



## Raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support

At the Suffolk energy-from-waste facility, we love a challenge and, in October 2017, nine members of the team took part in the Whole Hog – a five-mile obstacle course and mud race. They all completed the race in a respectable time, but were still finding mud in their ears a week later.

At the end of September 2017, we held a Macmillan coffee morning and the facility's Technical Plant Engineer, Jim Clarke, was crowned best baker with his brownies.

**In total, the two events raised £280 for Macmillan Cancer Support.**



## Going digital



Suffolk energy-from-waste facility is now Tweeting. If you enjoy these newsletters and would like more news as well as tips on how to reduce, reuse and recycle your waste you can follow us [@suffolkefw](https://twitter.com/suffolkefw)

In 2018, we have plans for this newsletter to go digital – moving to an email format to help save paper and reduce waste. If you would like to receive these newsletters by email, please sign up at [surveyMonkey.co.uk/r/suffolkefwnewsletter](https://surveyMonkey.co.uk/r/suffolkefwnewsletter)

If you don't want to go digital and would like to continue to receive a printed copy of the newsletter, please call **01473 839149** or email [suffolkefw@sita.co.uk](mailto:suffolkefw@sita.co.uk) to register your details.



**Putting Suffolk's waste to good use**

## September shutdown

We have two shutdowns a year at the Suffolk energy-from-waste facility to carry out inspections and maintenance work. Undertaking regular maintenance ensures the facility continues to run safely and efficiently.

We manage shutdowns to ensure minimal disruption to the local community by making parking and transport arrangements for the contractors who are working at the site, and confining any night working to within the building itself.

The facility has two lines and we stagger the shutdown, turning off line one first and then line two, so that the facility can continue to process waste.

During September 2017, the second shutdown for 2017 took place. One of the key jobs during shutdowns is to clean the pipes within the boiler. The boiler is where the heat from the hot flue gases, created in the furnace, is used to make super-heated steam that turns the turbine to generate electricity. For the transfer of heat to be efficient, the surface needs to be clean and free from any build-up of ash. During each shutdown, recycled glass beads are sprayed at high pressure into the boiler pipes to clean off the ash, ensuring the facility runs as efficiently as possible.



## Ducklings on site

In July 2017, seven ducklings arrived and made their home by the facility's pond. Members of the team took to feeding them treats, such as sunflower seeds. As the ducklings grew, they began to understand how important safety is on site, using the zebra crossings to get around. They have now all flown south for the winter and we hope to see them, and maybe their young, next year.

## In the community

We know that not all groups can visit our facility, so we go and visit them. Mostly we go out and visit schools, but we also visit community groups too.

In September 2017, as part of National Recycle Week and in partnership with Suffolk County Council and FCC, who run Suffolk's recycling centres, we ran a waste and recycling day at Shotley Community Primary School to tell the whole waste story in Suffolk. This was a great day enjoyed by all.

After a quiz in assembly, themed around the 4 R's 'reduce, reuse, recycle, recover', each class in the school spent an hour with us. All of the children took part in 'mission possible' where they were challenged to make useful things from recycled materials. One group made a bag to store all their stationery for school, and another student made flip flops.



The younger children had their recycling knowledge tested by sorting waste into the different bins and then learnt about the energy-from-waste process using a video and hand actions. The older students learnt about bauxite, the ore used to make aluminium, and how it is mined. They looked at how long it takes to mine for bauxite compared to melting recycled aluminium, which uses 95% less energy. To highlight this, they then did some mining themselves extracting hundreds and thousands from chocolate buttons.

In November 2017, we supported the learning about work day at Claydon High School, where our community liaison manager ran mock interviews with students. The day was designed to equip students for the working world and help them to establish what skills they need for the careers they aspire to.

## The High Sheriff's visit

We were honoured to welcome Geoffrey Probert, High Sheriff of Suffolk, to the facility in October 2017.

The High Sheriff enjoyed a presentation about the site, followed by a tour of the facility and the visitor centre. He commented on the "Super impressive spotless plant, but even more impressive is the world class partnership behind it."

This is something we here at SUEZ and Suffolk County Council are immensely proud of.



## Come and have a look around

The Suffolk energy-from-waste facility is holding a series of open days in January and February 2018, which will include a tour of the facility and time to explore our visitor centre.

Places are currently available on the following dates:

- ▶ **Thursday 18 January 2018, 2pm to 4pm**
- ▶ **Tuesday 23 January 2018, 6pm to 8pm**
- ▶ **Tuesday 06 February 2018, 10am to 12pm**
- ▶ **Thursday 15 February 2018, 2pm to 4pm**

There are 20 spaces on each day and you must pre-book.

To book your place, please email [suffolkefw@sita.co.uk](mailto:suffolkefw@sita.co.uk) with your preferred dates and we will confirm your place by email. If you would like to come but cannot make these dates, you can email us to register your interest and we will let you know when the next open days are planned.

## Operational efficiency

From the start of the year to 30 November 2017, the facility processed 244,311 tonnes of waste, generating 136,653 megawatt hours of electricity.

This is 90% of the 269,000 tonnes of waste that can be processed at the facility each year, leaving enough capacity to handle the increase in waste that we usually see in December over the Christmas period.



## Supporting Claydon Football Club

We are pleased to announce that we are sponsoring Claydon Football Club's under 7s team this season. Our plant manager, Paul Leighton, was proud to present the kit to their team of eager young players before they began training.

We wish the team all the best for the coming season and look forward to hearing how they fare in competitions next year.



## Welcome to our new apprentice

We were delighted to welcome Piers Place to our team in September 2017.

Piers has joined us on a four-year mechanical engineering apprenticeship and is studying Performing Engineering Operations at Suffolk New College. He finished his A-levels at Colchester Sixth Form this summer, where he studied maths, business and product design.

He particularly enjoyed the hands-on aspect of project design which has led him to the mechanical engineering field.

## SUEZ Communities Trust

SUEZ Communities Trust is a registered and accredited environmental body within the Landfill Communities Fund and an approved body within the Scottish Landfill Communities Fund.

As a landfill operator, we are able to channel a portion of landfill tax to eligible projects in communities near our facilities. SUEZ Communities Trust distributes the funds contributed by SUEZ recycling and recovery UK to projects that improve community life and the natural environment.

Funding is available for projects within a three-mile radius of the Suffolk energy-from-waste facility and applications can be made online. If you are involved in a project that may be eligible for funding, visit [www.suezcommunitiestrust.org.uk](http://www.suezcommunitiestrust.org.uk) for further information.

## Reuse and recycle your unwanted electrical items



It is the time of year when it is out with the old and in with the new. Please spare a thought for your old electrical items and do not let them go to waste.

Electrical items can be taken to your nearest recycling centre, where those in good working order may be donated to charity in the re-use area on site, just ask site staff. Broken items should be placed in the electrical containers for recycling. Electrical products contain precious and hazardous materials, so it is better not to put them in your rubbish bin. For details of your nearest recycling centre, visit [www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk](http://www.suffolkrecycling.org.uk).

If you are planning a visit, remember sites are closed every Wednesday throughout the year. Over Christmas, they will be closed on Monday 25, Tuesday 26 and Wednesday 27 December 2017 as well as New Year's Day.

## Reducing food waste in the new year

Even though we are putting Suffolk's non-recyclable waste to good use by generating electricity, it is still important to think about how we can reduce the amount of waste we produce. Unbelievable as it sounds, food waste accounts for about a third of what is thrown away in Suffolk as well as costing the average family in the UK around £700 a year.

Here are some tips to give the environment a new year boost with a food-waste free resolution ...

- ✓ Make shopping lists and stick to them – it's so easy to get tempted to over-cater at this time of year just in case unexpected guests pop in.
- ✓ After you've eaten all the bubble and squeak you can, visit [www.lovefoodhatewaste.com](http://www.lovefoodhatewaste.com) for a whole host of new and exciting leftover recipes.
- ✓ Make the most of your freezer so that no food goes to waste – use labels to help you remember what it is and when you put it in there.
- ✓ After you have prepared vegetables, don't forget to compost all your peelings in preparation for next year's mulching.
- ✓ Freeze your bread – did you know 25 million slices of bread get thrown away in the UK every day?
- ✓ Donate any unwanted packaged food to your nearest food bank.
- ✓ Last but not least, keep an eye on those use-by dates so that you don't get any nasty surprises in the fridge – you can freeze pretty much anything!