

Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1870

How Sizewell could drive region's future economic growth

This paper has always been a champion for the energy industry in East Anglia; we know it can not only provide our region with growth, but can also play a huge part in the whole country's future.

That faith appears to have been vindicated now that it has become clear that the proposed new nuclear power station at Sizewell could employ a huge number of people, some 25,000, over the next 10 years.

These will be skilled jobs that our young people can work towards and aspire to, jobs that will offer them meaningful and sought after careers in a dynamic sector. Executives at EDF have already said they will work in partnership with colleges, businesses, and local authorities to build training programmes for would-be employees.

It should also be mentioned that the power station will cost £6bn to develop; money that will disseminate through the local economy providing jobs elsewhere and feeding business and enterprise across the region.

At this stage we have only seen the launch of EDF's consultation on its plans to build the power station, and many are justifiably concerned about the safety of nuclear reactors.

All the relevant questions must be asked and pressure put on EDF to ensure that the station adheres to the very highest safety standards. All voices should be heard.

But our view of nuclear power should be objective; taking full account of its safety record around the world which is better than every other major source of power.

After everyone has had a chance to give their view, if the station is finally built, it may well prove to be the nuclear engine that drives our region into its future economic growth.

Why are we waiting?

For those people with a mischievous side, the line "why are we waiting" has often replaced the real words of the hymn O Come, All Ye Faithful.

But a similar question has to be asked after the Church of England's draft measure to change the law was defeated last night – why are we waiting for women to become bishops?

In short, the answer is because of six people.

While the houses of bishops and clergy gave the legislation proposal the necessary two thirds majority, the lay members of the General Synod didn't. If six people of the House of Laity had changed their vote to "yes", we would not be facing the possibility of another five-year wait before such a law change can get to this stage again.

The sense of disappointment among many of those at the General Synod was clear to see last night. We live in a society where the fight to achieve equality is moving in the right direction, albeit slowly.

So there has to be a re-think on the church's decision, to right a wrong which has existed for far too long.

Happy landings

There were emotional scenes at RAF Marham yesterday, as the brave men and women of II(AC) Squadron came home from Afghanistan.

Those who train in Norfolk's big skies and those who work to keep them in the air play a vital role, protecting those on the ground from enemy fire or improvised explosive.

There have been many lives saved in Helmand and elsewhere by the eyes in the sky, who look out for those thousands of feet below.

We share their loved ones' pride in a job so very well done – and their joy at seeing our boys and girls touch down safe and well from the rigours of another deployment.

WORDS FOR LIFE

I know that God lives – the One who gives me back my life.
Job 19:25



READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

iwitness24



BILL POUND

STAG PARTY: A family of deer in Holkham Park. If you would like to submit a picture for this feature, visit www.iwitness24.co.uk

It's right up our street to talk like this

PETER TRUDGILL

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I was about 18 years old before I realised that there was a street in Norwich called Gentleman's Walk.

When you've grown up in a city you don't go around looking at street signs.

And nobody ever called it anything except The Walk.

That's still pretty true. If you come across the name Gentleman's Walk, that's either going to be the EDP on their best linguistic behaviour, or a newcomer to the city who hasn't tuned in to the way we speak yet.

If you want to sound like a Norwich person – and why wouldn't you? – you can forget the Gentleman's bit.

You can also notice that there's something special in Norwich about the names of streets derived from churches and parishes using the word "saint". St Stephen's Street is never called that – it's always called just St Stephens.

The same is true of St Augustine's, St Benedict's, St Andrew's, St George's, St Giles'. The only exceptions I can think of are St Vedast Street, which is generally called Vedast Street, and St Peter's Street, which everybody calls "in front of the City Hall". This rule doesn't apply to Roads – you have to say St Stephen's Road – or Lanes – but remember that we say the "Faith's" in St Faith's Lane so that it rhymes with "bathes".

(This is true, too, of the villages outside



TAKE A WALK: Locals have their own way with names in the city. Gentleman's Walk is just The Walk to them.

Norwich just to the north of the airport.)

And then of course there's Thorpe Station. This is what people who haven't tuned in to us yet refer to as Norwich station, the railway station or, if they're under 40, the train station.

(Until quite recently the only people who said "train station" were four-year-olds and Americans.) The local buses show Rail Station as their destination.

Until the 1980s, we had to say Thorpe Station because there were other railway stations in Norwich. City Station was where Barker Street now is. You can see remains

by the path along the river from the Barn Road-St Crispin's Road roundabout. Victoria Station was where Victoria House is today, by the junction of St Stephens Road and Queens Road – the old railway line is the route of the Lakenham Way footpath. City Station was closed in the 1960s, and Victoria Station in the 1980s. So we don't need the Thorpe name any longer. But it's been in use for more than 130 years. And we really can't think of any particular reason to change it.

■ **What do you think? Email:** EDPletters@archant.co.uk