

August 2017 Monthly Parish Newsletter

Find out where and when the Tour of Britain will be passing through Suffolk

Next Friday (8th September) some of the world's elite riders will be racing through Suffolk as part of the prestigious Tour of Britain.

To ensure safety for riders and spectators, road closures and a number of parking restrictions will be in place across the county as the tour heads along the 187km route from Newmarket to Aldeburgh on September 8.

In Newmarket, High Street will be closed between Dullingham Road and Bury Road and The Avenue will be closed from High Street to Queensberry Road. These closures will accommodate spectators, start area apparatus and convoy vehicles.

And in order to provide a suitable diversion for High Street, there will be parking restrictions along the following roads:

- All Saints Road - from Old Station Road to Granary Road
- Granary Road
- Green Road - from Granary Road to The Avenue

There will be suspensions of on street parking in the following locations along the race route, for safety reasons:

- High Street, Ixworth - between Bury Road and The Landridge
- Ixworth Road, Walsham le Willows - 100 metres prior to the Summer Road junction
- The Street, Walsham le Willows
- Finningham Road, Walsham le Willows - between The Street and Clay Street
- B1117 Magdalen Street, Eye - from the Eye poultry entrance to Castle Street
- Castle Street, Eye - from Magdalen Street to Lowgate Street
- New Street, Stradbroke - from Woodfields to Doctors Lane
- College Road, Framlingham - from Vycy Road to the Well Close Square roundabout
- Bridge Street, Framlingham - from the Well Close Square roundabout to Market Hill
- Church Street, Framlingham - between Market Hill and Castle Street
- Castle Street, Framlingham - from Church Street to the B1119 Fore Street
- Fore Street, Framlingham - from Castle Street to Station Road
- Dallinghoo Road, Wickham Market - from Broad Road to B1438 High Street
- B1078 High Street, Wickham Market - along the Access Road from B1078 Wickham Bridge to Dallinghoo Road (Market Hill)
- Broad Street, Wickham Market - between Dallinghoo Road to the Little Lane junction
- The Street, Tuddenham St Martin - between Fynn Lane and High Street
- B1438 Melton Road, Woodbridge/Melton - between Lime Kiln Quay and A1152 Wilford Bridge Road
- Waterloo Avenue, Leiston - between St Margarets Crescent and Station Road

In Aldeburgh, High Street (between Park Road and Wentworth Road), Crabbe Street, Crag Path, King Street, Aide Lane, Market Cross Place, Victoria Road (between Market Cross Place and High Street) and all side roads between High Street and Crag Path, will be closed.

There will also be on-street parking suspensions along Wentworth Road, Thorpe Road

(between Aldeburgh and Thorpeness) and Leiston Road (from the roundabout to Crag Fit Nurseries).

All of the above road closures and parking restrictions will apply between 11.30pm on Thursday 7 September and 12midnight on Friday 8 September, however, every effort will be made by the traffic management team to lift parking suspensions and closures as soon as possible after the race has passed through. There is one additional closure in Aldeburgh, along Victoria Road, between the roundabout and High Street), between 1.30pm and 4pm on 8 September to accommodate the race as it comes through to the finish line.

All vehicles will need to have left the areas ahead of the suspensions being put in place. Those in all areas affected by the closures and parking suspensions have been informed of alternative parking. Advanced signage will also be in place along the route.

This link provided by the Tour of Britain gives the estimated times riders are expected to make their way along the route, providing the ideal planner for supporters to cheer on their favourites - <http://d2cx26qpfwuhvu.cloudfront.net/tour-britain/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/26111123/ToB-2017-S6-Newmarket-Aldeburgh-ETA-v2.pdf>

The link also acts a good indicator of when the rolling road block will be making its way across the county - around 10/15 minutes before the time indicated in the '100%' column.

Suffolk students celebrate as GCSE results continue to rise

Self-reported statistics from Suffolk schools released today show that more students in Suffolk have achieved expected levels of GCSE attainment in English and Maths this year.

This year, there has been a change to the way that English and Maths GCSEs are graded. Results are now graded from 9 to 1, (previously A to G) with 9 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. The expected standard for pupils to achieve is now a grade 4 and above (previously a C grade and above), with grade 5 considered a 'strong pass'. These changes will be phased in to cover all subjects by 2020.

More than 7,000 students in Suffolk were entered for GCSE results. According to provisional results collated from around 80% of schools in Suffolk, 63% of students achieved a grade 4 and above in English and maths this year. The figures suggest more than 2% more students have achieved the expected standard for English and maths, compared with last year.

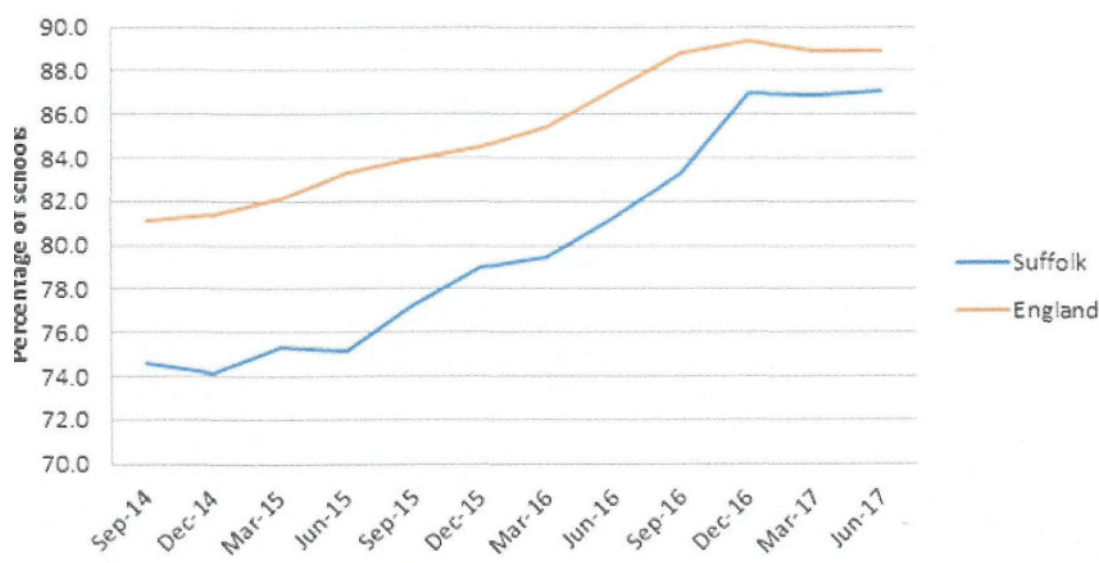
Some schools have made significant gains compared to last year:

- Ormiston Denes Academy: 20% increase to 53% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths.
- Holbrook Academy: 15% increase to 88% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths,
- Stowmarket High School: 15% increase to 60% of pupils achieving the threshold for English and maths.

The self-reported figures also show a significant increase in the number of disadvantaged pupils achieving the threshold measure in English and maths. Approximately 6% more students in Suffolk achieved this measure this year compared to last year.

Oftsed Performance

Percentage of schools judged Good or better



More students in Suffolk pass A level exams than across the country

Provisional A level figures show that Suffolk pupils have once again performed well with the number of A*-E grades awarded above the national average.

Almost 3,000 pupils were entered for A Levels in Suffolk. Although yet to be verified, the figures show that 98.2% of A levels taken in the county have been awarded an A*- E grade, compared with 97.9% nationally. 77% of A level grades achieved were within the A*- C bracket, in line with national figures and a 1% increase on last year's results.

Early indications show that Suffolk's Academic average points per entry has risen to 33.37 this year, compared with 30.44 last year.

Pass rates remain high across the county, with St Benedict's Catholic School and Newmarket Academy both reporting a 100% pass rate (A*-E grade achieved). Students at Sir John Leman High School made a significant 11% gain in the number of A*-C grades awarded this year, increasing from 71% to 82%.

Energy Efficiency grants now available for local retail businesses in Suffolk

Recent changes to European funding rules mean that retail businesses across Suffolk can access grants for energy efficiency measures.

Suffolk County Council is collaborating with Norfolk County Council to use EU funding to support businesses from a range of sectors. A number of shops have already benefitted from free and independent advice and a change in the funding regulations means that shops can now also access grants towards the capital costs of any energy saving measure.

The Carbon Trust calculate that taking 20 per cent off the energy spend of any

business is equivalent to a 5 per cent increase in sales.

One of the businesses already benefiting from the scheme, is Clickers Archery in Norfolk. Owner Graham Harris said: "Business Energy Efficiency Anglia's help has enabled us to reach our long-term goal of carbon saving in a shorter period of time. It would have taken us a few years to generate the funding ourselves but receiving the grant funding through BEE Anglia has accelerated that process."

Grants are available for up to a maximum of £20,000, with a minimum of £1,000 for those businesses which take part in the scheme. To date, the Business Energy Efficiency Anglia (BEE Anglia) project has reviewed 371 organisations in Suffolk and Norfolk (156 in Suffolk), identifying cost savings of £2.26m (which equates to £6,146 per business), and carbon savings of 22,371 tonnes (61 tonnes per business).

These savings are equivalent to the carbon used in 6,648 flights from London to Sydney.

This initiative is not just about identifying savings. BEE Anglia has so far awarded over £118,000 in grant funding for various energy efficiency projects in Suffolk including radiant heating, vehicle tracking, wood burners and more efficient lighting.

The BEE Anglia project is funded by the European Regional Development Fund and is being delivered across the region through a partnership of Suffolk County Council, Norfolk County Council, Groundwork and NWES. The project has three core offers that have been designed to help businesses reduce carbon and save money using independent advice. Energy experts will visit the business' premises to conduct a free, impartial and independent review that identifies the best cost and carbon saving opportunities.

Businesses interested in any aspect of this service can find out more and register online at www.beeanglia.org or call Groundwork on 01473 350370. Dedicated advisors will be able to answer any queries about eligibility for the programme or potential grant projects.