Vote for your Community Pub of the Year

The most spirited competition in South Norfolk - South Norfolk Community Pub of the Year - will be launched at South Norfolk on Show

Previous years have seen pubs across the district pulling out all the stops to win this prestigious award, which promotes pubs as community hubs and fights against pub closures by supporting the local trade.

Councillor Clayton Hudson said: “Our pubs play a huge part in local life as community hubs and through this competition we support them, help raise their profile and make sure they’re here to stay.

“So whether it’s the hosting of local events, running the local shop or Post Office, the friendly atmosphere or delicious local food, we want to hear what makes your favourite pub so special. Show them how much you value your local by voting for them now.”

There will be five South Norfolk Neighbourhood winners, and an overall winner who will receive a prize of £500 to put towards an event of their choice for the whole community.

Vote for your favourite community by emailing your nomination to pubs@s-norfolk.gov.uk
Voting closes on 9 September 2016.

Contact us

24 hours a day, 7 days a week
access our services online.
Visit: www.south-norfolk.gov.uk

Main Number: 0808 168 2000
Write to: South Norfolk Council, Cygnet Court, Long Stratton, Norwich, NR15 2XE
Email: council@s-norfolk.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/southnorfolkcouncil
www.twitter.com/SNorfolkCouncil

South Norfolk Freephone Numbers
Automated Touchtone Payments 0808 178 7146
Benefits and Council Tax 0808 178 7141
Business Rates 0808 178 7142
Car Park Enquiries 0808 178 7145
Housing Advice 0808 168 2222
Planning 0808 168 3000
Waste and Recycling 0808 168 3333
Flytipping 0808 168 2999
Fraud Hotline 0800 389 6109
Norfolk County Council 0344 800 8020
The £4m transformation of Wymondham Leisure Centre is complete. With modern changing facilities, many more classes, 50 week swim school and the latest fitness equipment it has redefined the quality we should all expect from a Council run centre. I urge you to visit.

The Government Inspector has signed-off the route of the Long Stratton Bypass, and highways experts are now working-up more detailed designs including a roundabout at Hempnall crossroads. We are in discussion with developers to ensure that the road is delivered alongside the planned housing growth.

New homes built closer to Norwich and the recent increases in recycling have resulted in our bin collection rounds becoming lop-sided with some lorries running round half-empty and others full-to-bursting. We have reorganised our waste collection rounds allowing us to get the work done more efficiently even if it has meant that some people have different collection days for recycling and general waste.

We were delighted to support our communities to celebrate Her Majesty’s 90th Birthday with small grants that resulted in 74 parties attended by thousands. And we have supported businesses in small, rural communities ensuring that pubs, butchers and bakers continue to get Business Rates relief.

Looking ahead, we anticipate the publishing of the draft devolution deal for East Anglia in July, when you’ll be able make your views known. In essence, the extra money and powers that flow from devolution gives us the best chance of matching the building of new homes with the necessary physical infrastructure - matching local amenities with commercial space to ensure that the quality of life in South Norfolk is maintained.

But regardless of the outcome of devolution, the Council has decided to make a substantial investment in the Norwich Research Park to upgrade electricity, drainage and road access to ensure that serviced land is available for growing businesses. Our loan will be repaid from the extra business rates our investment generates, keeping South Norfolk at the forefront of growing the economy and creating high quality jobs.

Everything we do aims to look after those who need our help while growing the local economy and maintaining our residents’ quality of life.
WYMONDHAM SHUFFLERS GO INTERNATIONAL

The UK Shuffleboard Association hosted the German Shuffleboard Association for the first time following support from South Norfolk Councillor Peter Broome.

The Wymondham Shufflers received a grant of over £3,700 which was used to invest in new equipment including four roll-out rubber courts and cue sticks. The grant helped the club to continue to play the game – which is a combination of bowls and curling - and to attract new members.

WATER BOTTLES

Our Help Hub teamed up with Hethersett Junior School to encourage children to drink more water by giving them their own “Help Hub” water bottles. Drinking water has been shown to help pupils, as even mild dehydration can cause tiredness, headaches, lack of concentration and reduced mental performance.

BIN CHANGES

In June the days that we empty the rubbish and recycling bins changed for many of our residents. We would like to thank everyone for working with us to make the changes such a success. If you have any questions regarding the changes please visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/bins

BIG LITTER PICK HITS A TON

Thank you for making our Big Litter Pick 2016 the most successful yet. Over 100 litter picks were carried out by community groups and schools from across South Norfolk, helping to keep the district looking clean and tidy. If you would like to organise a litter pick in your community please email litterpick@s-norfolk.gov.uk To see a list of the winners of The Big Litter Pick 2016 visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/litterpick

SCOUTS AND GUIDES COOKING WITH GAS

After a year of fundraising and planning, Wymondham Scouts’ and Guides’ new kitchen is now finished and open for business! The groups offered a huge thank you to South Norfolk Councillor Peter Broome and the Wymondham Community Action Fund for helping to fund the project.

The volunteers of the Scouts and Guides groups do fantastic work to teach our young people valuable life skills and increase their self-confidence. This kitchen will allow them to incorporate healthy food preparation into their varied programmes.
MAHLER COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to Brenda Palmer, Graham Laycock, Rachel Seaward, Abigail Craig and David Rimmer who all won tickets to see the Mahler Concert at The Norfolk Showground. The answer to the question in the last edition of The Link, when was Mahler born?, is 1860.

APPRENTICES MAKE THE FINAL

After successfully completing a series of business related challenges nine apprentices from Norfolk, including three from South Norfolk Council, have made it to the finals of a national competition.

The announcement that the team had won the Central Regional Heat was made at the House of Commons on 19 May and they will now compete against eight other apprentice teams including IBM, HSBC and HMRC Digital Newcastle to win Apprentice Team of the Year 2016.

NEW CHAIRMAN ELECTED

Congratulations to Councillor Garry Wheatley who has been elected to serve as the Council’s Chairman for the next year, taking over from Councillor David Bills. Councillor Barry Duffin was elected as the Council’s Vice Chairman.

PLAYTIME AT JENNY LIND

South Norfolk Council Members have contributed £10,000 to the Jenny Lind Children’s Department at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital (NNUH) to help fund an £80,000 upgrade to the children’s playground.

The play area is an important facility for children who are either in hospital or visiting friends and relatives. It helps them to take part in normal outdoor play activities which are an important part of childhood and helps recovery.

OUR NEXT REUSE & RECYCLE EVENT

Our next Reuse and Recycle event will be on 15 August in Diss. These award winning events are designed to provide local communities with the opportunity to help prevent materials, which could potentially be reused or recycled, from going to landfill.

TREE WARDENS CELEBRATE

Congratulations to our Tree Warden scheme which is celebrating its 25th anniversary. Tree Wardens are volunteers who gather information about their local trees, get involved in local tree matters and encourage local practical projects related to the trees and woods.
In the budget the Chancellor announced that there would be devolution for East Anglia, but what does that mean for South Norfolk?

A proposed deal worth more than £1bn has been drawn up between Central Government and 23 councils across Suffolks, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and the two local enterprise partnerships.

If approved, the deal would see more decisions on areas like infrastructure, growth, employment and skills being made locally, rather than by Central Government - signalling the start of a fundamentally different relationship between government and local public services.

How would it work?

The proposed deal needs to be agreed by the relevant councils and LEPs. In total £900m would be spent on infrastructure, supporting economic growth and jobs. This would amount to £30m a year for the next 30 years. There would be an additional £175m ring-fenced to invest in housing.

The deal would create two Combined Authorities, one for Norfolk and Suffolk and one for Cambridge and Peterborough. Each Authority would have its own Mayor which, if the deal is agreed would be elected in 2017.

At the time of going to print, all Councils are being asked to agree the Deal and the outcome of their decisions will determine whether or not it proceeds.

How would I have a say?

If the local authorities agree to the deal, a formal consultation will be carried out in July and August on how the Combined Authority will work. Please check the devolution website at www.eastangliadevo.co.uk for the latest information on how you can get involved.

What happens then?

Following the consultation, the deal documents will be reviewed and local councils will be asked to agree the model for the Combined Authority in October. The Government will then make the final decision to create a combined Authority in November.

For more information about devolution in East Anglia visit www.eastangliadevo.co.uk
We have just announced a major financial boost to Norwich Research Park, one of Europe’s largest concentrations of research in the emerging multi-billion-pound food, health and life sciences sector.

The investment of over £12 million by the Council has been made possible by the recently announced Enterprise Zone Status – a 25 year plan to double the number of commercial enterprises on the Park, attract new investment and accelerate jobs growth in those high value sectors.

Norwich Research Park is already home to 54 companies, over 12,000 employees, researchers and clinicians with an annual research spend of over £100 million. The investment is expected to deliver an additional 5,600 jobs over the next 25 years and create in the region of 15,400 jobs in supporting sectors, including construction and ancillary services as well as attracting potentially over £200 million of private sector investment.

The new Enterprise Zone site at Norwich Research Park is one of 10 key innovation sites across Norfolk and Suffolk. Together they make up the ‘Space to Innovate’ Enterprise Zone, spearheaded by the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership. Overall the initiative will help create 18,500 jobs over 25 years.

South Norfolk Council is working closely with development partners at Norwich Research Park as well as Norfolk County Council and New Anglia Local Enterprise Zone.

Supporting local businesses

The Government funded Retail Rate Relief that has helped retail premises for the last two years came to an end in March.

This relief was enjoyed by around 500 retail businesses in our district, and equated to around £500,000 in total. The loss of this temporary relief will have a short-lived impact for many retail premises, as they will benefit from the Government’s Small Business Relief starting in 2017.

However, there is an anomaly for 24 retail businesses in South Norfolk who get mandatory rural rate relief so do not qualify for the Small Business Rate Relief enjoyed by other similar businesses. These tend to be public houses and shops such as bakers, butchers and greengrocers. South Norfolk Councilor Yvonne Bendle, cabinet member for Well-Being and Early Intervention said:

“Because we understand the importance of matching and maintaining the commercial infrastructures alongside the building of new homes we have decided to give these 24 businesses discretionary relief under our Business Rate Discount Powers. At the same time we will continue to lobby government to change the rules and iron out this anomaly.”

For more information about business grants available visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/business

Details about the enterprise zones can be found at www.newanglia.co.uk/enterprise-zone
We are working with Breckland and Forest Heath District Councils, Norfolk County Council, East Cambridgeshire and the New Anglia and Greater Cambridge and Peterborough LEPS to advance key employment sites and technology hubs along the A11, including Norwich Research Park and Hethel Engineering Centre.

John Fuller, leader of South Norfolk Council, said: “The economy doesn’t just grow in cities, it also grows in the spaces between cities and the corridor linking Norwich and Cambridge is a hotbed of innovation. University-led growth is a well-trodden path and all the bright ideas that are spinning out of both Norwich and Cambridge need to be captured and used to benefit the local economy. We need to lock the wealth into the region rather than it going elsewhere, but it’s not just about the A11, there’s also a rail line between Norwich and Cambridge running through lots of business land with untapped potential.”

The £558 million boost to the economy will directly support around 9,000 jobs, but the project will see thousands of other linked jobs created and the construction of 20,000 homes.

By 2031, the A11 Technology corridor has the potential to deliver in the region:

- 14,900 gross jobs
- £558m increase in annual GVA to the local economy
- £905m in private sector investment in construction activity
- 20,000 new homes along the corridor
- 11 major employment sites
INNOVATION HUB CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

Hethel Engineering Centre is celebrating 10 years of success as a nationally recognised innovation hub and incubator for high-performance engineering and manufacturing businesses.

Since its opening in 2006, Hethel has provided office, workshop and hot-desk space for 176 ground-breaking and innovative businesses, including 136 start-ups, that has created a total of 706 new jobs in the region.

The Centre’s team has supported these businesses and thousands of others through direct business support, networking and by organising more than 260 business events.

The success of the centre over the last decade has resulted in dramatic growth and with financial help from us, the County Council and the European Union dozens of extra workshops and offices have been added with Hethel expanding from 30,000 sqft to 80,000 sqft.

To find out what is happening at Hethel Engineering Centre visit www.hethelcentre.com

South Norfolk Business Forum making business connections

Join us and businesses from across South Norfolk for a fantastic networking opportunity and a chance to share both information and your experiences.

The South Norfolk Business Forum established six years ago brings together between 50 and 60 local business people every quarter. Alongside a full English breakfast and networking, we have guest speakers from both the private and public sectors and members have the opportunity to have their say on subjects which could directly and indirectly affect their business.

Members are also given an opportunity to speak at an event during the year to both promote their own business and to offer advice and share ideas.

South Norfolk Council supports the forum and the online business directory www.southnorfolkdirectory.co.uk which carries an entry for thousands of businesses in the South Norfolk area as well as details on how to get involved.
Building work has started on Big Sky Development’s Maple Park scheme in Long Stratton.

The new development which is the second by Big Sky, a company owned by the Council, is a combination of 50 new homes and over 800 sq m of commercial office space that will allow people to work closer to where they live.

Councillor Michael Edney, Cabinet member for Finance and Resources said: “Big Sky Developments is building houses that both fit with and enhance the local surroundings, and meet the needs of the community.

We are also providing commercial office space that will boost the local economy and employment opportunities.”

The plans for the 50 homes include five affordable homes, a range of business units and a recreational area for families. House buyers will be offered a mix of two, three and four bedroom homes and the office block has flexible accommodation that can be subdivided into smaller office spaces to accommodate between eight to ten businesses.

Councillor Edney added: “I am really excited that work on Maple Park has started. The development will bring enormous benefits to the local community, including employment, affordable housing and a range of office space to suit businesses of all sizes.”

Call 01508 533916 for information about the residential or commercial units at Maple Park in Long Stratton or Big Sky Development’s Rosebery Park.

New Business Park for South Norfolk

We have invested nearly £5m in new homes and a business park in the village of Poringland. The first phase of homes is now sold or rented out and the first commercial building – Crafton House - open for business.

Crafton House, on Rosebery Business Park, provides around 800 sq m of much-needed modern business space, with office suites ranging from 13 to 200 sqm, suitable for businesses of all sizes, from a single person office to an open plan floorplate for 30 desks.

Super-fast broadband is available at the property, which also provides a business lounge facility for tenants and registered members of the Council’s new business club.

Visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/business-space or call 01508 533951 for more information.
South Norfolk On Show

Sunday 17 July
11am - 4pm
South Norfolk Council Offices, Long Stratton, NR15 2XE
www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/onshow

FREE ENTRY*
*Some charges for activities may apply
Just some of the things you will be able to enjoy at South Norfolk On Show include:

**Food and Drink**
- Café Britannia
- Parravanis Ice Cream
- Pulham Crown Beer Tent
- Team Barista
- The Flying Chef
- Simply Donuts
- Shake Waffle’n Roll
- Long Stratton Village Hall

**Tasty Treats**
- Debbie Mecakes
- Oh Fudge
- Peachy Preserves
- Rosie’s Cakes

**Crafts**
- All Those Things
- Celebration Frames
- Duck and Divas
- Lucy Lou Handbags
- Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers
- Simply Suffolk
- Vine Cottage Crafts

**Stalls and Stands**
- Abbot Fox
- Coronation Cottage Plants
- Diss and Thetford CAB
- Gabriel’s Garden
- East Anglian Air Ambulance
- East of England Funeral Services

**Entertainment**
- Drum Jam
- Bandstand live entertainment
- Ice cream stands
- Bressingham vintage fire engine
- Colour me in activity
- 'Decorate your mate’ t-shirt activity
- Beer tent
- Claude café
- Face painting
- Ukulele workshops
- Photo booth
- Photo booth
- Big Sky Development
- South Norfolk House

**Maple Park**
- Fairground rides
- Children’s corner
- Bouncy castle and walk-about mascots
- Craft stalls
- Greyhounds
- Redwings ponies
- Saffron Housing stand
- Stalls and stands

**Long Stratton***
- Free entry*
*Some charges for activities may apply

**South Norfolk On Show**
Find out about what we do and how we work and enjoy a day packed full of fun and entertainment.
enjoy at South Norfolk on Show include:

- Long Stratton W.I
- Mid Norfolk Railway Preservation Trust
- Norfolk Broads Authority
- Norfolk Family Information Service
- Norfolk Small Holders Group
- Norfolk Wildlife Trust
- Respect Yourself
- Redwings
- Saffron Housing
- Thorston and District W.I
- The Garage
- The Pennoyer Centre
- Voluntary Norfolk
- Waveney Food Bank
- Well Being Service
- Yarmouth Greyhound Home Finders

Find out about what we do and how we work and enjoy a day packed full of fun and entertainment.
SOUTH NORFOLK ON SHOW IS GOING ON TOUR

Meet the South Norfolk on Tour Team at our Children’s Outdoor Theatre Events in Costessey, Diss, Loddon and Wymondham. There will be lots to see and do and a chance to find out more about South Norfolk Council’s services. Meet our Waste Reduction Team, Community Connectors, Community Protection Team and many more and enjoy a wide range of fun and interactive games and information aimed at helping families access our services.

Move Me
11am - 4pm Sunday 17 July 2016
South Norfolk On Show, South Norfolk Council, Long Stratton
A participatory dance class meets flash mob party! A simple dance is taught to anyone and they all become performers. Come along to South Norfolk On Show back for another year.

Town Band of Bremen
11am - 2pm Friday 12 August 2016
Wymondham, Ketts Park (2 shows 12pm and 1pm)
The Town Band of Bremen is a new outdoor family show about four fellow animals who all share a passion for music.

Jack and the Beans Talk
11am - 2pm Friday 19 August 2016
Loddon, Jubilee Hall playing fields (show starts at 12pm)
Funny re-telling of the traditional story. Is it a dream or did I hear the bean talking?

Explorers Galore
11am - 2pm Friday 26 August 2016
Diss, Mere Park Pavilion (2 shows 12pm and 1pm)
Following in the footsteps of the great globetrotter, Phileas Fogg, our bold explorers laugh, sing and dance their way into 80 days-worth of adventure. Armed only with a balloon, their baggage and a bicycle built for two, our adventurous heroes brave dangers, plunge headlong into calamity and caper from country to country.

Flying the Nest
11am - 2pm Friday 2 September 2016
Costessey, Costessey Centre (show starts 12pm)
Welcome to Hatchling College – sit in a giant nest and get involved with music, puppetry, facts and fun about our feathered friends.

What’s happening at Norfolk Showground this Summer

Truckfest
20 August 9am - 5.30pm
21 August 9am - 5.30pm
Truckfest East is set to wow the crowds at the Norfolk Showground in 2016! The trucking spectacular will see main arena action from stunt bike display teams, monster trucks, celebrity guests and a wealth of trucks on show from vintage to modern day manufacturer models!

Norfolk All About Dogs Show
28 August 10am - 5pm
29 August 10am - 5pm
With exhibitors, showcasing everything for your dog, entertainment, fun dog shows, competitions, family entertainment, meet the breeds and expert advice at the show, its the perfect place to visit with your dog!

Sundown Festival
2 and 3 September
Sundown is Norfolk’s largest outdoor music festival. Follow Sundown on Facebook for the latest information.

South Norfolk, home to the showground and Norfolk’s biggest annual events
SOUTH NORFOLK CELEBRATES THE QUEEN’S 90TH BIRTHDAY

Communities across the district celebrated the Queen’s birthday in style thanks to grants of up to £400. Grants were given to inclusive events that encouraged as many people as possible to come together and mark the occasion.

Great Moulton

Pulham Market

Alpington

Denton

Costessey

Diss

Geldeston

South Norfolk Celebrates the Queen’s 90th birthday

It was great to see the whole community coming together to celebrate such a fantastic occasion.

I wanted to say a massive thank you. Well over 350 people came, despite the weather.

What a day! I’ve seen people I haven’t seen for years, made new friends and had a wonderful time.

I want to thank everyone for all their hard work. Congratulations on a brilliant event.

I wanted to say a massive thank you. Well over 350 people came, despite the weather.

Great Moulton

Pulham Market

Alpington

Denton

Costessey

Diss

Geldeston
Janet from Ajandek - Harleston

I am very pleased that Ajandek won South Norfolk Council’s Independent Retailer 2016 award. We also won the award for Excellence in Customer Service and I would like to thank everyone who kindly took the time to vote.

We opened Ajandek, an upmarket lifestyle and personal gift outlet in 2009. I live locally and I’ve previously owned two shops in Diss, but after a day shopping in Harleston I recognised the town’s need for a gift shop with a difference… and the rest is history!

I am very enthusiastic about Harleston, it has a great ambience and the people who live here and in the surrounding areas are very friendly and loyal to the independent shops. We have a superb team who arrange numerous events to attract both locals and visitors to the town.

My customers are more like friends and they are always welcome to simply come in and browse or just pop in to say hello!

Julie from Spoon Cake - Loddon

We were thrilled to win at the South Norfolk Retailer Awards. It is great to have recognition from the Council for independent businesses. We opened Spoon Cake almost three years ago and have had such fabulous support from our local community. It has made the long gruelling hours and aching feet worthwhile.

Since opening we have really appreciated how lucky we are to live and work in Loddon. Something that we had taken for granted before. Although it is small, there is plenty to offer everyone. Being halfway between the coast and the city, not forgetting the Broads running through Loddon and Chedgrave, it makes it a great place to visit.

Loddon has a really strong community spirit, with businesses helping to support and promote each other. There are already lots of exciting events being planned this year, from festivals to fun days to ensure that everyone can enjoy a warm welcome in ‘Perfectly Placed Loddon’. 
Catherine from Mad Hatters - Wymondham

Mad Hatters has lots of loyal regulars. We receive visitors from the outlying villages, from other parts of the country and even abroad. The furthest has been Australia!

It was wonderful to win another Retail Award this year, particularly in the category of Customer Service. This and our home made goodies are what really make our tea shop what it is! Ours is a quaint, “Shabby Chic” style tea shop with a friendly, “home from home” atmosphere.

Living in Wymondham we’re spoilt for choice where independent retailers are concerned. The town centre has everything ranging from a fantastic wine shop, an award winning 15th century pub, fine dining and foreign restaurants, a toy shop, footwear, clothes and leather goods, a deli and pet shops. There’s also a traditional hardware shop and butchers, both of which date back to the early half of the last century. We barely need to leave the town which is handy because we don’t often get the chance!

Gloria from Albright - Diss

We were over the moon to be voted ‘Most Creative Window Display’ in Diss by our lovely customers. It makes all the hard work put in by retailers, volunteers and businesses in the town to make Diss the growing and vibrant community it is, all worthwhile.

Albright of Diss has been trading since 1872. The business has evolved over that time, from a hardware store and locksmiths to now specialising in crafts. We sell all kinds of papercraft items as well as dies, quilting fabric, jewellery making items, haberdashery and general crafts. We also run workshops for people to try new products and learn new skills.

We are very lucky to have such an eclectic assortment of shops and cafes in the town, for use by residents and visitors alike. And of course, the wonderful Diss Mere, where you can sit and while away some time whilst taking a well-deserved rest from all that bargain hunting.
WYMONDHAM LEISURE CENTRE, IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN

I have been a member of Wymondham Leisure for over 10 years and I am blown away by our new leisure centre. Fantastic, state of the art facilities, great choice of classes, friendly welcoming and approachable staff... and a spa.”

Tami

“I really enjoyed #2 and it was great having somewhere to go while the centre was closed, but now it’s open Wymondham Leisure Centre is definitely the new place to be.”

Paul

“The new facilities are great. There really is something for the whole family. I can take my class, the kids are in the pool and my husband is in the gym.”

Tracy

Since the centre reopened I’ve been coming five times a week. It’s absolutely superb, the equipment is easy to use and the staff are amazing. Well done and thank you.

Lisa
The first step in creating a multisport ‘hub’ that will address the current and future sporting needs of both Long Stratton and the surrounding villages has been kicked off with work starting on a new artificial grass pitch.

The new 3G pitch is being funded by South Norfolk Council, Long Stratton High School, Long Stratton Football Club and significant investment from the Premier League and FA Facilities Fund of around £220,000.

Councillor Clayton Hudson, cabinet member for Stronger Communities and Leisure said:

“This is a fantastic example of partners working together to provide the opportunities that our residents are asking for. The health and well-being of our residents is a priority for the Council and this is the next step in our investment in leisure facilities across the district.”

Following the adoption of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan there will be substantial growth in housing over the coming years and it is important that we invest in the facilities so that they can service the increased demand.

The partners including Long Stratton Parish Council are also working on other aspects of the “Multisport Hub” including a new pavilion at Manor Road playing fields, plus the sports facilities at the High School and the redevelopment of the leisure centre. The total investment by the partners in the Multisport Hub, across all three sites, will be approximately £2.5 million.

To view the Long Stratton Area Action plan visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/planning

As part of our ongoing investment in our leisure facilities across the district we have ordered new, state of the art fitness equipment for Long Stratton Leisure Centre. This is the first step in a planned £1 million investment in the centre to make sure that the sporting and recreational needs of a growing population are met.

The equipment is the same as that installed at Wymondham Leisure Centre, which has just reopened after a £3.5 million refurbishment.
A WARM WELCOME TO THE WOMEN’S TOUR OF BRITAIN

Professional cycle racing returned to South Norfolk in June as the first stage of the Aviva Women’s Tour passed through the district.

Following the great success of the men’s competition we have worked with Active Norfolk and the County Council to bring the Women’s Tour to South Norfolk for the first time. The tour brings in thousands of spectators and supporters boosting trade for local businesses and inspiring more people to get on their bikes and get fit.

Rachel Brown said, “It’s fantastic to see everyone lining the streets, especially all the school children. What a great opportunity to see the world’s best cyclists up close. I couldn’t believe how fast they go.”

The stage was won by Christine Majerus riding for the Boels-Dolmans Team.

The tour passed through Harleston, The Pulhams Tacolneston and Mulbarton as the riders made their way from Southwold to Norwich. Businesses along the route put out tables and chairs for spectators.

Tony Banks from Harleston said “What a wonderful day, I’ve never seen the place looking so busy. We’ve been serving people all day and the atmosphere has been brilliant.”

Amateur cyclists are being given the opportunity to ride part of the Aviva Women’s Tour route this year in the Tour Ride Northamptonshire, the official sportive of the Aviva Women’s Tour. Taking place Sunday 17 July, 40 and 80-mile routes starting and finishing from Delapre Abbey in Northampton will take place using sections of the Stage Five route. There will also be a fun, off-road 10-mile route for families. To sign-up head to www.tourride.co.uk
Order a brown bin online today for just £39.50 a year when paying by Direct Debit.
Visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/garden or call 01508 533830.

Join one of our leisure centres and get ready for summer.

We have memberships starting from just £27 a month. You can even include our new spa facility at Wymondham Leisure Centre.

Join Diss, Long Stratton or Wymondham today online at www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/snleisure
MAKING A HOME FROM HOME

Making sure that our residents can live safely, well and independently in their own homes is a priority for the Council and that can often mean using a Disabled Facilities Grant to adapt a house to the needs of the family.

From grab rails, to stair lifts, to wet rooms the Disabled Facilities Grant is used in many different ways to adapted homes to suit residents’ individual requirements.

We work with Norfolk County Council’s Children Services and Adult Social Care to provide a streamlined service that’s more cost effective and significantly faster. This means that residents needing alterations to their homes have a single point of contact and it also means we can help more people stay in their own homes.

Recently we received a referral from an Occupational Therapist to adapt a home for Bethany, a five year old girl. The family had to carry Bethany upstairs to use the bathroom and to put her to bed. This put both Bethany and her parents at risk and her mum and dad were finding it exhausting, the family desperately needed ground floor facilities.

Although the family lived in a four bed rented house the layout of the building meant that there was no room to make the alterations. The only thing we could do was to convert the existing garage into a wet room and create a ramped access, so that is what we did.

Steve Smith, Bethany’s father told us. “The changes have made a massive difference to our lives and have given Bethany much more independence. The ramp makes getting Bethany to school so much easier and when she comes home she comes straight into her new room.”

If you are having difficulty coping in your house and feel you would benefit from adaptions to enable you to stay longer in your own home and close to friends and family, then please get in touch.

Disability Facilities Grants are funded from a fixed budget provided by the Department for Health. To find out how we could help visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/housing or call 0808 168 5227

STAND AGAINST DOMESTIC ABUSE

Domestic abuse can affect anyone and takes all kinds of forms – physical, emotional, psychological, financial, or sexual. Much of it goes unreported.

We are working with health services, police and other public and voluntary sector organisations from across Norfolk in an initiative led by the County Community Safety Partnership (CCSP), which aims to encourage earlier intervention, reduce stigma and minimise harm.

A campaign has been launched to raise awareness of domestic abuse and increase reporting and referrals to agencies that can help. It will aim to reach those responsible for abuse, those who experience it and friends and family members who are aware of it.

Councillor Yvonne Bendle, cabinet member for Well-being and Early Help said: “Domestic abuse can happen to anyone at anytime. If you or someone you know is affected please don’t keep quiet, there are agencies who can help, pick up the phone or click on the website and take that first step in turning your life around.”

For more information about domestic abuse and the campaign, visit www.norfolk.gov.uk/safety/domestic-abuse and look out for the hashtags #IWalkedAway and #IsItYou? You can also call the National Domestic Violence Helpline on 0808 2000 247 (24 hours).
Pupils aged from five to eleven at Dickleburgh Primary School have taken part in a competition to come up with the best slogan to encourage people of all ages to look after their community by taking their rubbish home or using a bin.

The winners were announced two days before the annual litter picks in Dickleburgh and Rushall. The overall winner was Lily Gould with “EVERY TIME YOU LITTER, YOU COULD KILL A CRITTER”. Judged best among the Key Stage 2 classes was Thomas Daley with “TAKE A MINUTE TO BIN IT,” while Joseph Sutton won the Key Stage 1 classes with the slogan “BE A BINDER NOT A SINNER.” The Reception class’s anti-litter champion was Maisie Chadwick with “DO THE RIGHT THING AND PUT IT IN THE BIN.”

Entries that were highly commended included “STOP THE DROP”, “TO MAKE THE PLANET GREENER, KEEP OUR VILLAGE CLEANER” and “SLAM DUNK THAT JUNK”.

Our Handyperson Scheme is designed to give our older and vulnerable residents help with small repairs in their homes and gardens.

The scheme has proved to be so popular that we have employed David, who joins our handyperson team. Everyone on our team is an approved South Norfolk Council contractor, so your work is in safe hands.

What work is covered?
The scheme is designed to tackle small jobs that take up to two hours or less to complete. Some examples of the kind of jobs the service covers are:

- fitting low energy bulbs and energy monitors
- rewiring a plug or replacing a fuse
- up to 2 hours decorating work
- cleaning and emptying gutters
- home safety and security, from window locks to keysafes and grab rails
- replacing washers and fitting new taps
- small de-cluttering jobs
- draught-proofing, pipe insulation and hot water cylinder jackets
- gardening jobs which directly relate to the health and safety of our residents.

Who is it for?
The Handyperson Scheme covers all forms of tenure, so if you are an owner occupier, a private tenant, or a tenant of a housing association, the service is for you. However, works that are the legal responsibility of landlords are not covered.

For more information about our Handyperson Service and charges visit www.south-norfolk.gov.uk or call 0808 168 2000.
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