

It was great to see the Pink Ladies Tractor Run back in action in July. Where I live, which is near to Thorpe Abbots Airfield I could see the organisers arrive on site at 6am in the morning getting ready for all of the tractors and their support teams to arrive on the concrete runway. It was good to see them all set off (very colourful) on their journey around our villages and through Harleston. They all arrived back safely later in the day, then loading their tractors on to low-loaders or driving them home, the site was all clear by 6pm. Well done to Annie, all of her team of helpers and congratulations on the amount of funding they have raised for their charity.

A new single point of contact for flooding in Norfolk has been launched, allowing residents to report any sort of flooding quickly and efficiently. In the event of flooding residents can call 0344 800 8013 to report it. Alternatively, residents can continue to report flooding via [www.norfolk.gov.uk/flooding](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/flooding) or if you are in immediate danger call 999. The new number give residents a single point of contact and allows reports to be made swiftly. Lord Dannatt who heads up the Norfolk Strategic Flooding Alliance said “When flooding hits, people have to make quick decisions on how to react. For those that want to alert others and report a flood, the process of finding the right agency could be slow and frustrating, wasting valuable time. This new initiative makes reporting a flood faster and easier, allowing residents to get on with protecting their families and property.”

A boost for voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations who have helped Norfolk's communities during the pandemic has been agreed by the county council. Cabinet has agreed two reports that will see £1million capital funding pot for major projects and a lift for the county's voluntary sector support services. The Social Infrastructure Fund will award up to £1million of capital to community groups for new initiative or improvements to existing facilities. Last year the same fund helped 10 different projects across the county, supporting everything from an interactive science hub in Thetford to the Norwich City Community Foundation's Nest project. This year's grant will widen the offer to make money available for smaller projects, with 25% or £250,000 on offer for grants of between £5,000 and £50,000. To find out more visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk) The second grant is to see the funding for Norfolk's voluntary sector organisations increase by 45% from £172,000 to £250,000. There will also be an additional cash boost of £150,000 over 3 years that they can use to help local voluntary groups. This grant is currently shared between Voluntary Norfolk, Community Action Norfolk and Momentum (which has now merged with Voluntary Norfolk). The increased funding will support voluntary groups across 5 key areas: Funding and Finance; Advice and Support; Volunteer recruitment and deployment; Training opportunities; and Forums and Networking.

South Norfolk Community Awards 2021.

These awards recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements from residents across the district, who go above and beyond to support others or complete incredible achievements. If someone in your community has made a positive impact on you, or the wider community, helping making lives better, or inspiring others then please nominate them. Nominations are open to the public for eight categories. The winner in each category will receive £250 to give to their chosen community group or voluntary organisation. Make your nomination by the 5<sup>th</sup> of September and give volunteers the recognition they deserve. To nominate please visit [www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communityawards](http://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/communityawards)

Best Wishes  
Martin