



Thedwastre North October 2019 Newsletter

Fourth care home in Suffolk receives Outstanding rating

On 30 September, it was reported that Care UK's Mills Meadow care home in Framlingham has been officially rated as 'Outstanding' by the Care Quality Commission. This is the fourth Care UK home in Suffolk to be awarded the Outstanding rating, following in the footsteps of Asterbury Place in Ipswich, Cleves Place, Haverhill, and Mildenhall Lodge, Mildenhall.

I visited this care home when I was Chairman of the County Council along with several others run by Care UK. They have a standard format which includes a teashop/cafeteria, tv/cinema room, dining-room and hairdresser. All the ones I visited felt more like a hotel than a care home and I am not surprised that they receive Outstanding ratings. The staff who work there are obviously proud to be part of delivering such excellent care.

Congratulations to Woolpit

In September, at the Suffolk Community Awards Presentation at Abbots Hall Stowmarket, Woolpit was announced as Large Suffolk Village of the Year 2019. Congratulations to everyone associated with a Woolpit organisation – of which there are too many to list individually. I was told when I moved to Woolpit that there was something going on every day and every evening and a look at the village diary just proves the point. Well done to all the volunteers who give up their free time to make these groups, clubs and organisations so successful.

The Hold - preserving Suffolk's history for many years to come

Last month I reported that building work on The Hold, the new home of the Suffolk record office, was well underway. I can now report that construction of 'The Hold' archives and heritage centre has reached its highest point.

On 25 September, contractors R G Carter, along with senior officers from Suffolk County Council, the University of Suffolk, Ipswich Vision and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, celebrated the official 'Topping Out' of the new building.

I had been asked where it was located and while I was able to say roughly where it is I was not 100% so I have attached a link for the travel map.

<https://www.suffolkarchives.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/SF1351-The-Hold-Travel-Map-V4-LR.pdf>

The link also reflects the work that has been undertaken to ensure that this is a state-of-the-art building that is supported by a number of organisations and groups.

The map shows that the building will be located between the University of Suffolk campus and the Suffolk College. It will be run by the county and the University together.

Bravery, fundraising and commitment recognised at fire awards in Ipswich.

On 18 September, firefighters, non-operational staff and volunteers from Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service were recognised for their bravery and commitment.

A special award was also presented to 15-year old, Harry Hall. He came to the aid of a friend who had lost control of their bike and fallen over the sea wall in Lowestoft. In spite of the immediate dangers, Harry jumped down to his friend and kept their head above the rising sea water until the emergency services arrived. Harry was presented with a Certificate of Merit for his actions.

Over 40 awards were given to the Service's firefighters and staff, including those for good conduct and long service, charity fundraising, teamwork, and actions at 999 emergencies.

Congratulations to Elmswell on-call firefighters - Steve Reid and Mark Proctor - who were presented with the Miles Hammond Trophy by the Chief Fire Officer, Mark Hardingham.

Away from that awards evening Elmswell Fire Station crew had their own get-together on 21st September to celebrate Brian Hawes and his amazing 39 years with Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service. Their Facebook page is well worth looking up – and 'following'. Congratulations Brian – a man who epitomises dedication, commitment and achievement.

Suffolk, How Are You?

On 17 September, Public Health Suffolk and Ipswich and East Clinical Commissioning Group launched a campaign focused on wellbeing and healthy weight.

Suffolk How Are You? looks at improving wellbeing and maintaining a healthy weight through eating well, moving more and sleeping well. Residents are encouraged to complete the How Are You? quiz, linked to the national 'One You' campaign, which assesses different aspects of a person's lifestyle and helps to identify ways to improve emotional and physical wellbeing.

For those who complete the How Are You? quiz, there is a prize draw to win 1 year's subscription to Spotify. The prize draw is open until 10 March 2020.

Throughout the campaign there will be lots of exciting opportunities to take part in various activities linked to moving more, eating well and sleeping better.

Those who take part in Active Suffolk's This Girl Can, Health Walks, or RED January could be in with a chance of winning a Fitbit. People can also send in their #5adaysuffolk photos via Twitter and Instagram. Be sure to tag @SCCPublicHealth or @OneLifeSuffolk in your posts to be in with a chance of winning a cookbook. There is also a place up for grabs on a 1-hour workshop on sleeping well with Suffolk MIND. Visit www.suffolhowareyou.co.uk for further details of the competitions.

Window now open to apply for primary and secondary school places

Parents and carers can now apply for primary and secondary school places for September 2020.

The deadline for applications to secure a place at a Suffolk secondary school is Thursday 31 October 2019 and for a primary school it is Wednesday 15 January 2020. Secondary schools include high and upper schools and primary schools include infant, junior and middle schools.

Last year, Suffolk County Council received nearly 16,000 applications. 92% of applicants received offers for their first preference school and nearly 98% of applicants received an offer for one of their top three preferred schools.

Parents and carers need to be aware that some schools have their own admissions policy which sets out how places will be prioritised, so it is important to check each school's admissions policy before applying.

When applying for their preferred school parents and carers also need to consider how they will get their child to and from school. To find out more about SCC's school travel policy please visit www.suffolkonboard.com/schooltravel.

Footpaths

Last month I attended a meeting in Badwell Ash where our local SCC footpaths officer came to talk to the Parish Council and residents. While there was a particular issue of concern in Badwell Ash it was a very informative and successful meeting. That section of the meeting lasted about half an hour but a number of issues were discussed. If other parishes have similar concerns then it is an option open to any parish council to invite the footpaths officer along.

Jane Storey
1st October 2019