

News
07501 481521

Fracture first as hospital opens doors

A patient with a fractured foot was the historic first visitor to the new £15m Cromer Hospital on Saturday as it opened for business.

The patient was first in line at the minor injuries unit, which was the first part of the new facility to open - more than 15 years after it was first discussed.

Visitor number two had a bruised elbow, according to a hospital spokesman.

David Prior, chairman of the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital Trust, which owns and runs Cromer Hospital, paid tribute to Cromer widow Sagie Bernstein, *pictured below*, whose £11m legacy in 2000 paid most of the costs.

He said: "In Britain, I think philanthropic bequests are a wonderful way for people to leave a long-term memory."

Inflation means Mrs Bernstein's legacy is now worth £12m, and goes alongside a later legacy of £1.5m from another widow, Phyllis Cox of Bacton.

The two have their names immortalised at the new hospital in the shape of the Bernstein Minor Injuries Unit and the Phyllis Cox Audiology Unit.

The move from the existing hospital on Mill Road to the new one behind it will continue over the coming two weekends. On Saturday, first to move were the minor injuries unit, imaging department and administrative offices.

They will be followed by the ophthalmology department, day procedure room and treatment bays on March 10 and 11, then the out-patient areas and audiology department on March 17 and 18.



Students help the homeless

Norwich School pupils bedded down on the cold floor of the cathedral's cloisters on Saturday night to support a homeless charity.

The sixth form students spent the night sleeping rough in aid of the St Martins Housing Trust and raised over £400.

The 43 pupils kept spirits up with ghostly tales about the cloisters from Norwich ghost walker, the man in black.

Organiser Alex Boyt said that they managed to get two hours of sleep.

Don't miss Derek James on the internet.
Check out our website for the latest features and archived stories.
www.eveningnews24.co.uk



Derek

Contact Derek on 01603 772420

A look at life during the Blitz

In Norwich, Norfolk, across the country and all over the world there are people who remember... men and women who lived through the Norwich Blitz.

They will never forget the misery and the heartache as the bombs fell from the sky causing death and destruction over two nights towards the end of April in 1942.

But they also speak of how they emerged from the shelters more determined than ever to win the fight for freedom and to make sure the Nazi jackboot never stamped across this land.

They were surrounded by smouldering ruins, gaping holes and piles of rubble - shops, churches, schools, pubs, factories and residential streets had been blown to smithereens.

More than 200 men, women and children had been killed, many more were badly hurt and thousands had lost their homes.

But many of those who survived emerged as heroes who devoted their time and energy to help look after others, often strangers who became friends. People who had lost everything except the clothes they stood up in.

We have seen the photographs of firemen fighting the flames or survivors picking through the rubble of what was once their home.

Now, former Evening

News and Eastern Daily Press journalist, and highly respected military historian Steve Snelling has written the most comprehensive and compelling look at life during the Norwich Blitz.

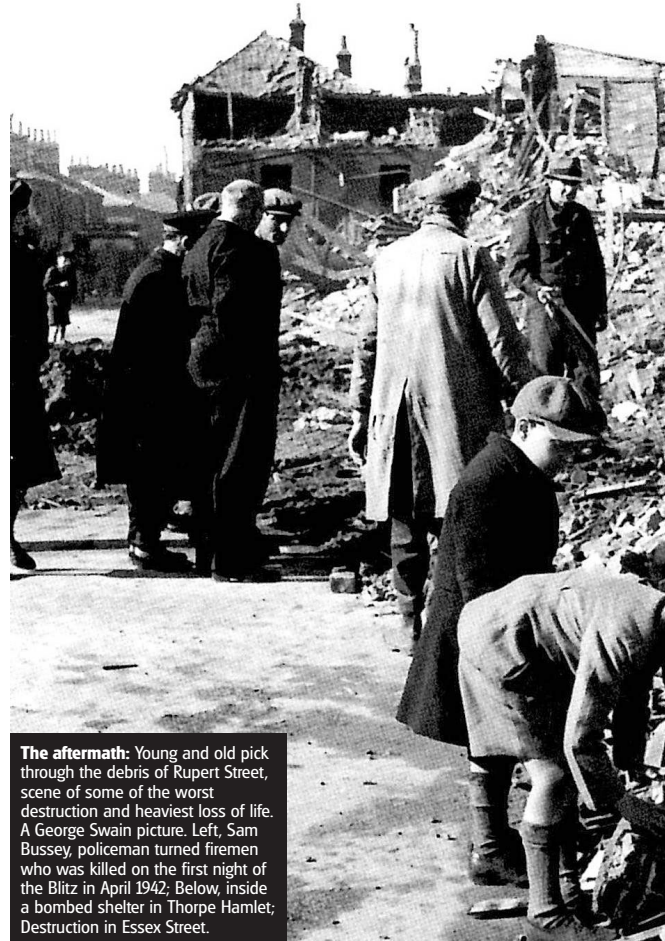
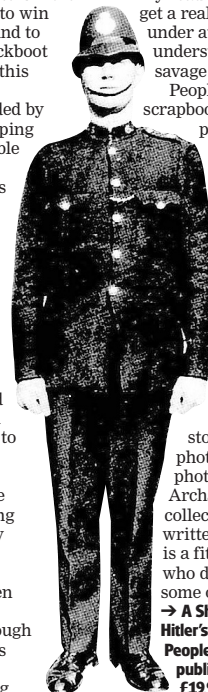
He has spoken to survivors and pays tribute to those who lost their lives - from babies to pensioners - on the nights of the bloody Baedeker Raids.

By reading his book we can all get a real feeling of life in a city under attack and a clearer understanding about why the savage raids took place.

People have opened their scrapbooks and family photograph albums for the first time to share their thoughts and memories of loved ones who died in April of 1942 and also during the raids before and after.

Steve has searched for diaries, letters and reports now held in private and archives to paint a vivid portrait of what it was like to be living in Norwich 70 years ago. Their moving stories combine with photographs, from war photographer George Swain, Archant and private collections, to produce a book, written from the heart, which is a fitting tribute to all those who died in Norwich during some of our darkest days.

→ **A Shattered City: The Story of Hitler's Blitz on Norwich and Its People 1942**, by Steve Snelling, is published by Halsgrove at £19.99.



The aftermath: Young and old pick through the debris of Rupert Street, scene of some of the worst destruction and heaviest loss of life. A George Swain picture. Left, Sam Bussey, policeman turned fireman who was killed on the first night of the Blitz in April 1942; Below, inside a bombed shelter in Thorpe Hamlet; Destruction in Essex Street.



JAMES

or email derek.james@archant.co.uk

Did you know?

On this day in Norfolk of 1818 fierce gales swept across the county causing widespread damage.
On this day in 1918 Moscow was declared the new capital of Russia in place of Petrograd.
On this day in 1933 the Nazi Party won almost half the

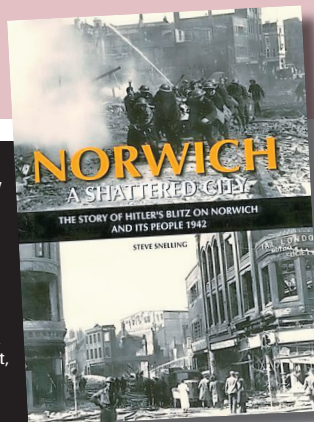
seats in the German election.
On this day in 1984 scientists warned of a "greenhouse effect" amid growing concern that carbon dioxide, produced by fossil fuels, would damage the environment.
On this day in 1993 Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson was banned for life after failing a drug test.

Diary Dates

→ We will remember them.
A service to mark the 70th anniversary of the Norwich Blitz will be held at Earlham Cemetery at 11am on Saturday, April 28.
The Lord Mayor of Norwich Jenny Lay and Sheriff Chris Higgins will be attending the service organised by Norwich City Council.
More than 100 people killed in the raids are buried in a special garden of remembrance near the main entrance.
Everyone is welcome to attend.
 → To mark the 70th anniversary The Tourist Information Centre will be holding two talks in the council chamber at Norwich City Hall on Thursday, April 26 at 7pm

and Friday, April 27 at 2pm. Artefacts, including gas masks, shrapnel and incendiary devices, and photographs of the roads will be displayed during the talk by blue badge guide Gwen Digby, who remembers the bombs falling on Norwich.
 Tickets are £5pp or £3 to Go 4less card holders and need to be bought in advance from the TIC at The Forum which is open from 9.30am to 5.30pm Monday to Saturday. You can also call 01603 213009.

Victims: Below, Ernest and May Palmer with their daughter Betty before the war. All three died, together with Betty's 13-month-old-daughter Catherine, when Southwell Road was bombed; Bottom right, rescue workers braved fires to save lives in Patteson Road. Among the dead was Barbara Newby, aged eight, and her mother Hilda; Below left, The smouldering ruins of Caley's chocolate factory.



Book signing

Steve Snelling will be introducing and signing copies of his book **Norwich – A Shattered City** at Jarrold's this Thursday, March 8, at 6.30pm. Tickets cost £5 and are available by calling customer services on 01603 660661 or visiting www.jarrold.co.uk
 Steve will also be speaking at Norwich Arts Centre on Friday, March 16 at 7pm ahead of an exhibition of archive photographs and "blitz ghost" images by city designer Nick Stone which will run from March 17 to May 5. Tickets are £2.
 → For more details visit www.norwichblitz.org.uk and the author's website www.stephensnelling.com

News

07501 481521

World food talk

Combating hunger will be the topic of a talk in the Forum next month given by a representative of the UN World Food Programme.

The Norwich and district branch of the United Nations association have invited Caroline Hurford to talk on Saturday March 17 at the Cube in the Forum at 11am.

The talk will last about 30 minutes and is followed by questions.

Admission is free. A donation is invited to cover expenses.

→ For more information visit www.unanorwich.org.uk or email info@unanorwich.org.uk

Group on the move?

An organisation which runs development classes for babies and pre-school children could be set for a move if a planning application is successful.

Gymboree Norwich has been based at the Riverside Leisure Centre in the city centre since 2008, but is looking to move to a bigger premises.

Applicant Ruth Moate has asked Norwich City Council for permission to use an industrial unit at Charles Watling Way in the Bowthorpe Employment Area for the classes.

Applicants say moving would enable Gymboree to open up to seven days a week and offer extra classes.

Book of blessings

A new book of blessings has been compiled and written by the Archdeacon of Norwich.

Jan McFarlane, pictured, has put together the paperback book – Pocket Prayers of Blessing – published by Church House Publishing.

It contains a selection of traditional blessings, as well as some written by Jan McFarlane for occasions such as welcoming a new colleague, or on the death of a much-loved pet.



Bid for solar panels

Solar panels could be placed on the roof of a sports centre belonging to The Norwich School, if new plans get the go-ahead.

The school has submitted an application to Norwich City Council to install the photovoltaic panels on the roof of the Daynes Centre, in St Faiths Lane.

If the scheme is approved, the school intends to fit 140 panels on the roof of the sports hall, generating about 33,600W of energy.

A further 52 panels would be placed on the centre's south side, generating about 12,500W of electricity.

Volunteers wanted

Brundall Youth Club is in need of adult volunteers to help run the club on Thursday evenings.

The club only runs during term times, and a commitment to attend every Thursday would not be necessary: a rota could be put in place if enough parents come forward.

If you can help out please telephone the chairman, Andrew Proctor, on 01603 715659.