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## **Norwich Group Newsletter**

**December 2023 issue**

**100  
YEARS OF  
CSMA**  
1923-2023  
∞



The opinions and recommendations in this newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of Boundless by CSMA, the editor or the Norwich Group.

# Noggin at the Sugar Beat

## Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2 – 4pm



Join us for a post Christmas noggin at the Sugarbeat, NR14 8PU from 2pm. A chance to catch up with friends over a cup of tea or coffee. Other drinks will be available at the bar for you to purchase. If you want to come earlier, a few of us will be enjoying a meal from the local menu at our own expense. We will be there from noon and welcome your company.

**All are welcome**

# Norwich Castle: Royal Palace Reborn

## A Story 900 Years in the Making

### Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February at 2pm



The transformation of Norwich Castle's iconic Norman Keep is one of the largest heritage projects currently underway in the UK, generously supported by the National Lottery Heritage Fund. It will see the rebuilding of the medieval floors and rooms so that visitors will be able to experience a Norman royal palace and its stories. The British Museum's first medieval gallery outside of London will bring treasures of international importance to Norwich and for the first time everyone will be able to explore all 5 levels of the Keep – from basement to battlements. Join Project Manager Hannah Jackson to explore the fascinating history of this important building, take a virtual tour behind the hoardings to see the work underway and discover what will be available for visitors when the Castle Keep reopens in summer 2024.

**All are welcome**

# Non-mathematical Table Quiz

How well do you know your tables? The answers to the following riddles are all words ending in "TABLE" - the number in brackets is the length of the word.



CLUE	SOLUTION
A steady place to keep a horse (6)	
A disease capable of being conveyed to another person (13)	
Kind and generous in giving money (10)	
Potatoes and Swedes (9)	
Something that can be agreed with (10)	
Schedule of arrivals and departures (9)	
Capable of being moved to another place (13)	
Making you feel sad and sorry about something (11)	
Certain to happen; unavoidable (10)	
Rank of a policeman (9)	
Not important enough to be remembered (11)	
Behaving in a way that you expect (11)	
Clean and safe to drink (7)	

The answers to this quiz will appear in our next edition.

**Good Luck**



## Coming to Peterborough in January

1969 to 2023 – The Volunteering Journey  
From Steam Engines to Wildlife



### CSMA Boundless

Milton Golf Club - 10<sup>th</sup> January 7:30 with  
**Brian Pearce MBE**



Derelict Coal Yard



Haven for Wildlife

***All are welcome,***

**And coming to Ipswich in January**

**The Whistlecraft Family of Rickingham**

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

We invite you to join us by 7.30pm at our local Kesgrave venue when local historian Pip Wright, will appear in character as Joe Whistlecraft to tell the true story of the notorious Whistlecraft family of poachers of Rickingham and Hinderclay. Heavy drinking, murder and intrigue are all part of the story, with Joe spending more than twenty years in jail for various offences - he apparently regarded jail as an occupational hazard!

After the talk, there will be the usual refreshments, and the opportunity for a chat.

**We look forward to seeing you there.**

## Norwich Group 2024 Provisional Events

**Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Mar “Medical Detection Dogs”**

Talk by Norma Howell

**Thu 28<sup>th</sup> Mar **Filby Bridge Lunch****

Menu & cost tba

**Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Apr “Norfolk Wherry Trust”**

In the talk Ivor Stamp will cover the formation of The Norfolk Wherry Trust in 1949 then, a brief history of the origins and development of Wherries and their importance to the local economy touching briefly on the cargoes they carried. He will then return to the Trust and speak of some of the events Albion has been involved with in the last 25 years and the present situation.

**Thu 9<sup>th</sup> May **Title tba.****

Talk by Chris Parfitt

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Jun **Visit to Southwold****

with Ipswich group

**Thu 11<sup>th</sup> Jul **Retro TV Workshop Visit****

Visit time tba

**Thu 8<sup>th</sup> Aug **Yarmouth Hippodrome Show****

Time & Cost tba

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Sep **Filby Bridge Lunch****

Menu & cost tba

**Thu 10<sup>th</sup> Oct “Bawdsey Radar - The Eyes of the Few”**

a brief history of the scientists who developed the principles of radar as we know it today, and Bawdsey's role in World War 2. - Paul Whiting

**Thu 14<sup>th</sup> Nov **Christmas Dinner****

Menu & venue tba

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup> Dec “Supernatural Norfolk”**

Talk by Stephen Poulter

**Events in “Red” must be prebooked  
and paid for in advance**



# Christmas 2022



Well, last year we got Christmas cracked, because to be quite honest by the time the 25<sup>th</sup> of December came along, we were sick of pushy television adverts, people running about stressed like headless chickens. People spending frightening amounts of money in the supermarkets. Most of the restaurants we frequent being packed out with crowds of intoxicated party goers and the list goes on. So, we decided that it would be a good idea to opt out altogether. That's what we will do we decided we'll just treat it like any other day and do the washing, go out for a walk and come home to bacon and eggs.

"You can't do that it's Christmas" we were told by our daughter "you always come to us". "Oh, don't bother for us we replied". Well, as it turned out after she'd thought about it, we decided to compromise, go to our daughter's and dinner would be an easy option of sausage and mash followed by Christmas pudding. Result, no stressed daughter, a nice dinner, and a lovely day had by all.

Will let you know what happens this year, but we hope you all have a lovely day, whatever you plan to do.

**Marian & Dean, Your Northern Correspondents**

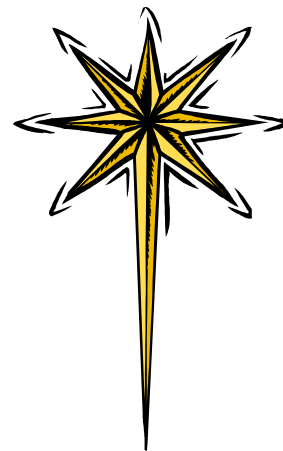


## You couldn't make it up



Several months ago some old friends, whom I hadn't seen for years, suddenly contacted me and suggested we hold a reunion get-together. It really had been some time since I had last seen them, and one of them had recently been widowed, so I thought this would be a really good idea.

Apparently, they are all into walking, and so they suggested a walking holiday. Specifically, they suggested meeting up at an HF hotel in St Ives in Cornwall. Now if you're like me, and had never heard of HF holidays, they are a member owned organisation that has bought and



# The Christmas Star

**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December**

We all know of the Bible story where the Three Kings, also known as The Magi travelled from the East to present their gifts to the newborn Jesus, and were guided by the special star in the sky. There is also other documentary evidence for things which happen in the sky to show the story may have been true. For our December Clubnight, Paul

put on his astronomical hat and went through a number of genuine astronomical phenomena which could have explained the mystery.

So – was it all a fable? Which of the possible theories was the most likely? Sadly, we weren't in Bethlehem at the time to know what actually happened, and unless you had been at the talk you won't know which was the most likely!

## Christmas Greetings 2023



This year has seen a few changes for the Norwich Group which should enable us to progress well into 2024.

Our lunches were well attended with plenty to eat and drink. I can confirm that the programme of events for 2024 are progressing well and the first Norwich Group club night will be an afternoon noggin with festive nibbles at the Sugarbeat. A provisional list of events will be found elsewhere in this edition.



We are arranging a series of lunches, talks, and visits, with hopefully something for everybody.

So, on that note we wish you all Season Greetings and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.

Christmas is a time to reflect, relax and most importantly have fun.

**Mike Holmes**

## January's Missing Links

Each clue consists of three words which have the fourth word in common. You must find the missing link. e.g.: Bald - Eyed - Golden, are all linked by word Eagle as in Bald Eagle - Eagle Eyed - Golden Eagle.



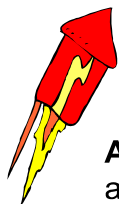
1. Class - Hand - Cut
2. Investigator - Property - Sector
3. Spotting - Gravy - Ghost
4. Green - Present - What
5. Aversion - Retail - Group
6. Hunter - Figure - Strong
7. Certificate - Guidance - Second
8. Comfort - Healthy - Out
9. Inadmissible - Forensic - Circumstantial
10. Barley - Brown - Cane



## Answers to MISSING LINKS 24

Each clue consists of three words which have the fourth word in common. You must find the missing link. e.g.: Bald - Eyed - Golden, are all linked by word Eagle as in Bald Eagle - Eagle Eyed - Golden Eagle.

1. Fresh **Supply** - Water **Supply** - **Supply** Chain
2. **Three** Cheers - **Three** Piece - **Three**-Fold
3. Operating **Theatre** - Lecture **Theatre** - Musical **Theatre**
4. Beef **Eater** - Fire **Eater** - Ant **Eater**
5. Limited **Edition** - Pocket **Edition** - First **Edition**
6. Nature **Reserve** - **Reserve** Price - **Reserve** Team
7. Training **Teacher** - Piano **Teacher** - Head **Teacher**
8. Table **Tennis** - **Tennis** Elbow - Lawn **Tennis**
9. **Blood** Stream - Blue **Blood** - **Blood** Sugar
10. Sales **Drive** - Test **Drive** - Disk **Drive**



**A little seasonal humour** - Sad, sad people who are setting off fireworks in the middle of October.



One frightening the cat so much it ran up the Xmas tree

operates a number of hotels around the preferred walking areas of the United Kingdom. Given they knew exactly how much I like walking, i.e. not at all, they suggested that they would have at least two cars between them and that they would be able to take me out on some nice trips, such as to the Eden Project, or the Lost Gardens of Heligan.

So, with the promise that I wouldn't have to accompany them on their 20 mile hikes every day, I decided that I would join them. It would be good to meet up with them again. After a lot of soul-searching I decided that I wouldn't drive the nine hours to St. Ives. Instead I would catch the train, as this would save the proposed overnight break of journey each way. I was quite looking forward to this get-together, and we were due to leave on Saturday, 21 October. The Thursday before, I was out for the day, and when I got home the lights on the answering machine were flashing, as were the e-mails in the in-tray. Quite individually, each person had had to drop out - two for medical reasons, while the other couple were having problems with an elderly relative with dementia.

So, I was going to be all alone in a hotel, that I had been conned into going to, for a walking holiday that I didn't want to do. Given that I wouldn't be covered on the travel insurance to cancel, I went ahead.

The journey there consisted of a bus, 5 trains and a taxi, but was fairly straightforward. I arrived in time for the welcome cream tea. I didn't know what to expect, but I was anticipating something more of a hostel. However, it was a reasonably nice hotel, and, far from the five or six guests I was anticipating, we actually had 67, along with the associated problems with car parking. I was really glad I came by train. To facilitate the walking aspect of the holiday, there were two guides, who were available all day to offer help and support to the walkers in route planning etc. These guides didn't know what to do with me. When they asked me what my plans were for the next day, I replied that I would probably walk to the bus stop and catch the bus to Penzance. They soon stopped enquiring about my plans.

I have to say Cornwall has a very good joined up public transport network. Several bus companies and the train network all run together seamlessly. Given that I don't yet qualify for the free bus pass, gripe, I had to make use of the Cornwall day ticket, which cost seven pounds, not forgetting the two pounds maximum fares single. So, after a few



days I became the expert in the local buses, their routes and numbers. For example, from St Ives you can catch the 17 or 16A to Penzance, or the T2 to Truro. From Penzance it would be the U4 to Falmouth (these were the buses that I caught most often). One painful lesson I did learn, was not catch the T2 to Truro on Wednesday, as this is market day, and the bus was full for the whole two-hour journey.

One day I decided to bus to The Lizard, and even try to get to Goonhilly, however the number of buses involved even scared me off! Instead I visited Helston and one of the oldest pub breweries in the world – The Blue Anchor, dating from the 15<sup>th</sup> Century. It is the home of Spingo Ale. 6.6%. Wonderful.

The food in the hotel was good, you did have to choose your menu the morning of the day before, and on the same form you booked the next days packed lunch. For this, once I realised that the Coronation mayonnaise was horrid, I stopped ordering it, and everything suddenly became really tasty, especially the egg mayonnaise, bacon and onion marmalade sandwiches.

The biggest drawback of the hotel's location was that it was sited high above the coast and major road - where the bus stop was! There were three near-vertical hills to climb at the end of a day out. Worse, for the knees anyway, was the climb down in the morning.

The journey home, because of rail replacement services between Liverpool Street and Witham, consisted this time of a taxi, six trains and two buses! Even allowing for this extra leg, it was not straightforward. The train from Liverpool Street to Billericay was delayed 90 min at Stratford because of a trespasser on the line. And the bus from Billericay to Witham was driven by somebody who didn't know the route and he got lost twice. However, I got home in one piece after a 12 hour journey.

As to the reunion, I suggested we postpone it to the New Year and hold it somewhere in Suffolk!



**Paul Whiting - your Travel Correspondent**

## **Norwich Group Communications**

For up-to-date information on forthcoming Norwich Group events,

see: **-The latest edition of your newsletter.**

**Our home page at - [boundless.co.uk/norwich](http://boundless.co.uk/norwich)**

Call Leader Mike Holmes on 01508 558312

email [mike.holmes377@outlook.com](mailto:mike.holmes377@outlook.com)



If you already have a Facebook account then log in, otherwise you will need to register. Then request to be a friend and wait for the confirmation (should be done the same day).



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/EastAngliaGroups/>

**Please send change of address details & articles for inclusion in the next edition to Mike Holmes**

**by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024.**

We respect your privacy and if you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please let us know by email to [norwichgroup@boundlesscommunity.co.uk](mailto:norwichgroup@boundlesscommunity.co.uk)

**unless stated otherwise Club events begin at 2pm in our new venue, the meeting room at**

**“The Sugar Beat” bar and restaurant, Norwich Rd Swainsthorpe Norwich NR14 8PU.**

**You can have lunch in the restaurant before our event.**