



Campaign to Protect
Rural England
NORFOLK

The Review

CPRE Norfolk is the local branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England.

We are a local charity campaigning for the protection of the Norfolk countryside.

NEW PRESIDENT FOR CPRE



Bill Bryson, the award-winning American travel writer who has chosen to live in Norfolk, has taken up his new role as President of CPRE.

He succeeds Sir Max Hastings who steps down after five years. Bill was adopted at CPRE's AGM on July 9th.

Both men have a background in journalism....and that's a big advantage. So much argument and discussion about protecting

the countryside fills the pages of the local and national press these days. Anyone with the skill and ability to get our message across in this media-hungry age is certain to be a big bonus.

The amount of litter left on country verges and hedgerows is one of Bill's first campaigns. Read more about this remarkable travel writer on page 2.

Green Buildings In Norfolk – Open Days

In September, CPRE Norfolk is running a series of free guided tours of award winning energy-efficient buildings. From the Zuckerman Institute at the University of East Anglia to a renovated cart shed in North Norfolk, all the buildings have been designed to conserve energy. Many of the buildings use the energies of the sun, wind or earth to generate their own power. This is your chance to see inside these groundbreaking projects and meet the people who live in them. Please see the enclosed leaflet for more details and pages 4 & 5.



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THE MAN WITH NEARLY 2 MILLION REFERENCES!

An introduction to Bill Bryson

Type Bill Bryson into the Google search engine and you get a choice of almost 2 million references. The Bill Bryson pages go on and on – and I gave up after reaching 55! Which all goes to show that this man is pretty special – and well known.

So CPRE are lucky to have such a high profile figure as its new President, taking over from Sir Max Hastings. What's more, he lives in Norfolk. So what, you may ask, is a well-known East Anglian resident and American travel writer doing taking over the reins of England's best-known countryside campaign organisation?

The answer is litter. It all came about because Bill is fighting hard to clear the countryside of litter and he went along to talk about the subject with CPRE national office. It was a match made – if not in heaven – then certainly in Southwark because the discussions ended with Bill accepting the offer of becoming the next President of the CPRE.

The choice raised a few eyebrows before being recognised as an inspired appointment. Anyone who has read his books – and there can't be many countryside lovers who haven't enjoyed his subtle, literary skills in *"Notes from a Small Island"* - will acknowledge that he is a man who truly appreciates the landscape of England and knows just why it is so special.

So like Sir Max, we again have an experienced and respected 'scribe' at the head of the CPRE infantry, battling for common sense on so many issues which now affect the countryside. If the pen is mightier than the sword then we are in for an interesting few years. Both men had respected careers in journalism – and the media is where we fight a lot of our battles these days.

The man from Des Moines, Iowa became an Anglicised American after a back-packing journey through Europe included a visit to these shores. That was in 1973 and he stayed on to get married – to Cynthia – and write for *The Times* and *Independent* and live in North Yorkshire.

When *"Notes from a Small Island"* started to fly off the bookshelves in 1995, Bryson's reputation as a travel writer of wit and perception was confirmed. His travels around Britain have stirred his passion for the

countryside and the bank of knowledge he has accumulated will surely benefit his new role for CPRE.

Expect to hear more from Bill about disappearing hedgerows and the way electricity pylons disfigure the landscape. He would like to see more power lines buried below ground as they do in Denmark.

Last December, Bill was awarded an honorary OBE for his services to literature so we can expect his passion for words and the English countryside to raise the profile of CPRE during his term of office.

His shrewd and intuitive way of looking at the English has produced some memorable books. I like the way he has captured the English way of life in his writings. It's summed up in this passage from *"Notes from a Small Island."*

"To this day, I remain impressed by the ability of Britons of all ages and social backgrounds to get genuinely excited by the prospect of a hot beverage."

Now there's a very English sentiment.

I'll go and put the kettle on!

DAVID WILLIAMS

Read about hedgerows on pages 6 & 7.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT AT CPRE NORFOLK AGM

What will the Norfolk countryside look like in 20 years time? The question is intriguing – and thought-provoking. It was posed by BBC *Farming Today* presenter Anna Hill when she spoke at the CPRE Norfolk AGM.

The theme for the meeting, held as last year at Dragon Hall in Norwich, was “Changing Farming; Changing Landscapes” and the audience was left in no doubt that by 2030, global warming issues and changing life styles will determine the way ahead for the farming community.

“The health of the countryside is not only about fields but also about people,” said Anna. “We may see a green and pleasant land in 20 years – but there are two ‘buts’. One is land prices as the demand for new homes grows and the other is bio-diversity, the need to cultivate more energy crops.”

Referring back to the 1950s and 1960s, she said that the barley barons “were now being scorned.” In the future, the demand will be for energy crops because, as Anna emphasised, we are at the start of a brand-new agricultural industry.

Farmers will have to agree to grow these bio-mass crops if Britain is to meet its environmental targets. The countryside will take on a different appearance with fifteen-foot high elephant grass and fields of marigolds for example.

New homes will also contribute to the changing landscape. Anna made several references to the planning proposals outlined by the former Communities and Local Environment Secretary Ruth Kelly and the effect that these could have on the towns and villages across East Anglia.

“Over the next 20 years we have to find the right balance between development and farming. We face some stark choices but can expect to see more out-of-town markets, wind farms, homes and all the necessary infra-structure that goes with it,” said Anna.

One man who has already made a choice is Jason Borthwick, the other speaker in the “Changing Farming; Changing Landscapes” forum. He comes from a traditional farming background but, unlike his father and grandfather, has chosen to use his land for social, recreational and leisure purposes.

“We have 1,300 acres in North Norfolk – but in a traditional farming sense we were going nowhere. So we diversified. Twenty years ago we developed a backpackers hostel, opened a camp site with tipis and recently added a retail outlet and café and a visitor information centre,” said Jason.

The business has grown steadily and Jason said that his ideas have brought benefits to the local communities. Over 65 jobs have been created and 10 new businesses have flourished in the local villages.

Those who enjoy walking, cycling, riding and watersports can find plenty to attract them to this eco-friendly environment.

Jason hiked around the world before deciding that what he had seen and learned on his trips could be adapted to attract young visitors to



Norfolk. His family had the land – but changing the agricultural habits and farming traditions established over several decades was not easy.

His father, Alister, still manages part of the arable farm and the green agenda has not been sacrificed by this new commercial outlook. Grants from the Rural Development Scheme and the Redundant Farm Buildings Scheme have given Jason the opportunity to expand his ideas.

So, two different visions of the future were offered. There were plenty of questions, some enthusiastic, others more sceptical. Change, in whatever shape or form, is likely to have a big impact on Norfolk over the next 20 years.

Jason Borthwick’s Deepdale Farm Hostels are featured in CPRE Norfolk’s booklet ‘Green Buildings in Norfolk’. Turn to pages 4 and 5 for information on the booklet and free guided tours of the hostels.

GREEN BUILDINGS IN NORFOLK – OPEN DAYS

Free guided tours of award-winning energy-efficient buildings. Please see the enclosed brochure for more details.

How does a ground source heat pump work? What is it like living in a home without mains electricity? Who lives in the UK's first earth sheltered social housing scheme? What powers the University of East Anglia? How much does a wind turbine cost?

For four days in September, building owners and architects across the county will be answering these questions. Twelve award winning, energy-efficient buildings, many of which are privately owned, will be opened up to the general public for guided tours. This is an exclusive chance to learn more about the principles and technologies behind a Green Building in Norfolk.



The Old Barns

Energy-efficiency is a part of the buildings' design, build and management. They use principles such as passive ventilation, earth sheltering, rammed earth construction, solar orientation and thermal massing to conserve and store heat. Some have grey water and rainwater recycling systems to re-use water. Many incorporate the very latest in renewable energy technologies, such as photovoltaic panels, ground source heating, solar water heating or wind turbines.



Holly Barn

Each building is very different. Jasmine House has been designed along the principles of an ancient Vedic system of architecture. Dragonflies is a fine example of living 'off the Grid', by the power of a 15m wind turbine. At the new church, Little Walsingham, you will find 132 photovoltaic panels and a ground source heating system. The lightweight timber frame of Cedar House is raised on stilts to prevent flooding from the River Wensum. At the end of a street of detached houses in Honingham is the UK's first earth sheltered social housing scheme, hidden under a bank of plants. In each case, there is plenty to discover, enjoy and learn.

The Open Days will take place between 6th and 9th September. Each building will have up to four guided tours a day. Not all of the buildings are open every day so please use the enclosed brochure to check days and times of the tours. There are limited places on each tour so you are advised to book early.

All of these buildings are featured in the CPRE Norfolk 'Green Buildings in Norfolk' research or the CPRE Norfolk Awards scheme. CPRE Norfolk is indebted to the owners of these buildings who have agreed to open them to the public.

If this newsletter comes without an enclosed brochure, please phone the CPRE Norfolk office for another.

Green Buildings in Norfolk – Exhibition for Hire!

CPRE Norfolk has an exhibition featuring 21 examples of buildings in Norfolk pioneering the use of renewable energy. The exhibition is being used by community groups throughout Norfolk at village open days, planning seminars, climate change fairs and environment weeks.

The exhibition consists of six banner stands, approximately 2ft wide and 6ft high, and a small table of booklets and leaflets. It is free for groups to collect, use and return. If you are interested, please contact Clare Franklin on 01603 761660.



Cedar House



Honingham Earth Sheltered Social Housing Scheme

DATES FOR THE DIARY

26th August

'Green Buildings in Norfolk' exhibition at Greenstock, Heigham Park, Norwich.

6th – 9th September

'Green Buildings in Norfolk' Open Days.

15th & 16th September

'Green Buildings in Norfolk' exhibition at Greenbuild, Felbrigg Hall.

15th September

'CPRE Norfolk Awards' exhibition at SPAB Conservation Fair, King's Lynn. Martin Walton and Nancy Legg, CPRE Norfolk Awards judges, will be on hand to answer questions about the awards.

HEDGEROWS HERE TO STAY – WE HOPE!

Hedgerows, an ancient part of the English landscape, have been around since the Bronze Age. They play a vitally important role in the beauty and diversity of the landscape. As a wildlife habitat, hedges occupy more land than all of England's nature reserves put together. They are natural boundaries, keep animals in fields and act as a protection for animals against the elements.

But these hedgerows that have stood for centuries are up against destruction through their planned removal and neglect. Since 1947, England has lost more than half of its hedgerows amounting to 200,000 miles. Since the 1970s, an estimated 250,000 hedgerows have been grubbed out. Those that remain require care and attention if they are not to become overgrown and eventually turn into rows of single trees.

Proper maintenance of hedgerows involves regular trimming, and periodically more intensive work in the form of coppicing or laying. A fine example of a layered hedge at Narborough Hall recently caught the eye of CPRE Norfolk volunteer, Rosemary Bryan. Wanting to find out more, Rosemary tracked down Clive Braddock who had spent 54 days crafting this impressive 750 metres long hedge.



Norfolk-born Clive Braddock trained at Brooksby College, Melton Mowbray and is a professional member of the National Hedgelaying Society. Of the various hedgelaying styles, Clive practices the Midland style using hazel stakes and binders which can only be sourced in Hampshire.

Clive strongly believes that the ancient craft of hedgelaying should be encouraged and writes...

'Hedgelaying, or plashing, is an ancient craft, the practice of which, with the increased interest in countryside matters, wildlife and the environment, is on the rise again.



Hedges are laid for practical reasons. They are barriers around fields, parkland and gardens. A hedge that is not laid can become straggly and thin whereas a laid hedge is thicker from the base and almost impenetrable. It was originally predominantly practised in agricultural areas and each area developed a style based largely upon what materials were available locally and the needs of the local landowners. For example, the Midland style, also known as the Bullock style, is a robust style of laying designed originally to keep bullocks in a field. It is staked and bound often with Hazel, which was plentiful in that area, with the binding lower than the top of the hedge in order to stop the animals from removing it with their horns. The most ideal species to lay are

those native to Britain such as Hawthorn, Blackthorn, Hazel and Holly.

Despite an estimated 250,000 miles of hedgerows having been grubbed out since the 1970s, there are still thought to be about half a million miles remaining. Not only do they contribute to the innate beauty of the countryside but they are important to wildlife by providing habitat, to farmers by providing protection from the elements for their animals as well as being stock proof barriers and a deterrent to trespassers. In order to avoid disturbing wildlife, hedge laying is done during the months from October to March, the dormant period for the

plants. By doing this it is hoped that any disturbance to wildlife will be kept to a minimum.

Hedgelaying involves removing the twiggy growths or brush from the main stems of the plant with a billhook and then almost cutting through the stems at an angle, with a billhook, felling axe or chainsaw, depending upon the thickness of the stem, before bending them over at an appropriate angle of 35 degrees. The heel or flap that is left on the stem then has to be removed to prevent water becoming trapped and causing rot to set in. Several stems are bent over before being staked and bound. The Midland style involves a binding comprising three intertwined Hazel binders, which are much thinner and more pliable than the stakes, and these are interwoven between the stakes and the pleachings or uprights of the plant.

During last season I laid the perimeter Hawthorn hedge at Narborough Hall. It was a relatively young hedge, parts of which were sparser than others. It should benefit from the laying and grow much more thickly over the next couple of years. The hedge is 750 meters long and it took me fifty four days to lay.

Originally from Norfolk, I am now based in Lincolnshire but work in the surrounding counties as well. I am also a Dry Stone Waller, another old craft, which I practise during the part of the year when I am not hedgelaying. I feel that it is extremely important that the practise of these crafts continues as without them we would be unable to retain the beauty that is our countryside.'

Clive Braddock can be contacted on 01476 572270 or 07745 047452, or braddock@lbraddock.freepreserve.co.uk.

CPRE has been campaigning since 1970 for improved protection of hedgerows by lobbying Government and helping volunteers to survey hedgerows. For more information on what CPRE is doing and what you can do to help please visit the website www.cpre.org.uk.

YOUR BACK GARDEN ISN'T GREEN ANYMORE!

How many people realise that their own little corner of England, the back-garden, is actually classified as a brownfield site?

And how many home owners are now using this classification to support their plans to sell off parts of their gardens to developers who promptly put in extra homes and flats on these green urban lungs?

The problem has been highlighted by Conservative MP Greg Clark who has introduced a Private Member's Bill to remove gardens from the definition of brownfield sites. More people are looking out of their kitchen windows and seeing pound signs sprouting among the lupins and dahlias.

In some cases the neighbours object, in others they join forces and sell off larger chunks which were originally part of adjacent properties.

Nature is the loser in all this. Birds disappear, trees and shrubs are ripped out, and the effect causes lasting damage which, in the long term, makes urban living even more stressful for all of us.

But the Government have set a target of 200,000 new homes a year to try and reverse the chronic housing shortage - yet only 160,000 were completed last year. So the spiral of house prices is fuelled and first-time buyers find it even more difficult to get on the first rung of the property ladder.

This is just another threat to the environment. As Gordon Brown takes office and promotes his intentions for overhauling the planning system, so the creeping threat which has long been feared in villages and towns across the country has now taken root in our back gardens.

Yes, we need more homes – but not at such a high environmental cost. The older Victorian and Edwardian homes that provide character to many towns in England are also blessed with larger than usual back gardens. Should they be sacrificed as well by a crazy quirk in the planning system?

GREATER NORWICH DEVELOPMENT

CPRE Norfolk has been invited to participate in the Greater Norwich Development Partnership (GNDP) consultation; the outcome of which will influence planning in Norwich and the surrounding areas for the next 15 to 20 years. Members of CPRE Norfolk's Planning Team will be attending consultation workshops on rural issues, environment and green spaces. Here, Dr. Ian Shepherd, CPRE Norfolk Policy Co-ordinator, considers the implications.

The purpose of the Partnership is to produce a master plan (Joint Core Strategy) for the development of the Norwich area to 2021, with a further horizon to 2026. It consists of Broadland, Norwich City and South Norfolk Councils, and the County Council. The need for an increase in the formal working between the Councils arises from the unprecedented levels of planned growth, determined by Government policies and the Region Plan. This is quite separate to the Norwich City Council bid for Unitary Status.



The first step on the long road to adoption of the Joint Core Strategy in 2010 will be a public consultation late this year on Issues and Options. To this end, the Councils have organised a series of workshops on nine different topic areas to help them present the most important issues, set out in clear English, and without bias. The suggestion of bias may come, for example, with the implication that any large scale development to the north east of the City would necessarily 'secure' infrastructure in the shape of a Northern Distributor Road. This is not something that CPRE Norfolk would wish to assume.

Brownfield - Greenfield

Clearly the Issues and Options consultation will not start with a clean sheet. The Government has awarded

Norwich with the status of 'National Growth Point' as well as 'Key Centre for Change and Development'. This could be not so much a challenge as a poisoned chalice. Housing policies for the Norwich Policy Area will require at least 33,000 net additional dwellings in the time period 2001-2021, with a continuing high build rate through to 2026; around 23,000 dwellings. This will be the equivalent of about three Derehams.

At this stage it appears that brownfield sites "for perhaps up to 5,000" dwellings can be found in the urban area but over 18,000 dwellings need to be located on greenfield sites outside the urban area (one paper gives the figures as 3,000 and 20,000 respectively). In the period 2001-2006, over half the new housing built in the Norwich Policy Area was on brownfield land; with the level and rate of planned future growth it will fall to about one-fifth. For greenfield, think the equivalent of seven Thorpe Marriotts.

At this stage, CPRE has no choice but to accept this level of development and consider it a challenge to how it can best be done; albeit we have consistently argued through the Region Plan that this will inevitably cause great damage to the natural environment and the wider countryside. Furthermore, if the ambition of targeting 35,000 new jobs, many in the higher skills category, is not realised, what then? The housing led expansion will accelerate the already high in-migration of older non-economically active people, which has large social and health implications.

Where Will The Growth Go?

The biggest single issue to be resolved is the placement and size of the growth locations. The scale of growth is such that extensions of urban Norwich will be a relatively small part of the answer. It is likely that the growth will need to occur by either; greatly expanding existing settlements; creating an entirely new settlement of perhaps 7,000-8,000 dwellings; or some mix of these.

Government policy seeks to closely relate housing growth to the location of planned Employment Growth Areas. This is to try and reduce travel distances, by whatever mode of travel, and promote the use of public transport. The planned major employment areas for Greater Norwich are Longwater, Costessey, Colney/Cringford, and Wymondham/A11 Corridor in

the west and south west sectors of the City; Thorpe St Andrew in the east; and Norwich Airport in the north.

A second key point made by the Government, within the context of the plans for the massive expansion in the greater South East of England, is that maximum use should be made of existing "hard" infrastructure (for example, roads and sewage treatment works) and "soft" infrastructure (for example, education, training needs and medical facilities). This is crucial given the huge sums required to service the planned levels of growth.

Infrastructure Improvements

It can be argued that these two parameters must create a pull for much of the expansion to take place around the A47 southern bypass, perhaps also with some focus at the west and/or east end of the bypass. Radial access routes into Norwich would require some "improvement", but less than on the north side of the City. In addition the principal road and rail routes connecting Norfolk to the rest of the country come in from the south and west. Some expansion on an existing northern settlement would be sufficient to service the Airport for employment purposes.

Having said that, a step change will be required to improve public transport services, focusing on links to the City Centre in particular and likely be combined with road user charges for car users. The level of housing required is a reminder again of the need to

improve housing design; with energy and water conservation in mind from the outset. The problem of water resource is likely to be the most intractable of all, and it seems inevitable that we will both damage wildlife and landscapes, in spite of all the fine words about protection and enhancement. Furthermore, there may not be so much water for agriculture and irrigation of crops.



Clearly there are a lot of issues to be resolved before the Strategy is adopted in 2010. CPRE Norfolk will do what it can to influence the Strategy and bring the Partnership to consider the wider countryside, albeit within a climate of economic growth.

If you wish to read the topic papers prepared for the Workshops they can be found at www.eastspace.net/gndp. The Strategic Growth Options paper sets out how the locations for large scale mixed use development around Norwich might be identified and have a map of all potential options is given on page 13.

North Norfolk LDF

North Norfolk District Council has submitted the Core Strategy document of the Local Development Framework to the Government for examination. The Core Strategy contains the general policies that determine the settlements in North Norfolk that are suitable for development, how much development each will receive and when this will be permitted (up to 2021). The submission document takes account of the public response to their "preferred" policies, which was consulted on in a 6 week period from late September to early November last year, and the constant stream of changes in planning from the Government, particularly on housing. The increase in new dwellings has moved now from a requirement of 6,400 in the draft Region Plan, to (at least) 8,000 earlier in the year, to the current figure of 9,487 new dwellings. The broad settlement strategy based on the eight towns and eighteen larger villages as set out in the 2006 consultation remains in place.

The Document now submitted to Government is available for the public to make comment on, between the 18th June and 30th July. The nature of the public consultation is different and more restricted than the last one. Comments at this stage should just relate to the broad "soundness" of the document, according to various criteria on procedural and conformity matters, as set out by the Government. The Inspector at the Inquiry, planned for December, will take account of public comment received. The findings of the Inspector are binding on the Council. At a later date, the Site Specific Proposals will return for consultation. This deals with the actual sites proposed for housing allocation and other development. This of course has to be within the framework of policies in the Core Strategy document, when formally adopted.

BRANCH NEWS

CPRE Norfolk Office Expansion

The CPRE Norfolk office is growing! From 1st April, the branch office reflected its expanding activities by renting a larger area of floor space in The Greenhouse, Norwich. Desk space is now double what it was, a new computer was purchased and a wireless network set up to link all work stations. Volunteers can now come into the office during all opening hours to use the facilities, which is good news for the branch.



Sponsorship



CPRE Norfolk is pleased to announce details of corporate sponsorship from the Targetfollow group in Norwich. Targetfollow is a property development company with a strong urban regeneration policy. The group is committed to brownfield development and has never built on a greenfield site. They own Centre Point in London, Baskerville House in Birmingham and Dukes Wharf in Norwich, as well as 50 other assets nationwide. CPRE Norfolk is pleased to

work in association with the group and value their contribution enormously. Targetfollow will sponsor the CPRE Norfolk Awards in 2007.

New Volunteers

A warm welcome to Carol Fairhurst who started as Administrative Assistant in the CPRE Norfolk office in May. Carol is helping out with the administration of the branch dealing in particular with membership, invoicing and publicity. Carol lives in Wrampingham, South Norfolk.

CPRE Norfolk would like to thank Greg Brown for his time in setting up the IT systems in the new office space. Greg runs Adept IT Solutions based in Norwich. See his advert below.

Kate Bryant is a graphics designer recently graduated from the University of East Anglia. She has been helping the branch with its publicity and marketing, creating well designed eye-catching posters and leaflets. She is currently working on a map showing installed and proposed wind farms in Norfolk.

A big thank you to Roger Askham who is doing a fine job organising our 'Green Buildings in Norfolk Open Days'. See pages 4 and 5 and the enclosure brochure for more information. Roger is studying for an MSc on Advanced Energy and Environment Studies and runs his own design company 'Sizzle Design'.

Volunteer Photographer Wanted

CPRE Norfolk is seeking a photographer to cover their events across the county. This is a voluntary role and expenses will be paid. We need a photographer to take photos at events for publication in the newsletter, on our website, in the local media and in exhibitions. We may also need coverage of local planning issues and general photos of the Norfolk landscape for marketing material. This is not a time consuming role but would suit someone with a genuine love of photography or someone wishing to build up their portfolio of work. Please get in touch with James Frost, Branch Director, for more information.



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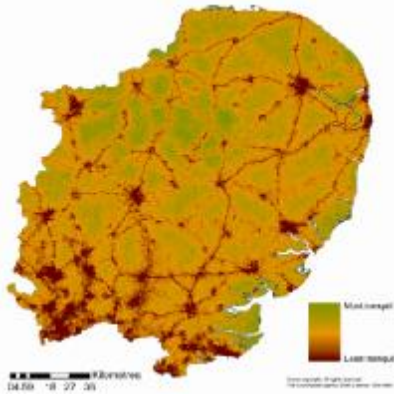


CPRE CAMPAIGN NEWS

Litter

CPRE will be campaigning nationally on the issue of litter, and CPRE Norfolk would like to follow their lead. If you are interested in being part of a litter campaigning group please get in touch with CPRE Norfolk Branch Director, James Frost. The group will look at the issues around litter and fly tipping, and will seek to raise awareness of the problem to the general public and to promote solutions to local authorities.

Tranquillity



Greg Peck, James Frost and Robin Burkitt met with the Head of Planning at South Norfolk District Council in April to discuss the CPRE Tranquillity maps for South Norfolk. The maps were compiled by overlaying data from 40 different national data sets of factors that could affect tranquillity, such as aircraft noise, traffic noise, lighting, birds and wildlife, population and landscape character. The relative importance of each data set was determined by public survey. The maps show that South Norfolk is one of England's most tranquil areas and CPRE South Norfolk is keen to keep it that way. The district council agreed to further the Tranquillity research in their local planning framework and that it could contribute to decisions about future development in the area. However, for this to happen, specific data would be needed for the South Norfolk area. CPRE hope to extract this data from the original mapping research later in the year.

West Norfolk District - Visit to Abbey Farm, Flitcham

West Norfolk District Chair Peter Forbers writes...

'Abbey Farm Organics is the trading name under which Abbey Farm grows and distributes organic vegetables and fruit. Edward Cross is in charge and it was he who took us on a most instructive and entertaining ramble around the farm back in June. We assembled in the courtyard and, as the rain was fairly heavy, we started by sheltering in a barn. Here Edward outlined what he considered would be the best route to enable us to view the crops, wild flowers and bird life - and at the same time keep reasonably dry!

Our party of 16 set off - umbrellas and wellies in place with Edward in the lead carrying his scope. During the tour we saw all manner of beds of growing crops, in some cases sheltered under covers, a profusion of wild flowers, habitats for wildlife and wildlife itself. On the weather front we were lucky, as the rain did ease off after a time and all we had to contend with was the mud underfoot.

The tour ended with a viewing of the orchids followed by very welcome tea and biscuits in the farmhouse, at the invitation of Edward's parents.

Whilst the weather was not ideal we all agreed that the outing was most interesting and enjoyable, including the lucid commentary by Edward.'

CPRE Norfolk 100 Club

Winners of draw May 2007:

C K Smith £50
G Hemmings £25
J G Craig £25

M & D Manning £20
Pulham Market Society £20
S A Day £20
M M Howard £20
H J & B M Wilkinson £20

Membership of the 100 Club costs £12 a year. By joining you'll be helping CPRE Norfolk campaigners continue with their work by making a valuable financial contribution to the charity's funds. For information about joining the 100 Club, please contact the CPRE Norfolk office on 01603 761660. You do not have to be a CPRE Norfolk member to join.

CPRE Norfolk

Norfolk's charity protecting Norfolk's countryside

CPRE Norfolk, 42-46 Bethel Street, Norwich, NR2 1NR
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Chairman: Mr. Greg Peck
Branch Director: Mr. James Frost
Administrator: Ms. Clare Franklin

Who Are We?

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) exists to promote the beauty, tranquillity and diversity of rural England by encouraging the sustainable use of land and other natural resources in town and country.

CPRE Norfolk is the Norfolk branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England and an independent charity in its own right. We promote the principles of CPRE at a local level and campaign to protect the beautiful Norfolk countryside and coastline. Our President is Professor Timothy O'Riordan.

Local contacts	Other Useful Contacts
<i>CPRE District Committees:</i> <i>Breckland</i> Mr. John Salisbury 01953 887414 <i>Broadland</i> Mr. Graham Halliwell 01603 279822 <i>North Norfolk</i> Mr. Keith Bacon 01692 581314 <i>South Norfolk</i> Ms. Stella Rice 01379 641863 <i>West Norfolk</i> Mr. Peter Forbes 01328 730487	<i>Press Officer</i> Mr. David Williams 01702 710232 <i>Norfolk Historic Buildings Trust: Secretary</i> Mr. Colin Smith 01603 629048 <i>CPRE Norfolk Awards: Chairman of Judges</i> Mr. Martin Walton 01692 678360 <i>Light Pollution Campaign: Chairman</i> Mr. David Hook 01508 498187

To CPRE Members

Help us inform Norfolk's residents of what's happening to our countryside. Please pass this newsletter on to friends and family. If you could distribute copies of this newsletter to a farm shop, cafe, post office or other public place in your area, please contact Clare Franklin at the CPRE Norfolk office.

To non-CPRE Members

Please add your voice to CPRE Norfolk's campaign to protect our countryside. We are a local charity and rely on membership fees, donations and grants to fund our work. Sign up to CPRE Norfolk and be a part of one of the most active and successful branches of CPRE nationally. As a member you will also receive the national CPRE *Countryside Voice* magazine and enjoy half price entry to over 200 of England's houses and gardens, including many of Norfolk's finest. Membership is also available to organisations, parish councils and amenity societies.

Three Easy Ways to Join CPRE Norfolk

- 1) Freephone: 0800 163680
- 2) Online: www.cprenorfolk.org.uk/join-us
- 3) Contact the CPRE Norfolk office for a Membership Form