

# A47 Blofield & Tuddenham schemes

Quarterly newsletter  
October 2025

## Progress update on the A47 Norwich schemes

Over the past three months, the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham and North Tuddenham to Easton dualling schemes in Norfolk have made considerable construction progress. A significant part of this has included the collaborative movement and re-use of excess material between the schemes, which reduces the amount of waste going to landfill.

The Tuddenham team has been transporting its excess material to Blofield, which is being repurposed for the alignment of the new road and embankments. So far, over 92,000m<sup>3</sup> has been moved, or approximately 5,000 truckloads!

Specialist wheel-washing machines have been installed for all trucks to be cleaned before and after they leave the site areas, ensuring the routes are kept clean and tidy for road users and our local communities.





## North Tuddenham to Easton

On our Tuddenham scheme, due to this summer's relative dry weather, the project has been able to make significant progress and is on track to complete on time in summer 2027.

So far, over half of the earthwork needed for the scheme has been completed – which is needed for key elements including the bridge structures and new roundabouts – and 5km of drainage has been put in place.

We're now starting construction of the last of the big structures – the bridge which will carry the new A47 over the River Tud (pictured below).



Bridge over Mattishall Lane link road





Wood Lane junction



New Hall Farm underpass



Honingham roundabout/underpass to Honingham Church





Norwich Road junction



New ponds built near Gypsy Lane already inhabited by wildlife



## **Blofield to North Burlingham**

On our Blofield scheme we've continued to make strong progress, with the project on track to be open for traffic next summer.

We recently opened the new B1140 Acle Road/Coxhill Road junction, following a short but intense period of work. The junction was closed for just over a week, during which a huge amount of progress was made. We're incredibly grateful to the local communities for their patience and understanding.

Our traffic management team has also implemented a contraflow system by closing the eastbound carriageway of the A47 between North Burlingham and Acle, shifting traffic to the westbound side. This enables the next phase of works to begin while maintaining access to the B1140 for the British Sugar Cantley site ahead of the new season in early October. We've worked closely with British Sugar to minimise disruption and ensure continuity for local communities during these essential works.

We're pleased to have also begun to lay the first of our asphalt which will form the new A47 (pictured below).







New Blofield bridge structure



Progress of the new A47 road facing east



New B1140 bridge structure



## **Environmental Management on our Schemes**

### **Blofield to North Burlingham**

- We've installed two mallard tubes around the edge of a newly constructed pond. These tubes will provide new habitats for mallard species and will be monitored to ensure that they're positioned effectively.
- Even though we're outside the window for nesting bird season, we still have nesting birds on site. We continue to monitor these areas and ensure mitigation is in place to limit disturbance.
- We are continuing to review root protection zones and are ensuring that works taking place nearby are not impacting the trees.

### **North Tuddenham to Easton**

- Sheet piling is currently being installed as part of the new River Tud Bridge. Continuous water level monitoring at the river is in place to ensure we're complying with our Environment Agency Flood Risk Activity Permit.
- We've successfully completed vegetation clearance work under the supervision of our licenced bat ecologist. Compensation bat boxes have been installed to provide new habitats.
- We've implemented a dust monitoring check sheet to ensure airborne dust does not leave the site boundary and cause disturbance to local residents

In preparation for construction of the River Tud bridge, the team installed silt fencing across the banks of the river as an additional protection measure (pictured below). This helps minimise the debris from our construction work getting into the river.



## Our Community Work

Our team is eager to make a lasting impact in the communities we serve, and we do so in a variety of ways.

### Recycling trees into beautiful Friendship Benches

Contractors Galliford Try and National Highways have been working together to recycle some felled trees from our Tuddenham scheme, funded through the National Highways Social Value Fund.

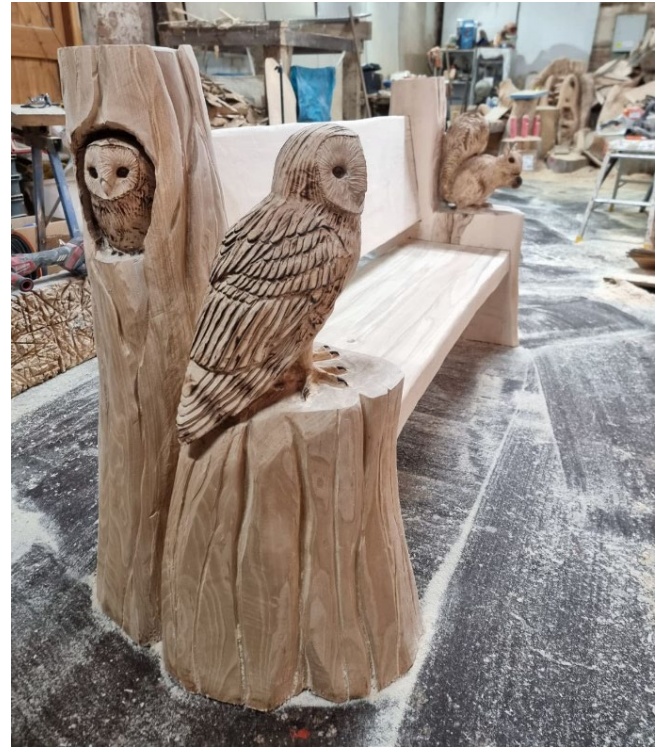
Local tree artist Matt Darge was tasked with carving eight donated tree trunks into three friendship benches for local schools:

- Easton St Peters School
- Neatherd School
- Mattishall Primary School

The children's faces lit up with excitement as the benches arrived at their schools, and the headteachers were absolutely delighted with these unique additions to their playgrounds.







## Fence painting at Scarning Pre School

We recently volunteered a week at Scarning Pre School near Dereham painting their outdoor fences before the start of the new school year.





## Volunteer Day at Grapes Hill Community Garden

Earlier this summer, members of the team spent a day volunteering at the Grapes Hill Community Garden in Norwich. The team dug weeds, cleared rubbish, and planted new plants and bushes, creating a much neater area for the local residents.





## Employability and Skills

We firmly believe that part of our work is to not only build vital infrastructure, but to also leave a lasting legacy in the communities we work in.

We have an extensive two-year programme where we're supporting local apprentices through school, providing work for those long-term unemployed through local job centres, and supporting the local prisons.

**Apprenticeships** – In 2025 so far, we've employed 16 local apprentices across both schemes and we'll continue to provide work placements and work experience opportunities in 2025-26.

**Job Centres** – we've attended over 10 employability sessions at local job centres and spoken with over 100 people.

**HM Prison and Probation Service** – we've attended 21 employability sessions at the local prisons and met with over 300 prisoners and directly supported inmates with CV writing, interview skills and have been instrumental in supporting and providing 10 full time job placements.

**Local schools** – we've collaborated with 3 local schools at their careers events, with a focus on 'Careers in Construction'.





## Scheme Open Days

We'll be opening our doors to the public as an opportunity for customers and local stakeholders to speak with our expert teams directly and find out more about progress on the A47 Tuddenham and Blofield schemes.

### A47 Blofield to North Burlingham

**Date:** Monday 13 October 2025, 10am to 8pm

**Location:** Galliford Try Blofield Site Office, South Walsham, Norwich NR13 4EH

What3Words: mothering.quick.tucked

Please note: access to the site compound is southbound via South Walsham Road only.

Parking is available on site. Once parked, please follow the signposts and enter through the main reception.

### A47 North Tuddenham to Easton

**Date:** Tuesday 21 October 2025, 10am to 8pm

**Location:** Galliford Try Tuddenham Site Office, Norwich Road, Honington, Norwich NR9 5BS

What3Words: intro.decoded.ambitions

Parking is available on site. Once parked, please follow the signposts and enter through the main reception.





## Keeping You Safe

We've recently seen an increase in people entering our construction site within the boundary areas of the A47 Tuddenham scheme.

Please be reminded that the area inside our boundary fencing is an active construction site, with open excavations, heavy machinery, and other hazards present. Entry into this area is extremely dangerous.

Under the Health and Safety at Work Act, we are required to protect everyone from potential harm. For this reason, if our operatives ask you to leave the site, we ask that you comply immediately – this is first and foremost for your own safety.

It's also important to note that the land on which the new road is being constructed is the property of National Highways. Any unauthorised entry may be considered trespassing.

We kindly ask that these incidents stop immediately, including outside of normal working hours. Should this continue, we will have no option but to report trespassers to the Police for appropriate action. Please be aware that Galliford Try accepts no responsibility for any injury caused while illegally trespassing on National Highways land under our control.

We'd be grateful if you could share this message as widely as possible with residents, neighbours, friends, and family to help us maintain a safe environment for everyone.





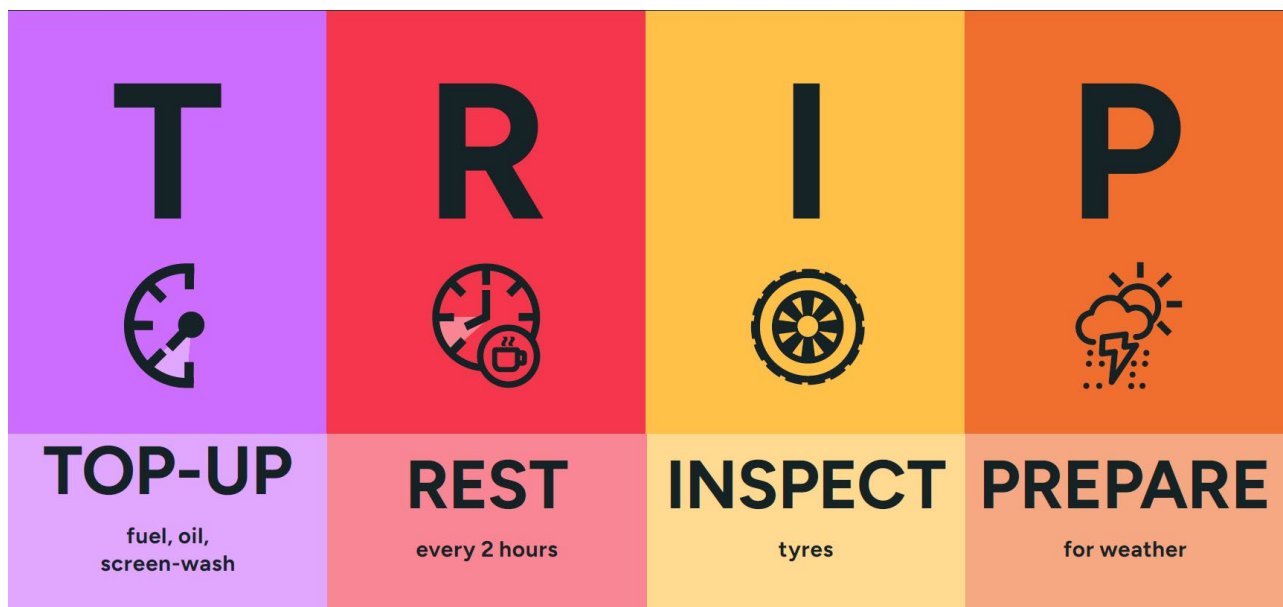
## National Highways Autumn T.R.I.P Campaign

National Highways is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving 4,500 miles of England's motorways and major A-roads. We link towns, cities, ports and airports, and get people where they need to be – safely and reliably.

As the autumn weather sets in, tyre safety becomes increasingly critical. Worn, underinflated or damaged tyres are far more likely to lead to collisions or breakdowns. In fact, tyre issues are the leading cause of breakdowns on major A roads and motorways, accounting for more than 53,000 in 2024, almost a fifth (19%) of all recorded incidents.

Our autumn campaign, launched in line with TyreSafe's Tyre Safety Month, encourages drivers to make simple pre-journey Safe T.R.I.P. Checks including tyre tread, pressure and condition.

To have a safe T.R.I.P. follow these steps before you embark on any long journey.



We're also supporting disabled drivers, who often face barriers to these checks, as part of our wider commitment to improving journeys for all. We're working with partners to make essential vehicle checks easier and more accessible, creating new video resources to signpost to.

To find out more about tyre checks, click [here](#).



## Risk of Wrong Way Driving on Dual Carriageways

The term 'wrong way driving' is used to describe a vehicle being driven in the opposing direction (against the flow of traffic) along a one-way street or dual carriageway. For this to occur, the vehicle must have first turned the wrong way onto the road.

To prevent accidents, it's very important to know how to react to a driver who is driving the wrong way on the dual carriageway. If you are in an area where a wrong-way vehicle has been reported, please use the following guidelines:

- Reduce your speed to increase safety distances and your field of vision
- Put on your hazard warning lights to warn other road users
- Prepare to stop or make a sudden manoeuvre to avoid a collision
- Stop at the next service or rest area
- Never overtake other vehicles

### What to do if you find yourself travelling the wrong way on a dual carriageway

- **Find a safe place to turn around**  
Do not turn around or reverse directly on the dual carriageway. Instead, look for the nearest exit to safely get off the dual carriageway.
- **Stay Calm**  
Recognise you've made a mistake and remain composed. Your safety and the safety of others depends on your ability to react calmly.
- **Look out for other traffic**  
Be aware of pedestrians, cyclists, motorcyclists, and other vehicles.
- **Slow down**  
Reduce your speed, look for a safe area to stop and put on your hazard warning lights
- **Pull over and wait**  
If you're driving on a dual carriageway, pull over into the nearest safety zone or hard shoulder and use one of the SOS phones if available. If in doubt, call 999.

If you spot anyone driving the wrong way, we urge you to call 999 and if safe to do so, use the eCall/SOS if your vehicle has one, or use one of the motorway SOS phones to alert us as quickly as possible.





## **Traffic Management**

To stay up to date on the latest traffic management information and scheduled roadworks and events, please visit the scheme webpages:

Blofield: [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A47Blofield](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A47Blofield)

Tuddenham: [www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A47Tuddenham](http://www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A47Tuddenham)

## **Contact us**

Please contact us using the following options:

### **By email:**

Blofield: [a47blofieldtonorthburlinghamris@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:a47blofieldtonorthburlinghamris@nationalhighways.co.uk)

Tuddenham: [a47northtuddenhamtoeaston@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:a47northtuddenhamtoeaston@nationalhighways.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 0300 123 5000

**Post:** National Highways, Woodlands, Manton Lane, Bedford MK41 7LW

**X:** [@HighwaysEAST](https://twitter.com/HighwaysEAST)

**Facebook:** [@HighwaysEAST](https://www.facebook.com/HighwaysEAST)

### **Do you know someone who may want to receive this newsletter?**

Email our communications team (Galliford Try, our constructors of the schemes) [a47news@gallifordtry.co.uk](mailto:a47news@gallifordtry.co.uk) and we'll add them to our distribution list. If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter, please also let us know using the same email.

**Our next edition of this quarterly newsletter will be in winter 2025/26.**