

## Norfolk County Council: Communities come together to help ensure No Lonely Day this Christmas

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### **Communities come together to help ensure No Lonely Day this Christmas**

\*\*\*With events listings attached at end of release\*\*\*

More than thirty organisations are opening their doors to people who may be lonely or socially isolated this Christmas.

Councillor Bill Borrett, Chair of the Adult Social Care Committee, said: "The festive season is a time of year that I'm especially fond of. But I know full well that for many others – and particularly those who are on their own – this time of year can be particularly tough.

"So it's a fantastic testimony to Norfolk's thriving community spirit that so many organisations are offering free or low-cost Christmas lunches and get-togethers for anyone who would welcome some company this year.

"These events, and the marvellous people who run them, reflect the spirit and aim of Norfolk County Council's In Good Company campaign, which is to help ensure that no one spends a lonely day in Norfolk if they don't want to."

In the run up to Christmas, the campaign is highlighting the wealth of events and activities on offer as well as organisations offering support and advice to people who may be struggling.

Events include Open Christmas in Norwich and Great Yarmouth and The Salvation Army's Christmas Day lunch in Diss, Thetford and Norwich with community centres, churches and village halls – and at least two private houses – also opening their doors.

A full list of events and activities can be found on the Norfolk Community Directory at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/community-directory](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/community-directory) – search 'Christmas'.

The directory is an important 'one stop' resource for people to find activities and services near them. It holds a comprehensive list of groups and organisations offering activities throughout the year, volunteering opportunities and information about where to go for support and advice.

For more information about Norfolk County Council's In Good Company campaign visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/InGoodCompany](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/InGoodCompany).

#NoLonelyDay

**ENDS**

#### **Notes for Editors**

- Organisations working to reduce loneliness and isolation in Norfolk can apply for an In Good Company 'Quality Mark'. For full details visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/ingoodcompany](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/ingoodcompany)
- Now in its second year, 'In Good Company' has been named as an example of best practice in this field by several leading bodies including the Jo Cox Commission, The Campaign to End Loneliness and The Arts Council.

#### **For political comment**

**Cllr Bill Borrett (Conservative) Chairman of the Adult Social Care Committee, on 01362 860200**

**Cllr Brenda Jones (Labour), on 07833 467 301**

**Cllr Brian Watkins (Liberal Democrat), on 01603 259306**

**For further information please contact:  
Communications Team at Norfolk County Council  
Tel: 01603 228888  
Email: [pressoffice@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:pressoffice@norfolk.gov.uk)**

Attachments

- Christmas community events 2018.xlsx [Christmas community events 2018.xlsx](#)

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