

# Eastern Daily Press

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## Unacceptable for patients to wait too long for treatment

Cancer treatment is improving year by year and new advances in medicine are helping keep people alive far longer than before.

But the difficulty some patients find is that they are not getting treatment fast enough.

That cannot be acceptable.

In order for a person to have the best possible chance of surviving the illness, getting diagnosed and treated early is a big step.

But as our analysis shows today, within East Anglia there are disparities in the number of patients who are getting help as fast as they should.

And while the number of patients who are adversely affected by this is small, it is not right that they should be made to wait while others in a similar position start their road to recovery.

Cancer care itself can present very physical challenges and there is no excuse for placing extra mental strain on a patient desperate to undergo treatment.

The postcode lottery problem will not go away for the NHS – whether it's cancer care, ambulance response times, or other services that are being rationed inconsistently across the country.

And with the funding pressures felt both locally and nationally it is not apparent how this issue is going to be successfully tackled.

As local NHS chiefs say in relation to the cancer waiting times, "there is no magic bullet"; but it is up to them to find the set of actions required to ensure each and every patient is given the timely care and treatment they need.

## Embarrassing saga

The previously confidential report into what went wrong with the biomass plant at the University of East Anglia is very revealing.

The UEA prides itself on being a world-class institution, particularly when it comes to climate change, so it is quite staggering to read just how it managed to get it so very, very wrong when it came to its efforts to cut emissions and produce power.

The two-year-old independent report into its biomass plant project has come to light thanks to the efforts of campaigners who are worried about the Generation Park scheme which was proposed for land near Thorpe Hamlet.

Credit to Suzanne Jones for her efforts to get the report made public. The UEA originally refused to release it, and after Mrs Jones took the case to the information commissioner, they ordered it must be provided.

It is a highly critical report, painting a picture of a project which was not managed properly, with risks not properly assessed, necessary checks not carried out and normal processes bypassed, seemingly to pursue a grant.

It is essential lessons are learned from what has been a very embarrassing saga for the UEA.

## Fascinating discoveries

It's wonderful how, in recent years, the Roman town of Venta Icenorum at Caistor St Edmund has revealed more of its secrets.

And it's fantastic that villagers have played such a key role, welcoming archaeologists into their community, to help unearth fascinating information about this marvellous site right on our doorsteps.

The latest find is that the Roman town is up to three times bigger than was first thought – something which has been discovered partly thanks to community excavations in villagers' gardens.

We look forward to such teamwork leading to further findings in the future.

## READER'S PICTURE OF THE DAY

**iwitness24**



■ View downstream from Ludham Bridge on a foggy morning. Photo by John Paul. If you would like to submit a picture for possible publication in the EDP, visit [www.iwitness24.co.uk](http://www.iwitness24.co.uk)

## Smart-alecs scornful of Paxman show total ignorance

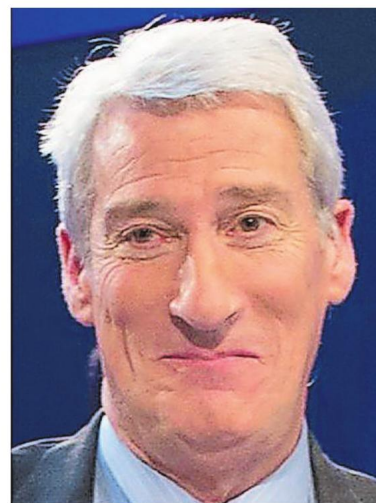
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Jeremy Paxman has been sneered at in the electronic media for his pronunciation of the names of the Spanish fictional characters Don Quixote and Don Juan. On University Challenge, he pronounced them Don Kwiks-ot and Don Jew-an. Twitter was immediately full of comments from know-alls who laughed at his ignorance of Spanish; and the national press quickly followed suit. But in fact it was the tweeters and the London journalists who were showing their lack of knowledge.

In all languages, there is a tradition of using names for famous countries, towns, rivers and people that differ from those names in the original language. For example, we call Deutschland Germany, Magyarország Hungary, Suomi Finland, and Österreich Austria. The city of Prague is Praha, Copenhagen is København, Naples Napoli, and Athens Athina. The rivers Donau, Rhein, Tevere and Wisła appear in English as the



■ Jeremy Paxman has been criticised by viewers of University Challenge for his pronunciation of Don Quixote and Don Juan.

Picture: PA

Danube, Rhine, Tiber and Vistula. And here we know the classical figures Aristotelis, Omiros, Vergilius and Ovidius as Aristotle, Homer, Virgil and Ovid. There is nothing ignorant about any of that. On the contrary, knowing the English versions of these names is part

of a good education.

The smart-alecs who were scornful about Paxman were demonstrating very clearly their own total ignorance about the centuries-long tradition in the English-speaking world of spelling the name of Cervantes' character as Quixote (in Spanish it's spelt Quijote) and of pronouncing it 'Kwixot' or 'Kwixoot'. This is what the man's name is in English. And we always pronounce the adjective quixotic as 'kwixotic'. You should only say 'Ki-hot-e' if you are speaking Spanish, which Jeremy Paxman was not. Likewise, in French the name is Quichotte, in Italian it is Chisciotte, and in Polish Kichot.

The same is true of the fictional character Don Juan. The Italian version is Don Giovanni, and in Catalan it's Don Joan. You can tell what the long-established traditional English name is by looking at Byron's epic poem Don Juan, which he began writing in 1818. It contains rhymes which depend on the correct English pronunciation of the name as 'Jew-an', such as "It is not clear that Adeline and Juan / Will fall; but if they do, 'twill be their ruin".

It's true that Paxman once mispronounced my own name when it was part of a University Challenge question, but he really does know how to pronounce better-known English names like Don Quixote and Don Juan.