

Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1870

Boost for energy industry is also a boost for East Anglia

East Anglia is at the forefront of the UK's energy industry and, given the economic growth and jobs it delivers, hopefully will be for many years to come. That is why we should cautiously welcome reports of the government's new strategy to approve 30 gas power stations along with a regulatory regime for shale gas exploitation in the UK.

The idea is that gas will provide cheaper energy to our homes, and at a time of ever rising prices that is something that should be welcomed by a lot of householders in the region.

Meanwhile the green light for shale gas exploitation offers opportunities for new investment in the East of England.

We reported earlier this year how Centrica's pioneering North Sea Ensign project, off the Norfolk coast, has helped deliver previously hard-to-reach gas to shore. It has already seen one platform pumping out enough gas to power hundreds of thousands of homes, and three more platforms are on the way. That in turn means potential contracts for energy industry firms across the region.

However, concerns have been raised that the gas strategy represents the government ditching its commitment to reduce carbon emissions. These fears must be allayed. Gas does have a role to play in the country's future energy production. But ministers must ensure that Britain draws its power from a mix of different sources. That means also encouraging the growth of renewable sources of energy like wind and nuclear power which, incidentally, are also being developed in East Anglia. The way we see it, a big boost for the energy industry is a big boost for East Anglia's economy. Long may it continue.

Show how much you care

Today is a really proud day for Dereham – and the whole of Norfolk.

At 11am, 350 members of the Light Dragoons from nearby Swanton Morley will set out on their welcome home parade through the streets following their gruelling six months in Afghanistan.

They will be cheered on by an expected crowd of 5,000 people and during the event the soldiers will receive a scroll to signify receiving the freedom of the town of Dereham.

That is a wonderfully well-deserved honour and reflects the strong bond of friendship between the community and the regiment.

It will also be a day to remember Sgt Lee Davidson, a well-loved member of the Light Dragoons who was killed during the tour.

Please turn out in numbers to show your support and it will truly be a day to remember.

There will be a wonderful atmosphere – especially with more than 500 local schoolchildren attending – and a sense of pride will fill the air.

Rest in Peace, CVR

For almost 40 years, Charles Roberts or CVR was part and parcel of the EDP and also his adopted county of Norfolk.

He strode the stage, with passion as a performer but he also fought furiously for the theatre and arts.

He campaigned for the Theatre Royal, the Norwich Playhouse and the Sewell Barn Theatre. His love of the county's heritage led to the first of what became the three volumes of the Popular Guide to Norfolk Churches, which was published in 1981. He also wrote a comprehensive guide to the city of Norwich and Newmarket's racing history. Always a larger than life character as literary or theatre reviewer, he was always Charles. So sleep well, our EDP hero, CVR.

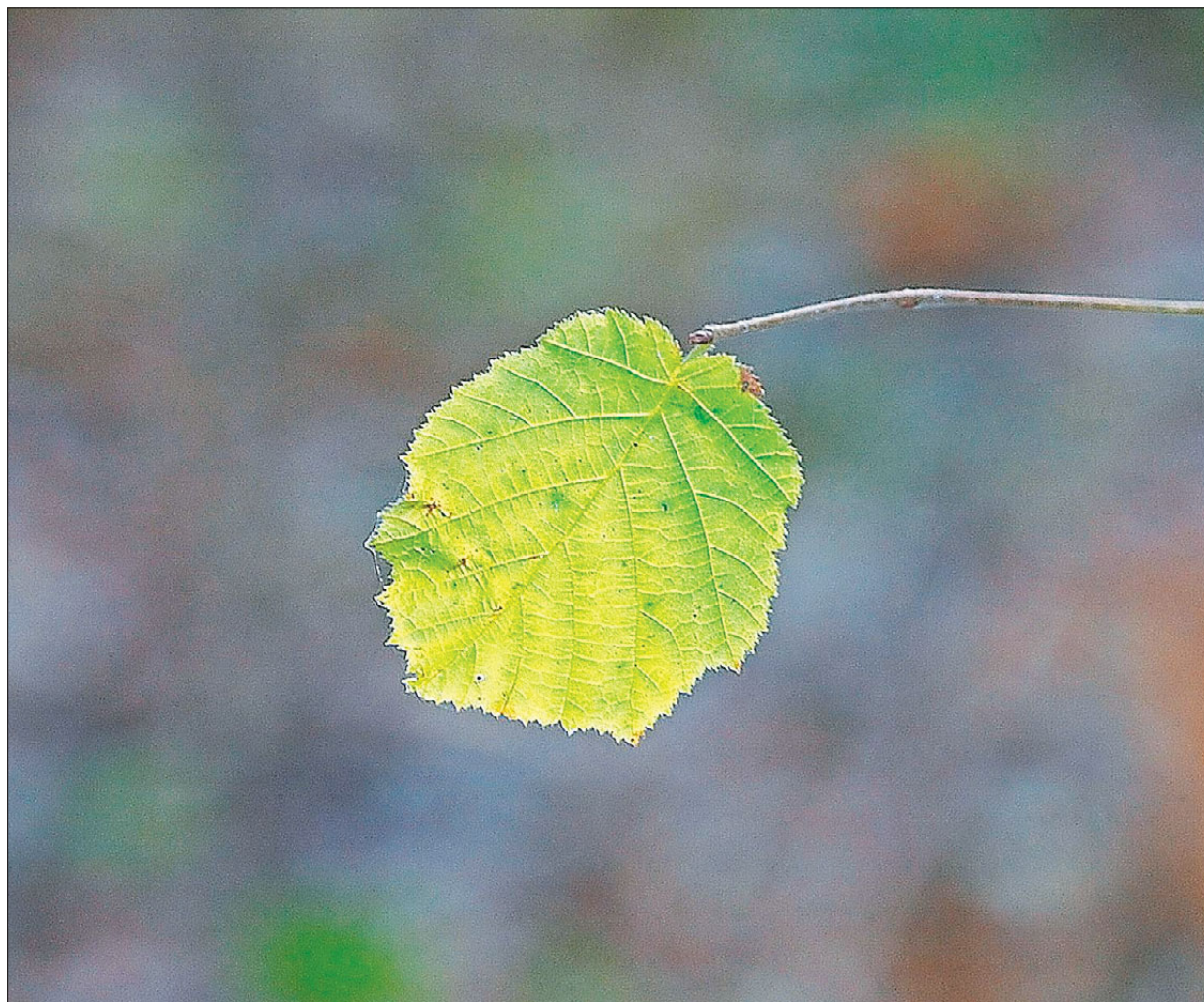
WORDS FOR LIFE

God's faithful ways
are eternal.
Psalm 117:2



READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

iwitness24



JOHN NORTON

CLOSE UP AND NATURAL: A single leaf, highlighted by the sun. If you would like to submit a picture for this feature, visit www.iwitness24.co.uk

The real meaning of words – ass a rumm'un

PETER TRUDGILL

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Words are dangerous things. Sometimes you have to choose them carefully.

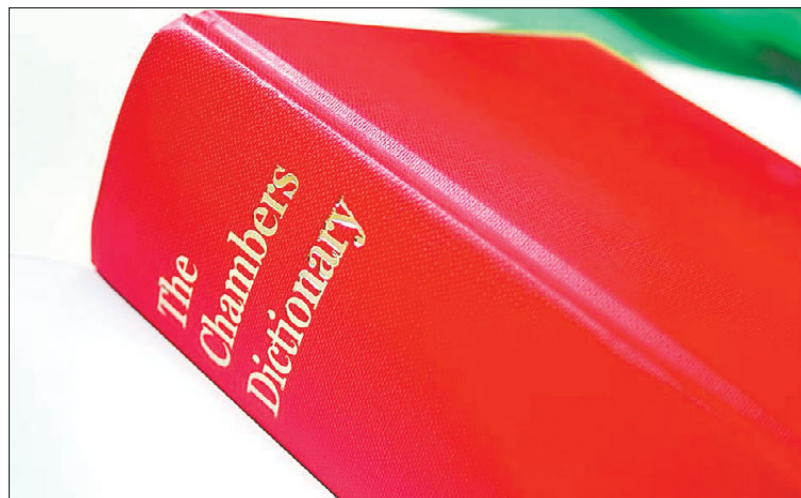
They can change their meaning through time, and so mean different things to people of different ages.

To my mother "cute" means 'too clever by half', but for young people it means 'good looking'. In the old Norfolk dialect, "gays" meant 'pictures, illustrations in magazines and books', but that's not what it means nowadays.

Words also vary in their meaning from place to place. When Americans say "homely" they mean 'not very good looking', which isn't what it means to us. In Norfolk "linen" means 'washing, laundry' – many people still have linen lines and linen pegs – but in other places it just refers to textiles made from flax.

And many words have several different meanings, so "funny" means 'peculiar' but also 'amusing'. For all these reasons misunderstandings can occur if we're not careful.

I recently got an appointment letter from the hospital which had, at the top, a small logo (a word that most of us had never heard of 30 years ago), together with a slogan (originally a Scottish Gaelic word, rather older than that). This read "Our vision: to provide every patient with the care we want for those we love the most". Well, 'ass a rumm'un! Who would have



thought our NNUH would have wanted to give everybody the best possible medical treatment!

Like most people, I have every reason to be extremely grateful to the NHS. But you can't help wondering how much the NNUH paid someone to come up with this sentimental drivel and have it printed on all their stationery and plastered all over their website.

I wonder too if whoever it was who took the money should have thought a bit more carefully about the word "vision". Whatever this word meant to them, I'm not sure the rest of us will share the same understanding.

Obviously they didn't mean 'the faculty of sight' or 'hallucination'. Probably it was something more along the lines of 'the act of anticipating that which will or may come to be'. But it actually seems to be business-speak. On a leading "Human Resources" website, I find that for HR-types "vision" has a rather special significance. It means 'the skill of visualizing and thinking beyond the obvious'. Well, as I say, if there's something which isn't obvious about providing top-level medical care in a hospital, 'ass a rumm'un.

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