

Norwich Evening News

Monday, May 17, 2010

HOME SWEET HOME EDITION

Tiny cardboard city springs to life

Norwich's smallest, neatest and most colourful suburb sprang into life at Blackfriars Hall this weekend.

The tiny town, called Home Sweet Home, has been built by the people of Norwich from flat-pack cardboard homes, shops, businesses and houseboats over the last two days.

Today the final touches will be put to the cardboard city, and the residents will be going to a street party to celebrate their achievement this evening.

The town has grown from humble beginnings. On Saturday morning there was little to be seen on the newly laid map of Norwich.

The castle, a church, a pub, the Norfolk and Norwich Festival Spiegelent and the radio mast allowing Residents



HOME SWEET HOME: Cardboard city grows at Blackfriars Hall

FM to broadcast were the only signs of life.

As new residents began to filter in to the hall, houses and shops sprang up all over the city.

Houses decorated in all sorts of bright styles took over the city streets with a riot of colour.

Some used unusual sources of power such as solar panels and wind turbines, while others were

decorated with buttons, stamps or the Union Jack flag.

Bakeries, sweet shops, joke shops and even shops promising to sell "everything" were built by enterprising young retailers.

Other civic-minded individuals set up a fire station for the town.

The Evening News set up new cardboard headquarters near the City Hall to

report all the news that matters to Home Sweet Home residents.

The performance will continue today with hundreds of people putting the finishing touches to their homes, and with a garden party tonight.

See you there!

Mary Hamilton

Home Sweet Home no 131
mary.hamilton@archant.co.uk

Controversy over radio mast demolition proposals



PROFESSOR POTTY?: The house of Professor Potts, who has proposed demolishing the radio mast. Above, the Minimal Nightclub, which will be hit hard, and the Residents RM station.

Anger was growing yesterday over proposals to demolish the Home Sweet Home radio

mast, putting Residents FM at risk of going off the air.

The proposals were put forward by Professor Potts in no 5, who said the mast was interfering with her experiments.

But neighbours claimed the professor was too wrapped up in her work to notice the impact the demolition would have on the rest of the town.

Jeff, a TV salesman at no 6, said the plans were “preposterous”, adding: “We have to try and stop this monstrous mistake.”

Residents FM presenters said they were worried at the possible impact of the demolition, and confirmed that if it

went ahead they would go off the air permanently.

A petition has been set up to fight against the plans, which could also see the town’s night clubs and bars with no radio station - and leave tonight’s garden party without music.

Although only a few residents had signed the petition yesterday evening, Jeff said he hoped that the plans could at least be slowed down enough to make sure tonight’s party was saved.

→ **You can sign the petition against the mast demolition on the notice board, or protest by sending a letter to Residents FM.**

Shock swan shoe attack

A rose farmer told yesterday how she feared for her life when an angry swan ate her shoes.

Joz Norris, who grows roses at No 188, was left shaken by the attack, in which the swan stole and ate her footwear.

Ms Norris said the attack had left her unable to look swans in the eye.

“I am much better now and have a nice new pair of Doc Martens,” she said.

“But it’s still just all too recent.”

She added that anyone confronted by a dangerous swan should “bash them on the nose”.

→ **Have you had your footwear consumed by an unusual animal? Write to Evening News, no 131.**

Petition to force council election

A petition has been posted on the notice board calling for a council election.

The author has called for the Highness Councillor to be “taken down a peg or two” and for the community to vote to re-elect a new councillor to represent them.

As this is the first time in the community’s history that an election has been called no-one is entirely sure how the procedure will work.

Music house gears up for performance

An unassuming home is being turned into a musical piece over the course of the weekend.

No 189 is being transformed into a piece of music which can be played by anyone with a musical instrument.

It is part of composer John Kaye’s attempt to write 100 pieces in 100 days - the house will be the 70th thing he has written so far.

→ If you are interested in playing Mr Kaye’s house, write him a letter at 189.

Fears grow over zombie invasion

Fears were growing yesterday over the growing numbers of zombies in the town.

Zombies have spilled out of no 141 and begun invading other areas, including nearby bakeries, clothing shops and night clubs.

One zombie was found on fire on the roof of the local fire station, while others were seen heading towards City Hall.

But while some residents said they

feared the undead, others were quite happy to see them as part of the town's rich and culturally diverse life.

"I have invited them to use the pool in my front garden," said one woman living near the original source of the infection.

"I imagine they are quite dirty and need a wash."

Other homeowners said they had invited the zombies round for tea, and the



ZOMBIES: The house where the incursion began

Highness Councillor described the shambling creatures as "amicable".

Residents to vote on town pub

Home Sweet Home now boasts Norwich's smallest pub - but the residents can't decide what to call it.

The public house is undergoing a public naming, with suggestions pinned up on the message board and votes cast throughout the event.

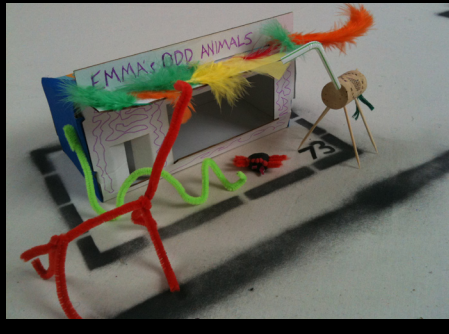
Prospective titles include "The King's Tummy" and "The Bees Knees" but the punning "The Stick and Fold" is currently taking the lead.

Residents hope that the pub will be named in time for Monday night's street party, because otherwise no-one will know where to get a drink.

→ **If you want to take part in one of the most important parts of building this community, then cast your vote on the notice board.**

→ **Or if you think you can do better, come up with your own name and write it alongside.**

Friendly Nessie sighted at pet shop



The Loch Ness Monster has been discovered at a local pet store.

The slimy green creature was found shortly after the shop opened, leading to suspicions that owner Emma may have disturbed a nesting site.

It is just one of the many bizarre creatures on show at Emma's Odd Animals today.

Stunning hamster show planned for Spiegel tent

Ponsonby the giant hamster is set to top the bill at the Home Sweet Home Spiegel tent this week.

The hamster, who has become a local celebrity since he was talent spotted in his own back garden, will be starring in today's

show and finishing off the Norfolk and Norwich Festival next Saturday.

He can often be seen signing autographs in the Spiegel tent garden.

Tomorrow the tent will host Kenny Loggins, and on Wednesday and Thursday John's

Circus will be thrilling audiences with incredible feats of acrobatic daring.

Friday's show will be Rod Stewart in concert, but even adoring fans of the raspy-voiced blues-pop legend said he would be a distant second to Ponsonby's performance on the

Festival's final night.

The giant hamster, who lives with his friend Nibbles at no 106, welcomed the attention and said he hoped it would lead him on to greater things.

→ **For (real) information about the Norfolk and Norwich Festival, visit www.nnf10.org.uk.**

Public demand for open lido grows

Demand for a public lido in Home Sweet Home was growing yesterday as the population realised there was nowhere communal to swim.

Residents disgruntled at the poor provision of public sporting facilities posted a notice calling for a public swimming pool late last night.

The council has not provided any public sporting amenities, focussing instead on catering for the town's religious needs and maintaining its heritage.

They have invited the area's homeowners to set up

their own public sports areas, although yesterday afternoon no one had yet taken up the challenge.

With green craft materials in relatively short supply, a football field or a park could be difficult for residents to create without bringing in outside help.

Many houses in Home Sweet Home already have private pools, with some householders creating their own football pitches and green gardens.

Some residents have opened up their private pools to all comers in response

to the unforeseen need for public swimming areas in the suburb.

The householders at 52 and 53 were unavailable for comment, but left a public notice on the board inviting anyone in need of a swim to come to their pool party.

But there were fears that the close contact could lead to

a further spread of the zombie infection, which has led to widespread worry in the town.

Although the pool party organisers claimed they would be screening guests for evidence of infection, there were unconfirmed reports yesterday that zombies had already been seen at the poolside.

Promotion party to celebrate Canaries' storming season

Home Sweet Home householders were planning a promotion party to celebrate the Canaries' storming season.

After the team won League One to return to the championship, the victorious players paraded through the city

streets on an open-topped bus.

About 35,000 fans turned out to celebrate with the team - and now Home Sweet Home residents will be celebrating too.

→ **The promotion party is at No 199. Send letters and green and yellow decorations there.**

