

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen. For those that do not know my name is Stuart Harper and I am the Event Director of Brundall parkrun. Thank you for the invitation to the 2026 Annual Parish Meeting.

First we would like to offer our sincere congratulations to Roger Wiltshire on receiving the John Evans award. It is a well deserved honor and I can assure you that our parkrun community is looking forward to celebrating his achievement this coming Saturday

2025 we had our 10th birthday. To give you context on size we saw a total of around 4969 people complete the course in 2025, our numbers are slightly down on 2024 but with the welcome addition of more parkrun options in the local area including Fitzmaurice/Thorpe. There are now 23 5km events under the Norfolk regional Ambassador.

Brundall is now on its 461st Event and continues to always get good feedback with a core community feel and an enjoyable and welcoming vibe. We have seen the growth in parkwalking and usually have two volunteers taking those bibs to promote the fact that it is not all about running.

We always work closely with Yare Valley churches and saw us complete 3 weekends of pantry collections on our birthday and over the Christmas period.

We welcomed the 1st B&B scouts taking over for Halloween and two local Girl Guides raising funds at Christmas as well as a supporting a number of Duke of Edinburgh young adults with their Bronze and Silver volunteering sections

The team continues to work hard and in 2026 and we recently saw the 50,000th participant to complete the course

That's 200,000 trips up the infamous "travaltor" over nearly 11 years.

The start of 2026 has been a challenging time for the core volunteering Run Directors, with a large number of cancellations due to weather and unforeseen circumstances. We are now starting to see spring, which will help the Countryside park and the team.

To finish Brundall parkrun is a vital community asset for many people in the village and something Brundall should be very proud of and want to promote and build. It's run by volunteers who care and love parkrun and our home "The Countryside Park."

Many villages and parkruns would love to have what we have, a place for a community to come together, a place to run or walk, a place to see friends, a place to make new friends and a place that does not judge and tries to build people up. I hope we can continue to see Brundall parkrun grow in the coming years.

Thank you for your continued support. I extend an open invitation to everyone here tonight please join us on a Saturday morning. Come and see the impact for yourself—you will find the door is always open to everyone.