

## Some Personal Reflections from 2014

Wow what a year; so many memories – some good, some bad and some just plain confusing

Time goes so fast – we're happy, we're sad and sometimes things are amusing  
In terms of the good I am sure we've all shared happy times with family and friends  
We've seen the rise of the "selfie" – a curious new use for our i phone camera lens

The summer brought sunshine and I had a great time at the Royal Norfolk Show  
Ended up winning the best dressed prize – I only entered just to have a go!  
Boy George came to Norwich and sang lots of his hits  
I went up at the end and got a little kiss...

We went back to the 80s with Reload in September  
Five star, Jason Donovan, Sister Sledge and others I remember  
Simon Cowell had a baby and says it makes him happy  
He also says he has some great nannies so he's never changed a nappy!

Inflation's down, fuel's much cheaper – that lifts our spirits high  
The Norwich for Jobs scheme's been working well so many young people have waved unemployment good bye  
And good news for those of us who worry about our size and face  
This is the year that we learnt it is all about the base!

And so to the sad – it was a shock to hear about Peaches  
The devastating impact of drugs and what if anything this can teach us  
The wars in Syria, Israel, Palestine, Afghanistan, Iraq, Sudan – there are too many too mention  
I wish we could all get on together and avoid the life-destroying tension

MH370 still missing; MH17 plane crash in the Ukraine  
Just two of the terrible disasters causing death, suffering and pain  
We are struggling to contain Ebola – over 7000 killed so far  
Some say this could be the end of life as we know it – the potential consequences sound bizarre

And so to the confusing - is immigration good or should it cause alarm?  
We benefit from overseas skills and talent but I guess too much could cause some harm  
And back to Norwich issues we note they've drastically changed the traffic lanes  
All currently very confusing - let's see what Norwich gains

The new bit of the A11 is open – that should save some strife  
Think I'll kind off miss the bollards – they have become a way of life  
So we've had some highs, we have had some lows and some things have been in between  
So I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy 2015.

Rachel Blackburn  
18 December 2014