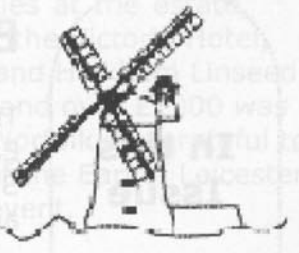




Campaign to Protect
Rural England
NORFOLK

The Review



Keeping in touch with the news about CPRE Norfolk

CELEBRATION NIGHT LOOKS FORWARD TO THE NEXT 25 YEARS

It was a hugely successful event at the Assembly House on November 1st, attended by distinguished guests such as the National Chairman of CPRE Sir Nigel Thompson, Lady Laurel Walpole and Nicholas de Bazille Corbin MBE. We were celebrating 25 years of the CPRE Norfolk Awards; the oldest running environmental awards scheme in the county; and also launching a commemorative book about the scheme.

The word was positive....and so was the theme. Branch chairman John Sansby and National Chairman, Sir Nigel Thompson, made the point to an audience of over 100 people who came along for the celebration.

"These awards show clearly that CPRE Norfolk has a great appreciation for much of the good work that is going on in the county," said Sir Nigel, who had a distinguished career as a chartered architect with Ove Arup and Partners. "This is very positive and encouraging and shows that we are not always taking a negative stance."

"We need to promote good design. Too much of the countryside is being covered by what I would call 'builders' designs and yet tonight we have seen that it can be imaginative and exciting."

He was referring to Jeremy Stacey's 2001 award-winning design for Juniper House at King's Lynn and the development work of John Carrick, a winner in 1983 and 1987, who has revived and rebuilt many of the redundant farm buildings and houses on his 720 acre farm at Swanton Morley.

"I am really a frustrated builder," said John. "I like bringing buildings back to life. Just like the CPRE I want to do something that is positive because there is so much mediocrity around us."

Other speakers were Judy Tree, a teacher at Colby Primary School, North Walsham, who gave an impressive progress report on the environmental projects which earned the school a CPRE Norfolk Award in 2002. Today this eco-friendly school has a gardening club, a greenhouse, keeps chickens, grows vegetables, uses a wormery and even has a small wind turbine.

Christopher Grey-Wilson gave the audience an up-to-date report on Kenninghall Community Wood which won its Award in 2002. Hundreds of trees have been planted, many from seed, and the woodland site has been expanded. It is now showing signs of maturity with some of the trees reaching well over 12 ft.



At the end of the evening Sir Nigel Thompson presented gifts of David Austen Roses to the long-standing judges of the scheme Martin Walton and Nancy Legg.

They were joined by architectural judge David Thompson and all were congratulated for their incredible passion and dedication in raising the status of the CPRE Norfolk Awards to its respected position in the Norfolk rural calendar.

To find out which Norfolk projects have been recognised in the CPRE Norfolk Awards 2005, please turn to page four.