

Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY
SINCE 1870

Poignant salute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice

It is no surprise Staff Sergeant Zak Thorpe had tears in his eyes as he recalled the last 11-and-a-half days.

For him, the 456-mile trek was not just a walk from the base in Larkhill, Wiltshire to his home in Brundall, but a journey which took him back to the darkest days in Afghanistan, where he saw friends and colleagues lose their lives.

The decision to walk each mile for every British soldier who died in the conflict was not only about raising funds and awareness of Walking With The Wounded, but also for his own healing process.

Staff Sergeant Thorpe was one of those men and women who risked everything for the safety of this country, and luckily he survived physically unscarred.

His moving commemoration to those who made the ultimate sacrifice should be applauded.

There are so many people who suffer with their own demons when they return from war, with some veterans ending up on the streets, others with addictions and mental health problems.

The work of Walking With The Wounded goes a long way to help combat these difficulties and give these heroes the life they deserve off the battlefield.

Challenges like Staff Sergeant Thorpe's and his team's are truly amazing.

Not only do they give the soldiers taking part their own space to heal and deal with the horrors they have seen, but also makes sure the charity's vital work continues.

The Ram pub in Brundall gave these inspirational soldiers the welcome they deserved on Saturday – now let's donate to show our continued support.

A famous win for City

What a tremendous day it was for the Canaries on Saturday as they overcame Manchester United on their home turf for the first time in 26 years.

The last time was on August 30, 1989, when then Canaries boss David Stringer took his side to the Theatre of Dreams and came away with a 0-2 win.

The goal scorers who put Sir Alex Ferguson's Red Devils to the sword on that momentous occasion were winger Dale Gordon (45 minutes) and striker Robert Fleck (90th minute penalty).

This latest result lifts City out of the relegation zone and ends a recent poor run of form.

Let's hope the team can build on their famous win and kick on for the remainder of the season.

Protect our fire services

When a fire broke out in the Great Yarmouth home of Tami Warnes, firefighter Andy Masterton put his life on the line to save her and her young son.

Every day our brave firefighters are prepared to risk their lives, so it is with some alarm that home secretary Theresa May has proposed a relentless efficiency drive on our region's fire and rescue services.

We are telling Norfolk and Suffolk county councils to leave our threatened fire stations alone through our Save Our Stations campaign and we will send the same message to Mrs May. And we call on our elected representatives to send the same clarion call to the government to protect our fire services.

Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

1 John 3:18

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READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

iwitness24



■ Blickling Hall is captured by night in this striking photograph by Matt Cooper. If you would like to submit a picture for possible publication in the EDP, visit www.iwitness24.co.uk

Hey guys! Are you aware of adopted American words?

Peter
Trudgill



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I now know that, as I was growing up in the 1950s, I was unwittingly using words that previous generations had considered to be Americanisms.

I didn't know then that what I called a battery had previously been known as an accumulator; or that my father had originally called his briefcase a portfolio. And I have written evidence, in the form of teenage diaries that, some time after 1960 and without being aware of what I was doing, I stopped saying wireless and started using the American word radio.

Now, many years later, I am very aware, as many younger people presumably are not, that words and phrases currently being employed by many British people today were just a few years ago used only by Americans.

Tough, for example, is now very widely used instead of hard or difficult. Children who used to be clever have in the last decade or so become smart – although our use of American dumb to mean the opposite of smart is lagging behind somewhat.

For decades, everybody in this country knew that Americans didn't say lorry, they said truck, but nobody here ever said that; now they do. Airplane has perhaps become as common as aeroplane. Broadcast jour-



■ Is it a fire truck or a fire engine?

Photo: ARCHANT

nalists now often say fire truck when I would say fire engine.

Britons now eat brownies, cookies and fries. And it is very hard to buy a bun these days – what you get are “muffins”. Some of us don't go to the pictures but to the movies.

Quite a lot of British people have goose bumps rather than gooseflesh. Blokes and chaps have become guys. Schoolchildren are no longer pupils but students. And we are more and more saying gift rather than present.

People call their friends on the phone rather than ring them. Children are now often raised rather than brought up. Footballers play on a team on the weekend

rather than in a team at the weekend. Musicians increasingly play piano rather than play the piano.

And many British people say “June twenty-fifth” instead of “June the twenty-fifth”.

This is a process which has been going on ever since the advent of recording and broadcasting brought the sound of spoken American English to this country.

But the written word, going back to the eighteenth century, has also been very influential: who now remembers that words like belittle, lengthy, overcoat, graveyard, half-baked, handy, hunch, influential, mileage and jeopardise were also originally American rather than British?