

# Annual Report 2018-19



**Broads**  
Authority

## INTRODUCTION

### Looking back and looking forward – welcome to a year in the Broads

With the 70th anniversary of the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, which led to the establishment of the first national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty, and the 30th anniversary of the Broads Authority, 2019 is definitely a year for looking back, but in so doing we are reminded of the constant need and desire to look forward, too. The annual report functions in a very similar way. There's much to look back on, far more than we can tell you about in this brief report, which highlights just some



Former Broads Authority chairs and colleagues at the 30th anniversary celebrations, left to right: Stephen Johnson, Haydn Thirtle, John Packman, Sheelin Knollys, Jacquie Burgess and Martin Shaw

of the recent projects within the Broads – but it's also very much about what happens next, looking forward to the next part of each project's story.

The national parks anniversary and plans for a new national parks communications team signal a further commitment to working together, learning from each other and supporting each other. That's also very much the case with our own projects, which involve colleagues from all sections of the Authority covering many areas of expertise, as you can see from the staff list at the end of this report.

New challenges always lie ahead, for the Broads, for the family of national parks and for all the local, national and international organisations we work with, whether it's farmers in the Broadland Catchment Partnership, colleagues at the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs or our partners in the European CANAPE project.

For details about our projects please go to [www.broads-authority.gov.uk](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk) or see our contact details right.

### Get involved

If you'd like to get involved, read about Broads Engage in these pages or go to [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work/broads-engage](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work/broads-engage)

### Keep in touch

For regular updates on our work you can read Broads Briefing, our monthly online newsletter. To subscribe, go to [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/news/monthly-newsletter](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/news/monthly-newsletter)

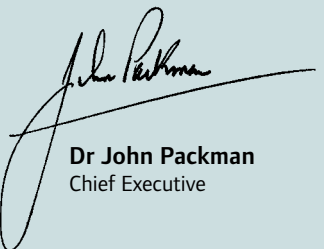
If you'd like regular news about places to visit and things to do, you can also sign up for our Visit the Broads National Park newsletter, go to [www.visitthebroads.co.uk/newsletter](http://www.visitthebroads.co.uk/newsletter)

We look forward to hearing from you.



  
**Mr Bill Dickson**  
Chairman



  
**Dr John Packman**  
Chief Executive



Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road,  
Norwich, Norfolk NR1 1RY  
01603 610734  
[broads@broads-authority.gov.uk](mailto:broads@broads-authority.gov.uk)  
[www.broads-authority.gov.uk](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk)

This report has been designed to be read as a pdf on screen. If you require one of the limited number of printed copies please contact us. It can be viewed or downloaded at: [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work)

Front cover:  
Parsley Pump by Joanna Davidson, see page 10



Saint Benet's Abbey

Photo: Wayne Huzzey

<b>Working with the community</b> .....4	<b>Promoting the Broads</b> .....10	Broads Authority membership ..... 16
Supporting Broads-related projects	Showcasing the Broads National Park	Broads Authority staff ..... 17
<b>Valuable volunteers</b> .....7	<b>Practical works</b> .....12	Revenue accounts ..... 19
For the love of the Broads	Improving the infrastructure on land and water	Broads information centres.....back cover
<b>Conserving the Broads</b> .....8	<b>Planning for the future</b> .....14	
Protecting our waterways and wildlife	Maintaining the special character of the Broads	



# Working with the community

## Water, Mills & Marshes

Over the past year Water, Mills & Marshes projects have really got underway. Together they form the Broads landscape partnership scheme, which is led by the Broads Authority and continues through till 2023, aiming to enable everyone, of any age, whether local or visiting, to understand, benefit from and enjoy the special landscape of the Broads National Park. Here's a taste of some of the projects. For more details go to [www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk](http://www.watermillsandmarshes.org.uk)



Taking inspiration from the history, landscape and wildlife of the Broads

## Art collaboration exhibition

As part of their coursework, Norwich University of the Arts students produced work in a range of media including drawing, animation, painting, printmaking, costume and collage in response to the people, places and way of life encapsulated by Water, Mills &

Marshes. The project culminated in a fascinating exhibition for the public in May 2018, with the students on hand to talk about their work. The project is continuing with new groups of students.

## Woven Waters

For this project six professional artists have been selected to work within the Broads over 18 months, recording their experiences and producing work to be exhibited from December 2019 at a two-month public exhibition at the Hostry at Norwich Cathedral. For some of the artists the landscape is wild and full of the sounds and sights of birds and other animals, while others are exploring the ways in which human influence is ever-present and has been for millennia. Works will include textiles, print, painting, photography and animation.

## Wild Watch camera scheme

Borrow a trail camera for free to capture images and video wildlife in your garden or other wild areas. Individuals, families, nature groups and schools can all join in. You never know what's visiting! The scheme featured in the BBC's Countryfile programme about the Broads National Park in February 2019 and continues to be extremely popular.



Looking after the Broads mills

## Bricks and mortar

In autumn 2018 we launched our project working with City College Norwich, adding heritage skills training modules for over 400 students engaged in modern construction courses and then getting them out on site working on 12 of the Broads drainage mills, mostly in the Halvergate Marshes area. Each project is unique but similar skills apply to other heritage projects so the skills learned will be completely transferable. The project is continuing over five years and more recently, in May 2019, the Broads Authority and City College Norwich won first prize overall in the Norfolk Constructing Excellence Club Awards, in addition to first prize in the preservation and rejuvenation category.



The National Lottery

the national lottery

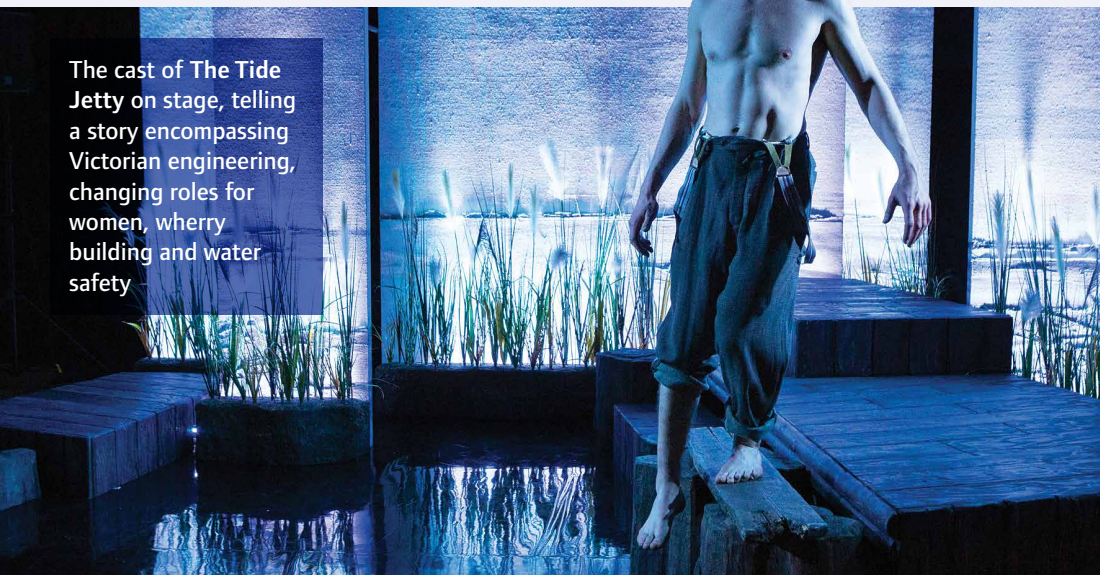


## The Tide Jetty

A specially commissioned play telling an intriguing tale of life on the edge of Breydon Water was brought to life by Eastern Angles Theatre Company, who toured it all over East Anglia from 20 March to 1 June 2019, including performances at Burgh Castle and other Broads locations. The set brought the Broads landscape to life very imaginatively and the play showed how the landscape influenced the lives of those who lived here in the 19th century. A play looking at the future is planned for 2020.



The cast of *The Tide Jetty* on stage, telling a story encompassing Victorian engineering, changing roles for women, wherry building and water safety



## Broads hidden heritage

Norfolk County Council and the University of East Anglia (UEA) are leading local history and archaeology training and research projects. The scheme was launched at UEA in June 2018, with speakers including Professor

Rob Liddiard on Second World War archaeology in the Broads and Professor Tom Williamson on the landscape history of the Broads marshes. There are opportunities to get involved with mill trails, stories of life on the marshes, aerial archaeology and test pit digging.

## A Grand for a Grand Idea

This small grants scheme enables further groups to get involved. Here are just two of the grand ideas that have received funding and there's still money available for new projects if you have grand ideas of your own that you'd like to pursue.

## National parks exchange visit

In September 2018 Somerleyton Primary School in Norfolk, representing the Broads National Park and Bury Church of England Primary School in Sussex, representing the South Downs National Park, visited each other to learn all about the two parks. Exploration of the Broads included a boat trip from Oulton Broad, dyke dipping at Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Carlton Marshes, a visit to Herringfleet Mill and a tractor tour of the Somerleyton Estate. Broads students walked along the South Downs Way, visited Midhurst, and explored through history at the Weald and Downland Living Museum.

## Broadsound

This is the first episode in a series of podcasts called Ear of the Edgeland that takes an explorative and alternative look at Norfolk. Broadsound features the writer and naturalist Mark Cocker and the poet, author and UEA lecturer Jean McNeil, as their conversation focuses on the Broads while on the 12:36 train from Norwich to Great Yarmouth, crossing the marshes. Also featured is new music recorded in Surlingham Church, and beautiful field recordings from Wheatfen and Ranworth. Broadsound was produced for the Norfolk and Norwich Sonic Arts Collective in December 2018.



## Broads Engage

Broads Engage workshops, parish forums and working groups offer you opportunities to hear about and have a say on key issues for the Broads.



The regular workshops are a way for interest groups and the local community to meet and discuss topics of importance to you and the Broads Authority. Groups are welcome to send representatives to any of the workshops.

We also welcome suggestions for future workshop topics. One of the recent workshops, held in November 2018, focused on project ideas for better access provision on land, and between land and water. Around 70 people attended, including representatives from 46 different interest groups and parish councils, as well as Broads Authority members and staff. Organisations ranged from the

national, such as the Ramblers, to the local, such as the Nancy Oldfield Trust, which offers accessible boating on the Broads.

Parish forums take place twice a year and are a chance for the Authority to update parish councils on our latest projects and to answer your questions. The forums are open to representatives from all local parish councils.

Partnership working groups cover topics such as tourism, biodiversity and education, or area-based matters such as management of the Broads rivers catchment. The groups generally involve representatives from accountable or influencing organisations.

We also consult the public when preparing key documents such as the Broads Plan and the Broads Local Plan.

To find out more about Broads Engage events or to respond to consultations go to [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work/broads-engage](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/about-us/how-we-work/broads-engage)



## So many ways to Love the Broads

The amazing range of projects supported with grants from the local giving scheme, Love the Broads, continues to demonstrate that there are many ways to love the Broads. Visitors and tourism businesses, as well as members of the scheme, are extremely generous with their donations. Thanks to them, in 2018 the 10 projects listed below received grants totalling nearly £10,000.

- Education resources for school visits to Wherry Yacht Charter
- Reintroduction of the fen raft spider to the Broads
- Buoyancy aids and education resources for children to experience wetlands by boat at Norfolk Wildlife Trust's Hickling and Ranworth Broads
- Replacement footbridge at Rockland St Mary Staithe car park
- Visitor information board at Coltishall Lock



Playing with reality, understanding how landscapes evolve

- All-terrain wheelchair for Hall Farm Cottages (holiday accommodation situated between Horning and Ludham)
- Generator for independent electricity supply for trips on Norfolk Wherry Maud
- Boat offering trips for less able visitors at the Museum of the Broads, Stalham
- Native plants for a wildlife pond at Nicholas Everitt Park, Oulton Broad
- Augmented reality sandbox to demonstrate water level and landscape change for Water, Mills & Marshes

For more details and to find out about getting involved, go to [www.lovethebroads.org.uk](http://www.lovethebroads.org.uk)

# Valuable volunteers

7



## Norfolk Makers' Festival

Not only do volunteers learn new skills to support their work, they are also involved in taking them to the local community. In February 2019, 10 volunteers, who learnt willow weaving as part of their activities at Whitlingham, participated in the Norfolk Makers' Festival at The Forum in Norwich, passing on their skills to the public and helping to promote the Broads National Park to a wider audience.

The festival is funded by The Forum Trust, working with partners for the benefit of the public, and includes rural and traditional crafts, so the old skill of willow weaving was very appropriate. Volunteers spent a great day demonstrating their new old skills and helping others to have a go.

## Let's celebrate volunteers!

Much of the work of the Broads Authority that you're reading about here just wouldn't be possible without the huge contribution made by our extremely committed volunteers.

In recognition of this we held a Volunteer Celebration Day (see above), where staff who regularly supervise and work with our volunteers, and also our members, had an opportunity to say thank you to the people who give so much of their own time towards helping us to look after the Broads. It's a chance to get to know each other better, too.

The 2018 event took place at Norfolk Snowsports Club at Whitlingham and participants enjoyed some unusual activities including willow weaving, playing the drums, orienteering, yoga, making ceramics, archery and tubing, followed by lunch and a talk by John Packman, Chief Executive of the Authority.

Over 150 people came and made their own willow items during the day and many more stopped to watch and ask questions. While making a fish, wand or bird feeder, visitors had the opportunity to learn about willow, including where it grows and how it is harvested, and experience the satisfaction of creating an item out of a completely natural material grown in the Broads.

## Something for everyone

Broads Authority volunteers support our work in a variety of ways throughout the year. Each volunteer can undertake activities that they gain the most satisfaction from and enjoy doing best. There really is something for everyone and this year we have recruited volunteers in a wide range of areas. Roles are advertised on our website.

If you're a practical volunteer you could be clearing a fallen tree, mending quay heading or clearing invasive plants. Ranger volunteers maintain moorings

and countryside sites, and patrol the waterways. Fitter volunteers maintain all our machinery, vessels and equipment. We also have volunteer teams based at Potter Heigham and Whitlingham, carrying out maintenance and assisting visitors.

Survey volunteers work with our environment officers on species and habitats surveys, while database volunteers deal with collating and analysing the data collected. At our information centres and yacht stations volunteers are often our first point of contact with visitors. Helping others to enjoy the national park is a key part of the role and giving boating advice also plays a big part.

Education volunteers attend school activities, sometimes working with children excluded from mainstream education, who often respond well to an outdoor setting. Events volunteers get involved in activities for the public – anything from taking visitors canoeing or star gazing, to promoting the Broads at the Norfolk Show. There's also an important role for administration volunteers, preparing for education activities and public events.



Left: Weaving magic



# Conserving the Broads



## CANAPE – restoring wetlands and developing wetland agriculture

Last year we explained about the background and the launch of this major European project, running until 2022, in which the Broads Authority is the lead partner – now we can tell you more about what's happening on the ground and in the water, and about the innovative products involved.

**Creating A New Approach to Peatland Ecosystems** is the full title of the project, which has two key areas. These are restoring wetlands through sustainable management practices, including controlling water levels on land, and developing and marketing new wetland products that can be produced from re-wetted land. Here's what's been happening in the Broads.



Producing and selling sustainable Broads charcoal

### Developing wetland agriculture

Paludiculture is the name for wetland agriculture. Here in the Broads we are focusing on making new products from waste wood and reed. Trials of the creation of charcoal from the waste started this spring, and we are offering landowners, contractors, conservation organisations and volunteer groups the chance to participate, turning their wood or reed into charcoal using a portable retort. This produces sustainable, local charcoal with lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than traditional production.

Our retort creates two products, charcoal for cooking or heating and fine

biochar, which improves soils, increases crop yield, improves water retention and decreases CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Participants in the trials should come away with an additional income source from recycling their waste products. Following the period of this report, the trial continues to prove very successful and we are now selling charcoal from the visitor centre in the flint barn at Whitlingham Country Park.

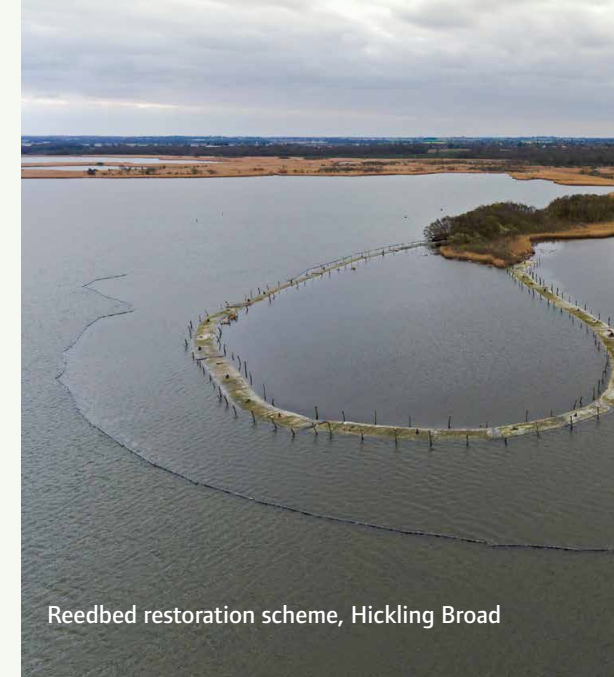
### Restoring wetlands

Over autumn and winter 2018-19 our construction teams rebuilt the outline of an eroded reedbed on the edge of Hickling Broad. To construct the area a series of geotextile tubes were filled with sediment dredged from the broad, forming a solid barrier. The area behind the tubes will be filled with more sediment over the next two years to create an area where reed can flourish. Through dredging the marked navigation channel, a total of 19,000m<sup>3</sup> of sediment will be used to form the peninsula.

This is the next stage in our partnership with Norfolk Wildlife Trust to improve the water quality in Hickling Broad.

It will create a hectare of new reedbed to benefit rare wildlife such as swallowtail butterflies, marsh harriers, bitterns and water voles. The sheltered area behind the bay will provide good habitat for stoneworts to take hold.

Education in the widest sense is an important part of the project and our work at Hickling featured in the BBC's Countryfile programme about the Broads National Park in February 2019. With the broad shrouded in mist and ice, who knew that dredging could be so beautiful?



Reedbed restoration scheme, Hickling Broad



Also in February, we invited citizen scientist students to an event celebrating peatlands before heading out into the fens to begin gathering soil data. The students are learning to take soil cores, and providing data on the depth of peat and clay layers on sites around the Broads. This is improving our understanding of the hydrology of the land we manage, and educating the students about peatlands and their importance.

For more details go to [www.northsearegion.eu/canape](http://www.northsearegion.eu/canape)



## Spreading the word

Broads Authority staff are involved in spreading the word about conservation in all sorts of ways and a key one is through participating in public events. Some are great for reaching new audiences, while some focus on those with an interest in the subject area but perhaps not much awareness of the Broads, its role within the national parks and all that it has to offer.

Two such local events attended in 2018 were the spring Norfolk Festival of Nature and the autumn Norwich Science Festival. Activities included the chance to learn more about aquatic creatures, thanks to a microscope and camera linked to a screen for an underwater view of a pond, children's crafts, knot tying, our augmented reality sandbox demonstrating water level and landscape change, quizzes and a giant board game.

The Authority also hosted a workshop at the science festival, Future Broads Challenge, which looked at the effects of global warming on the Broads and how species are likely to be affected.



## On the verge of extinction?

In summer 2018 the Ted Ellis Trust's Wheatfen Nature Reserve at Surlingham was the venue for a conference of conservation scientists from 25 different organisations including the Royal Entomological Society, and the Swallowtail and Birdwing Butterfly Trust.

The purpose of the meeting was to highlight the uncertain future of the British species of the swallowtail butterfly, *Papilio machaon britannicus*, which is almost only found in the Broads. The Broads Authority's senior ecologist was a speaker at the meeting, explaining the vital nature of our work to maintain the fens where milk parsley grows – the only food plant of the swallowtail caterpillar.

Sea level is rising by more than 3mm a year and, together with tidal surges and storm events, this poses a threat within decades to the fen habitat on which the swallowtails depend. Though the swallowtail is

the most extreme case, it illustrates the important and precarious nature of much of the rarest wildlife in the Broads, where the fens support 1,500 species of conservation concern, 66 of them relying almost entirely on the Broads in the UK.



Above centre: Following the success of the 2018 Norwich Science Festival, put it in your calendar for this year, 18-26 October 2019  
Above: A swallowtail butterfly caterpillar enjoying some milk parsley

# Promoting the Broads



## Celebrating 30 years

The Broads Authority was established in its present form 30 years ago this year, when the Broads joined the family of national parks.

Celebrations began with a photography competition for the public, with categories for adults and young people, asking photographers to celebrate the uniqueness and beauty of the Broads. Subjects and places in some entries were familiar, others more unexpected – the winning pictures combined both aspects.

The winning image in the young person category showed Oulton Broad with beautiful evening colours and birdlife. *“The thing I love about taking photos is how it allows me to take a moment and share it with people,”* said the winner, Jack Stopher.



Views of the Broads at The Forum in Norwich

The winning entry in the adult category, featured on the front page of this report, was an unusually dark image of the white-painted Thurne Mill, which is in the background but centre stage too. *“I chose a different angle and mood for my image as I wanted to look at the Broads from a different perspective and encourage others to do so too,”* said the photographer, Joanna Davidson.

As part of the prize, both pictures were shown alongside the work of professional photographers, who have all worked with the Authority over many years, at an exhibition under the title Still Waters at The Forum in Norwich, which opened on 29 March. Images included Tom Mackie’s picture of the River Ant, shown above left.

The exhibition was the focus of the celebrations, showing visitors a little

of everything that’s special about the Broads, from huge skies to open waterways, from rare wildlife to cattle on the grazing marshes, from the people who make their living in the Broads to people on holiday boats, from wherries and other sailing boats to drainage mills and St Benet’s Abbey.

All 10 photographers, who included two members of our staff, very kindly allowed their work to be displayed free of charge and sold at the end of the exhibition to raise funds for Love the Broads, which supports projects that help to look after the Broads and provide facilities for all to enjoy it.

For five days staff at the exhibition were kept busy with the many visitors. An accompanying brochure was also produced for sale and in addition to viewing the photos, visitors could watch a new drone film of the Broads, produced by staff.

## A broad education

A long-term goal for the Broads Authority is that every child in the Broads should have the chance to experience the national park during their school career.



Discovering fens and peat on an activity day

In autumn 2018 we launched a new Broads Curriculum area within the learning section of our website, following a redesign of the section. We introduced new materials, including new video sequences, to support the study of geography at key stage 2 within the national curriculum – an area of study where the Broads has much to offer and there is great demand from schools. We have also developed plans for other curriculum areas, in particular history at key stage 2.

The site includes details of other education providers, who are members of the Broads Environmental Education Network, such as wildlife and boating trusts, visitor attractions and specialist education providers.



## Taking the Broads to the people

We are continuing to seek ways to develop the Broads brand and market it to the public.

On the principle of going to centres of existing visitor activity, the new Broads display for Norwich Train Station, complementing the one at Great Yarmouth, was unveiled in autumn 2018, just in time for the visit of Julian Glover, leader of the national parks review.

Attending key public events such as the Norfolk Show is also an excellent opportunity to reach wide and often

new audiences, and we attended again in 2018 with the Broads Village, which included many Visit the Broads members. We also worked with members to develop and produce the first Visit the Broads Pocket Guide, in time for the start of the 2019 visitor season.

On the national scale, the first English National Park experiences were launched for the 2019 visitor season and received the great accolade of VisitEngland's Outstanding Contribution to Tourism award. Broads experiences include wherry sailing and other boating activities, photography, and tours to immerse yourself in the wildlife and history of the marshes.



National activities in this area of work will shortly receive a great boost following agreement over final plans for the new national parks communications team, to be funded collectively by the parks and based in the Broads.

Above: Wherry sailing is a Broads National Park experience not to be missed  
Far left: Taking the Broads to Great Yarmouth – Greater Anglia staff with John Packman, Chief Executive of the Broads Authority  
Centre and left: Visitors at the Norfolk Show



# Practical works

## Surveying the scene

Broads Authority environment officers are involved in all kinds of ecological and environmental survey work throughout the Broads.

Surveys were completed in September 2018, prior to navigation works over the winter. Otter surveys were carried out at sites scheduled for riverside tree work on the River Waveney, water vole and reptile surveys were completed on the River Bure, and sediment samples were collected from dredging locations and analysed for contaminants prior to sediment removal. The findings of these surveys all help to shape our delivery of projects and ensure impacts on

habitats and biodiversity are avoided or minimised to acceptable levels.

Some of the survey work for 2019 aims to mitigate the effects of dredging on reptiles. The survey season for reptiles starts in April, so early in spring 2019 black corrugated mats were put out at future dredging sites to check for the presence of these sensitive species. The warm, sheltered conditions provided by the mats attract any reptiles present, so they can be monitored and if necessary relocated. Sites for the 2019 season include the banks along Waxham Cut, at Postwick Tip on the River Yare and on the River Waveney downstream of Beccles.

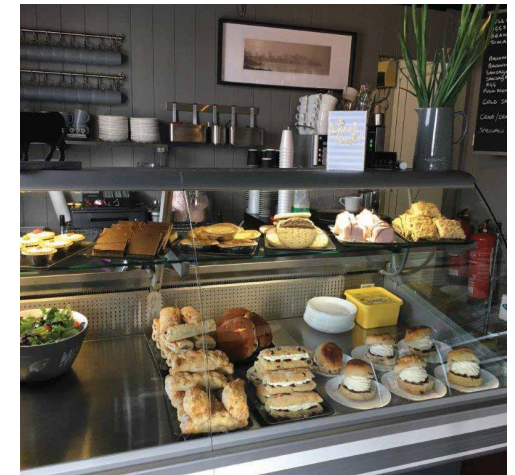


## More changes at Acle Bridge

Over last winter further improvements were made to the moorings, including constructing a raised path for use during higher tides and fitting new timbers, mooring posts, safety chains and ladders.

We also agreed the transfer of ownership of the toilets from Great Yarmouth Borough Council to the Broads Authority, so that they could be opened for the 2019 visitor season.

A caterer has taken over the combined cafe and shop on the site, and the building has been improved and opened



to the public, under the name Dunes River Cafe. The location offers free parking as well as free mooring, and we'd like to encourage visitors to sample the delicious cakes, drinks and other refreshments. The store also sells a small selection of groceries.

Meanwhile, plans are evolving for the future development of this important mooring site.

Above: Catch up with the changes at Acle Bridge over coffee and cake  
Left: Environment officers recording survey results out on the Broads





## Get out on the water at Horstead Mill

The need for improved launching facilities is identified within the Broads Authority's Integrated Access Strategy as part of improving the links between land and water. Horstead Mill has long been a favoured canoe launching point, but in recent years erosion and subsidence had caused the bank to sink, making it dangerous and unusable.

We renovated and improved the facility, which enhances the existing area, in consultation with British Canoeing, completing the work in June 2018.

Above: Launch and paddle your own canoe  
Top: Getting to grips with life as an apprentice  
Above right: New facilities for boaters include electric charging points at Neatishead

## Four newcomers

The 2018 intake of apprentices was the fourth such group to join the Broads Authority for a period of a year's training, leading to a level 2 NVQ in Environmental Conservation, offered in conjunction with Easton & Otley College.

The scheme has been so successful that this time round four places were made available, including a new role funded by Whitlingham Charitable Trust. Like the others, this apprentice has

## Take care

Our key means of ensuring safety is the Port Marine Safety Code, which requires harbour authorities to undergo a Formal Safety Assessment and to maintain a Safety Management System, to control the identified risks to a level as low as reasonably practicable. Our compliance with the code has been confirmed until March 2021.

At the level of individual safety, we have supported the Royal National Lifeboat Institution to develop a course



been working with Authority staff, but in addition to the practical tasks completed by all the apprentices, he has been introduced to public engagement work, attending events and helping visitors to enjoy Whitlingham Country Park.

We wish all the apprentices very well in their next endeavours and extend a huge thank you to Harry Oram, James Thompson, Joseph Hamilton and Alex Deane for the great contribution they have made.

for those working in waterside pubs and restaurants on how to deal with a casualty in the water. Potentially life-saving throw bags are supplied and training covers how to use the bags correctly, enabling staff to pull a casualty to safety.

You can find the latest Annual Performance Review at [www.broads-authority.gov.uk/boating/navigating-the-broads/safety/port-marine-safety-code/safety-monitoring](http://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/boating/navigating-the-broads/safety/port-marine-safety-code/safety-monitoring)



## Mooring in safety and comfort

Many of the Broads Authority's 24-hour moorings were improved or refurbished over last winter.

At Hoveton Viaduct, replacement metal piling and mooring posts were installed, together with new drainage and a new footpath. At Belaugh Staithe the timber quay heading was replaced and repairs were made to the concrete pad for the safety ladder. Refurbishment of the timber capping and supports at Coltishall Common was completed. Repairs were also made to the capping at St Benet's Abbey and at Paddy's Lane at Barton. In the south, mooring posts were replaced at Whitlingham Country Park.

Two electric charging points were installed at Neatishead, ready for 2019 visitors. This involved a new electricity supply and associated groundworks.

# Planning for the future



## Where to moor

Within our planning policies there is now a requirement that all new mooring basins and extensions to existing basins must include a percentage of moorings for visiting boats.

Through this policy there are public moorings at six locations in three areas of the Broads and over the period of this report they have all been made fully available. The moorings are located

at Sutton Staithe Boatyard Marina, Wayford Marina at Wayford Bridge, Barnes Brinkcraft at Hoveton, Brundall Church Fen, and Norfolk Boat Sales and Swancraft Marina, both also at Brundall.

We'd like to encourage boaters to make use of these facilities, but please note that charges may apply.

Left: Getting to know the ropes – and moorings

## What's new for the River Wensum?

In July 2018 the Broads Authority adopted the River Wensum Strategy. Norwich City Council led the development of this joint strategy, working with Norfolk County Council, the Environment Agency, the Wensum River Parkway Partnership and ourselves.

The strategy aims to manage the River Wensum and surrounding area for the benefit of city residents and visitors, increasing access to and use of the river itself. Plans include better access for boaters, walkers and cyclists, with more



moorings and links to facilities such as Norfolk Trails, plus better facilities for angling. The natural environment and open spaces near the river will be improved, and conservation projects will benefit wildlife. Encouraging local

businesses to increase facilities and making the most of historic riverside buildings are key parts of the strategy too, including the potential for a river festival.

One related project well underway already, having received planning permission from the Broads Authority in December 2018, is the installation of a pontoon for launching canoes at New Mills Yard in Norwich, encouraging and improving public access to the river.

Left: Our Norwich Yacht Station has lots to offer, but the new strategy opens a new chapter in the history of the River Wensum and Norwich's riverside

## We've made it!

This time last year we were telling you about the closing stages of the new Broads Local Plan, which forms the basis for making decisions on planning applications and other development matters right through to 2036.

The final stage, the independent examination by the Planning Inspectorate, was successfully completed, with the plan described as "sound" by the inspector. The plan was subsequently adopted by the Broads Authority in May 2019.





## Good neighbours

Conservation areas and neighbourhood plans in many ways look at planning from opposite perspectives – the past and the future. Conservation areas are all about preserving the best from the past and enabling it to fit comfortably into the present, while neighbourhood plans focus on developing what's good from the present and planning for the future. What both are focused on, however, is making the most of the community and helping it to thrive.

In conservation areas, new developments, improvements, demolition and tree work should be appropriate and aim to reinforce special character. The need to care for the historic environment must be balanced with the need for change, and any works that could detract from the area need to be considered carefully.

**Left:** The Broads Local Plan includes measures to avoid light pollution, so that we can continue to enjoy starry skies, such as we see here above the River Thurne

**Right:** The tranquil staithe at West Somerton, and town and country living at Wroxham

Neighbourhood plans establish policies for the development and use of land, such as where new homes and offices should be built and what they should look like.

In autumn 2018 the Broads Authority adopted the Somerton conservation area reappraisal, one of the latest areas to be reviewed as part of a continuing programme. These are areas of special architectural or historic interest. The history of the area, and the combination of local architectural styles and the use of local materials within the wider local landscape, create a local distinctiveness – something special about the area. East and West Somerton were traditionally agricultural communities, based around two large farming estates. They are

in the Upper Thurne, an area of great landscape and wildlife importance.

Wroxham Parish Council's neighbourhood plan was adopted by the Authority in spring 2019. Its objectives are to support a sustainable number and range of housing types; to encourage well-designed development that complements the character and history of Wroxham; to encourage appropriate new businesses; to encourage engagement and identity, recreating a village heart; to address the high volume of traffic and to ensure safer walking and cycling; to protect and develop access to the waterways; and to safeguard and improve the natural environment and its biodiversity.



**The Broads Authority has a membership of 21. Nine members are appointed by the two county councils and six district councils whose boundaries fall within the Authority's executive area, and 10 members by the Secretary of State. Two members are co-opted from the appointed members of the Navigation Committee.**

The July 2019 membership is set out to the right.

There are six meetings every year of the full Authority, supported by four-weekly meetings of the Planning Committee, six meetings of the Navigation Committee and three meetings of the Audit and Risk Committee.

The full Authority is the executive body for decision taking and overseeing all strategic issues. The Planning Committee exercises many of the Authority's powers and duties in relation to planning. The statutory Navigation Committee is a consultative body on navigation issues, while the Audit and Risk Committee scrutinises the Authority's accounts and ensures that financial planning risk is managed effectively.

All meetings are open to the public and details of the dates and venues of meetings are available from the Authority's committee staff and on the Authority's website.

The Authority has a public question time scheme for all of its committees, in which members of the public are invited to submit written questions, statements or petitions to the Authority, and to attend the meeting to present these in person.

The Authority has a complaints procedure, which was developed in accordance with advice from the Local Government Ombudsman and the Audit Commission. The procedure is intended to be free from unnecessary bureaucracy and easy to understand, while providing effective remedies. The procedure is aimed at cases where the complainant is not satisfied with an initial explanation and wishes to pursue the matter further. Details are available from the Authority's offices and on the Authority's website.

#### **Norfolk County Council**

Mr Haydn Thirtle (until 26 July 2019)  
Mr Vic Thomson (from 1 June 2019)  
Mr John Timewell (until 31 May 2019)  
Mr Fran Whymark (from 26 July 2019)

#### **Suffolk County Council**

Mrs Melanie Vigo di Gallidoro

#### **Broadland District Council**

Mrs Lana Hempsall

#### **Great Yarmouth Borough Council**

Mr Ron Hanton (from 1 November 2018 until 2 May 2019)  
Mr Leslie Mogford (from 3 June 2019)

#### **North Norfolk District Council**

Mr Harry Blathwayt (from 16 May 2019)  
Mr Paul Rice (until 2 May 2019)

#### **Norwich City Council**

Mrs Julie Brociek-Coulton (from 1 July 2019)  
Ms Gail Harris (until 30 June 2019)

#### **South Norfolk Council**

Mr James Knight (from 31 May 2019)  
Mr Vic Thomson (until 31 May 2019)

#### **East Suffolk Council (formerly Waveney District Council)**

Mr Mike Barnard (until 2 May 2019)  
Mrs Andrée Gee (from 6 June 2019)

#### **Secretary of State for Environment**

Mr Kelvin Allen  
Mr John Ash (until 31 March 2019)  
Mr Louis Baugh  
Mr Matthew Bradbury  
Prof Jacquie Burgess

Mr Bill Dickson  
Mr Tristram Hilborn (from 16 July 2019)  
Prof Timothy Jickells (from 16 July 2019)  
Mr Bruce Keith  
Ms Sarah Mukherjee (until 27 July 2018)  
Mr Greg Munford  
Mr Simon Roberts (from 3 August 2018)

#### **Co-opted from Navigation Committee**

Mr Simon Sparrow (from 17 May 2019)  
Mrs Nicky Talbot  
Mr Brian Wilkins (until 31 March 2019)

#### **Appointed Members of the Navigation Committee**

Mr John Ash (from 1 April 2019)  
Mrs Linda Aspland  
Mr Mike Barnes (from 1 April 2019)  
Mr Alan Goodchild (until 31 March 2019)  
Mr Andy Hamilton (from 1 April 2019)  
Mr Max Heron (until 31 March 2019)  
Mr James Knight (until 28 September 2018)  
Mr Simon Sparrow  
Mrs Nicky Talbot  
Mr Paul Thomas (from 1 April 2019)  
Mr Alan Thomson (from 1 April 2019)  
Mr Michael Whitaker (until 29 November 2018)  
Mr Brian Wilkins (until 31 March 2019)



**Chief Executive, Finance,  
Governance and ICT/Tolls****John Packman**  
Chief Executive**Emma Krelle**  
Chief Financial Officer**Shirmila Venn**  
Financial Accountant**Susan Buller**  
Senior Finance Assistant**Maxine Nicholas**  
Finance Assistant**Vacancy**  
Finance Assistant**Simone Steel**  
Finance Assistant (Insurance)**Lynda Yeo**  
Finance Assistant (Treasury)**Angie O'Connor**  
Asset Officer**Sonja Edgar**  
Asset Administrative Assistant**Maria Conti**  
Head of Governance**Sandra Beckett**  
Administrative Officer**Esmeralda Guds**  
Administrative Officer**Sarah Mullarney**  
Administrative Officer**Louise Adamson**  
Receptionist**Sandra Hodgkinson-Smith**  
Receptionist**Robert Organ**  
Receptionist**Bill Housden**  
Head of ICT /  
Collector of Tolls**Steve Linford**  
IT Project Officer**Jon Rudd**  
Senior IT Support Officer**Ian Brown**  
IT Support Officer**Robert Organ**  
IT Support Technician**Vicky Short**  
GIS Officer**Theresa Smith**  
Assistant Collector of Tolls**Ruth Adamson**  
Tolls Assistant**Julie Spinks**  
Tolls Assistant**John Paddison**  
Seasonal Tolls Assistant**Strategic Services****Marie-Pierre Tighe**  
Director of Strategic Services**Cally Smith**  
Head of Planning**Cheryl Peel**  
Senior Planning Officer**Nigel Catherall**  
Planning Officer**Jack Ibbotson**  
Planning Officer**Calum Pollock**  
Planning Assistant**Tony Risebrow**  
Planning Officer (Compliance  
and Implementation) /  
Hire Boat Licensing Officer**Linda Ibbotson-Elks**  
Planning Officer (Compliance and  
Implementation)**Kayleigh Judson**  
Planning Officer (Compliance  
and Implementation)**Natalie Beal**  
Planning Policy Officer**Tom Carter**  
Planning Technical Support Officer**Jo Eames**  
Administrative Officer**Jackie Dent**  
Historical Files Scanning Assistant**Ben Hogg**  
Historic Environment Manager**Andrea Kelly**  
Senior Ecologist**Neil Punchard**  
Broadland Catchment  
Partnership Officer**Harry Mach**  
CANAPE Project Manager**Lottie Carlton**  
Administrative Officer**Lucy Pointer**  
Head of Human Resources**Will Dougal**  
HR and Payroll Coordinator**Rob Leigh**  
Head of Communications**Karen Sayer**  
Design and Information Supervisor**Tom Barrett**  
Communications Officer  
(Graphic Design)**Jess Tunstall**  
Communications Officer  
(Information)**Tom Waterfall**  
Senior Communications Officer**Laura Middleton**  
Communications Officer  
(Media and PR)**Nick Sanderson**  
Education Officer**Sam Bates**  
Visitor Services Supervisor**Maureen Bird**  
Information Assistant**Dawn Coleman**  
Information Assistant**Mark Danson-Hatcher**  
Information Assistant**Jane Delaney**  
Information Assistant**David Frost**  
Information Assistant**Ron Harrison**  
Information Assistant**Brian Jarvis**  
Information Assistant**Robin Jeffries**  
Information Assistant**Mark Mobbs**  
Information Assistant**Ted Moore**  
Information Assistant**Max Phillips**  
Information Assistant**Bren Russell-Wells**  
Information Assistant**Mick Sanderson**  
Information Assistant**Mike Spire**  
Information Assistant**Nathan Betts**  
Quay Assistant**Gary Cotton**  
Quay Assistant**Rob Ford**  
Quay Assistant**Gerard Gibson**  
Quay Assistant**Christon Iliffe**  
Quay Assistant**David Jones**  
Quay Assistant**Duncan Moore**  
Quay Assistant**Dave Paddick**  
Quay Assistant**Mark Webster**  
Quay Assistant*continued on next page*

## Operations

**Rob Rogers**  
Director of Operations

**Dan Hoare**  
Head of Construction,  
Maintenance and Environment

**Timmy Lamb**  
Construction Supervisor

**Mark Bell**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Ricky Cates**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Dougie Martin**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Kevin Roll**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Richard Smith**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Darren De Block**  
Operations Technician

**Wayne Collins**  
Operations Technician

**Steve Green**  
Operations Technician

**Eddie Nichols**  
Operations Technician

**Tim Sanderson**  
Operations Technician

**Ian Walker**  
Operations Technician

**Sam Youngs**  
Operations Technician

**Matt Dane**  
Maintenance Supervisor

**Simon Bunting**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Dave Goodhand**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Phil Heath**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Mark Rudrum**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Ady Stevens**  
Senior Operations Technician

**James Watts**  
Senior Operations Technician

**Malcolm Farrow**  
Operations Technician

**Glen Owen**  
Operations Technician

**Wyn Purdy**  
Operations Technician

**Shaun Taylor**  
Operations Technician

**Nick Turner**  
Operations Technician

**Robert Clarke**  
Plant and Equipment Supervisor

**Simon Shorten**  
Senior Operations Fitter

**Matthew Hicks**  
Operations Fitter

**Kevin Wells**  
Operations Fitter

**Chris Glasel**  
Operations Fitter (Small Tools  
and Equipment)

**Sue Stephenson**  
Environment and  
Design Supervisor

**Adrian Sewell**  
Rivers Engineer

**Erica Murray**  
Senior Environment Officer

**Jonathan Cook**  
Environment Officer

**Emma Harris**  
Environment Officer

**Hannah Southon**  
Environment Officer

**Vacancy**  
Environment Officer

**Joseph Hamilton**  
Practical Environmental and  
Conservation Apprentice

**Harry Oram**  
Practical Environmental and  
Conservation Apprentice

**James Thompson**  
Practical Environmental and  
Conservation Apprentice

**Vacancy**  
Waterways and Recreation Officer

**Lucy Burchnall**  
Head of Ranger Services

**Andy Ellson**  
Senior Ranger

**Graeme Hewitt**  
Senior Ranger

**Andy Bartlett**  
Ranger

**Martin Chapman**  
Ranger

**Howard Constantine**  
Ranger

**Andy Cullum**  
Ranger

**Keith Griffith**  
Ranger

**Colin Hart**  
Ranger

**Rich Keeble**  
Ranger

**Polly King**  
Ranger

**Chris Morphew**  
Ranger

**Tobi Radcliffe**  
Ranger

**Steve Wright**  
Ranger

**Stephen Fairbrass**  
Ranger – Summer Seasonal

**Edgar Hoddy**  
Ranger – Summer Seasonal

**Jon Hopes**  
Ranger – Summer Seasonal

**Matt Larkman**  
Ranger – Summer Seasonal

**John Ragan**  
Ranger – Summer Seasonal

**Jon Hopes**  
Ranger – Winter Weekend  
Seasonal

**Dave Paddick**  
Ranger – Winter Weekend  
Seasonal

**Alex Deane**  
Ranger – Apprentice

**Nicola Jones**  
Broads Control Officer

**Clive Rushworth**  
Broads Control Officer

**Steve Birtles**  
Head of Safety Management

**Sonja Edgar**  
Administrative Officer

**Laura Milner**  
Administrative Officer

**Karen Tyrrell**  
Administrative Officer

**Beth Williams**  
Volunteer Coordinator

**Fiona Edwards**  
Administrative Officer

**Will Burchnall**  
Broads Landscape Partnership  
Programme Manager

**Andrew Farrell**  
Water, Mills and Marshes  
Project Officer

**Anna Collingbourne**  
Water, Mills and Marshes  
Project Officer

**Sean Grimes**  
Water, Mills and Marshes  
Heritage Skills Training Supervisor



## REVENUE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2019

A summary of the Broads Authority's consolidated income and expenditure for 2018/19 is set out below.

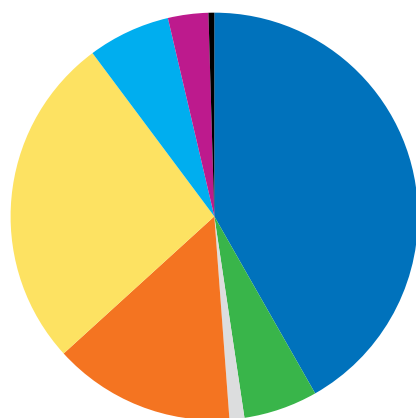
National Park Grant is awarded to the Authority in recognition of the Authority's status equivalent to that of a national park. It is spent on matters relating to conservation, planning, recreation, and information and design. The level of National Park Grant has slightly increased from that received in 2016/17 following a four-year settlement from Defra. The four-year settlement sees a protection in real terms until 2019/20.

Navigation activity is self-financing from tolls paid by users of the Broads waterways.

Although the Broads Authority Act 2009 removed the statutory requirement to maintain separate general and navigation revenue accounts, there is

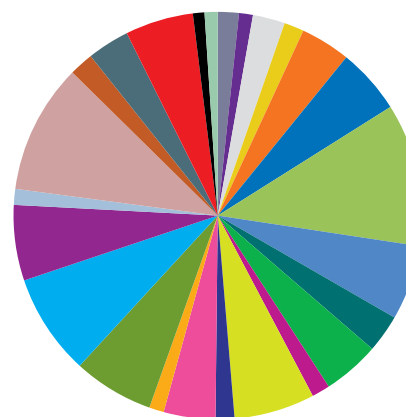
still a requirement to prepare a report at the end of each financial year describing the navigation income received by the Authority and the navigation expenditure incurred during the year. A copy of this report is available on the Authority's website.

The Authority is required to prepare a full and detailed Statement of Accounts in accordance with guidelines issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). These accounts are scrutinised by the Authority's External Auditors and are made available for public inspection. The audit has not yet been completed for 2018/19, which means that only the draft copy can be viewed on the Authority's website or can be obtained from the Chief Financial Officer, Broads Authority, Yare House, 62-64 Thorpe Road, Norwich NR1 1RY.



Income	£'000
National Park Grant (Defra)	3,356.3
Heritage Lottery Fund Grant - Landscape Partnership Delivery phase	472.5
ERDF* Grant - CANAPE	94.9
Tolls from hire craft	1,159.9
Tolls from private craft	2,134.0
Other National Park income	525.7
Other Navigation income	257.2
Interest	37.1
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>8,037.6</b>

\*European Regional Development Fund



Expenditure	£'000
Asset management	136.3
Biodiversity strategy	90.0
ERDF* - CANAPE	208.7
Collection of tolls	128.2
Communications (including education, events, and design and interpretation)	323.1
Development management	425.3
Dredging	927.9
Equipment, vehicles and vessels	485.7
Fen and tree management	245.4
Finance (including insurance)	368.3
Governance	117.6
Heritage Lottery Fund Grant - Landscape Partnership Delivery phase	522.5
Human resources	121.6
ICT	335.0
Legal services	95.2
Management and other costs	521.4
Practical maintenance	656.6
Premises and property management	490.0
Projects	102.7
Ranger services	842.1
Safety	156.3
Strategy (including strategy and projects, policy, Broads Plan, cultural heritage, climate change and tourism)	273.3
Visitor services (including boat trips and yacht stations)	441.3
Volunteers	74.4
Waterways strategy	84.6
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>8,173.5</b>

Contribution from reserves 135.9

### Broads information centres

#### Hoveton/Wroxham

Station Road  
01603 756097  
hovetontic@broads-authority.gov.uk

#### How Hill

Ludham  
01603 756096  
toadholetic@broads-authority.gov.uk

#### Whitlingham Visitor Centre

Whitlingham Lane  
Trowse  
Norwich  
01603 756094  
whitlinghamtic@broads-authority.gov.uk

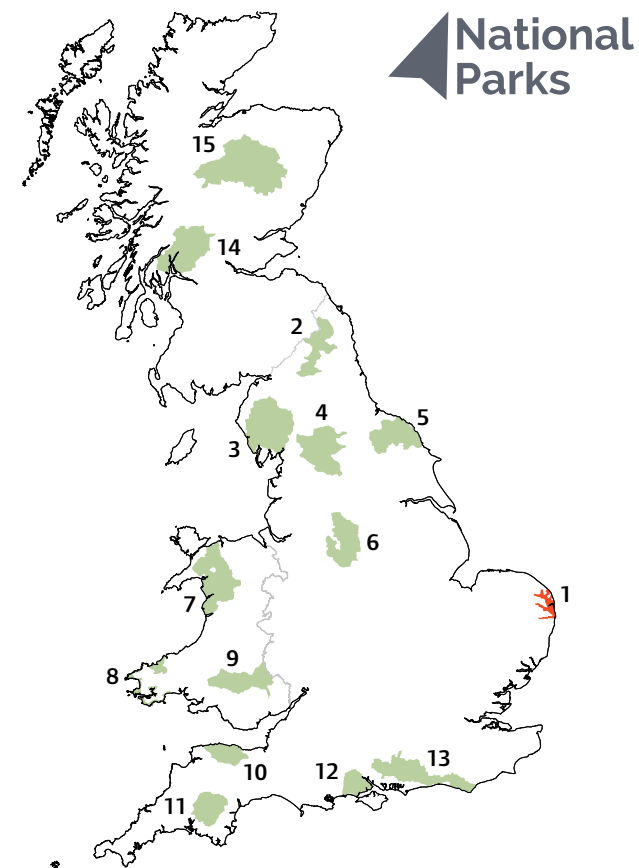
For a large print copy  
please telephone  
01603 610734

Text: Jess Tunstall

Design: Gary Short, Karen Sayer

Photos: Ian Aitken, Tom Barrett, Julian Claxton,  
Joanna Davidson, Eastern Daily Press, Andrew Farrell,  
Wayne Huzzey, Tom Mackie, Dibs McCallum,  
Angie O'Connor, Mike Page, Tobi Radcliffe, Bill Smith,  
Ady Stevens, Tom Waterfall, Terry Whittaker/2020Vision

Print: Healeys, Ipswich



### UK National Park family

- |                       |                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Broads              | 9 Brecon Beacons                 |
| 2 Northumberland      | 10 Exmoor                        |
| 3 Lake District       | 11 Dartmoor                      |
| 4 Yorkshire Dales     | 12 New Forest                    |
| 5 North York Moors    | 13 South Downs                   |
| 6 Peak District       | 14 Loch Lomond and The Trossachs |
| 7 Snowdonia           | 15 Cairngorms                    |
| 8 Pembrokeshire Coast |                                  |