

Oulton Broad parishPRESS

Welcome to the Parish Press Autumn issue. Delivering the latest news, updates and announcements from within the Oulton Broad Parish

Statement from Councillor Sandra Keller Chair of Oulton Broad Parish Council

We are at that time of the year again – we hope you enjoyed your Summer Holidays. The Park has been very busy all throughout.

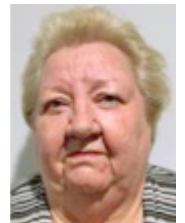
A big achievement this year has been that we have, once again, won the **Green Flag Award** – this is our 14th consecutive win of this award. We are extremely thankful to our dedicated volunteers of Nicholas Everitt Park, who all work very hard to help keep the park a beautiful place for everyone to enjoy.

This has been another great summer for events and we are currently organising our 2025 events. The Everitt Park Café has done very well putting on free events for the children on Tuesdays with *Andy the Clown* and a visit from the princesses. These have been very popular, and it's

been great to see so many enjoying these events. Likewise, the bands which joined us on Sundays were also very popular and each band that attended were delighted with how many people turned out to listen to them perform.

As you may have seen, work has been going on at the museum. We apologise if this has caused any disruption, but the work is necessary, and no doubt the museum will look better on completion.

As Chairman I would like to say a big thank you to both our Clerk and our Administrative Assistant for all their hard work during the year in keeping the office running and keeping all of us in order.



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Friends of Nicholas Everitt Park: UPDATE

We've had a lovely summer and have been busy, however it has also been slightly testing as we haven't been able to complete all tasks, but we have tried very hard – so thank you to all the volunteers who have turned up every Thursday morning.

The Marigolds were planted later than usual, however, they have developed well and have put on a magnificent display in the circle flowerbed.

The expanded flowerbed facing Bridge Road has been planted up. We required a large quantity of plants, so we decided to purchase garden ready plug plants. They are all planted and flowering. The next and subsequent years should have a nice succession of summer flowering perennials. Thanks must go to East Suffolk Councillor **Edward Back** who provided a £300 grant money from his ECB funds. Every penny was spent on the plants for the flowerbed and money from FONEP's funds were used to buy plants for the hanging baskets, and boat planters, and Marigold seeds.

Our funds are raised by selling a variety of items on our sales table on a Thursday morning, so *thank you* if you have purchased anything, we appreciate the support.

The Wallflower seedlings are growing well and ready to move on to their next stage of growth. These will replace the Marigolds in the circle flowerbed later in the year.

Nicholas Everitt Park was awarded its 14th consecutive **Green Flag** this year. The judging took place in early May, and the judge was very sympathetic about the extremely wet weather we experienced earlier this year which restricted some of the work due to the park being waterlogged. Nevertheless, he was very impressed with the work which had been carried out and the plans for the extended flowerbed. This wouldn't have been possible without the help and support of everyone involved so we would like to thank our volunteers, Adrian the gardener, Nicholas Everitt Park Trust and Oulton Broad Parish Council.

A few suggestions were made, and these have been taken on board and will be discussed by Nicholas Everitt Park Trust and the Oulton Broad Parish Council. **We are always looking for ways to improve the floral display in the various flowerbeds and other areas of the park, so any ideas are always welcome.**

We would really like some more volunteers, so if you or someone you know has recently retired or has some spare time on a Thursday morning then come and join us in helping to look after this beautiful park. **You can contact me via email at geoffpipe@aol.com or via our Facebook page which is 'Friends of Nicholas Everitt Park'.**



Find us on Facebook: [fonepob](https://www.facebook.com/fonepob)

Lowestoft Museum

BROAD HOUSE RESTORATION WORKS



In September, scaffolding was erected at Broad House in preparation for building works which will last until at least the end of 2024.

Lowestoft Museum has received funding from Arts Council England Museums and Estates Development Fund (MEND) for works to address issues of damp and water ingress in the building. The aim of the project is to lower the relative humidity in the museum galleries and improve conditions

for the museum's important historic collections, but the project will also safeguard an important listed building.

This phase of works will restore and replace rainwater goods (guttering and downpipes) and flat roofs and make good some of the damage caused by failing systems, such as repointing and masonry repairs. A significant proportion of the works are focussed on addressing standing water in the building's cellar. The work has been awarded to local building company, AJBuilder and is being managed by Architect Tim Buxbaum who has significant experience of managing conservation projects in listed buildings in Suffolk.

The museum is working in partnership with the Nicholas Everitt Park Trust to deliver this project and is grateful for the support of many other funders and partners including

Lowestoft Town Council, East Suffolk Council and the Association for Suffolk Museums.

The works are being managed so that as far as possible the Museum can remain open for the rest of the season for further updates please see the Museum's Facebook page.

www.lowestoftmuseum.org

[lowestoftmuseum](https://www.facebook.com/lowestoftmuseum)

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Monckton Avenue

If you go down to the woods off Monckton Avenue today, you might just be surprised to find a new pathway through the woods, opening out a lovely walking route through to the Peto Way roundabout.



After the fall of some truly massive trees on the site, volunteers from TCV have been working hard to re-open a way through from the lovely little meadow and brambly maze on Nursery Close, past the wetland area and through the woods, out on to the main road.

Look out for upcoming activities for all ages at the site too - there will be the chance to explore the site with TCV project officers and discover the hidden wildlife.

For more details of free family activities and/or volunteering at the site contact Mark via mark.webster@tcv.org.uk / 07740 899691.




Harry Potter Day at Oulton Broad Library



On 31st October Oulton Broad Library is hosting a Harry Potter Day to coincide with Halloween.

During the day we'd like to welcome all sorts of young wizards for crafts, quizzes, potions, activities and adventures at the library, which we'll transform into *Hogwarts* for the day.

Open from 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm. Costumes are optional.
www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/libraries/oultion-broad-library

 [oultionbroadlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/oultionbroadlibrary)



Carols on the Quay

Sunday 8th December, starting at 10am.

On and around the Park, The Boulevard and Bridge Road in Oulton Broad.

Raising vital funds for our charity park.

Craft Fayre

In the Lady of the Lake

Hot Roasted Chestnuts, Mulled Wine & Mince Pies
Outside the Copper Smoke House

Museum Open

Free entry and Children's Activities

Children's Arts and Crafts

Free activity in The Pavilion

Animals from Oulton Broad Mini Zoo

Outside The Waveney



Local Charities and Groups

Stalls & Activities

On the Boulevard and down the Avenue

Visit Father Christmas with Gift

11am to 1pm

Pre Booking Required - £6

Book via The Gift Shop (before Nov 18th).

Also see Father Christmas as he walks around during the day

Face Painting

In The Pavilion

Children's Festive Trail

Trail sheets available on the day on The Boulevard

Carols on the Quay

Commencing around the Christmas Tree at 3pm

Plus Christmas Shopping in local shops on Bridge Road.

Updates and more info via 'Oulton Broad Parish Council' Facebook page.

This annual event is supported by many Bridge Road traders -

SHOP SMALL & SHOP LOCAL!

An interview with Rotary by Rebekah Lark, Editor

I had the opportunity to meet and talk with four of the Lowestoft Rotary members – Brian Hunter, John Hemming, Vice President Tracey Bromley and President of Rotary and Councillor of Oulton Broad Parish Council David Bromley.



(Left to right) Rotary Vice President Tracey Bromley, Brian Hunter, President and Councillor David Bromley and John Hemming.

I was fascinated with the activities that Rotary Clubs support to the local community, especially in the support of children; one of their fantastic activities is **Crucial Crew**.

This is an annual event and aimed at year 6 pupils from 32 of the local primary schools, to get advice and learn all about safety from different professional organisations. **Brian Hunter** spoke to me in detail about the event and explained its purpose. He told me that this event is of great importance to the pupils, with advice from the eight scenarios delivered, to keep safe in their daily lives. There are eight different, very life-like scenarios for the children to experience. The scenarios on offer are kindly organised and displayed by volunteers from the police service, the fire service, lifeguards, with support from Oulton Broad Water Sports Clubs, St. Johns Ambulance service and others.

They then go around in groups of 12 with a volunteer and spend 12 minutes at each scenario before moving along to the next. All pupils who attend leave the event with a certificate, a goodie bag full of leaflets from each organisation, and the hope is that they more importantly are leaving with knowledge about keeping safe. **Crucial Crew** has been going on for 18 years now and is very well attended by the primary schools, and the children look forward to going along. This is a free activity for the schools of the local area and for the children to attend, as it is sponsored by local Rotary Clubs who pull together funds to keep the event ongoing. Organisations like Suffolk County Council have supported the event and given donations to the club. **Crucial Crew** is organised and run by volunteers who give their time; without them it would not be possible to provide this event.

John Hemming explained that **Dictionaries 4 life** is a project directed at year three pupils attending the Lowestoft Primary Schools; each of them receives a free dictionary which is theirs for life. The dictionaries are colour coded and have pictures to help the children identify certain words.

1,000 dictionaries are funded annually by the Rotary Clubs and donations from generous organisations, such as the Pye Foundation who have donated for 12 years towards the programme. The aim of **Dictionaries 4 life** is to support young people with their literacy skills, and to help grow their confidence and knowledge of words.

I've been very fortunate to be able to talk with John, Brian, Tracey and David; it has been interesting to hear about some of the amazing things that Rotary provides. Rotarians believe in **Service Above Self**, and this shows in the events and programmes supporting this area's young people.

Should you be interested to join the team and would like to participate in working for the community then please contact President David Bromley on 07753-472045.



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Celebrating Roald Dahl Day at Dell Primary School



Promoting a love of stories and encouraging all our pupils to read for pleasure is important to us at Dell Primary School.

Recently, we took part in **Roald Dahl Day** which takes place on 13th September every year, the day Roald Dahl was born. It is a national event which celebrates the pleasure and positive messages his stories bring to children, and adults, all over the world.

At Dell, the children took part in a range of activities based on Roald Dahl stories. Year six pupils enjoyed performing amusing Roald Dahl poems in groups, in Year four they did chocolate experiments based on **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** and in Year one they made puppets and told stories.

Children and staff were able to come to school dressed as a Roald Dahl character. Costumes included Charlie Bucket, Matilda, Mrs. Trunchbull, Mr. Twit and more. This term we are inviting parents to join us for reading workshops where they will work with their child on reading activities in the classroom.

We love reading at Dell!

If you have previously worked for the NHS or Social Services (no matter where or in what capacity) come and join us.

We meet the first Tuesday of the month, 10am for 10.30am start at the Telecom Social Hall, 18 Clapham Road, Lowestoft NR32 1RQ.

Other events are organised throughout the year.

You can make new friends, rediscover past friendships and socialise with like-minded people. **Call 01502 567591 if you have any questions.**



Bonds Meadow

Bonds Meadow, a serene wildlife sanctuary, is situated in the heart of Oulton Broad off Sands Lane and is a shining example of how community-led conservation can create a thriving ecosystem.

Over the past year, the meadow has undergone a remarkable transformation, thanks in part to the increased rainfall that has not only replenished the ponds but also revitalised the undergrowth and tree canopies, enhancing the habitat's complexity and, consequently, its biodiversity. In addition, what looks to have been a successful attempt to increase the local bird population, 34 new nest boxes were installed during the winter months.

The introduction of an alternative footpath known as Sam's Way, meandering from Sands Lane to the kissing gate has brought additional light to the area, has promoted the growth of new plant species and extended the woodland experience.



The dedicated volunteers who maintain and nurture Bonds Meadow have also taken steps to share their passion and efforts with the wider community through an updated website published this spring, inviting others to experience the beauty of this natural haven and possibly support and contribute to its ongoing preservation and enhancement. Find us at www.bondsmeadow.org

The Annual General Meeting of Bonds Meadow Community Association will be held at Oulton Community Centre on Saturday 16th November 2024 at 10:30am. All are welcome.

 www.bondsmeadow.org



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