

COUNTY Life

news from around Suffolk and Norfolk



Night on the tyres

All set for a moonlit cycle ride

Harleston-based Hamiltons Removals are used to some unusual requests for their services. Pianos, pets, and plants present no problem. But if you go down to the beach at Dunwich as the sun is rising on Sunday 1st July, you can be sure of a big surprise! The car park will be teeming with 1,500 cyclists, and at least four of Hamiltons' biggest pantechincons. For the 11th year running, Hamiltons will be packing and transporting over 700 bicycles back to London, from whence they departed the night before.

This is the annual Dunwich Dynamo cycle ride, which has taken place on a moonlit night in July since 1993. Hordes

of riders pedal the 120 miles from Hackney in London to Dunwich in Suffolk, arriving from dawn onwards to breakfast on the beach, followed by a dip in the sea (maybe).

"We support the ride every year because it is so rewarding to help these cyclists who have made the effort to cycle through the night," says Hamiltons' chairman Brian Sawyer, who personally oversees the transportation.

"We have a special technique for packing the bikes. The first row goes in forwards, the next with their handlebars in the opposite direction, and then they are wrapped in cardboard, before loading the next row. These bikes are of

immense value, in price and to their owners, and we want to pack them properly."

The transportation of cyclists and cycles is arranged by Southwark Cyclists. "Most of us are regular, low tech commuters with a taste for adventure," says organiser Alex Crawford. "Many people say that doing this ride has changed their lives."

For details of the route, and how to take part, see www.southwarkcyclists.org.uk. Route sheets and catering are provided by the London School of Cycling www.londonschoolofcycling.co.uk

Short films wanted by university

The University of East Anglia is looking for short films to be screened as part of this year's Norwich Sound & Vision festival in October.

The annual music and film conference has joined forces with the university's school of Film and Television Studies to present a series of screenings which will showcase the very best in local talent. Regional film-makers are invited to submit their work – from drama and documentaries to animations, art projects and music videos.

The theme for the film element of the festival is 'Sounds Like Norfolk'

For more information about how to submit a film, visit www.norwichsoundandvision.co.uk or email s.godfrey@uea.ac.uk. The deadline to submit films is August.

Beer festival at Wissett

The Plough Inn at Wissett is holding its sixth annual beer festival on July 20, 21 and 22nd with free admission. Nick and Debbie Sumner, the enterprising owners of The Plough, near Halesworth, have released their plans for what will undoubtedly be a fabulous weekend in the extensive grounds surrounding the pub. Free car parking, camping and caravan facilities, tents £5 per night, caravans £7 per night. Booking advised.