# HALESWORTH HOOT



PART OF THE TIDE COLLECTION

# PATIMORE WATER SOFTENERS



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### A NOTE FROM OUR EDITOR



An opportunity to support your local independent traders this month at Halesworth's 'Starlight Shopping' event, with another following in December. There will be late opening, live music and more. It's such an advantage having a pedestrianised Thoroughfare when things like this are held, bringing the community together and supporting local businesses. There will be more Christmas events in December – enjoy!

Please get in touch if you have anything to share with our readers or if you have a festive event coming up why not consider increasing your footfall by placing an advert in the Tide Collection? We know

from the feedback we receive that people really engage with our publications and seek them out. I would love to hear from you, email me at: lou@tidecollection.com

#### Quote of the month

Your most unhappy customers are your greatest source of learning.

#### **Bill Gates**



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CITIZENS ADVICE EAST 1
Volunteer & Job opportunities

SOUTHWOLD CHRISTMAS 19 LIGHTS SWITCH-ON Street Market, Food stalls, Father

Christmas and much more!







# FRIDAY STREET FARM

FREE EVENT

**OUR ANNUAL** 

# Food EDrink Event

**RETURNS TO FRIDAY STREET** 

# SAT 15<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 10AM - 4PM









Welcoming a wide variety of our producers & suppliers and giving you the opportunity to try before you buy!

The event is free to attend and the Farm Shop & Kitchen restaurant will be open as usual on the day.

SHOP 8:30AM-5:30PM, KITCHEN 8:30AM-4PM 01728 602783 WWW.FRIDAYSTREETFARM.CO.UK

### FROM HALESWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

#### Christmas Shopping & Festive Events in Halesworth

Halesworth's excellent selection of unique and independent shops make the pedestrianised Thoroughfare and Market Place the perfect location for Christmas Shopping. With retailers ranging from homewares, clothing boutiques, gift shops, jewellers, a bookshop, a record shop and so much more, it is easy to find the perfect gifts for all.

The main shopping areas are directly linked to the town's car parks and the train station is only a short 5 minute stroll away. This year, there will be two 'Starlight Shopping' events taking place on Friday 14th November and 5th December - with many shops opening late with special offers, live music and more. Keep an eye on our online calendar for more details: https://halesworthtown.co.uk/events/

The Halesworth Christmas Lights Switch on will take place on Saturday 22nd November. Father Christmas will be in his Grotto in St Mary's Church during the afternoon, the local pubs, cafes, deli's and bakeries will be serving festive treats, hot chocolate and mulled wine, there will be a bar and food stalls in the market place early evening and the Switch-on procession will be led by the brilliant Royal British Legion Marching Band. Lights on at 5pm. Live music will follow in the Market Place from 6pm.

The Christmas Market will once again be in St Mary's Church on Saturday 13th December between 11am - 3pm with over 30 stalls including many handmade, locally produced gifts. New this year, is the 'Santa Paws' Grotto' in the Memorial Garden - grab a festive photo and a doggy bag for your four-legged companions, plus food and drink stalls and a festive crafts dropin session at the Magickal Emporium in the Market place.

#### Welcoming new businesses

Halesworth would like to extend a warm welcome to the Tudor Bakehouse, who opened its doors in the Thoroughfare at the end of September. With an excellent reputation for quality and reasonably priced goods, and bakeries in several other locations across Suffolk and Norfolk, the Tudor Bakehouse is a superb addition to the Town.

Also, new to the Thoroughfare, (but not to Halesworth!) is Perfect 10 Nails, who have relocated from the Market Place to a central position in the Thoroughfare.

And more exciting news, Halesworth now has its very own Touring Park! Well done to Charlie and his team for the successful opening of The Beeches Adults Only Touring next to the Holton Road Garden Centre.

We'd also like to say a big Congratulations to Rosie and her team for their 3rd year Anniversary at Rhubarb & Rose in the Thoroughfare – well done on all your hard work.

#### Kelly Parker







**CECILAMEY.CO.UK** 



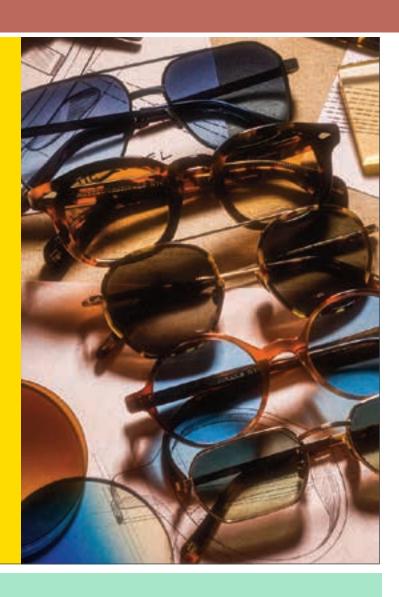
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### HALESWORTH MEN'S SHED

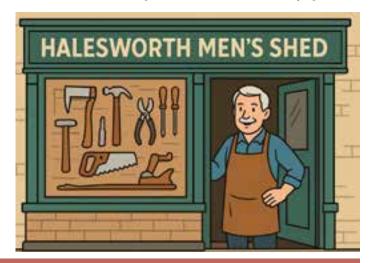
Halesworth Men's Shed has launched a new online shop.

The shop, which runs on Gumtree, will sell donated tools, hand-made products made by members, and other DIY-related items, at knock-down prices.

"We hope this will help local trades people, especially younger apprentices, get set up in business more cheaply," said Shed member Jez Donaldson.

Proceeds of sales will help fund the running of the Halesworth Men's Shed, which is a registered charity.

"Buyers will be able to visit the Shed to check the items for themselves, before collecting them," said Donaldson "and if they are thinking of joining the Shed, they can have a look around at the same time." Links to the Shop are now available on the Shed's website, at www.halesworthshed.org.uk, and on their Facebook page.



### HALESWORTH & DISTRICT U3A

On Tuesday 18 November at 2 pm in the Cut Art Centre, Halesworth, Rob Spray will be presenting his talk called 'Hidden Treasures of our Secret Sea'.

The North Sea harbours an amazing variety of life all year round. There is no rugged, rocky coast that people associate with abundant flora and fauna, but offshore there are plenty of places for animals to hide.

Rob from Seasearch will inform us about some of the wildlife which lives unnoticed just off our coast. Unimagined diverse creatures, strange as aliens from another planet, living together in amazing harmony.

When not promoting marine life on land, he and his partner Dawn coordinate the Marine Conservation Society's Seasearch project in East Anglia. Seasearch is a nationwide project asking amateur divers to survey for wildlife on their dives – the only practical way to get first hand reports from any significant proportion of our nation's long coastline.

### SINGING DAY

Sunday 9th November, The Cut Arts Centre, Halesworth, IP19 8BY, 10.30am – 4pm. Halesworth Harmony is hosting a day of inspiring singing with Sian Croose, drawing on her 35 years of experience singing and creating innovative performances with original material from a wide range of contemporary composers, including Helen Chadwick, Sianed Jones and Meredith Monk, as well as uplifting traditional songs from around the world. Spend the day exploring how your voice can expand and try out harmonies and rhythms as part of a welcoming singing community. All welcome – no experience is necessary and everything will be taught by ear. The cost is £20 and places must be booked in advance. For further details and to book, please email: halesworth.harmony@gmail.com

The Wildlife Trusts all support Seasearch and the data gathered is supplied to the National Biodiversity Network where anyone can view it. Rob and Dawn use digital photography to document surveys and their on-line galleries are the largest resource of published and respected marine images in the region.

This talk will reveal exactly why Seasearch is actively performing such an important role across all areas of environmental coastal protection. Hopefully it will pique your interest to find out more and get involved. The sea needs support and protection and we have a chance to save our seas for the future – and know the risks of not doing so.

Please note that from now on all our monthly talks will start in the Cut Arts Centre, Halesworth half an hour earlier at 2:00 pm and everyone is welcome.

u3a events are free to current Halesworth and District u3a members. For non-members, tickets are available at £4 in advance, or on the door at the Cut. Why not come along early and enjoy lunch in the Café and catch up with your friends?

# GARDEN MACHINERY

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# MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS

Prancing reindeer, rocking Santas, a moving nativity scene, toe-tapping music and dynamic dancing are set to delight audiences at Snape Maltings Concert Hall from December 5th in a new show, Magic of Christmas. The award-winning Co-op Juniors Theatre Company returns to the world-famous venue with a brand new festive spectacular of music and dance for the whole family, with affordable prices and a discount for children. Directors Harriet and Ellena Bacon are taking the company of almost 100 performers and the audience on a magical musical journey.

"We're tapping into the spirit of Christmas," they said. "There are lots of surprises in store, many magical moments and stunning staging. We're so excited to share it with audiences, as we connect with families to celebrate Christmas with our young performers."

The huge stage set has animated projection and thousands of twinkling lights, together with hundreds of specially created costumes. As the largest youth musical theatre production in the UK, it's become a must-see for audiences across East Anglia, with seats from just £15.

Selecting the right mix of musical styles is a challenge for the creative team. Musical director Nicholas Sheehan works with composer and arranger Emily Bennett, five choreographers and artistic director Oliver Brett to bring together a breath-taking selection of musical delights.

Producing the hundreds of costumes needed for so many performers requires an experienced team, led by Jeannie Ingram and Cilla Tricker. They have costumed literally thousands of performers for Christmas and summer musical shows over more than two decades.

Says Jeannie Ingram, "The look and feel of the costumes has to reflect the mood of the music and the choreography, so we start in September as soon as the cast begin rehearsals."

Tickets for Magic of Christmas are £28, £21 & £15. Discounts for seniors, children under 16 and groups. Book 01728 687110 or online at brittenpearsarts.org. Select the What's On tab and search for Magic of Christmas.





### PEAR TREE FUND'S 10TH ANNUAL GOLF DAY

Ten years of teeing off to raise charity cash.

Generous golfers have taken to the tees to raise a record-breaking £13,092 during the Pear Tree Fund's 10th annual golf day – taking the total raised over the past decade to more than £62,000.

The charity hosted its 2025 competition at Halesworth Golf in late August. More than 160 players took part to help raise the money, taking the total from all of the Pear Tree Fund's golf days to £62,512.

The money will help the charity to support people who have been bereaved or have life-changing illnesses or long-term physical or mental health conditions, as well as their families or carers.

This includes providing a wide range of services such as information and support to help understand diagnosis, counselling, bereavement support and complementary treatments.

The charity also offers social welfare advice, including benefits and support with finances, as well as support for families, children and young carers.

Juliette Weaver, volunteer community fundraiser with the charity, organised this year's event.

She said: "We are delighted that we raised such a fantastic sum which will make a real difference by making sure people can receive local support when they need it most.

"We are incredibly grateful to everyone who took part and to the businesses, volunteers and individuals who supported the event by donating raffle prizes or offering sponsorship. Particular thanks go to our patron, Lois Hunt, who hosted the event at Halesworth Golf, Hammond MG who offered a fantastic prize of a brand new MG3 car and photographer Denise Brady, who gave up her time to capture some special moments on and off the green.

"The funds raised not just this year, but also at our previous golf days, are already having a profound and lasting impact on the community we support, enabling us to help more local people as they navigate life-changing illness or bereavement.

"Our heartfelt thanks go to everyone who helped the day go with such a swing."

To find out more about the support offered by the Pear Tree Fund or to donate to the charity, call 01986 899655, email info@peartreefund.org or visit www.peartreefund.org



### **NOVEMBER AT HALESWORTH LIBRARY**

As the weather cools and the nights draw in, don't forget that all members of the community are welcome to stop by for a hot drink.

The library will also be offering a Kindness Rack (donations of winter clothing much appreciated!).

As part of their 'Thursday Book Talk' series, the Friends of Halesworth Library will be hosting a book talk on Thursday 20th November at 2:30pm.

Further details will be published in due course, on our website: suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk, social media channels or speak with a member of staff. There will also be sessions of Sociable Sundays on Sunday 2nd, 16th and 30th November 10.30am - 12.30pm and Board Games Cafe on Monday 24th November 2 - 4.30pm, both hosted and run by volunteers of the Friends of Halesworth Library.

Talking Therapy can help those with anxiety or depression and the NHS is holding a drop-in session on Wednesday 5th November at the library from 1 - 4pm.

Saturday 15th November sees the switch on of the Festive Lights in Halesworth. Craft activities will be available in the library so why not pop in and see us before going to see Father Christmas switch on the lights?

Don't forget our regular activities and drop-ins! Every Tuesday 10 - 11.30am there is a free Rhyme Time & Play session to sing fun songs followed by free play with our toys. Every Wednesday at 10am our Time Out sociable group for older people meet for tea and biscuits. The Knit & Natter group meet alternate Tuesdays 2 - 4pm, staff can provide dates. Lego Club is on every Saturday 11am – 12noon and Family Board Games Club every Sunday 10.30 - 11.30am. You can find advice drop-ins from East Suffolk Council Customer services every Tuesday 10am - 4pm and Barclays Bank on Wednesdays 9am - 5pm. Citizens Advice have a drop-in every other Tuesday 10am – 12noon, please ask a member of staff for future dates.

BRIAN

Melton's famous resident, Brian, shares his stories, views and observations on everyday life with his very own column, exclusive to The Tide Collection magazines.

The mornins are hooly dark now and I dunt know abowt you, but I hate gettin up on these dark days and hevin to put the lights on. Last year, I bort meself one of them led head torches - the one with an elastic strap round yer hed and if I hev to get up in the night for a wee, I use that instead of putting the lights on, as the lights are so bright, that wake me up and can't get back to sleep.

I got a new washin machine last month. It's a good quality one and me mate Ticket plumbed it in for me, as he used to be a plumber before he got the sack. Anyway, I call it the nagger, because when that finish spinnin, that start beepin and if you dunt get the washing owt straight away, that carry on naggin until you do!

The gal Rosemary next door ram as many clothes into hers as she can and I'm surprised that int brook yet. I always say that you should leave plenty of room for the washing powder to do its job and agrivate the fibers. And where hev all my socks gorn? I know I put them in the machine together, but I now hev a stack of odd socks!

The gal Rosemary and me are gorn to see the Christmas show at Snape this year and I hope I'll come owt feeling

festive, because I got right cheesed off when I see all the Christmas bits and pieces owt in the shops in September! We know when Christmas is. It's the same day every year. They int moved it, so why do they need to start getting the kiddies excited so early? When I was a little ol boy, the Christmas adverts dint come on the telly until December.

I want to finish this month with a wud abowt letterboxes. Not the posh ones that go on the wall, but the ones that are part of the door. A month or so ago, I hed to put a new letterbox in my door and I hed a duzzy job getting it in. When the Avon lady posted her book through the door, the flap was so sharp, she cut he fingers - not bad,

but enough for her to cuss a few wuds. She knocked on the door and I giv her a couple of waterproof plasters and she say that mine int the only sharp one abowt, so if you live in Melton, can you kindly check your letterbox? Thank you.

Do you have a question for Brian, or do you have a dilemma you need some advice with? Email your question or problem to: lou@tidecollection.com



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# HALESWORTH BRANCH OF CANCER RESEARCH

On the 18th September myself and committee members Debbie and Sue returned to The Old Hall Cafe to say "Thank you" to them for holding The Maze by Torchlight event again for us.

We presented them with a certificate to acknowledge the amount of £4,441.24 that they have raised for us over the three years that the event has taken place.

The good news is that all being well we will be doing it again next year.

Emily, Beth and Chelsea from The Old Hall Cafe presented us with the cheque for this year's total of £1,494.11.

Unfortunately, Bella (the owner) couldn't be with us on the day but we are very grateful that she continues to support us and we send our very best wishes to all the staff at The Old Hall Cafe.



We are also very grateful to Halesworth Co-op and Sarah in the Insomnia Café for letting us have a table-top sale in the cafe on Saturday 27th September. Sarah made us very welcome and the café is a lovely area to meet up for a coffee with friends. We had three tables, Cancer Research Christmas cards and merchandise, Tombola and a 'Nearly New' stall.

We raised £238.15. Thank you to everyone who supported us. We hope to do this again as a regular event with different stalls so please look out for our posters etc.

The daughter of Judy, one of our volunteers, got married recently and instead of wedding gifts they very generously asked for donations to Cancer Research, it was such a kind gesture to think of us on such a special day and they raised £520. We all send our congratulations to Sarah (Nee Cook) and her new husband Patrick as they start their married life together.

The last event for 2025 will be (dare I mention it) our Christmas Fair on November 22nd in Holton Village Hall. 10.30am - 2pm. This is one of our big events of the year where we serve our lunches. On the menu will be homemade soup, a choice of two mains and a lot of delicious desserts which we serve from 11.30am. We will also be serving tea/coffee and traditional mince pies from 10.30am.

Our priority of course is raising funds for Cancer Research but we also like it to be a community event where people can meet up with friends and neighbours so we try to keep the price of our meals as low as possible so it is affordable for all, so please stay for lunch if you can. We will also have our usual stalls, so if anyone would like to bake for us for the cake stall or donate a raffle prize we would be extremely grateful. We will be having our very popular Tombola and Debbie and Sue's Christmas stall with homemade preserves and Christmas Puddings etc. It is also the perfect opportunity to stock up on books and jigsaws for those long winter nights.

We do apologise for the inconvenience but our events are cash only.

Thank you to our loyal supporters and welcome to anyone who will be visiting us for the first time. We truly can't do this without you all.

For more information please contact me. Tel: 01986 873640.

Dawn Davis

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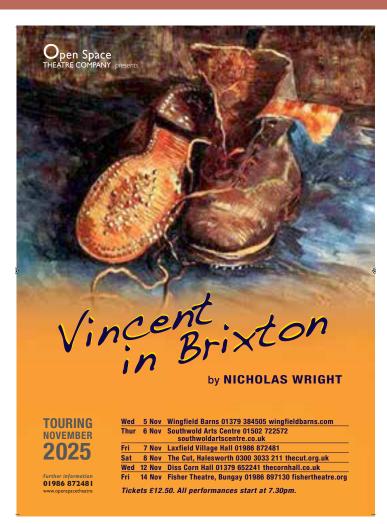
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THE YOUNG and naive Vincent van Gogh finds himself lodging in a house full of secrets in a theatre production destined for Halesworth and Southwold and four other local venues in November.

'Vincent in Brixton', by Nicholas Wright, was premiered at the National Theatre and the local production is by Open Space Theatre Company, which has brought a series of classic plays to the area over the past 17 years.

It is 1873 and the young Dutchman rents a room in a suburb of London while he is being trained for a career as an art dealer.

Slowly, he becomes aware of the secrets which lie beneath the surface of everyday life in this house.

Wright's play traces the transforming effects of love, sex and youthful adventure on Van Gogh's still unfound talent as a painter.

It is scheduled for Southwold Arts Centre on Thursday, November 6 and The Cut, Halesworth on Saturday November 8. Further performances are at Wingfield, Laxfield, Diss and Bungay November 5 – 14.

Further information 01986 872481 or www.openspacetheatre. org.uk



Join us at Old Hall Southwold this November and kickstart your festive season with a visit to our fantastic two-day Christmas Makers Market on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th November!

With over 55 makers in attendance our FREE TO ENTER market is the perfect place to start (and finish!) your Christmas shopping.

You'll find an incredible selection of stalls under the cover of our Big Barn featuring designers and makers across a huge variety of mediums: jewellery, ceramics, homeware, textiles, woodwork, fine art, cakes, cosmetics, greetings cards, fashion, glassware, candles and so much more!

We've recruited some brilliant local musicians to help you bop whilst you shop, and weather permitting, we'll have a very special visit from the beautiful mini donks from the Miniature Donkeys for Wellbeing charity.

In Kids Corner we'll be offering festive facepainting, and Wendy the Elf will be helping the wee ones write and post their letters to the big man.

The team from Churros and Chorizo will be bringing along their street food trailer serving a delicious Spanish inspired menu of burgers and churros, and our lovely cafe will be open as usual serving breakfasts, lunches, and great coffee.

With oodles of free onsite parking, the best of our region's designers and makers in attendance, AND free entry, come and show your support for local, small businesses and make Old Hall your first stop for Christmas shopping this year!

# FROM BEGINNERS TO PERFORMERS

Nights are getting shorter, days are cooler, children return to school, and 'grown-ups' return refreshed to their fabulous hobbies. Local music hub 'From Beginners to Performers' has now been active in Suffolk for ten years. After working for a decade and a half as a music teacher in school, Zoe returned to the job she practised on Tyneside for more than twenty years. Beginning with home tuition and ukulele classes, which were held at Beccles library and eventually spreading over the county and even teaching online. Since returning to instrumental tuition Zoe has had seven books published by World of Ukes.

Zoe is no stranger to publishing, having several arrangements published by Guitar Magazine, Classical Guitar Magazine, Cambridge Music Works and Trinity College of Music grade exams.

Years of experience and IT skills mean that musical arrangements can be provided for classes of mixed instruments and mixed ability, and devices such as musescore provide amazing devices for practising: https://studio2.org.uk/music.zoewadey.com/

Every year a performance evening is organised where groups and learners have an opportunity to meet and show off.

**Private Tuition:** Private tuition in plucked string instruments, Bass, Guitar, Mandolin, Tenor Banjo and Ukulele.

**Beginners Classes:** Beginners' classes for guitar and ukulele are currently held at the community rooms in Halesworth

Racehorse String Waits: The Racehorse String Waits have been playing together for some years, originally called the Ukulele Orchestra of Great Beccles. The group have members playing mandolins, bass, ukuleles and tenor recorder. It's been a busy year with performances at Halesworth for the Day of Dance, celebration of the railway at Halesworth Station, VE Day and the Halesworth Ale celebration. Our repertoire in the past has included pop music, music from movies, including westerns and Mexican music.

This autumn we are working on music by the seventies band Sky and also hope to attempt Pachelbel's canon. They meet on Friday mornings at the Racehorse pub at Westhall from 10am until 11:30.



#### **Testimonials**

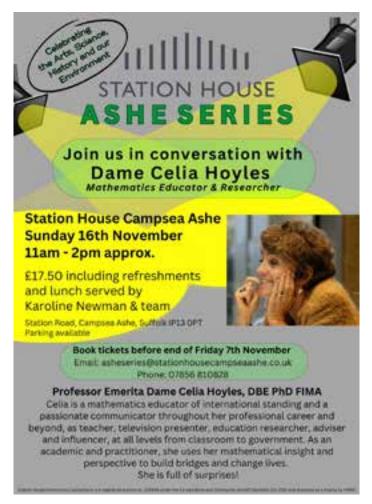
"I've never enjoyed my Wednesday afternoons so much since joining the SHS. The class is full of lovely, enthusiastic, dedicated members. Each week offers various degrees of learning which gently challenge you to leave your comfort zone for higher achievements. Thanks to a very talented, experienced teacher in many instruments, we play wonderful pieces each term. There's lots of support, fun and laughter along the way as your own personal talent shines." - Angela

"While Zoe is being so patient and encouraging, we often forget how talented she is - singing and playing several instruments as well as arranging music and her use of modern technology." - Anne

"I love Zoe's method of teaching, calm encouraging, gentle yet all with a wonderful sense of humour. There is no urgency in her teaching just a wanting you, the student to get the best from the classes" - Jackie

#### Stationhouse Strummers

The strummers was an amalgamation of Coastal Leisure Learning classes. The group includes guitars, ukuleles mandolins and on occasions, banjos and a bass. We even had a fabulous opera singer with us for a special event celebrating the railway. We are hoping once again this year to play on the *Santa Express*.



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#### WHAT'S ON AT THE SAIL LOFT? Winter 2025/26:

Welcome to The Sail Loft, here you will find all the exciting things that we have going on over the next few months.

Introducing our new **Diners Loyalty Card.** Simply collect 8 stamps for every 2 courses you enjoy with us & receive a free meal on your next visit (T&C's apply)

**Steak Night\*:** Every Friday evening, starting 5th September – Pan seared minute steak, fries, dressed rocket salad & a brandy & peppercorn sauce for £21.95 inc glass of house wine or pint of lager

Wine Evening: Thursday 16th October – booking essential. (Wine supplied by Jeroboam wines)

**2 for £15 Menu\***: Starts November 3rd. Enjoy 2 courses from our pre-set menu for just £15, available Monday-Friday, between 12pm-3pm

**Lunch Club:** 1st Thursday of every month, starting Thursday November 6th (Spanish Basque) – A different themed 2-course lunch with coffee, talk from our chef about the dishes & a full recipe card £22.95

Quiz & Curry Night: 1st Thursday of every month, starting Thursday 6th November – Come & join us for a tasty curry & test your knowledge with our in house quiz master £12.99PP (includes prize for winners!)

Food focus of the month: Come & join us each month where you'll find a different food focus as we go through each season

\* NOT AVAILABLE DURING SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

#### **FOOD FOCUS OF THE MONTH**



**October** "Holy Shiitake!" (Mushrooms)

November "Oh my Gourd" (Pumpkins etc)

December "Seasonings greetings" (Festive treats)

January "Veganuary" (Vegan focus)



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# HALESWORTH TO SOUTHWOLD NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY

Now that the railway is reaching the last of its 2025 events (although our colleagues at the Southwold Railway Trust will be providing Santa Specials on 6th and 13th December at Steamworks in Southwold), the volunteers are busy with winter work - it's unusual for a small heritage railway to have two workdays each week (Tuesdays and Saturdays) - with other days as well, from time to time: we are very grateful for our volunteers' dedication.

At Blythburgh Station the team have been erecting more of the railways' unique timber fencing along the northern boundary of the station yard: this will improve the visual quality of the station, as well as providing a barrier to stop casual car parkers from accidentally driving over the edge and landing in the river marshes.

At the workshop, the under-cover rolling stock area has been rebuilt, incorporating part of a sectional building to provide staff facilities, and enclosing the work area for the first time, so that work can continue in bad weather. (At Blythburgh Station, however, the staff have to work in primitive conditions, but we are hoping to provide better facilities there if the planning authorities agree). The extensive rail-stacks have been re-organised, so that we are ready to lay more track if we receive permission. The luggage van replica is proceeding well, with door fittings being attached, and the second undercoat applied. Once it is complete, it will join the other heritage rolling stock at the station, portraying the variety of goods wagons and vans that used to be seen there.

In mid-October, two rolling-stock moves took place. The replica private-owner MOY coal wagon was moved to the station, so that it can form part of the working museum display there. This large wagon is a copy of one of the very unusual flexible-wheelbased wagons built to Cleminson's patent and is probably the only such wagon to have been built in well over 100 years. It represents an important part of the railway's history: over the winter the painting can be completed, and the complex lettering applied by our sign-writer.

Over the same weekend, the passenger coach was moved to a workshop in Norfolk, where it is having air brakes fitted, so that HSNGR can inaugurate passenger rides in 2026. These rides will inevitably be very short to start with – but they will be the first passenger trains to run on the original trackbed since 1929.

Our Archivist has been able to obtain a large collection of rare photographs of the railway, as well as some original paperwork, including some of the drivers' tickets which allowed the trains to proceed. As HSNGR is now a member of the Suffolk Museums group, we are always on the look-out for railway artefacts of all kinds, which we will be able to display at the station heritage centre. Our fondest wish is to re-discover all or part of a carriage or wagon from the original railway: who knows - perhaps that will happen someday!

#### James Hewett, Trustee







SAXMUNDHAM NEWS

SOUTHWOLD ORGAN

WOODBRIDGE TALK

# LEISURE FACILITIES - THE FUTURE Creen Party

#### By Councillor Sarah Whitelock

#### **Changes at Leisure Centres**

You will be seeing some significant changes at your local leisure centre soon - Green led East Suffolk Council has ambitious plans to upgrade and decarbonise three of the district's leisure centres and has secured £4.8m to do the necessary work.

To help residents improve their health and to achieve our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2030, we are adding £2m to a hard-won government grant of £2.8m for the necessary improvements.

Leisure centres are currently the single largest contributor to the Council's greenhouse gas emissions, accounting for around 42% of the total, so tackling emissions from the buildings is crucial to meeting overall carbon reduction targets. We also want to secure the financial future of leisure centres by reducing their running costs. Put simply, swimming pools are eye wateringly expensive to heat, so good insulation and reduced energy bills are needed to make them financially sustainable. At a time when leisure centres all over the country are being closed due to high maintenance and operating costs, this investment is essential for the planet and residents.

Everyone benefits from physical activity



Upgrades to Leiston, Waterlane in Lowestoft and Deben in Woodbridge will focus on replacing outdated gas boilers with cutting-edge air source heat pump systems for heating and CO2 heat pumps for hot water, significantly cutting energy use and emissions. The Council is also planning solar panel installations at all three sites to help offset increased electricity use from electric-only systems and is exploring a potential project for solar panel car ports at Leiston to further reduce energy bills.

Deben Leisure Centre will benefit from a new roof (the current roof was installed in the 1980s) and ageing equipment due for renewal will also be replaced across all sites.

Work is currently in the planning stage and will begin over the next two years. While there will be some inconvenience, the long-term benefits to the community are huge.

#### **Encouraging Participation**

Fewer than two-thirds of adults and less than half of children and young people meet the Chief Medical Officer's guidelines for physical activity (Sport England 2022). Tempting residents into leisure centres with modern facilities and very low cost, or free, opportunities, such as Feel Good Suffolk, The Big Sister Project and swimming lessons, are vital in encouraging the first positive steps towards investing in one's own health and wellbeing. It's not just about mental and physical health, it's also about community cohesion and personal development.

# Meeting the Demand for new Leisure Options

The power of leisure activities is huge but planning proposals for new facilities can be contentious. For example, the previous Conservative administration promised a big increase in artificial grass surface ('3G') pitches which are popular with teams who can use them 24/7, but opposition to them can be significant.

If clubs follow planning legislation when applying, we are legally required to approve 3G pitches. However, if local clubs want to receive Council managed grants (mainly the Community Infrastructure Levy) they now have to meet stringent demands on business planning, projected use and capturing micro plastics.

Offering enthusiastic team members a local venue and preventing long and repeated car journeys has to come into the planning equation, as does the value of increasing opportunities for young people to play team sports.

Swimming lessons are vital for children



Access to the outdoors has become so restricted to young people that these new facilities are becoming vitally important in finding rewarding and healthy ways for them to spend their spare time.

#### A Personal Perspective

Soon after becoming a councillor for East Suffolk I attended a national course for newbies. On the first day the course facilitator (and a council leader) apologised for not being as cheerful as she should be. She fought back the tears as she explained that the previous evening her cabinet had reluctantly decided to close the only remaining public swimming pool in her borough. She described the anger and disappointment of residents because previous administrations had not invested sufficiently in leisure facilities. As a long-term advocate of regular activity to maintain physical and mental health, I vowed not to let that happen in East Suffolk. The plans we are making now will secure the future for our leisure centres for a decade.



Sarah Whitelock, Cabinet Member for Communities, Culture, Leisure and Tourism

If you have any questions or comment on this article, please contact Sarah via info@ eastsuffolk.greenparty.org.uk

Promoted by East Suffolk Green Party, Unit 1, The Silo, Pirnhow Street, Bungay, Suffolk. NR35 2RU

### CITIZENS ADVICE EAST

Volunteer & Job opportunities with CAES - Are you a student wanting to build your CV? Or leaving college or uni' and looking for a job? If the answer is 'yes' we need you, and we think we have a lot to offer too.

One staff member, now 24, agrees: "I wasn't sure what I wanted to do after uni'. I knew Citizens Advice was well respected, so I applied to train as a volunteer adviser. This was March 2023. My trainee cohort were friendly and welcoming. When we went to the office the advisers and supervisors were welcoming too - how they dealt with client issues was impressive. I also met several of the managers early on and I remember thinking how closely their values matched my own.

"Quite soon after qualifying as a volunteer adviser I was told of job opportunities. I applied and was successful. My first role involved working with the Probation Service providing support and guidance to vulnerable people on probation."

"It taught me a lot about the justice system but also about the incredibly tough lives many people have and the range of issues they need help with. I also worked on a housing research project for CA's Research and Campaigns team. Again, I learned a lot about housing but also about how to run a campaign. Over the last two years I've had a chance to work on many other projects. I've also developed the skills to support and supervise volunteers.

"What can Citizens Advice offer people my age? Well, based on my experience, it gives you the skills needed for any public facing job. Teaching for example, or the health service, counselling, charity work, law, politics, journalism. Time spent as a volunteer adviser is therefore great for a CV.

"There are also opportunities for paid work in CA itself. You train as a volunteer, do some general advising and then, if you like the fast pace and want the challenge, you can apply for a paid job when opportunities arise. "Some jobs allow you to specialise, others give you supervisory and management skills.

"CA is a great organisation for giving young people responsibilities early on.

"Does CA need more young people as volunteers and staff? Yes, I think it does, for several reasons. People in their late teens or twenties don't tend to come to CA for advice, not because they haven't got problems, just because they don't think it's for them. We need ways to reach that group. Having more young people as face-to-face advisers would show we're here for them.

"CA needs more young people for other things too. Take social media – we use it and understand it. And we're not fazed by rapid changes in technology or digital systems. We grew up with them. Teams work best when with a range of skills and perspectives – we have skills that weren't needed in the past but are now."

If you'd like to know more visit: www. caes.org.uk/email-service or phone: 0808 278 7866 (lines open 10 - 2 Mon-Fri).







Fri 7th & Sat 8th Nov at 7.15pm Sun 9th Nov at 6.00pm Mon 10th, Tues 11th & Wed 12th Nov at 7.15pm Thurs 13th Nov at 3.00pm Sun 16th & Wed 19th Nov at 7.15pm

# SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER ME FROM NOWEHERE 15

Thurs 13th Nov at 7.15pm Sun 16th Nov at 3.00pm

#### **JOHN CLEESE PACKS IT IN 12A**

Fri 14th Nov at 1.00pm Sat 15th Nov at 7.15pm Sun 16th Nov at 5.00pm Mon 17th & Tues 18th Nov at 7.15pm Wed 19th Nov at 3.00pm Thurs 20th Nov at 7.15pm

#### THE CHORAL 12A

Fri 21st Nov at 7.15pm
Sat 22nd Nov at 4.00pm & 7.15pm
Sun 23rd Nov at 3.00pm & 6.00pm
Mon 25th - Thurs 27th Nov at 2.00pm & 7.15pm
Fri 28th Nov at 7.15pm
Sat 29th Nov at 12.00pm
Sun 30th Nov at 3.00pm & 6.00pm
Mon 31st Nov - Thurs 4th Dec at 2.00pm & 7.15pm

#### WICKED FOR GOOD PG

Sat 29th Nov at 7.30pm. LIVE ON STAGE

# FOLK AT THE THEATRE MERRY HELL

Sun 7th Dec at 7.30pm. LIVE ON STAGE

#### WE THREE KINGS OF ROCK 'N' ROLL



High Street, Leiston, Suffolk. IP16 4BZ Tel: 01728 830549, or visit: www.leistonfilmtheatre.co.uk







# LIGHT UP SOUTHWOLD!

Southwold will come alive on Saturday 29th November for the annual Christmas Lights Switch On. The event has been a Southwold institution for many years and the lights have been restored to their previous glory by a local voluntary group, 'Light Up Southwold', with the support of the whole community.

It all kicks off with a street market from 2pm. There'll be lots of local craft stalls selling wonderful Christmas gifts and delicious street food stalls. And please remember to support the fantastic Southwold shops and cafes too. Many of them will be spilling out onto the pavement showing off their pantomime themed fancy dress and selling hot drinks and food. There will also be a chance to meet some delightful donkeys from East Suffolk Donkey Sanctuary.

Free entertainment starts in the Market Place at 2pm with carols from the St Felix School Choirs and more Christmas songs from Daisy & Charlotte. Then there'll be pantomime on stage, as well as in the shops (Oh no there won't!), followed by the Wrentham Band. Santa will arrive at the town hall from the North Pole at 5pm to turn on the lights and make Southwold a winter wonderland..

Santa will then be in his grotto in the Adnams Tour Centre from 5:30 to meet the children. The grotto is free, but donations will be much appreciated, and there's no need to book, just turn up and queue. The entertainment in the Market Place finishes with dancing from the 1940s GI Jivers.

Jim Craddock, one of the organising team said "We've been fundraising and organising all year and we think this year will be the best we've had. The event is all about bringing people together to enjoy this wonderful time of year and it's the people who make this special. We couldn't do it without everyone's support, the generosity of local businesses and Southwold Town Council and the enthusiastic participation of residents and visitors".

If you'd like to support us with donation then please donate here: https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/lightupsouthwold or follow our QR code.



## FOOTSTEPS WALKING WITH YOU

'Footsteps Walking with You' is based at Woodbridge Quay Church but covers the whole of Suffolk in providing professional counselling for 8 - 25 year olds, in a safe and confidential space, enabling them to feel validated and heard.

Since the Pandemic, 24% of young people say they have self-harmed, 17% of these say they did this with suicidal intent. One in five children in every classroom suffer mental health problems. These are shocking statistics. Our service is as accessible as possible. We ensure money is never a barrier to children and young people receiving the help they need.

Booking a session with a counsellor is easy, anyone can refer including the young people themselves.

#### **Counselling Contact:**

- fb.me/footstepswalkingwithyou
- info@footstepswwy.org.uk
- 07955898151
- www.footstepswwy.org.uk
- Appointments by arrangement

#### Cosy up this Christmas

Our Winter Garden is back for the festive season. From 15th December until 5th January, we invite you to bundle up and enjoy winter warmers and seasonal plates with friends and family under canvas.

> Fancy hiring the Winter Garden for your Christmas party or event? Get in touch via our website.

To view menus and make a reservation, visit our website.

shipatdunwich.co.uk 01728 648219 St James's St, Dunwich, Saxmundham IP17 3DT



### **VOLUNTEERING WITH SARS**

Paramedic Keiran Bromley on Volunteering with SARS - Suffolk's **Emergency Medical Charity** 

In the quiet lanes and rural stretches of Suffolk, emergencies don't wait for daylight or convenience. When lives hang in the balance, it's often volunteers like Keiran Bromley who answer the call - bringing hospital-level care to the roadside, the family home, or wherever it's needed most. Keiran is a seasoned Paramedic with two decades of frontline experience, including four years on a Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) team. For the past eight years, he's also volunteered with SARS, a charity that provides advanced prehospital care across the county.

"I was drawn to SARS because I saw the real value in delivering enhanced care directly at the scene," Keiran explains.

"Often in rural or time-critical situations, every second counts. I wanted to use my skills beyond my full-time role to make a difference locally."

And he has. Responding in his own time, Keiran supports the local ambulance service when additional critical care is needed - sometimes at short notice, often during unsocial hours. What drives him is simple: impact.

"When someone is seriously injured or critically unwell, having advanced clinical care on scene can dramatically change outcomes," he says. "Knowing I can bring that level of support is what keeps me going - no matter the hour."

The charity receives no central government funding, relying entirely on public donations to equip and support its volunteer clinicians. Keiran is proudly sponsored by Twisted Oaks Bike Park, whose support helps towards the cost of his callouts. Sponsoring a SARS clinician starts at just £750 per year - an opportunity that not only funds critical care but also promotes local businesses making a real difference.

Outside of SARS, Keiran works full-time as a Paramedic.

If there's one message Keiran hopes the public hears, it's this: SARS volunteers are not "just responders" - they're highly trained professionals donating their time and expertise to deliver lifesaving care. To learn more about SARS or support their work, visit SARS999.org.uk.



# Hello Halesworth

Alde & Blyth community radio We are your local community radio station, broadcasting online to bring you a varied mix of music programmes, stories and information about what's on in our area.

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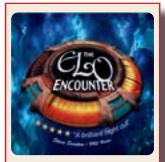


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# COMING UP AT SOUTHWOLD ARTS CENTRE



# THE ELO ENCOUNTER THE BLUE SKY TOUR

In an all live show featuring soaring strings, striking vocal harmonies and playing all the much loved songs from ELO's hit-filled library including Evil Woman, Telephone Line and Don't Bring Me Down. The ELO Encounter promises a night filled with rock & roll

Saturday 22 November 7:30pm Tickets - £20



# STAND UP IN SOUTHWOLD with RUSSELL KANE

The most Prestigious
Line-Up Yet – LIVE at
Southwold Arts Centre
Russell is a force of
nature on stage and
screen. He recently
wowed crowds
headlining at Latitude,
Reading, and Leeds –
and now he's coming to

Friday 28 November 7pm Tickets - £25

Southwold Arts Centre!

Age guidance: 16+

Blyth Valley & Southwold Wildlife Group

# The Trouble Without Wasps

Illustrated talk by

Ian Bedford 7.30pm Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> November



Join Santa & his team for fantastically festive treat of a show. So take a journey to the North Pole where you will meet the manic team of Elves that keep the Workshop running! Also there be a special appearance from Rudolph and of course Santa will be there making sure all goes to plan.

Our Santamime is suitable for all ages, there is something for everyone, plus there will be a photo opportunity with Santa & a gift for every child!

Tuesday 23 & Wednesday 24 December

# THE ROY ORBISON EXPERIENCE

The Roy Orbison Experience, the UK's newest and most authentic tribute to the music of Roy Orbison, one of America's most famous voices. The Roy Orbison Experience is a celebration of the music of Roy Orbison, fronted by the incredible voice of Oliver Harris dedicated to faithfully replicating the iconic sound, it is guaranteed to be an experience that audiences and fans of Roy will not want to miss..

Saturday 29 November 7:30pm Tickets - £20

# THE PAUL MCCARTNEY EXPERIENCE

An evening of music, written by Sir Paul McCartney and spanning over 70 years. Featuring songs from an enormous back-catalogue, the band perform hit after hit, including those from his time with The Beatles, Wings and solo career.

A full light and video show enhance the performances of Live and Let Die, Another Day, Yesterday and many many more.

> Saturday 6 December 7:30pm Tickets - £20

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOV 2 Bawdsey Radar Museum. Last opportunity to visit this season. Opening times 11am - 4pm (last admission 3pm). Children go free. We hope to be at the Bawdsey Christmas Market, so pop in and see us for great gifts and stocking fillers. For further details visit: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk; email: info@ bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

NOV 14 Woodbridge Museum Talk: 'Capture & Escape in WW2' by Jane Bradburn. In the summer of 1941 local men who had joined the 67th (Suffolk) Medium Regiment R.A.T.A. left England. The entire regiment was captured at Tobruk and Jane's talk provides a picture of how these local men survived their experiences of war. 2.30pm at Woodbridge Museum. All welcome.

NOV 15 Christmas Fair at St Peter's Church, Holton, 10 am until 1 pm at Holton & Blyford Village Hall. Refreshments, Stalls, Raffle

NOV 15 Ceilidh with live music 'Far 'n' Away'. This is a fundraiser for Ecotherapy East which is regenerating nature on our meadow reserve in Bramfield. Early Bird tickets £13 can be purchased on www.ecotherapyeast.co.uk until 8th November and thereafter £15 or (cash) on the door. Ticket includes cakes and hot drinks or bring your own drinks. We'd love to see you! 7pm for 7.30pm at Bramfield Village Hall.

NOV 15 Kinda Forest Family Saturdays. Explore the forest with guided nature walks, games, challenge your skills with a scavenger hunt, or try your hand at nature crafts! Kaliwoods, Holton, Halesworth, IP19 8NQ. Visit: www.kindaforestschool. com or email: info@kindaeducation.org.

NOV 15 Children's remedies. 11am at the Harmony Centre Halesworth. £10.

NOV 19 Aldeburgh and District Local History Society (ADLHS) Lecture: 'Orford's Atlantic Wall Breakers' by John Ogden. The little-known story of how 12 square miles of local countryside, including Orford and Snape, were used as a topsecret testing ground for the specialised tanks that proved crucial to the success of the D-Day landings. 6pm at the Old Generator Station, Kings Field.

NOV 21 Might you be bereaved, divorced, or separated? If so, come for a relaxed and informal time at St Edmund's church, Southwold at 10.30am. Lisa and Anne will be there to welcome you with tea, coffee and biscuits and gentle chat. For more information contact Lisa Nickell-lean, tel: 07958967858

NOV 22 Cancer Research Christmas Fair. Light lunches and delicious desserts served from 11.30am. Tea/coffee and mince pies from 10.30am. Stalls: Raffle, Tombola, Cakes, Christmas stall, Books, Bric - brac, etc. 10.30am - 2pm at Holton Village Hall. IP19 8RZ

NOV 22 Aldeburgh Yacht Club Christmas Gift Fair. Discover nearly 30 individual retailers with something for everyone. Find little luxuries and treats for stocking fillers. Indulge in glamorous party fashion. Enjoy mouth-watering treats from local producers. Add twinkle and style with decorative accessories. 10am – 3pm at Aldeburgh Yacht Club, Slaughden Road, IP15 5NA.

NOV 23 Halesworth Harmony rehearsal at The Cut in Halesworth. Come along for a free taster session - no experience is necessary, everything is taught by ear, and you'll receive a warm welcome. For further details, email: halesworth. harmony@gmail.com. 10.30am - 12.30pm.

NOV 28 Everyman Folk Club. 'Narthen'. As well as four magnificent voices, Jo Freya, Fi Fraser, Sarah Matthews and Doug Eunson are an 'orchestra of sound' with whistles, saxes, fiddles, viola, hammer dulcimer, accordion and hurdy-gurdies. Tickets £10 in advance or £12 on the door. 7.30pm at The Riverside Centre, Gt Glemham Road, Stratford St Andrew. IP17 1LL. Email: everyman@wheatstone.co.uk

NOV 29 Wenhaston Produce & Craft Market. Handmade cards, jewellery, homemade jams, cakes, honey, handbags and much, much more. Tea, Coffee and Homemade Savouries and Cakes. New stallholders welcome, especially, a cheese maker, pork butcher, fresh bread maker, also fresh fruit and vegetables, chocolate maker. Contact Carol at: caz-mike@outlook.com. 10am to 12.30pm at Wenhaston Village Hall.

NOV 30 Halesworth Harmony rehearsal at The Hub in Huntingfield. Come along for a free taster session. Email: halesworth.harmony@gmail.com. 10.30am - 12.30pm.

This issue was designed, printed & published by Leiston Press.

Halesworth Hoot is your free local paper, 2000 copies are printed every month.

We distribute the magazines door to door and to many varied outlets. The next issue will be published on Monday 1st December, copy deadline is 14th November - but the earlier the better to ensure inclusion. Contacts/Advertisers/Editorial: Louise Gissing at Leiston Press, Unit 1b Masterlord Industrial Estate, Station Road, Leiston, IP16 4JD

lou@tidecollection.com Tel 01728 833003

Reports, press releases; letters and other editorial contributions with news value are all welcome but are accepted on the understanding that there is no guarantee of inclusion and that they will be selected and edited at the editor's discretion.

# PROJECT UPDATE

### **NOVEMBER 2025**

# Welcome to the latest round up of construction activity at Sizewell C.

Sizewell C is now working in multiple areas across East Suffolk whilst we build infrastructure such as park and ride facilities and rail extensions to transport our workers and freight. We are very sorry for the impact this work is having on local journeys. Our teams are working hard to get the new infrastructure built as quickly and safely as possible but we acknowledge that some work, such as the major works to build a new road to by pass two villages on the A12, will take up to two years before it is finished.

As our work ramps up we have introduced a weekly summary of road diversions and closures that can be found on the **Sizewell C Works Tracker** - Track SZC Projects & Get Alerts for New Activities. The update will be added to the Sizewell C social media feeds, our SMS and email alerts.

The traffic lights on the A12 at Marlesford will be lifted and moved off the carriageway by the time of publication. We are reviewing the cones along the A12 and will reduce the number required as much as possible, the lay-by works are due to be completed in early December, however we are making good

progress and hope to complete the work earlier than projected. As we progress the roundabouts at Friday Street and Yoxford, careful traffic management will still be required.

We are working hard to reduce HGV and Sizewell C related traffic, we are reducing the number of office-based workers coming into Leiston as we relocate staff to the Orwell Logistics Park site where 300 desks are available. The office at Orwell will also become the default base for external meetings. We are also opening the Northern Park and Ride in phases with the first partial opening from early November, with a bus service running from the Park and Ride to site. Bus services are also now running from Saxmundham train station as we continue to promote the use of train and public transport.

As part of our commitment to bring 60 per cent of our materials by sea and rail, we are prioritising the construction of the new rail line that will take our materials to our temporary construction area, with the aim to have trains running in the first half of 2026. The works will involve building level crossings across Buckleswood Road and the B1122 (Abbey Road) in Leiston, we have built a temporary diversion road to ensure that traffic disruption is minimised.

# FORUM SCHEDULE

Forum timings 2025 | 18:30 - 20:30 (Arrival from 18:00) 2026 | 18:00 - 20:00 (Arrival from 17:45) Northern Transport Forum

Southern Transport Forum

Main Development Site Forum

Community Forum

Wednesday 5 November 2025

Wednesday 3 December 2025

Wednesday 14 January 2026 Thursday

19 March 2026

Darsham Village Hall

Stratford St Andrew Riverside Centre

Leiston Town Athletic Association

Woodbridge Rugby Club

For more information and for more forum dates visit sizewellc.com/community/forums





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