic interest, their sites and remains
- Machinery for milling corn, saw milling, grist milling, paper milling and other similar industrial purposes, or pumping water
- Buildings supplementary to, and occupied with, such mills, sites or machinery

The Trust cares for 21 buildings across Norfolk, 13 of which are owned or leased by Norfolk County Council. Within the Broads, these include Ashtree Farm Mill, Runham Swim Mill, How Hill Mills (Boardman's Mill, Clayrack Mill and Turf Fen Mill), Reedham Group (Cadge's Mill, Polkey's Mill, Reedham Marsh Steam Engine House and Seven Mile Diesel Engine Shed), High's Mill, Neave's Mill, Hobb's Mill, Hardley Mill, St Olave's Mill and Stracey Arms Mill.

The second talk, entitled 'A half hour history of the Halvergate Marshes Mills' was presented by Dr Andrew Tullett, Heritage Learning and Outreach Officer at Norfolk County Council. Halvergate Marshes has field boundaries largely defined by drainage ditches and there are 29 mills within the marshes, which make an important contribution to the industrial heritage of the area. These include High's Mill and Mutton's Mill which has been restored as part of the Water, Mills and Marshes Project by Broads Authority apprentices. Polkey's Mill and the steam engine house are in working order and the mill has patent sails by William Cubitt. Stracey Arms Mill dates from 1883 and has been the subject of a recent long restoration programme. In 2021, a new cap was added and new sail frames installed in June 2023 along with new interpretation panels. It was the most technically advanced mill of its time and was fitted with a fantail which automatically turns to face the wind, patent sails, cast iron upright shaft and no scoop wheel but a centrifugal pump. Ashtree Farm Mill dates from 1912 and has a fantail, patent sails and a scoop wheel.



The restored Stracey Arms Mill and new interpretation panel

The final presentation was given by Alison Yardy, Senior Project Officer at Norfolk County Council on the 'Waterside Heritage of the Broads'. Alison has undertaken a considerable amount of research on the historic built environment of the Broads using archive material, historic maps and other documents. There were several 19th century industrial sites such as those around the River Bure, north of Great Yarmouth, cement works at Berney Arms and Burgh Castle, Reedham saw mills, brickmaking sites at Surlingham and Rockland and lime kilns at Ludham and Acle Bridge. Other sites included maltings at Coltishall and Horning and steam mill and granary building at Wroxham bridge along with village staithes and industrial buildings such as coal houses connected with the wherry trade, as at Barton Turf and Stokesby and ice houses at Irstead and Surlingham. A gazeteer of broadland boatyards is being produced with help from Di Cornell, which currently includes a total of 450. Riverside residences began to appear in the late 19th century such as those on Beech Road, Wroxham where plots were for sale in 1890 and elaborate houses with chimneys and thatched roofs were built. Many other sites were developed in response to the increase in leisure and tourism including chalets and floating homes. This research is ongoing and details are being added to the Norfolk Historic Environment Record.

David Edleston



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NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM OF THE BROADS



Although the weather this Summer has not been all that it might, we have enjoyed some great days at the museum. August is always a popular month with our visitors partly because of the variety of events that we hold.

Our Thursday 'Steam and Sail' days in association with the Wherry Yacht Charter of Wroxham were particularly well attended and enjoyed, and we were lucky with the weather, somehow avoiding the sudden downpours which have become a feature this year! We have also had visits from various wherries including 'Albion', which are always greatly welcomed and create much interest. We held a 'Family Arts and Crafts Day' with artist Jo Couldrey on August 24th again well attended.



Marsh Harrier Trip © Julian Claxton; Steam and Sail Day; Arts and Crafts Day

Both our trip boats, steamboat 'Falcon' and electric launch 'Marsh Harrier' have been very busy, usually filled to capacity with visitors enjoying the interesting commentaries by our skilled helms. We reintroduced this year, our evening 'Kingfisher Cruises' onboard 'Marsh Harrier'. Stalham Dyke and the upper reaches of the river Ant are surprisingly rich in wildlife particularly kingfishers in August, and it is a wonderful opportunity for visitors to see enjoy all there is to see at a quiet and peaceful time of the day. We hope to continue these trips during the Autumn so do get in touch if you are interested in booking. Private groups are also warmly welcomed.

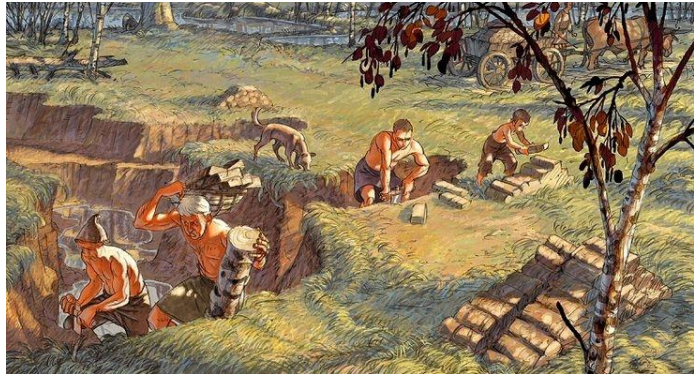
We now look forward to the 'Heritage Open Days', during September and are ever popular 'Halloween Week' at October half-term.

Finally, I am happy to report that we have secured funding from DEFRA in conjunction with the Broads Authority, as part of the 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' programme, for a new display at the museum on the story of peat. The Broads of course were largely created by peat digging for fuel in the 13th to 14th centuries. Many wetland areas which included peatlands were then drained to allow for alternative

uses. Today the retention and restoration of peatlands has become ever more important and essential, not least for the retention of carbon but also for the creation/promotion of 'paludiculture' - a new term for me to understand! It is an exciting and dynamic story and one that we are so looking forward to recreating for our visitors. Watch this space!



Wherry Albion at the Museum



Artist's impression of peat digging

Looking forward to welcoming you this Autumn to enjoy all we have to offer – including delicious paninis and boxed afternoon teas from our onsite caterers, Rooby's.

Robert Paul, Chair of Trustees All images © Museum of the Broads unless otherwise stated



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A SETBACK FOR NATIONAL PARKS IN WESTMINSTER – BUT WE KEEP ON FIGHTING



Speaking to a full room in Westminster yesterday morning, Environment Minister Trudy Harrison asked the public to hold this Government to account to deliver their promises for nature. Just hours later, a major promise for National Parks was in tatters.

Last night, the House of Lords debated a critical change to the law in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill to give more powers to National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Beauty. As Liberal Democrat Peer Baroness Parminter said in the debate *“it is frankly inconceivable”* that the UK could meet its international nature obligations without these reforms. They included making nature and climate recovery a clear priority, strengthening management plans and adding a duty on all public bodies to take far greater action for National Parks and AONBs.

Why is this change in law needed?

Baroness Willis of Summertown (cross bench) explained *“because our national parks are in a perilous state for biodiversity. They might seem very lush and green but, a bit like in Rachel Carson’s Silent Spring, the sound in those national parks is getting quieter and quieter. We are now at a point where many of our rare and vulnerable species do better outside national parks than in the protected areas inside national parks.”* Our recent analysis shows that only a quarter of nature sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) in National Parks in England are in ‘favourable condition’, compared to a national average of 38%.

Before the debate, I attempted to explain the changes to my 10 year old son – who was amazed National Parks didn’t already have all these protections. It seemed obvious to him that nature and climate recovery should be a priority in National Parks – and that there should be laws to protect that. It’s also obvious to many others – including, not so long ago, the Government too. As Baroness Jones of Whitchurch (Labour) pointed out *“There is widespread support for this approach from the National Parks themselves and from the environmental NGOs. We also heard in Committee that a number of eminent scientists and advisers also support this approach. This Bill was identified by the Government some time ago as the best vehicle for making these changes, so it has been a huge source of frustration that the issues have not been progressed in it. It is now four years since the Landscapes Review report and 18 months since the Government’s response.”*

Parliament needs to listen to the public

So, what’s changed since the Government first promised these legal changes? The Secretary of State and the Prime Minister. Certainly not the public pressure and love for National Parks. New Wildlife & Countryside Link research published yesterday shows the public is unimpressed with the Government’s performance on the

environment. Only 1 in 10 think the Government is performing well on key environmental issues, with Brits wanting greater environmental ambition from politicians. The vast majority of the British public (78%), of all political persuasions, supported stronger protections and increased funding for National Parks. There was push back from some Conservative peers including unwarranted concern that such an amendment would undermine rural livelihoods – it's not clear to me how requiring water companies, councils, public transport authorities, energy companies and others to invest more in National Parks could do anything more than result in positive economic change in these areas.

The next step in our campaign

Despite all our efforts, the Government rejected the proposed changes. I am incredibly disappointed but want to thank all the parliamentarians who have tried so hard make this law a reality. I have two glimmers of hope:

First, Defra Minister Lord Benyon spoke of his determination for National Parks and AONBs to deliver for nature, committed to new guidance and did not close down the debate about new duty on public bodies. The amendment was withdrawn, no doubt to keep this window of opportunity open. There were also many Conservatives in the debate who supported a stronger duty on public bodies. Let's hope the Government can deliver on that at least.

Second, Labour front bencher Baroness Hayman gave her party's full support, echoing Alex Sobel MP (shadow Environment Minister) who spoke at our National Park Protector Awards last week about their wish to implement these and other recommendations of the brilliant independent Glover Review if they form the next Government.

Looking ahead, we at Campaign for National Parks will be battling on, campaigning to strengthen the laws that protect our awe-inspiring National Parks, so that nature can thrive in these places for generations to come. The more voices that speak up about this, the more powerful our message becomes. So, if you care passionately about protecting nature and tackling climate change in our National Parks – sign up to our campaign: <https://www.cnp.org.uk/national-parks-for-nature> Together we can save #NationalParks4Nature.

Published 19 July 2023, Dr Rose O'Neill, Chief Executive, CNP



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EVENTS 2023

It has once again been a very busy period over the spring and summer months for the publicity team who have attended various events with the Broads Society stand. Colin Dye, David Edleston and Peter Smith attended the Norfolk Small Charities Showcase hosted by the Kearns Foundation on 22 April at The Forum in Norwich. We were very pleased to welcome Broads Society members Zoe Williams-Barr and Alan McKechnie who also came along to help. In addition to having a stand to promote the Society, the event included four workshops throughout the day, facilitated by the Kearns Foundation. These covered 'Fundraising', 'Making Digital Services Work for You', 'Volunteer Recruitment & Retention' and 'Managing Community Events' each of which were attended by a representative of the team and provided very useful information to help with promotion and raising awareness of the Society.

Colin and Peter attended the Norfolk Healthy Environment Day, held outside The Forum in Norwich on 10 June, organised by Norwich Friends of the Earth as part of The Climate Coalition's 'Great Big Green Week'. There were various presentations in St Peter Mancroft Church during the day, on land, water, air and urban environments followed by a panel discussion, each of which were recorded and can be viewed on YouTube at www.youtube.com



Broads Society Stand at Catfield Village Fete

The Catfield Village Fete was held at the Old Rectory on 25 June, which was one of the hottest days of the year and was attended by David and Peter. We were delighted to welcome Broads Society members from as far away as Devon and Leeds, who came along to meet us whilst on holiday on the Broads and to have a chat about the work of the Society.

The team attended the Royal Norfolk Show on 28 & 29 June, along with our Chairman, Paul Rice. The two day show is a major event in the calendar and the Broads Society stand was in the 'Broads Village' section of the showground. Paul displayed his Broads model on the stand which generated a lot of interest, particularly from school parties. We met lots of new people who were interested to hear about the Society and Peter even managed to encourage one new member to sign up on the day!



Peter & Paul at the Broads Society stand and the 'Broads Village' at the Norfolk Show

We were due to attend the Hoveton Summer Fete on 6 August, but unfortunately this was cancelled at the last minute, due to adverse weather conditions, with heavy rain on the previous day and strong winds being forecast on the day of the event. However, we now have a further event added to the diary and will be attending the North Walsham and Dilham Canal Festival hosted by Dilham Hall Retreats on 9 & 10 September. This is a new venue for us and hopefully will give us an opportunity to network with several new organisations and individuals and to raise awareness of the Society. We will be reporting on the event in the next edition of Harnser.

A list of events planned for 2024 will be published in the April edition of Harnser. New volunteers are always welcome to help with setting up the stand and display material, and to help with promoting the Society and encouraging new members to join. If you are interested, even if you have limited time available, please contact the Administrator (details on page 3) or Peter Smith by e-mail p.smith40@outlook.com

ADVERTISING RATES FOR HARNSER

Print run 800 January, April, July & October Format A5 Colour
 Full page £85, Half page £50, Quarter page £28, 8th page £17
 5% discount for insertions in 4 consecutive issues invoiced after publication

BROADS SOCIETY 500 CLUB

The 500 Club was set up many years ago with the intention of raising additional, much needed, income for The Broads Society. Membership is £12 per annum, payable on 1st March each year. A draw takes place every month and members have the chance to win either £50, £20 or £10. In November at the Broads Society AGM there is a draw for £500



Broads Society members may join the 500 Club or buy a membership for family or friends, there is no limit to how many subscriptions any one person may have. If the number of members increases, we may be able to increase the prize money! If you would like to join the 500 Club please get in touch with our Administrator, Sarah Vergette, details are on page 3. If you are not a 500 Club member, please consider joining now.

NEWS SNIPPETS

Stracey Arms Drainage Mill : Completion of Restoration Project



The installation of new stocks and sails during June marked the completion of a lengthy restoration project for Stracey Arms Mill, undertaken by the Norfolk Windmills Trust. This final stage of the works followed the fitting of a new cap and fantail during December 2021. Restricted access at the site meant that the new stocks and sails had to be transported by river from Great Yarmouth and then hoisted into place for fixing to the mill, by crane. The project has been carried out as part of the Mill and the Marsh Folk Project with substantial grant aid from the National Lottery Heritage Fund. An open day was held at the mill on 23 July to celebrate the completion of the project and to mark the 140th anniversary of the mill, when it was possible to climb the tower and see the new sails in place. New display panels explain how the mill worked and provide information about the families that ran the mill along with details of the wildlife that thrives on the Halvergate Marshes.

The Mill is a Grade II* listed building and was part of a network of drainage mills used to control water levels across Halvergate Marshes, one of the most extensive grazing marshes in England. It was built in 1883 by Richard Barnes of Southtown Ironworks and was one of the most technologically advanced mills of its type when completed. It stopped working in the 1940s when electric pumps were installed.



Stocks and sails being transported along the River Bure and unloaded at the mill



Crane lifting stocks & sails for fitting to the mill All images © Norfolk Windmills Trust

St Benet's Abbey Annual Service

The Bishop of Norwich in his role as the Abbot of St Benet's, led the annual outdoor service at St Benet's Abbey on Sunday 30 July 2023. In accordance with tradition, the Bishop arrived by water, this year on board the Wherry Yacht Norada owned by the Wherry Yacht Charter Charitable Trust.



Wooden Boats at Beccles Quay

Around 25 privately owned, classic wooden boats gathered at Beccles Quay over the weekend of 11-13 August 2023, some having initially met at Oulton Broad and then travelled together as a flotilla on to Beccles. A number of the boats were open for viewing by the public. There were several examples of traditional boats built by Brooms, Windboats, Herbert Woods, Martham Boats, Ripplecraft, Moores and Harvey Eastwood amongst others, each being recognisable by their distinctive style and craftsmanship, kept in immaculate condition and a real credit to their owners.



Classic wooden boats at Beccles Quay

East Norwich Masterplan

Over the summer, the Society responded to further planning applications on both the Deal Ground and the Carrow Works sections of the East Norwich Masterplan redevelopment area. Although supportive of the redevelopment in principle, the Society has expressed grave concern about the form of development fronting the river and the overshadowing impact that this could have on the river corridor. Also the level of open space, landscaping and the provision of a riverside walk verge towards minimal amenity provision, so once again the riverside setting of the sites involved has almost been an afterthought rather than a defining factor in the development plans. To say this is disappointing is an understatement, but not surprising given the nature of riverside development within the city over the last 40 years.



Existing vacant buildings at the Carrow Works site along the River Wensum, Norwich

Government Consultation on Relaxation of Permitted Development Rights in National Parks and the Broads

In July, the Government opened up a consultation on the relaxation of Permitted Development Rights - some of the changes, if implemented, would detrimentally affect National Parks and the Broads. Specifically, these proposed changes would allow rural buildings to be converted to residential use without the need for planning permission, subject to certain parameters. Especially concerning are the proposed changes to agricultural buildings and to commercial premises which could be significantly detrimental to areas which are currently protected under planning law. The Campaign for National Parks (CNP) is lobbying against the most detrimental of these changes whilst also sending an open letter to Michael Gove. The Society is generally supportive of trying to block these changes with the exception of the potential change of use of commercial premises such as boatyards. Whilst the Society recognises the negative impact that a change of use to residential could result in, the potential positive benefits of allowing some conversion to holiday accommodation (especially in boatyards) is seen as something that could support the viability of the boatyards themselves and benefit the local tourist economy. The Society has, therefore, responded to the CNP supporting its stance, but explaining why we feel that we might have a different opinion in relation to possible holiday accommodation use. This is, obviously, something that we may well have a differ on especially with those National Parks that are creaking under the weight of existing tourist numbers. The

Society has, as well as responding to the CNP, sent its own individual response to the Government expressing the unique situation relating to the Broads.

Thorpe St Andrew Neighbourhood Development Plan

In August, the Society responded to a consultation on the draft Thorpe St Andrew Neighbourhood Development Plan. The plan aims to protect important heritage and conservation assets in the town which we fully support. Also in the draft plan is a criteria based policy relating to the provision of residential moorings (something that has needed proper control for some time). Again this is something that we have supported along with the future vision of wishing to provide more car parking for visitors to Thorpe Green.

**** STOP PRESS ** RIVER YARE OLD ROUTE 50-YEAR LEASE**

At the time of going to print, Thorpe St Andrew Town Council have just released details of a deal they have made with Norwich City Council to lease for 50 years the river bed of the old route of the River Yare including along River Green, which the Council own, in order to resolve some of the problems which have occurred since it became more of a backwater as most large cruisers have been unable to access the section due to the low railway bridges and it has become a haven for small craft. Problems include unauthorised mooring and the discharge of sewage into the river.



River Green, Thorpe St Andrew

BROADS SOCIETY MERCHANDISE



The full range of Broads Society branded merchandise is still available including cards, pennants, pens, tote bags, note books and stickers. Items can now be purchased from our new online shop at www.broads-society.org/shop By ordering you will be helping to promote the Society, contributing to funds and helping with *Harnser* production costs. Christmas cards and the Broads Society 2024 Calendar can also be purchased online.

RECENT NEWS FROM THE BROADS AUTHORITY



Maintenance update

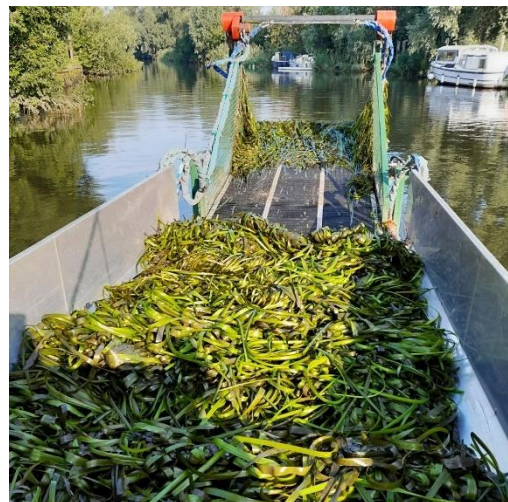
Recent works at our 24-hour moorings

- Piling, capping and an end barrier have been replaced at both North Cove and Herringfleet 24-hour moorings, and an end barrier replaced at Worlingham on the River Waveney.
- Repairs have been made to the safety ladder, capping, mooring posts and car park/pedestrian barrier at Ranworth.
- The bridge-height gauge boards at Acle Bridge have been repaired and new signs installed.
- 70m of capping has been replaced, including missing mooring posts at Martham Bank, and a new notice board has been installed at Repps Bank on the River Thurne.
- The repairs to a damaged section of slipway at South Walsham are complete.
- Recently damaged / broken mooring posts have been replaced at Boundary Farm, Neatishead, Sutton Staithe, Beccles South Bank, Somerleyton, Bramerton, Rockland Staithe, Repps Bank and Cockshoot 24-hour moorings.
- The advance downstream bridge-height gauge boards have been totally replaced at Ludham Bridge.
- A handrail has been repaired on the main pedestrian entrance to the mooring at Horning Marshes on the River Ant.

Water plants update

One of the results of improved water quality and milder winters is that water plant growth continues to be vigorous and our team are getting around the system as fast as possible. A continuous circuit of work is underway between the main high growth areas in the Broads. Some locations are on their fourth cut already. Areas cut over the summer include the:

- Upper Thurne - Hickling Broad, Catfield Dyke, Somerton, Martham, Waxham and Waxham Cut.
- River Bure - Horstead, Coltishall, Belaugh, Caen Meadow and Wroxham
- River Ant - Wayford, Dilham
- River Waveney - Geldeston and Beccles.
- Rivers Yare and Wensum - Rockland, Bargate, Thorpe and into Norwich.



Dredging update

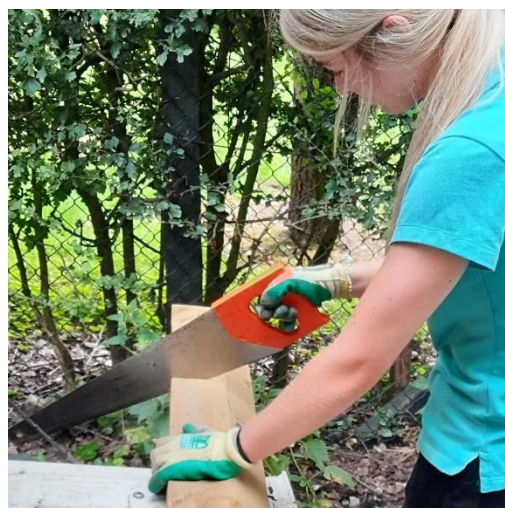
Dredging has recently finished on the Ant and is nearing completion at Oulton Broad. After this we will prepare for autumn dredging projects over the next few months. Dredging preparation is also underway on the Upper Bure and at Haddiscoe Cut.

Invasive plants

There has been a sighting of *Crassula helmsii*, (New Zealand pygmyweed) at one of our fen sites and it has also been found on the Bure. If you spot something which you think might be an invasive species, please report it to Broads Control (Broads.Control@broads-authority.gov.uk) providing as much detail as possible about the exact location and send photos. For plant descriptions and images see our website: <https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/news/what-to-look-out-for-this-invasive-species-week>



Invasive New Zealand pygmyweed



Repairs to Gary's Meadow gate

Cary's Meadow repairs

Ranger Apprentice Emma has been working with one of our Volunteers Paul to make some improvements to the gate and car park at Cary's Meadow. The site has recently been struggling to deal with heavy rain and run-off. Two gate rails have been replaced and a third rail has been added at ground level to attempt to divert rainwater from running through the kissing gate and washing away the car park surface.

Whilst at Cary's they have also levelled out several other gullies and holes in the car park, improving the surface for visitors. A great job and a big thank you to Paul as well for volunteering his time.

Some good news on the Farming in Protected Landscapes programme

A recent announcement shared how nationally over 5,000 farmers and land managers have benefited from the Farming in Protected Landscapes (FiPL) programme, including more than 50 here in the Broads.



The programme, now in its third year, has provided farmers across the UK's National Parks and AONBs (Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty) with funding to develop projects in nature recovery, heritage conservation, climate resilient businesses and for access projects enabling the public to get out and enjoy nature.

The Fen Harvester in action

There is still some funding available for this year for farmers, growers and land managers. The programme runs until March 2025, with a larger budget for year four, so if you would like to speak to the Broads Authority about a potential idea or project, please find out more on our website and get in touch: <https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/looking-after/projects/farming-in-protected-landscapes>

Launch of accessible footpath at Horsey Windpump

Visitors to the National Trust's Horsey Windpump can now enjoy this iconic Broads site more easily thanks to accessibility improvements we have recently made in partnership with the National Trust.

The full length of the Horsey Windpump footpath – which runs from the car park to the drainage mill, extending to the viewing point overlooking Horsey Mere - has been widened and resurfaced to make it wheelchair, pushchair, and pram friendly.

While many visitors come to see inside the 111-year-old drainage mill, and to enjoy spectacular views of the Broads from the top of the mill, Horsey Windpump is not just a favourite with heritage enthusiasts. There is also a great cafe on-site and some lovely nature walks in the area. See our website for further information: <https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/news/footpath-improvements-at-horsey-windpump-and-mere>

Mutton's Mill on Halvergate Marshes restored

Our Water, Mills and Marshes team have been busy bringing Mutton's Mill back to its former glory and launching a new walking trail nearby. Through the project, students from City College Norwich have been learning heritage building techniques to restore the brickwork, woodwork and ironwork of the mill. A massive well done to Tom and Alex, Heritage Carpenters, for all their hard work on-site.

For more information you can watch a short video on our YouTube channel:

<https://youtu.be/Y8duh0z4oqk>

Education Officer Nick wins national award

Finally, huge congratulations to our Education Officer Nick Sanderson (and his team of volunteers and work experience students) on winning the Campaign for National Parks 'National Park Nature Award' for their community nature recovery work at Barton Turf Nature Reserve.



Nick was awarded this at a ceremony recently at the House of Commons. On his win, Nick said: “It’s really nice to get recognition for the team, this is a team award, I’m just the guy who stands here and gets the award. It’s really about the team, about the volunteers, the staff and the young people who’ve been involved who are really making a difference to nature conservation and hopefully been inspired by it as well.”

For further information you can read more on the CNP website:

<https://www.cnp.org.uk/news/nppa-winners-2023-revealed>

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BROADS SOCIETY CHRISTMAS CARD & CALENDAR 2024



The Broads Society Christmas Card this year is a photo of 'Dusk at Malthouse Broad, Ranworth' taken by David Edleston. Cards measure 8 x 6 inches and are priced at 90p each, plus post and packing costs of 80p for three cards, £1.80 for five cards, £2.50 for ten cards and £2.80 for twenty cards. David has also produced another A4 size calendar for 2024 which can be purchased for £9.50

each, plus postage cost of £1.80 for one calendar, £2.40 for two, £2.85 for three or four and a maximum of £3.55 for five or more calendars/cards combined. Our blank cards and merchandise can be included in this P & P cost. Paper presentation envelopes for calendars are available at 10p each or card backed at 25p each. All surplus from the sale of cards and calendars goes to Broads Society funds. Orders should be placed with Peter Smith, 14 New Road, Reedham, Norwich, NR13 3TR or by e-mail p.smith40@outlook.com Payment should preferably be made by bank transfer to The Broads Society, account number 60202770, sort code 20-99-21 adding your surname as a reference. Alternatively, payment can be made by cheque payable to 'The Broads Society'. Please allow up to 7 days for delivery from the date of placing your order. Orders can be collected from the AGM. For NR postcodes orders can be delivered free of charge. Last date for orders will be Monday 20th November, or when stock is exhausted. For delivery or stock enquiries please phone 01493 701516. You can also place your order via our website www.broads-society.org/shop





JANUARY



FEBRUARY



MARCH



APRIL



MAY



JUNE



JULY



AUGUST



SEPTEMBER



OCTOBER



NOVEMBER



DECEMBER



The Voice for The Broads
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The only voluntary organisation dedicated to the protection
and enhancement of all aspects of The Broads.

We welcome new members. Details from our Administrator:
Sarah Vergette, 3 Rosebery Road, Great Plumstead, Norwich, NR13 5EA
Tel: 01603 714172 e-mail: broads.society@sky.com

Cover photo: Dusk on the River Bure at Acle Bridge

