



Thedwastre North May 2019 Newsletter

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Take part in the 2019 Suffolk Walking Festival

There are still places available on some of the walks. It launches on Saturday 11 May at West Stow Country Park. It truly has something for everyone: short strolls, gentle rambles, long hikes; family walks, history walks, nature walks; story-telling, art lessons, photography, boat trips, train rides, and rides in vintage military vehicles.

There are some exciting walks and many are in the school holiday periods and are tailored to younger walkers. All walks are ticketed, and all tickets must be purchased in advance. To find out more and buy tickets visit www.suffolkwalkingfestival.co.uk

Further details of Suffolk stage of 2019 OVO Energy Women's Tour on 10 June announced

Action will get underway in the centre of Beccles, with 96 riders from 16 teams due to take to the start at 10.30am. The finish on Ipswich Road in Stowmarket is expected between 2.30pm and 3.10pm.

Riders will tackle two SKODA Queen of the Mountains climbs and contest three intermediate Eisberg Sprints from Beccles to Stowmarket. The first intermediate Eisberg Sprint, backed by the UK's number one alcohol-free wine, will come after 98 kilometres, or around two hours of racing, outside the entrance to RAF Honington, near Ixworth.

The day's second Eisberg Sprint comes not long after at Fornham St Martin on the outskirts of Bury St Edmunds. Riders will also contest a third Eisberg Sprint as they race through Stowmarket for the first time, before tackling a 12-kilometre finishing circuit.

The first three riders across the line at each Eisberg Sprint will earn points on a 3-2-1 basis, with the leading rider being presented the Eisberg Sprints Jersey on the podium in Stowmarket following Stage One. Two SKODA Queen of the Mountains climbs are in the second half of the stage, with the first at Little Whelnetham after almost 125 kilometres. The second comes with just over six kilometres of racing remaining at Buxhall, giving riders the perfect opportunity for a late attack to try and steal victory in Stowmarket.

You can download the [Stage 1 map from Beccles to Stowmarket](#) (PDF, 734KB).

More than 98% of pupils receive a preferred primary school on National Offer Day

On 16 April 2019, the council reported that it had received 7,505 applications from parents indicating which primary school they would prefer their child to be educated at in Reception for this year.

Over 98.6% of children were offered a place at one of their parents' preferred schools. Some 7,037 children received offers for their first preference school and 7,403 children received an offer for one of their three preferred schools.

Thedwastre North tour for SCC Chief Executive, Nicola Beach

On Thursday 2nd May I gave Nicola Beach, the Chief Executive of Suffolk County Council, a tour of the Thedwastre North division. We went from Woolpit to Elmswell – highlighting the traffic problems and new housing. We managed to get caught at the railway crossing waiting for a train – so the perfect opportunity to promote a northern by-pass for Elmswell! Then through Great Ashfield to Wyverstone, Westhorpe then Finningham. In Finningham I pointed out the problems with speeding traffic and told her of the bad accident at the crossroads – the White Horse still bears the scars. Then we went round to Badwell Green, through Badwell Ash and on to Hunston, Langham, back into Stowlangtoft – where I was able to point out the community of houses around the northern end of Kiln Lane and the need for anti-speed measures. West to the Spinney and then through Norton, with a brief outline of the history of the A1088 and the lorry ban, and then into Tostock before returning to Woolpit. We only had a couple of hours but she has a flavour for some of the problems in this area now... speeding, white lines and traffic infrastructure.

Suffolk County Council Annual General Meeting, 23rd May.

This year there does not appear to be a challenge to the Leader so it will hopefully be a quiet meeting. It will be a chance to hear the vision for the next year from the Leader of the council and also to hear the response from the Opposition Leaders.

The meetings are webcast – and have been for some time. There is a new system of broadcasting being installed and it is hoped that the other councils that use the council chamber at Endeavour House will also start to broadcast their meetings – Mid Suffolk and Babergh. It is also proposed that other meetings may be broadcast – Cabinet, Scrutiny and planning for example.

(MSDC planning (Development Control B) meetings have been held at the Blackbourne in Elmswell while the work on the new system has been going on.)

Further details are on the SCC website - www.suffolk.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/ - the tab to 'watch on-line'

Jane Storey
6th May 2019