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# Changing shopping habits lead markets decline



**See you at the market:** Wymondham's markets offer good value for money, as well as a meeting place for friends and neighbours

**Regular users of Wymondham's markets will have noticed a slow decline in the level of market place shopping, both at the Friday Charter Markets and the monthly Farmers' Markets. There is a reduction in the number of market traders – there is no longer a waiting list of traders wanting stalls – and people's shopping habits are changing as cheap retail outlets increasingly meet their needs.**

Farmers' Markets offer a different service, giving customers direct access to the local producers who provide genuinely local produced food and drink. But often cheap price is the main consideration for shoppers, and it's hard for traders to compete with the supermarkets.

This is not just a Wymondham problem. Markets in most other small towns are noting a similar decline, and it's the same even for the largest markets, like Norwich and Yarmouth. The Town Council provides an attractive venue for both kinds of market, with council staff

cleaning up rubbish after business is done, and for the Farmers' Markets, providing sheltered awnings to cover the stalls. All market traders pay stall hire fees, but the Town Council keeps these at the minimum level to cover costs, and there was no increase in fees this year.

We should remember that all our markets offer a regular service for everyone, and in particular those who find getting out of town to do their shopping difficult. Apart from shopping, our markets provide regular social meeting places for local people.

We should all use our Wymondham town markets whenever we can, and play our part in keeping them lively and successful.



**Christmas is coming:**  
After last year's successful first event, Wynterfest is back to get us into the Christmas spirit. Full story on page 4.

# Town Council News

**Proposals for a radical change in the makeup of the large Wymondham Parish as part of a periodic boundaries review have been put forward by residents of Spooner Row, Sutton and Wattlefield, who seek to set up a separate Community Council. Concern is expressed about the slow decline in numbers of stalls and customers at both Friday Charter Markets and Farmers' Markets, but the problem is felt county wide and nationally, not only in Wymondham. The Tourist Information Centre in the Market Cross sets out the services it offers to residents and visitors.**

## Spooner Row, Wattlefield and Sutton as a separate parish?

**By statute, every 10-15 years South Norfolk Council conducts a Community Governance Review to see if changes are needed in matters such as the size and nature of parishes.**

The current review is now under way and some councillors have attended preliminary meetings to discuss the process. During the initial consultation period a small group of residents have canvassed opinion, and South Norfolk Council received 316 responses from residents of Spooner Row, Wattlefield and Sutton indicating strong support for the idea of creating a separate parish, independent of Wymondham.

The initial responses were considered by

South Norfolk Council, and their Electoral Arrangements Review Committee received the following recommendation at its meeting on Tuesday 15 August 2017.

1. Recommend that Spooner Row, Wattlefield and Sutton be separated from Wymondham Town Council, and Spooner Row Community Council be formed.

2. Recommend that Spooner Row Community Council has 7 Councillors.

South Norfolk Council have published draft proposals and a further consultation, lasting two months, runs from 31 August – 27 October 2017, the results of this being considered further by South Norfolk in January 2018. Any recommendation will then be forwarded to the Electoral Commission who will

make the final decision.

Drop-in sessions will be held in Spooner Row Church on Friday 6 October from 7-9pm, and on Saturday 7 October from 10am-noon, or at the Town Council offices during office hours in the week beginning Monday 2 October. Details of the sessions can also be found on the Town Council website

Residents can make contact with the Town Council by emailing [office@wymondhamtc.co.uk](mailto:office@wymondhamtc.co.uk)

Alternatively submissions can be made in writing to: Electoral Services Department, South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, NR15 2XE or by typing the following in your browser bar [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Parish/](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/Parish/)

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Appointments also available at Norwich and Lowestoft. Home visits are available on request but further charges may apply.

LATE NIGHT THURSDAY - PRE-BOOKED APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE UNTIL 7PM

## Hear us on Talking Newspaper!

**Perhaps we're not Radio Norfolk or even Radio 4, but many visually impaired people find it really helpful to listen to local news stories at leisure.**

An audio version of 'About Wymondham' is produced by Wymondham and Attleborough Talking Newspaper, and we make sure they have a pre-publication version in time for their next regular issue. For more information go to [www.watn.org.uk](http://www.watn.org.uk)

## Meeting dates – council & committees

The Town Council normally meets on the first Tuesday of each month with the Finance and General Purposes and Leisure and Environment committees meeting on the third Tuesday of alternate months. The Planning Lighting and Highways committee deals with planning applications and meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

Dates until December are set out below. The complete list is available on the Town Council's website.

### September

- 5 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Town Council
- 19 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Leisure and Environment

### October

- Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Town Council - **dates to be confirmed**
- 17 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

### November

- 7 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Town Council
- 21 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Leisure and Environment

### December

- 5 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Town Council
- 19 Planning Lighting and Highways followed by Finance and General Purposes

Town Council Offices closed 25-28 December inclusive

## Who are your councillors?

As a result of the elections last May, the following have been elected to serve until the next local government elections in May 2020 (May 2021 for County Councillors), representing Wymondham on the county (NCC), district (SNC) and/or town councils.

### Abbey Ward

Mr R Savage	"Kingston" 6 Park Lane NR18 9BG	<b>603722</b>	WTC, SNC
Mr K Hurn	6 Daisy Street NR18 0FF	<b>603637</b>	WTC
Mrs P Stearn	Middle Farmhouse Stanfield NR18 9BG	<b>603984</b>	WTC

### Cromwells Ward

Mr J Halls	2 Chapel Loke, Spooner Row	<b>600720</b>	WTC
Mr J Hornby	9 Papillon Road NR18 0WD	<b>600300</b>	WTC, SNC
Mr A Osborne	Granary House Old Stn Yard Silfield Road NR18 9AU	<b>603175</b>	WTC

### Northfields Ward

Mr C Longhurst	17 Warwick Drive NR18 0LT	<b>605126</b>	WTC
Mr J Mooney	2 Orchard Way NR18 0NX	<b>604482</b>	WTC, SNC, NCC
Mr D Underwood	14 Herb Robert Glade NR18 0XS	<b>601585</b>	WTC

### Rustens Ward

Mr P Broome	14 Bramble Way NR18 0UN	<b>600829</b>	WTC, SNC
Mr A Holden	31 Ashleigh Gardens NR18 0EX	<b>859968</b>	WTC
Mrs S Sayer	217 Norwich Road NR18 0SL	<b>602827</b>	WTC

### Town Ward

Mr I Flatt	48 Orchard Way NR18 0NY	<b>603398</b>	WTC
Mr L Hornby	9 Papillon Road NR18 0WD	<b>600300</b>	WTC, SNC
Mrs S Wyr	11 Bramble Way NR18 0UN	<b>07842766038</b>	WTC

### Forehoe Ward

C Foulger	Pear Tree House, Turnpike, Bunwell NR16 1SP	<b>07745163169</b>	NCC
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## Welcome for all at the Market Cross

**The Tourist Information Centre in Wymondham Market Cross has continued to welcome visitors from all over the world as well as answering questions from local people, especially new and prospective residents.**

The range of information attracts positive comment including "best tourist info. office ever" from a North Norfolk visitor. The building continues to be much admired: "just love the Market Cross!" wrote someone from Hampshire.

As well as information and timetables the Cross stocks a range of maps, souvenirs and cards. New for walkers is a map book of the Norfolk Coast Path and Peddars Way, which is more convenient to carry than a set of maps as well as less expensive overall. Mounted prints of the Cross and Green Dragon by local artist Graham Lain have recently become available for sale. Do come and see them.

Summer hours, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10-2.30 and Saturdays 10-1.30 continue until the end of October, with reduced hours through the winter months.



**Wymondham Market Cross** for all you need to know about our area, and about tourism in the region

# Community News

***It rained on Carnival day but it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of those taking part in the procession or other activities: in a year of variable weather we hope for better things for the September Vintage Day, and Wynterfest in December. Two new ventures are announced: a community café in the Baptist Church to provide a meeting place with conversation and refreshments, and a forum for diabetes sufferers with regular meetings and speakers. The WEA advertises its autumn programme on volcanoes, and Music Festival and the Arts Centre mark up another successful year.***



## Wynterfest 2017

**Following the success of Wynterfest 2016 the team are preparing for this year's event with enthusiasm. The programme of activities will run from 12 noon to 6pm on Saturday 9 December and will include the Christmas Tree Festival at Wymondham Abbey, the Crib Festival at The Town Green Centre, Santa's Grotto in Wharton's Court, reindeer in Fairland Street as well as live entertainment in the Market Place and Town Green.**

Some new ideas are in the planning including a show of work by local artists, a children's trail, and hopefully a seasonal trail for adults to enjoy too.

The Light Up Wymondham Team are extending the Festive Lights in all directions through the town and the parade of carol singers will leave from the Abbey earlier than usual, with carol singing around the Market Cross led by singers from the community of churches.

"We hope that everyone will come to the centre of our beautiful Market Town which will be offering a feast of Christmas Celebration for everyone in the community to enjoy" says Wynterfest Committee chair Fran Young. Programmes will be on sale in early November for £1.00 each and they give full details of the various activities, as well as ensuring the event is viable and can continue in future years.

### **Please don't rain on our parade!**

Wymondham's 2017 Carnival offered a variety of weather. Seen here are the Stepping Stones Pre-School, winners of the Carnival procession competition, enjoying their victory in the sunshine. Just after this photo was taken, the heavens opened!



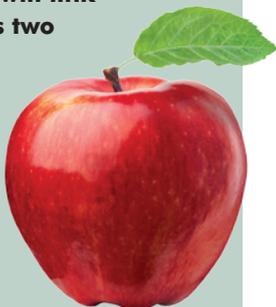
## Apple Day links markets

**Apple themes will link Wymondham's two markets in October.**

Since its launch in 2000 as the first of its kind in Norfolk, Wymondham Farmers' Market has marked National Apple Day on 21 October with apple themed activities. This year the third Saturday in October falls on the 21st, and the Town Council is providing funding for a joint promotion of the Farmers' Market and the town's weekly Friday Charter market.

Coffee specialists Java Bean (run by young entrepreneurs Dominic Marshall and Hayley Horwell) have signed up to attend both markets, creating a stallholder link between the two trading venues for the first time.

Near neighbours Aitleborough are being invited to promote their weekly Thursday market in the same week, also using the apple theme, which is a symbol of historical significance to the Breckland town.



**Roots Community Café now open for business:** Café volunteers seen here are (from left) Ramona Chenery, Gill Price, Vic Wright, Emma Smith and Alana Smith

## Church opens community café

**Wymondham Baptist Church has launched a community café in Wymondham town centre. Roots Community Café will run on Mondays and Fridays from 10:00-1:00, offering a safe, warm and welcoming place for members of the community to find a conversation or encouragement.**

Church supporters have worked together to raise additional funds for the project. During the summer they have developed a spare room at the church into an attractive space that will be comfortable for everyone, including those with

pushchairs and wheelchairs. A small children's play area will also be available.

The café, which can seat more than twenty visitors, is being run by the church in response to research they conducted in 2013. Project Director Emma Smith commented "With the Who Cares survey and our own contact with the community, we have found that loneliness is overwhelmingly the need most commonly shared across all age groups and circumstances. That's why we're offering this café - as an affordable place for people to be around others."

Emma was eager to point out that the church supports local business, and adds "Our café is absolutely not here to draw custom away from the lovely cafés we have in Wymondham. We know that what some people are truly hungry for is the conversation but we're offering the cup of coffee and a slice of cake as a way of opening up that conversation. We are really looking forward to connecting with and meeting new people."

South Norfolk District Council have welcomed the endeavour, noting that the number of people who need a place to interact has increased. The church are now working with the Council to understand how the project may help to meet other practical community needs.

For more information on Roots Community Café, please contact Wymondham Baptist Church on **606520** or [office@wymondhambaptist.org](mailto:office@wymondhambaptist.org).

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## Wymondham Community Events – Autumn 2017

### September

Sat 23	10–3pm	Harvest Veggie Fest – a celebration of vegan and vegetarian food and drink – stalls, demos and fun	Abbey
	10–3pm	WEA Day School: The Lunar Society and The Brunels. Tutor Glen Barrett	Abbey Hall
Sun 24	3pm	Concert: Sunday Serenade – Chris Allen, clarinet, Sarah Gallop, soprano, Geoff Lavery, piano	Abbey
Tue 26	10–5pm	Exhibition: Amazing Clay – Norfolk potters showing decorative and functional ceramics – ends Sun 1 Oct (12–5 Sun)	Arts Centre
Sat 30	7.30pm	Concert: 'Brass at Sunset' - Cawston Band directed by Leigh Sharpe	Abbey

### October

Sun 1	2.30pm	Regal Experience film: 'The Maltese Falcon' with Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter Lorre and Sydney Greenstreet	Ex Services Club
Tue 3	10–5pm	Exhibition: Elements – explored using paint, costume and textiles – ends Sun 8 Oct (12–5 Sun)	Arts Centre
	7.30pm	Town Council meeting	Tiffany Room, Central Hall
Thu 5	7pm	Concert: The Miracle of the Voice – Christina Johnston, soprano, Inga Goldsmith piano	Abbey
Sun 8	3pm	Sundays at Three – illustrated talk by Dr Clare Haynes – Antiquarian depictions of Norfolk churches	Abbey
Tue 10	10–5pm	Exhibition: A Coastal Celebration – Patrick Boswell, ends Sun 15 Oct (12–5 Sun)	Arts Centre
Thu 12	10–12pm	WEA 8-week course: The Earth on Fire – volcanoes – tutor Charles Lewis	Abbey Hall
Tue 17	10–5pm	Exhibition: Wymondham Art Society – ends Sun 22 Oct (12–5 Sun)	Arts Centre
Sat 21	9am	Farmers' Market	Market Place
	11am	Coffee-time organ recital – Peter O'Connor	Abbey
Sun 22	3pm	Sundays at Three – Merrily danced the Quaker's wife – Songs, Ayres, Jigs and Jollies – lively entertainment for all the family performed on traditional instruments by Chanters Jigge	Abbey
Tue 24	10–5pm	Exhibition: Norfolk Makers and Craft Fair – ends Sun 5 Nov (12–5 Sun)	Arts Centre
Sat 28	5pm	A Green Halloween – wildlife event for young people	Abbey

### November

Wed 1	1pm	Lunch-time choral concert: Munich Vocal Ensemble	Abbey
Sat 4	10–3pm	Autumn Craft Fair	Abbey
Sun 5	3pm	Sundays at Three – talk: subject and speaker to be confirmed	Abbey
Tue 7	7.30pm	Town Council meeting	Tiffany Room, Central Hall
Sat 11	11am	Remembrance Ceremony	War Memorial
Sun 12	2pm	Remembrance Sunday – parade assembles	Market Place
	3pm	Remembrance Service	Abbey
Sat 18	9am	Farmers' Market	Market Place
Sun 19	2.30pm	Regal Experience film: There's No Business Like Show Business with Marilyn Monroe, Ethel Merman, Mitzi Gaynor, Donald O'Connor and Johnny Ray, lyrics and music by Irving Berlin	Ex-Services Club
Sat 25	7.30pm	Concert: North of the Border – Wymondham Symphony Orchestra conducted by Andrew Parnell	Abbey
Sun 26	6.30pm	Advent Carol Service	Abbey

### December

Sat 2	10–4pm	Abbey Christmas Tree Festival – ends Sun 10 Dec	Abbey
Tue 5	7.30pm	Town Council meeting	Tiffany Room, Central Hall
Thu 7	1.30pm	Robert Kett Schoolchildren lay flowers on the anniversary of the deaths of Robert and William Kett in 1549	Becket's Chapel
Sat 9	12–6pm	Wynterfest Festival – carol singing procession starts at the Abbey at 5.30	Market Place
	7.30pm	Concert: Encore sing Christmas and classical melodies directed by Sally Champion-Jones	Abbey
	7.30pm	Dance: 50/60s dance with The Busketeers at North Wymondham Community Centre	Lime Tree Avenue
Sun 10	2.30pm	Regal Experience film: 'National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation' with Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo and Randy Quaid	Ex-Services Club
Tue 12	10–4pm	Advent Spiral – All welcome to light a candle and walk the spiral – ends Fri 15 Dec	Abbey
Sat 16	9.00am	Farmers' Market	Market Place
Sun 17	6.30pm	Town Carol Service	Abbey
Wed 20	9–12pm	Farmers' Market	Market Place
Wed 20 and Thu 21	1.30–3.30pm	Christmas Craft-time children's activities – booking essential, <b>01953 607062</b>	Abbey

# Autumn studies with WEA



**The second of two day schools offered this year by the Wymondham branch of WEA is on Saturday 23 September, from 10-3pm.**

Glenn Barrett will introduce the 18th Century Lunar Society and its importance in the development of science and technology. He will go on to talk about Sir Marc Isambard Brunel and Isambard Kingdom Brunel and their contribution to 19th century engineering. The course fee is £10.

**The Earth on Fire**, with tutor Charles Lewis, is an 8-week course starting on Thursday 12 October from 10:00 to 12:00, and continuing each Thursday. It will look at volcanoes and volcanic activity worldwide: exploring their causes, variety and distribution, famous eruptions, and their influence on the origins and development of the earth and the activities of man. The course fee is £58.

Venue for both courses is the Abbey Hall, Church Street, Wymondham, NR18 0PH. All enquiries and bookings to Ros Krieger: Tel: **600639** email: [rkrieger@talktalk.net](mailto:rkrieger@talktalk.net)

## Wymondham Diabetes Group – working together to support diabetics

**Wymondham Diabetes Group meets on the second Tuesday of every other month, at the Fairland Church from 2-4 pm. The aims of the group are to share the experience of living with diabetes and manage the condition better by learning more about it.**

All are welcome including those who have been told they have 'Pre-Diabetes', carers and family members. The group offers the opportunity to chat over a cup of tea or coffee, ask questions and listen to a variety of speakers.

On 10 October, Footsure of Wymondham will be giving information and advice, and on 12 December the Lead Community Dietician will talk about 'Enjoying the Christmas Season on your diet'. Free literature from Diabetes UK is available at our meetings.

We look forward to seeing you at our meetings which are free of charge. Anne Hoare on **607494** will be pleased to answer any queries.



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## Variety a feature of Arts Centre's autumn shows

September and October exhibitions in Wymondham's own volunteer-run art gallery offer something for everyone before the centre closes for the winter in November.

Textiles, photography, seascapes and coastal scenes in a variety of media, Wymondham townscapes, pottery and ceramics all feature, before an exhibition of arts and crafts by Norfolk Makers ends the 2017 season.

Wymondham Art Society's exhibition from 17-22 October will display a wide variety of media and styles. The illustration shows a corner of an earlier Art Society show in the Arts Centre.



## Another resounding success for Music Festival

After 22 years Wymondham's own festival of music continues to strike the right note for quality, variety and audience numbers.

As usual, plans are already being drawn up for next year's festival, so mark the first two weeks of July in your 2018 diary now!

Trumpet player Alice Godfrey was joined by organist Rob Goodrich for a teatime recital in the Abbey during this year's festival.

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We welcome your contributions. If you want to submit articles or photos, put items in the diary or comment on content please contact **John Wood** on **01953 602051**.

To advertise or comment on circulation please contact the **Town Clerk** on **01953 603302**. The next edition will be in December: copy date is **Friday 17th November**.