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Adventurous teenager to write book about travels

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A travelling teenager with a passion for geography is hanging up his walking boots to embark on a written adventure about an exploratory trip of a lifetime.

Daniel Evans left his home in Filby to embark on a four-month trip through Alaska, America and Canada at the end of last year after winning a prestigious gap year scholarship with the Royal Geographical Society.

And after touching back down on Norfolk soil the 19-year-old, who has a passion for travel writing and has documented his love of the planet in his popular online blog, is now penning a book about his adventures, which he hopes to get published next year.

The former Flegg High School student said: "I've always enjoyed travel writing, but on my American trip I only really used my blog (Geography with Dan) to publish my work. I hope that this book will set the foundations for potentially



On his travels: Daniel Evans at Resurrection Bay in Seward, Alaska.

more books, as I embark upon future trips."

Daniel was among thousands of hopeful students who applied for a scholarship and was delighted to be picked as one of 14 successful scholars who received a grant to set them off on their travels.

Keen to live the American dream, while exploring some of the world's most stunning landscapes, Daniel

used his £4,000 to jet off to Alaska, the USA's west coast and Canada.

He spent most of his time in Alaska, where he studied the effects of global warming on permafrost, and spent time with some of the world's leading professors on the subject, going out on field trips and excursions. He said: "Some of my fondest memories from the whole scholarship were made during

those trips, and I have great respect for (geological engineering professor) Ronald Daanen because he realised that I shared his passion and buzz for discovery.

"The other project I worked on was a pioneering investigation into trying to calculate how much methane is bubbling from our world's lakes. It meant very cold work out on frozen lakes but the investigation has just featured in the National Geographic and to have worked on a project which has made it to those glossy pages is incredibly enriching."

Since returning home Daniel's travels have not stopped, however as he has been in high demand across the country giving talks about his American excursion to various groups – including schools and colleges – on behalf of the Royal Geographical Society.

And he will not be settling down any time soon as he is now preparing for his next adventure – at university. In September he will be relocating to the capital to study physical geography at the Royal Holloway, University of London.

Holiday home idea

Proposals to demolish a garage and replace it with a single-storey disabled access holiday let have been put forward.

Broadland District Council has received the plans for 2 School Hill, in Reedham, with documents suggesting the village does not offer holiday rental accommodation for disabled people.

The papers add: "Local facilities can accommodate their needs but nowhere is available to rent. This holiday rental is proposed for usage by the applicants visiting parents (one is in a wheelchair), family friends and then with a low-key holiday rental availability."

Keep Blofield Special

Two litter-picking events are being held by the Keep Blofield Special group on Monday.

The group will be meeting in the car park of Heathlands Community Centre, in Woodbastwick Road, at 9.30am.

They will then meet again in the car park of the Kings Head car park at 9.30am on Monday, March 18.

The group has some regular litter pickers but is always looking for more volunteers.

Council meeting off

A full council meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of items which "require the attention of the council".

Members of Broadland District Council were informed of the cancellation in a note from the authority.

The meeting was due to take place on Tuesday, March 19. The next scheduled meeting is on May 9.

Rock band to bear all at city gig?

A British rock band renowned for live shows featuring foliage and an eight-foot bear are to play in Norwich next month.

British Sea Power are scheduled to visit the Waterfront, in King Street, on April 16.

This will follow the release of their fifth album, *Machineries of Joy*, on April 1.

Tickets are priced at £13.50 in advance.

Doors for the gig will be at 7.30pm.

It is not yet known whether the performance will feature an appearance from the bear, which is a costume usually worn by a member of the band and not a real bear.

Appearances from the bear are often a surprise rather than scheduled.

→ To buy a ticket, visit www.waterfrontnorwich.com or call the UEA box office on 01603 508050.

Investigation into conduct continues

An investigation into a conduct complaint made against a councillor is still ongoing. Jo Cottingham stood aside as deputy leader and a cabinet member at Broadland District Council after it emerged an allegation against her was to be examined.

Mrs Cottingham, below, was accused at a council meeting of claiming she previously wanted to get rid of a staff member, who later found their job was set to be cut. An external investigator started examining the complaint on December 17, 2012.



Bid to make Broadland a safer place

A scheme to help make Broadland a safer place was launched this week.

Community Safety in the Broadland District was launched at Acle Academy on Tuesday night.

The scheme outlines the aims of the local police, with a strong emphasis on preventing crime.

Police have seen an increase in the number of hate crimes and domestic abuse reports over the past four years.

Leader of Broadland District Council, Andrew Proctor, said: "Both crime and anti social behaviour have reduced over the past year but there remains a lingering fear of crime."

"However a safe place is statistically, that fear of crime will always remain."

"It's something that Broadland, along with its key partners, is working to address."

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