

For top gardening tips, check out James Debbage's column in the **Weekend** section of the Evening News every Saturday.



**Game and Country Fair is great success**

Thousands of people enjoyed two days of family entertainment at the East Anglian Game and Country Fair on the weekend.

The annual event, held at the Norfolk Showground in Costessey, boasted some world class attractions with more than 250 shopping stands. While the numbers attending on Saturday were slightly down on previous years, yesterday's weather was better, leading to some of the biggest attendances ever seen at the show.

It was a great day out not just for families but for pets too, with dog agility and jumping competitions and the popular Terrier and Lurcher Show, which was a qualifier for all major championships as well as the East Anglian championship.

Organiser Andy Grand said: "It's been a buzzing weekend with a brilliant atmosphere.

"I think so many people have been looking forward to coming out after a long winter, and it's great to see so many different animals.

"I think the reason why our event is such a success is that there's so much for people to get involved in."

The total number of people at the show won't be known until later, but Mr Grand said that yesterday was especially busy. He added: "On



Saturday there were fewer people than we normally get. Saturday was quite overcast, and even at a country type event, people do look at the weather forecast. But Sunday was one

of the busiest days we have had in the eight years the event's been running."

This year organisers introduced some new attractions and an appearance by

Savage Skills, the UK's leading freestyle mountain bike stunt team, was particularly popular, he said. → Visit [www.eveningnews24.co.uk](http://www.eveningnews24.co.uk) for a picture gallery from the event

**Annual rock concert raises vital funds for neo-natal unit**

A Live Aid style event at North Walsham has raised about £3,000 for a Norwich intensive care unit for premature and sick babies.

The annual gig featured five bands and a charity auction with lots signed by music and film stars, which are boosting the Cots for Tots appeal at the Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital neonatal intensive care unit.

Star items included a picture of Queen signed by drummer Roger Taylor during a shooting party visit to the town's Beechwood Hotel, and a guitar signed by Mike Rutherford of Genesis, which both made about £200.

Organiser Barry Holden, who has raised £25,000 for a series of good causes at the event over the past six years, said 250 people turned out to the Solid Night of Rock at the community centre on Saturday and "had a whale of the time" with the five bands.

"Numbers and the prices for lots were down a bit because of the state of things, but I was pleased with the result," said Mr Holden.

**Girl's conviction appeal rejected**

A girl who smothered to death her Wroxham-born father with a cushion has failed in her appeal against her conviction for his murder.

Lorraine Thorpe, of Ipswich, who is thought to be Britain's youngest female double murderer, was found guilty at Ipswich Crown Court in August 2010 of murdering her father Desmond Thorpe and a woman called Rosalyn Hunt. She was 15 at the time of the killings.

Thorpe, now 16, was convicted along with Paul Clarke, 41, from Ipswich.

The Appeal Court last week rejected their appeals in relation to Mr Thorpe's murder.

Mr Thorpe, who was one of 11 children, was born and grew up in Wroxham and it was previously reported that his brother Colin Thorpe lived in Old Catton.

Lawyers for Thorpe and Clarke told the Court of Appeal the convictions for



**Double murderer:** Lorraine Thorpe, who killed her father.

claimed that this evidence was inadmissible, although they did not challenge the guilty verdicts over the murder of Mrs Hunt, 41, a mother-of-two.

The pair's trial had heard how in August 2009 Thorpe and Clarke violently tortured Mrs Hunt before killing her.

They then killed Mr Thorpe because they feared he might tell others about her murder. Mrs Hunt and Mr Thorpe were both members of the street-drinking community in Ipswich.

Lord Justice Hughes, sitting with Mr Justice Treacy and Mr Justice Edwards-Stuart, told the Appeal Court that they had no doubt the conviction was safe.

Thorpe will be able to apply for parole after 14 years behind bars, while Clarke's minimum jail term is 27 years.

**David Bale**  
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his murder were unsafe and should be overturned.

During their trial at Ipswich Crown Court, jurors heard evidence from a young friend of Thorpe's who said the girl had confessed to being a murderer.

A prison padre also told the jury she had spoken of her father's killing on the anniversary of his birthday. Lawyers for the pair

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