

InBrief

New director for How Hill

LOCAL Liberal Democrat politician Simon Partridge is to become the new director of the How Hill Trust's Norfolk Broads Study Centre, near Ludham.

Mr Partridge, 49, a North Norfolk district councillor and the Lib Dems' parliamentary candidate in Great Yarmouth at the last election, has been appointed to succeed David Holmes, who will retire after 27 years.

Trust chairman Nick Price said: "David will be a hard act to follow but we are confident that Simon, with his extensive environmental background, will be more than capable of meeting the challenges of the future."

Mr Partridge said he was delighted.

MORE than 50 new public services students at Great Yarmouth College were put through their paces by the army. Within days of starting their courses, students were set physical and team building challenges by army personnel visiting the Southtown campus.

The Army Information team holds its Activity Day at the college at the start of every year to show students hoping to join the public or armed services the importance of working in teams, following instructions and fitness.

Later this year, public services students will experience the army assault course at Swanton Morley in a second development day.

Level 3 students will spend a week living as soldiers with the army on its Look at Life course.

Other visits will involve the RAF, Marines, fire service and ambulance services.



High five for helpful centre

AN independent living centre which has helped nearly 17,000 people with physical and sensory disabilities marks its fifth anniversary on Monday.

Staff and volunteers will join representatives from partner agencies and Alex Fraser, operations director for the Red Cross in East Anglia, to celebrate.

Awards will be presented to people who have contributed to the centre and community over the past five years, including a volunteer who has been with the centre since the beginning and a group who supported the emergency services during a serious traffic incident in February.

The Norfolk Coastal Centre for Independent Life in Gorleston is managed by the British Red Cross in partnership with NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney and Norfolk County Council. The Red Cross offers first aid training for people with disabilities. It also runs a medical equipment loan service from the centre, which offers short-term wheelchair loans and lends out back rests, bath seats, walking frames and other equipment which makes life easier for people with mobility problems. Almost 8,000 have benefited from this service over the past five years.

Loans of wheelchairs from the NHS are also based at the centre.

NHS Great Yarmouth and Waveney provide an occupational therapy team based at the Centre. They can also assist with longer term provision of equipment. Michael and Monica Olley of Bradwell have been among those to benefit. Mrs Olley has MS and has been helped by the provision of equipment like slings and a bath seat.

Flats plan for seafront hotel

A GRADE II listed former Great Yarmouth seafront hotel is set to be converted into five self-contained flats.

If plans are approved, the first, second and third floors of the former St Moritz Hotel in Marine Parade will be converted into one two-bedroom flat and four one-bedroom flats.

Developer Peter Huang has applied to Yarmouth Borough Council for permission to convert the 19th century building, which has not been used as a hotel for at least two years and sits in an area of prime and secondary holiday homes.

However, the developer's agent, Bernard Willimott, said the council recommended submitting an application because of the need to keep the area "enlivened."

Planning officer Tim Major told The Mercury: "There have been other properties in the locality that have been accepted for residential flats in this section of Marine Parade, Yarmouth."

Mr Willimott said the hotel's basement had a kebab shop and storage area which would be unaffected by the development.

The first, second and third floors currently have a number of bedrooms, and some have fitted with kitchen and en-suite facilities for the guests looking for self-catered accommodation. The future plan is to remove the stud walls to provide space for the flats.

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GP SURGERY CLOSURES

The following surgeries will be closed for training from 12 noon to 4.30 pm on Tuesday 27 September 2011

Central Surgery, Coastal Villages Practice (Ormesby Surgery, Hemsby Medical Centre, North Caister Medical Centre & Martham Health Centre), Falkland Surgery, Family Healthcare Centre, Fleggburgh Surgery, Gorleston Medical Centre, Hopton Surgery, King Street Surgery, Millwood Surgery, The Nelson Medical Practice, Newtown & Caister Medical Practice, Park Surgery and South Quay Surgery

If you suddenly become unwell and need to see a GP during this time please telephone your surgery and your call will be diverted to the out of hours service.



AIR cadets from Acle will get a half-term experience to remember, thanks to the generosity of a businessman. They and fellow members of the 222 (Broadlands) Sqn Air Cadets will be heading off to Snowdonia National Park for an activity week during the October half-term.

The Sqn was given a £750 boost by Carl Lamb, managing director of Almary Green Investments to help them on their way. The 222 (Broadlands) Sqn Air Cadets is one of 18 East Anglian charities and community causes which are to benefit from £10,000-worth of cash

awards given away by Almary Green Investments. The fund was set up by Mr Lamb to mark his firm's 10th anniversary. By raising £2,500, 222 Sqn can subsidise the October activity week to make it affordable to every cadet, regardless of their financial circumstances.



A FAMILY night was held at Cobholm Community Centre on September 10 to raise funds for Help for Heroes. This was one of four events held to raise money for the charity. Mr and Mrs Barton came along

to receive the cheque on behalf of Help for Heroes and mayor and mayoress Cllrs Barry and Mary Coleman attended. Doreen Johnson, chairman of Cobholm Community Centre, said: "Thanks to everyone for the donations you gave. Many

thanks to all who gave up their time to help us. We are proud to say we raised the sum of £1,000 for our wounded servicemen and women." She added: "Thanks again from all the committee and myself."

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