

# Eastern Daily Press

SERVING THE COMMUNITY  
SINCE 1870

## Tough decisions are inevitable, but make them the right ones

Difficult decisions will need to be made in the coming weeks. And the decisions which the councillors we picked to represent us in County Hall will have far reaching consequences. Some £123m of cuts and savings have been proposed, as the council looks to plug a £111m spending gap over the next three years.

That gives the council wiggle room to drop some of the most unpleasant and unpopular proposals.

Chancellor George Osborne's announcement that councils can impose a 2pc council tax precept to pay for adult social care should also mean some of the cuts which would have hurt vulnerable people can be avoided.

Of course that will come at a cost – to us taxpayers and, as council leader George Nobbs rightly points out, the government is simply shifting the burden.

But it is important that older people are not isolated. Hopefully a way can also be found to ditch the unpopular suggestion that the council should stop paying for transport to get older people to services. That could result in isolation and poor health for some of our most vulnerable citizens.

It would also be welcome if, as the administration has hinted and the Conservatives have pledged, the closure of fire stations can be avoided. The EDP, with its Save Our Stations campaign, has made clear the safety of people in this county is of paramount importance.

Yes, tough decisions are inevitable, but they must be the right decisions.

## Funding security

As public bodies have seen their budgets shrink it has made it harder for some of them to provide services that remain vital to communities.

This is where charities such as Mind come in, plugging the gaps so the most vulnerable people in society don't go without.

In recent years the Norwich and Central Norfolk branch of Mind has gone from strength to strength, now employing more than 100 people and helping thousands every year who suffer from a mental health condition.

The variety of services offered by Mind is amazing and we hope our series will give the organisation and its staff and volunteers the recognition they richly deserve.

Yet despite all of the good these organisations do, too often they are unable to set out their own long-term plans because of the way they are funded by the public bodies they do so much to support.

If society is to make real progress on mental health, important charities such as Mind need to be given greater security to enable it to happen.

## Cheers to a true local

It is a success story worth toasting.

The Kings Arms, at Shouldham, near Downham Market had faced closure.

But a community rallied to save it, and two years after its purchase it continues to go from strength to strength.

While many pubs have shut their doors, the Kings Arms is proof that with the right formula they can flourish.

We raise a glass to those who made it possible.

And let us consider how we may  
spur one another on toward love  
and good deeds.

Hebrews 10:24-25

www.tlcnorwich.com



## READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

# iwitness24



■ The sun sets over a frozen marshy landscape in this photograph by Malcolm Smith. If you would like to submit a picture for possible publication in the EDP, visit [www.iwitness24.co.uk](http://www.iwitness24.co.uk)

## So, are you a Scot called Inglis or a Britain from France?

Peter  
Trudgill



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You may have noticed that people with the surname Inglis are usually Scottish. At first sight, this seems to be rather odd, because Inglis means 'English': why would Scottish people be called English?

Of course, a little bit of thought shows that English people in England are very unlikely to be called English, because everyone in England is English, or at least they were in the late medieval period when surnames became established.

There was no point in calling someone from England 'English' unless they went and lived in another country, such as Scotland, where being English was unusual and therefore a characteristic which served to distinguish them from everybody else. People called Inglis today are typically Scots who had a distant male ancestor from England. And we can notice, too, that Inglis is not an English word: it is the form the word English takes in Scots, the indigenous language of southern and eastern Scotland.

In the same way, people whose surname is Ireland are usually English.

But the name Scott has a rather more complex history. Scott is predominantly a Scottish name, which seems to contradict what I have just been saying. If Inglis is



■ Film director Sir Ridley Scott's surname has a complex history.

Picture:  
JORDAN  
STRAUSS/AP

Scottish, you would expect Scott to be English – which it isn't.

The clue to this puzzle lies in the fact that, in Scotland, Scott is a name which is particularly associated with the Borders and other parts of the south of Scotland. The original Scots were the Gaelic-speaking people from Ireland who crossed the Irish Sea and settled in Argyll, in the west of Scotland, at about the same time that the Anglo-Saxons were settling in the east of England. Scott was therefore a name which the Germanic-speaking Lowland Scots used for the northern Celtic-speaking Highlanders.

The surnames Welch, Welsh and Walsh also have a rather different story to tell, because it is not necessarily the case that those who bear this family name are English people descended from some Welsh ancestor. The original Old English meaning of Welsh was 'foreigner', so if you are a Welch, you had a forebear who came to England from some other country which may or may not have been Wales.

The biggest puzzle of all, though, might seem to be why some British people are called Britain. The answer to this is that one of their ancestors was a Breton, from Brittany in France.