

Editors note

This is the month to remember hedgehogs and other creatures that like woodpiles so that you avoid killing them in bonfires. If you are having one—even if you collect the wood before please remake it as close as possible to burning time. Also think about where you are burning and what—you don't want fires to spread or toxic fumes. It is also a good time to remind ourselves of the harm sky lanterns can do if released and to think about the toxic materials in fireworks (white ones have the lowest impact). Many of our fabulous communities have great low impact ways to celebrate including carved squash lanterns, lanterns in jars or having children create sculpture trails in the build up and projecting lights onto walls rather than physical fireworks are just a few ideas. Have fun and enjoy this month's read: biodiversity, climate change, coastal change, electric cars, food waste, recycling updates and more.



An electric lunch time at Bentwaters

Recent announcements to be aware of

Leiston Recycling Centre is closed from Tuesday 30th October until Thursday 1 November for essential resurfacing works.

Plastic bags and films are no longer being accepted at Suffolk recycling centres—this is because the market for them is specialised and requires a high quality of product with no potential contamination through misplaced items or food/other damage. Some supermarkets are currently still offering this service.

So what does this mean for you?

Many of you have probably cut out most single use plastic items where avoidance is possible.

Some plastic packaging is hard to avoid when you are going for convenience and moisture protection: bread bags, pasta bags, rice bags, pillows wrapping etc. So what do you now do with those?

- You could reduce by buying in bulk or from shops that enable refills or by making your own.
- Then for any that you can't reduce you could use them to line your bins (why not take the challenge to see if you can reduce your weekly rubbish to one bread bag full).
- Eco bricks have also been mentioned by members as a way to utilise washed and dried films, bags and confectionary wrappers. If anyone is aware of any UK based lifecycle research projects comparing recycling a plastic bottle with reusing it stuffed with other unrecyclable items as an eco-brick to be shipped for use abroad or compared to using them for energy from waste please can you email the report or contact details for the people carry out the research to greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk.





Defeating climate change—is a titanic turnaround needed?

Article by Hannah Taylor

On the 19th September 2018 Professor Rupert Read from the University of East Anglia led a discussion on whether climate change progress so far has been ‘like rearranging the deckchairs on the Titanic and whether the time has come for more drastic action’.

He had been invited by ‘Guardians of the Planet’, a new Suffolk based environmental organisation, to draw our attention to the concern that globally and locally our current lifestyle choices are inappropriate in the fight against climate change.

He noted that it is time to “wake up in a way that involves feelings not just thought”. Making the point that extreme pressure and heightening fear of a catastrophe can be liberating and contribute towards building a whole new way of life.

The following points were raised in the discussion:

Wake up – Emotionally and intellectually now to a need to take significant action.

Fight – Support local, national and global policies and actions that you believe in, ask for change when you don’t feel they go far enough or have the wrong focus using evidence and emotion.

Build lifeboats – (Titanic reference) Prepare for the lifestyle changes a globally changed climate and associated movements of people, changes to availability of goods and increased health and biodiversity pressures is likely to bring. Building a lifeboat means: looking anew at how you live, the space you need and the things you need; looking at how to grow/source appropriate food; preserving knowledge; creating seedbanks and creating networks of support.

Talk – Climate change is a shared concern, talk with your friends, neighbours, family, join the ‘Guardians of the Planet’ and go to meet ups in Ipswich or join the Greenprint Forum and establish a network in your area of East Suffolk to talk and grow or join [Green Think Tank](#) discussions.

Slowdown – Take time to just stop, talk and think.

Enjoy – Enjoy everyday with your family and friends.



Suffolk Coast Forum

Article written by Hannah Taylor

#proudofSuffolkCoast #SuffolkCoastForumConference #SCF2018

The 7th Annual Community conference for Suffolk Coast & Estuaries was held at Wherstead Park, Ipswich on Friday 12th October 2018. The conference was titled, 'Learning from the past, adapting for the future' as this year marked the 65th anniversary of the 1953 floods and the 5th anniversary of the 2013 tidal surge.

The conference was buzzing with coastal conversation and full of representatives from across the Suffolk Coast. There were a range of engaging speakers and workshops held throughout the day for delegates to attend and contribute towards. The aim of the conference was to draw together those who have a lifetime of knowledge about the Suffolk coast and those who also manage, live and work along the coastline. The content of the day focused on slowing down to draw upon what has been learnt and what can be done to manage the Suffolk coastline both now and in the future.



Top take homes from the day included:

- Emergency preparedness has improved from no warnings or systems in place to respond to coastal flooding in 1953 to email, text message and phone messages to those at risk and volunteers and paid officers working together on providing rest centres and emergency support when needed.
- Climate change risks combined with isostatic adjustment and other environmental, social and economic pressures mean we need long term flexible frameworks for action with short term and medium term progression steps towards an agreed vision. These will involve elements of drone technology, salt marsh restoration, eel grass reintroduction and some hard defences but will also need some more challenging thinking on antifouling paints, land use, ownership and lifestyles. Choices that may mean sacrifices today to benefit future generations. Choices that could run counter to our Topophilia.
- Suggested reading includes:
 1. www.theccc.org.uk/coming-up/
 2. Nicholas Crane: You are here
 3. Yi-Fu Tuan Topophilia: A Study of Environmental Perceptions, Attitudes, and Values

Greenprint Forum Event – Plastic Action

Article by Hannah Taylor

Following up the Year of Plastics for Greenprint Forum, another successful event was hosted at Riverside, Lowestoft with over 25 attendees, guest speakers and stalls from environmental organisations.

The evening covered the Plastics Industry in East Anglia with a presentation by Deborah Wargate followed by Josie Russell from CEFAS sharing recent research surrounding plastics in the ocean and closing with local action taken by Rubbish Walks. The evening consisted of constant action focussed discussion between attendees with specific emphasis on micro-plastics, finding solutions, the fishing industry and related waste.

With special thanks to Anglian Water, The Broads Authority, CEFAS, Groundwork, Suffolk Coast & Heaths, Suffolk Master Composters and Suffolk Wildlife Trust for setting up stalls at the event and inspiring attendees.

We are proud to announce that we received two sign-ups for Plastic Action Champions from this event, deeming yet another successful starter step towards combating our 2030 goal of living in a pollution free environment.

In addition, it was inspiring to hear that M&H Plastics, Beccles have organised a beach clean on the 21st October in Pakefield to fight back and display their environmental awareness of the harm misplaced



A copy of the New Anglia Plastics Industry Conversation Starter report can be accessed from:
www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-suffolk-greenprint-forum/plastic-action/



Transition Woodbridge Presents: Albatross, be inspired to make your Christmas a little less plastic wasteful

Fri 23 November, 7pm, Woodbridge Community Hall, Station Road, IP12 4AU Woodbridge, Suffolk

12+ advised.



“In the heart of the great Pacific, a story is taking place that may change the way you see everything”. This feature length film is the story of the famous photographs that awakened the world to the issue of plastics wrongly handled that have ended up in our rivers, seas and oceans. Directed by artist Chris Jordan.



<http://transitionwoodbridge.onesuffolk.net>

www.facebook.com/TransitionWoodbridge



Charging towards the future

On 4th October around 500 people drove to Rendlesham to test drive the current range of electric vehicles, talk charging and costs and eat scrummy vegan food.

Linda Grave co-founder and CEO of EV Driver who organised the event said “fleet managers and people who love their cars are right now test driving electric vehicles and realising they are no longer the ‘milk float’ of the car world”. This was born out in the car park for the event as about 20% of the cars of people attending the event were electric or hybrid, not so long ago that would have been 100% petrol and diesel.

Pure electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles from local motor dealerships driven around the track included the [Jaguar I-Pace](#), [Hyundai Kona Electric](#), [BMW](#), [MINI Countryman Hybrid](#) and [Nissan Leaf](#), while [Renault](#) and [Tesla](#) were represented by owners clubs.

Talking to people at the event mirrored the findings of the Suffolk Travel to work survey: purchase costs and concerns over charging are still a perceived barrier for some, although increased ranges and a gradually growing number of service station, workplace and destination charges is reducing this.

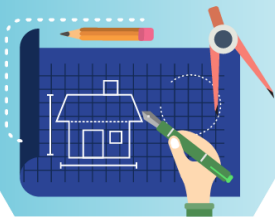
www.healthysuffolk.org.uk/uploads/2018-09-11_Travel_to_Work_Report_2018_.pdf

With all technologies it is worth noting that there will still be environmental and sometimes health costs. It is up to us as a society to decide which ones are acceptable and how much we are willing to reduce them. Lowest impact vehicles are self powered ones (mainly walking and cycling) however social and economic mobility would be reduced drastically if these were the only modes used. Smaller and lighter vehicles filled to capacity will have a lower impact than larger vehicles with just one driver. However when it comes to difference between internal combustion engine (ICE) cars and electric (EV) the whole life environmental cost accounting gets tricky and is laden with value judgments. For example: you can only compare a like for like size and weight car and based on the sourcing of the fuel in that specific country; and some people will consider tail pipe emissions with their known health effects as more important to tackle than emissions and social impacts elsewhere associated with fuel production and battery manufacturing and recycling. Of course this is further complicated if policies to improve the environmental and social impacts of mining work or if supply lines are disrupted and less managed sources are used.

There is a growing body of research available on Research Gate for those technically minded who want to explore this further. Ultimately the more renewables and low carbon fuels contribute to the grid and to manufacturing the lower the emissions associated with manufacturing and charging a car and the more circular and supply chain transparent the economy the lower the impacts of EV which certainly does have the tail pipe advantage over ICE.



Eco Friendly Development



Whether you work in planning, sit on a planning committee, are a developer or architect or simply have an interest in planning in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) then save the date of 25 January 2019. The AONB team are putting on an event bringing in national experts on planning policy, tranquillity, use of colour in design and factors contributing natural beauty (the reason for the national AONB designation). The event will be at the University of Suffolk Waterfront building. You can register interest via schaonb@suffolk.gov.uk. Early expression of interest is recommended on what we are anticipating will be a popular event.

Scottish Power Renewables (SPR): EA1N and EA2 Offshore Windfarms, Consultation 3.5

SPR have announced a further phase of consultation on their proposals that will run from 29 September to 29 October relating to recent project developments. It had been thought that the proposed infrastructure relating to the offshore development would be located outside the nationally designated landscape but SPR are currently considering a new substation location within the AONB on land that is currently being used as a site to translocate protected wildlife in preparation for the Sizewell C site. Consultation documents at: www.scottishpowerrenewables.com/pages/ea_two_phase_3_5_consultation.aspx_including_how_to_respond_to_the_consultation.

“Heigh-Ho, Heigh-Ho “ There is no need to get bored or lonely this winter. You can join in with a conservation work party and do as much as you are able to.

Suffolk Coast & Heaths www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/volunteering/volunteering-learn-more/work-parties/



Waldringfield



Wildlife Group

All meetings in the Village Hall Kennedy Room starting at 10.00. Talks start at 11.00 unless otherwise specified. £3.00 for visitors and non-members.

February 9th 2019 ‘Seawalls will Save the Bees and other Wildlife,’ by Tim Gardiner, Biodiversity Officer, Environment Agency and Author (with others) of the Sea Wall Biodiversity Handbook

April 13th 2019 ‘Bird Track, Cuckoos and Warblers’ by Paul Stancliffe, British Trust for Ornithology

Full programme and details on www.greenerwaldringfield.org/wildlife-group/4591571267



SUFFOLK HEDGEROW SURVEY

Hedgerows are a livestock barrier, food store, a flood defence mechanism, a soil retainer, a habitat and a valuable part of our farming heritage. They are at risk across the country and the Suffolk Hedgerow Survey has now helped inform action in Surrey.



Hedgerow loss, frequent flailing and poor management has been identified as a contributory factor in the decline of many wildlife species. 130 species of conservation concern are known to rely on them! Since the Second World War more than 120,000km of hedgerows have been lost across the country through “intensive farming and development”, according to the National Trust.

Recognising their importance as far back as 1998, the Suffolk Hedgerow Survey surveyed 317 parishes in Suffolk, noting the location of 38,295 landscape hedgerows and every different species of trees and shrub within them. In November 2017 the Citizen Scientific Officer from Surrey Wildlife Trust contacted our chairman after finding our report online to ask for advice on how to run their project to get maximum gain.

The Surrey Wildlife Trust “Hedgerow Heroes” project has now begun to train volunteers in surveying and traditional management techniques. Volunteers will also plant new hedgerows in some areas. Information collected will be used to build up a database of the state of Surrey’s hedgerows similar to our own but with the addition of condition. This is a key way for them to deliver the Trust’s mission of a Living Landscape for People and Wildlife by focussing on the green network of hedgerows in the county.

Whilst the Greenprint Forum is not due to relook at the hedgerow Survey until 2052 it does recognise the importance of hedgerows in its ‘Nature First’ goal. If readers of this message who live in the parishes within Suffolk Coastal and Waveney and who have influence with their parish council are inspired to take action they may want to consider the amount of destroyed/severely damaged hedgerows in their Parish over the last five years and the amount of new hedgerows that have been planted and whether any action can be taken to improve the situation. Please contact the Suffolk Hedgerow Survey chairman on guyackers@btinternet.com if you wish to make any comment.

Please note that Deborah Wargate is taking up a new role as an Environmental Manager in the private sector from the 26th November. So next month will be her last editorial for the Greenprint Forum. If you do have an article on action you have taken relating to our goals or an event you are running, especially a time critical one please submit it before the 18th November as there may be a gap between her leaving and a new person starting. greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

