

## Greenprint Forum newsletter autumn 2024

The days are noticeably shortening, the swifts have long since all flown back to Africa and it won't be long before the leaves are falling from the trees. As autumn advances, those of us with gardens may be turning our thoughts to what to do with those leaves. Leaving piles of leaves in quiet corners or edges can help provide shelter for small animals, and if you do need to clear them, how about making leaf mould, for which advice is available from Garden Organic about how to do it [Garden Organic | Leafmould](#) .

Autumn is a good time to get into the composting habit, and if you need help getting started (or even expanding your composting efforts) it's worth knowing that there is a range of different composting systems to suit different requirements available at subsidised rates from the Suffolk Waste Partnership [Suffolk Waste Partnership \[SUF\] Subsidised Recycling Programme Offers – GetComposting](#)



It might not have felt like it if you have spent the summer here in Suffolk, but nonetheless the climate change service for Europe, Copernicus, advises that the boreal summer (June to August) of 2024 saw the highest global average temperatures on record, surpassing the previous record set just last year. [World's warmest August completes hottest boreal summer on record | Copernicus](#) .

Those who follow the news will be aware that the impacts of severe weather are being felt on the near continent, with deadly wildfires in Portugal [Portugal battles with fires: 62,000 hectares burned and seven lives lost | Euronews](#) and floods associated with Storm Boris affecting many countries across central and eastern Europe [Is Climate Change Causing the Deadly Floods in Europe? | TIME](#)

And whilst these headlines help inform us to think globally, we are of course more able to act at the local scale, and we are fortunate in eastern Suffolk to have such a wealth of movers and shakers actually taking tangible action on the ground. In our quarterly newsletter, we shine the spotlight on some of the grass roots initiatives that come to our attention, and to inspire us in this issue, we are delighted to celebrate community produce growing with **Edible Felixstowe**; a project emerging to make active travel accessible to more people with **Halesworth BANS**; advancing the repair culture with local business **Cuppa**; care for nature with **Greener Fram**; an update on the innovative cross-parish approach to nature recovery planning from **Greener Waldringfield**; and more besides. If you are involved in a project or initiative that you would like us to showcase in a future edition, we'd love to hear from you, drop us a line anytime via [greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:greenissues@eastsoffolk.gov.uk)



## Update on Greenprint activities

During the summer, we have organised two site visits as part of our programme of knowledge share opportunities for our network, to the community solar energy cooperative Power 4KCC in Kelsale, and the nature reserve at Worlingham Marshes acquired recently by the Wildlife Trust for Suffolk. We also supported a visit arranged by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership to the large solar array owned by West Suffolk Council, at Toggam Farm near Lakenheath. Short reports to summarise what we heard from our hosts at each of these visits have all been produced and are available via the links below for anyone who wishes to find out more:

[Visit-to-SWT-Worlingham-Marshes-260624.pdf \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

[Visit-to-Power-4-KCC-Event-report.pdf \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

[Visit-to-Toggam-Farm-4-June-2024.pdf \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)



### Plastic Action

In August, we commenced a mini-relaunch of our ongoing campaign Plastic Action, re-engaging Jason Alexander of Rubbish Walks to run the Mini Plastic Fishing Festival in Woodbridge providing plastic pollution-based craft activities to engage families on the issues of resource misuse and depletion in ways that tackle the serious issues whilst also having fun.

We continue the theme of Plastic Action this September with our annual Beachwatch activities, combining direct action in the form of removing litter from the environment, with citizen science by way of recording data on the natures and quantities of litter found, supporting the wider data-capture effort by the Marine Conservation Society which in turn bolsters their evidence-based lobbying for positive change.

On 20 September, we took the 2024 cohort of young people on the Suffolk Graduate Scheme with local councils across the county, to Bawdsey to conduct a Beachwatch survey as part of their week of induction. During the survey of the 100 m of beach at Bawdsey, the team of seven graduates recovered, collected and categorised nearly a kilogramme of marine litter.

To find out more about Beachwatch, including how to find a local event to participate in, and how to organise your own event, visit <https://www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/join-a-beach-clean/>

Our own annual Beachwatch full report will be published here once our activities are all complete for this years' campaign:

<https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/environment/east-greenprint-forum/events/past-events/>



### Small grants scheme Nature First to be relaunched!

We are about to relaunch our small grants scheme, aimed at enabling grass-roots projects that enhance and/or promote biodiversity. Look out for a further announcement very soon.





## “Wildlife does not respect parish boundaries!”



With this and climate change in mind twenty-four people (ten from agencies with fourteen parish representatives) came together for a full day workshop in Ufford on 18 September. This was the second Green Infrastructure Workshop organised by Greener Waldringfield and a follow up to the first cross-parish event held in Waldringfield in August last year. Both were funded by the parishes involved with a contribution from the Greenprint Forum. And both were fortunate to be facilitated by Professor Peter Hobson.

Some of the parishes – Brightwell, Hemley, Newbourne, Martlesham and Waldringfield – have since last year formed themselves into the West Deben Green Cluster which is working on a common Biodiversity Action Plan with an initial focus on joint action regarding trees and hedgerows. Woodbridge (via the Deben Climate Centre and Transition Woodbridge), Melton and Ufford joined together on the day with Wickham Market and Greener Rendlesham and discussed the possibility of coordinated action.

The day focussed on evolving strategies for Nature Recovery for our most valued habitats (now a statutory obligation at all Council levels) – and as we cannot do all at once we concentrated on two aspects - Water and Woods – and defined actions that might be relevant to the whole of the Deben Catchment Area from which our participants are drawn. We were enormously helped in this by the experts present from Suffolk Wildlife Trust, Suffolk Climate Change Partnership, Suffolk Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group, Essex & Suffolk Coast & Heaths National Landscape, and the Tree Wardens Network to name but some, and are confident of continuing help with contact, advice and funding.

National legislation now mandates the drawing up of policy and taking action at local level. Different bodies have drawn up many and sometimes lengthy strategies and policies over the last twenty years. (“We are drowning in policies!” said one speaker.) But there was general agreement about a lack of connect and that many worthy strategic documents are not underpinned by granular knowledge on the ground and do not provide for practical implementation at the parish level. With the speed of global heating and biodiversity loss it is vital that strategies are adaptable and flexible – and that this is needed if they are to excite individuals and groups and spur them to action.

We have come away feeling inspired to work together – and to aspire higher! Parish Councils are at different stages in their environmental journey and with differing experiences and resources. There was general agreement that parishes could achieve more and have a louder voice by working together and in close touch with their communities and their concerns.

One contributor concluded: “Know where your food comes from and where your waste goes and tune your actions to take that into account!”

**Betsy Reid, Greener Waldringfield** (and member of Steering Group of Greenprint Forum)



## Enjoy a Cuppa at this new repair café

I've always wanted my coffee shop, Cuppa in Felixstowe, to make a difference in the area, as far as an independent coffee shop can. We make sure there is always someone here to listen and run schemes to provide packed lunches during the school holidays, offer free food and drink and toiletries to people who need it, all thanks to the kindness of our customers, through their donations.

From the start I've always tried to minimise waste, buy locally and have as low an impact on the environment as I possibly can. Our default milk is oat (organic dairy is available on request) but we also have soya and coconut. We dropped almond as it uses so much water to process but are keeping an eye on things. We use organic, single origin coffee beans from a women's co-operative in Peru, roasted in Suffolk, our chocolate is dairy free and fairtrade. We support independent producers and avoid big brands wherever we can (no Coca Cola...!)

I'd heard about repair cafes and thought they sounded a brilliant idea. They can bring people together, strengthening the community with the added benefit of reducing the number of items having to be discarded to landfill. There are already a few amazing local repair projects going on, [Martlesham Repair Hub](#) and [Felixstowe Men's Shed](#) to name but two but I felt there was space for another. We have a lot of skills in Felixstowe, a lot of friendly people and there is never a shortage of things that need to be fixed.

After a bit of research on the internet, chats and visits to other schemes, I thought it all sounded possible so put out a call for volunteers with skills in different areas such as woodwork, electrical, sewing and bike repair. We were also kindly given a grant from Felixstowe Town Council to buy a PAT tester and training to ensure that all electrical items are safe to be used.

I'm really pleased with the success of the scheme so far - we've successfully fixed loads of things including Shark vacuum cleaners, pressure washers, shoes, bedside lamps, shoes, tea trays - the list goes on. The repairs are all undertaken for free but we do ask for a contribution for any materials used.



If you listen to the news or social media you'd be forgiven for thinking that there is no such thing as society any more, so these sorts of events are really important to show that people do care and that help can be just around the corner.

We haven't shouted about much about the repair café until now. I wanted to start slowly so that we could learn the processes as we went along without making too many mistakes under a load of pressure. I think we're ready now to start shouting about it now!

The repair cafe takes place in Cuppa on the last Tuesday of every month between 10am and 12pm. Bring your item along and wait and see if it can be fixed.

<https://www.cuppa.wtf/repair-cafe>

**Sarah Fitch, Cuppa**

[repaircafe@cuppa.wtf](mailto:repaircafe@cuppa.wtf)

<https://www.instagram.com/cuppa.wtf/>





## Wildflowers across the town of Framlingham

There are many grassed areas in Framlingham that must be constantly maintained. During 2024, working with the Swift and Wildlife Group, we decided to expand the wildflower plots (established in 2023) across the town. Our aim was to both reduce the need for constant mowing and add a splash of colour to the town. Seven small wildflower sites (annual and perennials) have been successfully established and received unanimous approval from local residents. This has indeed replaced the need for constant mowing and provided a rich habitat for birds and insects! From 2025 the expansion of wildflowers, and other activities in Framlingham, will be under the auspices of Greener Fram.



*Victoria Mill Road Crescent*

**Councillor Vince Langdon Morris, East Suffolk Council, and David Greenacre, Greener Fram**



*Station Road*



*Establishing the wildflower beds on The Mowbrays, May 2024*



*Thomas Mills High School*



*Unitarian Meeting House*



*Castle Brooks Park*





## Bike Active North Suffolk



Bike Active North Suffolk (BANS) are 100% volunteer run. We're in the start-up phase and will provide services for adults with disabilities in north Suffolk (and naturally of course in south Norfolk if some of their residents find it easier to reach us). We're establishing the project in Halesworth (operating on the Millennium Green Sustrans NCN1 cycle path, hence free of road vehicles) and will run quiet and safe cycle routes 2-weekly at 09:30, 10:30 and 11:30 on Tuesdays from spring 2025. We have a slightly older sister group [Bike Active Norfolk \(BAN\)](#), who run slightly longer courses on public back-roads, and will loan us equipment for the first year of operation.



We ourselves in the Suffolk BANS group, have recently obtained CIO status (registered charity no. 1209467) and are gradually working on establishing funding, networking (e.g. with local community organisations, potential clients and volunteers), and will very soon commence our own equipment purchases. Our objective is to start proper sessions around April 2025, and we have run our first two trial taster sessions with four representative clients (and their carers) from the Halesworth Mencap centre - feedback is excellent. Fundamentally we're focussed on adults with disabilities, but welcome those with perhaps just a lack of confidence on bicycles, and use a range of equipment from standard solo bikes, through tandems, to fully wheelchair compatible trikes. Our sister Norfolk group has a great website that illustrates the type of equipment we have available.

We've been engaging with many people in local community groups and also officers and elected officials in the Council, and doing our own fundraising (I've just completed a sponsored ride from Lands End to John O'Groats). We will be fully insured, use only Risk Assessed routes and processes, and have a full Governance framework behind us. We have a Safeguarding procedure for working with Vulnerable Adults, base our provision on making safe cycling fun for people that otherwise wouldn't cycle (or certainly cycle less), and we require that each "client" is accompanied by a responsible adult or carer. Parking and the usual market town facilities (as well as a public toilet block) will be readily available very close to our start and finish point in the Halesworth Town Park.

**David George, Chair of Bike Active North Suffolk (BANS), Halesworth**

**Registered Charity 1209467**

<https://bikeactivenorfolk.org/bikeactive-north-suffolk>



## Edible Felixstowe – a new community growing project

Edible Felixstowe CIC is a newly formed community group which aims to grow vegetables, fruit flowers and herbs all over our town. Anything produced in the beds and planters is accessible to anyone in the community to pick and use. With the backing of Felixstowe Town Council and East Suffolk Council we launched our project at the Love Green Felixstowe event on 20 April where the Mayor planted lavender at the centre of the Christmas Tree circle near the Triangle. Our first project created a herb wheel in the area used for the Christmas tree which is left unused for the rest of the year; this has already produced lots of herbs which have been picked by many passers-by.

We have also planted vegetables in the area on the corner of the library building on Crescent Road which are just starting to produce veg now. The four blue planters at either end of the pedestrianised area of Hamilton Road have been very successful with edible nasturtiums and cornflowers along with tumbling tomatoes and strawberries also in the mix, we want Edible Felixstowe to apply to both people and wildlife and consequently we included edible pollinators in our scheme to encourage wildlife into the centre of town.

We are delighted that some of our local businesses wanted to be involved as well; Cuppa, The Grosvenor, Taba Naba and The Little Wine Bar were keen to have some new planters which we filled for them. They all have commented on the fact that they have become a talking point for prospective customers and are now big enough to be producing salad and edible flowers for both owners and customers.

As well as the advantages of growing food and being outside, we have embarked on our first 'Grow, Cook, Eat' festival this summer with demos of how to make jam, pickles and jam jar gin which has enabled local folk to benefit in so many ways from keeping food local and fresh. The festival will culminate on Sunday 29 September with an event in Great Eastern Square (11-3pm) championing locally grown produce and locally produced food.

Among other attractions we hope to give out free locally grown food at this event to show people how tasty our locally grown produce is!

If you would like to follow our progress join our [Facebook group Edible Felixstowe](#), now with over 270 members as well as our [Instagram \(@ediblefelix\)](#), alternatively our email address is [ediblefelixstowe@gmail.com](mailto:ediblefelixstowe@gmail.com) if you would like any more information or would like to be involved in any way.

**Kate White, Edible Felixstowe**





The Co-produced Estuary: understanding the past to inform the future

## Project leads, Helene Burningham UCL, Simon Read DEP

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We are pleased to announce the Deben Estuary Partnership has achieved support from the Environment Agency's "Celebrating Coastal Coordination" (3C's) fund for a project to use a multi-faceted approach to explore the gaps in our knowledge of the morphology of our estuary and the influences upon its evolution.

Through this project, we aim to tap into local knowledge and expertise to explore two locations upon the Deben where the incremental process of decision-making to manage tidal exchange has become lost to time but remains as trace elements or permanent features in the estuarine landscape: The sites we have agreed upon are the middle reaches of the estuary between Upper Waldringfield and Hemley and the estuary foreshore between Bawdsey and Ramsholt. The question for each location is the degree to which key influences upon their evolution are in common or site-specific and whether there are universal principles that may be transferable to other intertidal locations and communities.

This is a call for expressions of interest in a series of workshops in the landscape and to undertake research on agreed aspects of each site to investigate the evolution of the shoreline using a broad range of approach from scientific analysis to archival research and community memory. Our emphasis is upon an informal exchange of views and knowledge driven by shared curiosity over the evolution of our estuary landscape and the lessons we might take away for the future.

Although Helene Burningham and Simon Read are the coordinators for the project, it will owe its success to its participants to feed into what will be a rich and lively debate. By 'co-produced estuary' we refer to the estuary as a product of centuries of human intervention into which we hope to gain insight through our own 'co-produced' exploration of its evolution.

Starting this autumn, the project will run to March/April 2025 when we hope to exhibit and publish the results of the work. For more information, you contact us at: [contact@simonread.info](mailto:contact@simonread.info) or [h.burningham@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:h.burningham@ucl.ac.uk) There will be an introductory evening to explain the project at the Hutchinson Room, Woodbridge Community Hall from 7pm, Friday 4th October,

**All Welcome**



DEBEN ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP





## Bat Rescue

Upon one of my frequent late-night hedgehog walks in Norwich earlier this year, I made a rather unique encounter with an animal I've not previously had the privilege to get up close to. During my walk, I stumbled across a grounded bat on the pavement. Upon further inspection it was clear the bat was injured with a small pool of blood near its mouth but fortunately still alive. After researching how to best handle the situation, I nipped back home to grab shoebox, towel, water and importantly gloves.

Carefully, lifting the bat into the box I tried calling the bat helpline, but given it was approximately 2am, it was unavailable. I decided to secure the bat in its box (with all necessary functions to live) and keep it in my bedroom for the night.

First thing in the morning, I called the Bat Conservation Trust who were extremely helpful in putting me in contact with local volunteers, they deployed a 'bat ambulance', who arrived only 20 minutes after placing the phone call and upon arrival proudly declared 'The batman has arrived'. The bat was delivered to a carer to receive care where it was determined to be a female Common Pipistrelle – they had also discovered it had a slit on the throat, most likely from a cat and hence why it had been grounded. I received word a couple weeks later of successful rehabilitation and release back in to the wild.

I can't thank the Bat Conservation Trust enough for their fantastic work and I'm so pleased we managed to conduct a successful rescue. For those who find themselves in a similar situation, please refer the guidance listed at [www.bats.org.uk](http://www.bats.org.uk) or phone up their hotline at (0345 1300 228) – the general rule of thumb is to always wear gloves if handling a bat if required (for their own safety and yours) and to secure it in a box with access to oxygen, water, and a towel. If in need of medical attention, please phone the hotline or take it to your nearest emergency vet.

### Reuben Hey

*Reuben served a summer internship from June to September 2024 with the Climate & Sustainability Team at East Suffolk Council*



## New Kittiwake Partnership Project Officer appointed

Members of the Greenprint Forum may remember Amy Duran, who until recently was in the role of the Graduate Project Officer supporting the Climate & Sustainability Team at East Suffolk Council, in particular helping to plan and run our [forum on food and farming in February](#).

Since then, we are delighted to report that Amy has recently taken up the post of Kittiwake Partnership Project Officer at ESC and will be working to coordinate the Kittiwake Partnership in Lowestoft.

Kittiwakes are medium-sized marine birds on the UK red list of birds of conservation concern. They nest in coastal towns during the summer months. Lowestoft hosts growing numbers of Kittiwakes each year, despite global decline. However, the Kittiwakes cause conflict with locals and businesses because they nest on window ledges and make a lot of mess.

The Kittiwake Partnership is made up of Suffolk Wildlife Trust, the RSPB, Lowestoft Town Council, the Marina Theatre, Lowestoft Vision (the town's Business Improvement District) and South Pier Lowestoft LTD.

The Kittiwake Partnership's 5 key objectives are:

**1. Improve perceptions:**

Improve knowledge and perception of kittiwakes by engaging residents and businesses.

**2. Manage nesting sites:**

Minimise conflict between nesting kittiwakes and residents through advice, safe deterrents where appropriate, and delivery and maintenance of sustainable artificial nesting places.

**3. Monitor and research:**

Monitor Lowestoft's kittiwakes, carry out conservation research, involve academic institutions and wildlife interest groups.

**4. Reduce conflict with other gulls:**

Increase awareness of other urban gulls and pursue opportunities to reduce conflict with residents and business.

**5. Be the best:**

Be a model of collaboration between conservation groups, businesses, public bodies, and the community, providing a blueprint for other coastal areas.

Amy looks forward to any opportunities to collaborate with those across our network.

[Amy.duran@eastsuffolk.gov.uk](mailto:Amy.duran@eastsuffolk.gov.uk)

For some background on the partnership visit:

<https://www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/news/lowestoft-kittiwake-partnership>





## Improving air quality at home this winter

As the nights draw in and the temperature drops, many people start to use their open fires or wood burning stoves more frequently - some as the main source of heating and others who enjoy the ambience of an open fire.

Long term exposure to air pollution, over many years, reduces life expectancy mainly due to cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, strokes and lung cancer. Even short-term exposure over hours or days has been shown to impact lung function, worsen asthma and increase hospital admissions due to respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses.



While we will never be able to eliminate all airborne particulates, there are simple steps that households using wood burners or open fires to heat the home can take to limit emissions both indoors and out - and that will make a big difference.

The Environmental Protection Team at East Suffolk Council would welcome any help that members of the Greenprint Forum can provide in spreading awareness of these steps through your own networks.

### So, what can you do?

- Consider burning less often or for shorter periods
- Only burn dry (seasoned) wood – buy wood with the fuel label ‘Ready to Burn’. Burning wet wood is inefficient as it demands a lot of heat to boil off the water first and in turn this creates a lot of smoke, tar and particulates
- Don’t burn treated waste wood (i.e old furniture, treated pallets) or household rubbish – this will emit harmful fumes
- Check how to operate your appliance efficiently by controlling air supply etc. – this will save you money as well as reducing emissions
- If you have a stove, regularly maintain and service it (i.e annually) and use the correct fuel.
- Get your chimney swept regularly (up to twice a year)
- If you are buying a new stove check it is Defra approved and installed by a qualified person, see [www.hetas.co.uk](http://www.hetas.co.uk)

For more information, visit [www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/air-quality](http://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/air-quality) and click on ‘Biomass and Wood Burning’.

**The Environmental Protection Team, East Suffolk Council**



## Secondhand September celebrated at East Suffolk Council

As part of Secondhand September we set up a one-off repair café in the atrium at Riverside with assistance from Helen of the Halesworth Repair Café to help raise awareness of the importance of repairing and extending the life of clothing.

Helen repaired one old singer sewing machine which had been rescued from a skip, and serviced another sewing machine. We repaired a Councillor's backpack which had fallen apart on their way to Full Council, a favourite pair of shorts and a dress which someone was wearing! We also offered advice on repairing and patching clothes, including a dress which had been hand made by someone's mother when she was a teenager.

Helen also gave out information on Halesworth's repair café to people who were interested in setting up a repair café in their own areas, and gave an overview of the services at Halesworth repair café which includes electrical repairs, clothing repairs and knife and garden tool sharpening.

More information on Halesworth repair café, which is part of the international repair café organisation, you can visit their website [Halesworth Repair Cafe – Part of the world wide Repair Cafe movement – we meet at 'The Cut' in Halesworth once a month. \(wordpress.com\)](http://www.halesworthrepaircafe.com)



**Alli Stone,**  
**East Suffolk Council**



### MAKE DO AND MEND

- Check the clothes in the store, are they already starting to fray or bobble? Is the style going to look dated soon? What are they made of and can you care for them properly?

**BUY WISELY**
- There are a variety of sewing techniques to help update older or plain clothes - add embroidery, try out sashiko or cross stitch, change out buttons or other embellishments.

**CUSTOMISE IT**
- Small alterations such as taking up hems can be done on home sewing machines. For larger alterations contact a local tailor - its not as expensive as you might think.

**ALTER IT**
- Repairing holes and rips is not as difficult as you think. [repairwhatyouwear.com](http://repairwhatyouwear.com) has written and video mending tutorials, including a dedicated school uniform section.

**FIX IT**
- There are several repair shops and cafes across East Suffolk who help repair all sorts of items. Details can be found at [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/reduce-reuse](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk/reduce-reuse)

**REPAIR SHOPS**
- If your clothes are sitting unworn at the back of a wardrobe, maybe its time to pass them on. You can donate to a local charity shop, or sell online using Vinted, Depop or Facebook Marketplace

**TIME TO SAY GOODBYE?**





## Solar Together enables residents to take up domestic solar PV

Solar Together Suffolk helps homeowners feel confident that they are paying the right price for a high-quality installation from qualified installers.

Residents of Suffolk can join the collective purchase scheme, which offers solar panels with optional battery storage and EV charge points, as well as retrofit battery storage for residents who have already invested in solar panels and are looking to get more from the renewable energy they generate. The scheme allows homeowners to increase their independence from the national grid.

It's free to register, and there is no obligation to go ahead with an installation. Suffolk's councils are working in partnership with iChoosr, experts in sustainable energy transition, to make the transition to clean energy as cost-effective and hassle-free as possible.

**Richard from Bures, near Sudbury, recently shared his experience with Solar Together Suffolk and said:**

"Excellent! Solar Together Suffolk took all the hassle of finding a provider, and the group-buying secured me a better discount than trying to do this on my own. It was a no-brainer."



How does it work?

- Householders can register online to become part of the group for free and without obligation at [www.solartogether.co.uk/suffolk](http://www.solartogether.co.uk/suffolk)
- Approved UK solar PV suppliers participate in a reverse auction. They are able to offer competitive pricing as the volume and geographic concentration makes it possible for them to realise greater efficiencies, which they pass on with lower prices for installations.
- After the auction, registered households will be emailed a personal recommendation which is specific to the details they submitted in their registration.
- If they choose to accept their recommendation, the specifics of their installation will be confirmed with a technical survey after which a date can be set for the installation of their solar PV system.
- Telephone and email helpdesks are on-hand throughout the whole process which, together with information sessions, will allow households to make an informed decision in a safe and hassle-free environment.

To date, Solar Together has installed 13,750 solar panels in Suffolk, reducing carbon emissions by 27,100 tonnes over 25 years – equivalent to 15,000 cars off the road in that time!

iChoosr's schemes have been delivered in partnership with local authorities in five countries. More than 180 schemes have led to 178,000 residents installing solar PV systems.

### The Suffolk Climate Change Partnership



## Growing membership for the Carbon Charter in east Suffolk

From Lowestoft to Felixstowe, businesses in the east of the county of Suffolk are increasingly becoming aware of how making their organisational practices more sustainable can benefit everyone.

Reducing waste, securing sustainable supply chains and complying with increasingly tough legislation are all proving common sense as we move towards a low carbon future. But for some, it's difficult to find the resources to devote to making those first steps. That's where the Carbon Charter comes in.



Joining the Carbon Charter is a clear and visible statement of your commitment to reduce the environmental impact of your business operations. The good business practices that are achieved can then be recognised by an accreditation to show for the good work.

Whether it's visitor destination stars like Africa Alive, commercial hubs such as Anglia Print or many of the East of England Co-ops along the region, more and more businesses are taking advantage of membership to this network of environmentally aware organisations.

If you know of a business that are keen to do the right thing and needs support to begin their journey to sustainability, then, for a limited time, they can get FREE advice at <https://carboncharter.org/suffolk-business-consultancy/>

Email: [info@carboncharter.org](mailto:info@carboncharter.org)

**The Carbon Charter Team, Suffolk County Council**





## Contributors

As ever thanks are due to all our stellar contributors to this issue: Alli Stone, Amy Duran, Betsy Reid, David George, David Greenacre, Kate White, Reuben Hey, Sarah Fitch, Simon Read, and Vince Langdon Morris, plus the Environmental Protection Team at East Suffolk Council, the Carbon Charter Team at Suffolk County Council, and the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership.

Of course, whilst there is as always plenty in this issue, there will be lots more that we have not captured; the environmental world is always an active one especially in eastern Suffolk where we are so lucky to have so many active groups and individuals taking the initiative.

This newsletter is of most value when content is informed by its members. If you have a story about action you are taking or enabling that contributes to our shared vision that you would like to share, or would like your project (whether established, new, or emerging) highlighted in our newsletter, we would be delighted to hear from you via [greenissues@east Suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:greenissues@east Suffolk.gov.uk)

## GREENPRINT FORUM VISION



### New members welcome!

If you are already a member please share this newsletter with and encourage others in your network to join, and if you have received or found this newsletter and are not yet a member why not join us, **membership is free and open to all.**

The easiest way is to go online and register via: [Greenprint Forum membership form - My East Suffolk](#)

*You are very welcome to share this newsletter. The editor makes no claims or promises about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of this newsletter and expressly disclaims liability for errors and/or omissions. Editor – Daniel Wareing, Environmental Sustainability East Suffolk Council; Secretary of Greenprint Forum*

