

Nene Valley

news

Your local independent community newspaper for East Northamptonshire

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A Champagne Launch for a Premier League Standard Cricket Club

Champagne corks popped as the aspirations of the Irthlingborough Cricket Club's Chairman Keith Parsons and its members for a Premier League Standard Cricket Club were fulfilled after the application to the SITA SUEZ Communities trust (formerly SITA Trust) for £38,251 was successful.

Together with the £38,000 successful bid from ENC Community Facilities Fund the club can now make the long awaited upgrade.

The upgrade is a dream the

Chairman, Mr Keith Parsons, and its members have had for some time. They hope to involve more members of the community in sports, especially hard to reach groups like disabled and wheelchair users. The club is

presently training members to a premier league standard who will be ready to play in the premier league in the foreseeable future.

Upgrading the grounds will attract other premier clubs to the Irthlingborough Cricket Club from a wide geographic area including Northampton, Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire, Cambridgeshire and Leicestershire. By providing an improved sporting facility locally it will contribute towards greater participation in sports, give volunteer opportunities, sustainability and quality facilities which will benefit the community and create an environment for aspiring players to prosper in.

Marianne Ivin of SUEZ Communities Trust added "SUEZ Communities Trust provides grants through the Landfill Communities Fund. This important source of funding has been available since 1997 and has provided such worthy projects with more than £1.4 billion".

The work on the upgrade will start after this year's cricketing season closes in August. Keith Parsons said "We will be so proud to be a Premier League Standard club which will give

our young and aspiring players a real chance to perform at a higher level which is an exciting future for the club. The £76,251 raised is also funding for much needed security fencing at the Cricket club which was needed after many years of vandalism at the Cricket Club.

"This upgrade and fencing would never have happened without the hard work of District Councillor Marika Hillson who made the funding bids on our behalf for the £76,251, which is not easy in times when so many funding streams have been cut putting more pressure on existing funders and reducing the applicant's chances of success.

Councillor Marika Hillson said "This is great news for Irthlingborough and I would like to thank everyone who signed my supporting petition needed for the application. I also especially want to thank the Irthlingborough Cricket Club Chairman, committee members and volunteers who have given years of their lives to keep such a valuable sporting facility vibrant and sustainable. It just goes to show when the community works together it can achieve wonderful things."



In Brief

Rushden live music

Rushden Mission Church on Wellingborough Road is hosting a special evening with Paul Jones and Fiona Hendley on Saturday 27th May.

Paul, lead singer from Manfred Mann, and his wife Fiona will share about how God has made a difference to their lives as well as performing some songs from their latest album. Doors open at 7pm and £5 donation tickets available from 01933 350491 or tickets@rushdenmission.co.uk

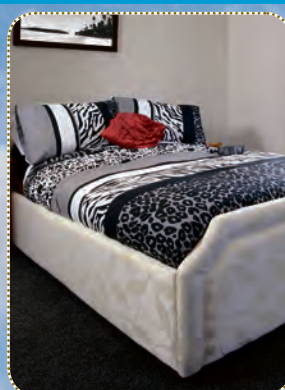
Children's book week

The Tiger Who Came to Tea is the theme for Children's Book Week at Windermere Day Nursery in Kettering.

The Ofsted-rated 'Outstanding' day nursery in Haweswater Road is enjoying weeklong activities to mark the event in celebration of reading for pleasure for young children.

There are tiger themed pursuits throughout the nursery including a large pretend tiger in reception, making tiger masks and a picnic.

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Living with Fibromyalgia

Just imagine living in constant body wide chronic pain 24 hours a day, every day, coupled with chronic fatigue without support and even belief in the condition by your doctor and even friends and close family members as the pain and fatigue isn't visible to others.

Nene Valley FMS are a support group with a positive outlook for people with Fibromyalgia Syndrome and their families. Meetings are held monthly in Kingsthorpe located just north of Northampton. Anyone who has been diagnosed with this condition, or thinks that they might have it, is more than welcome to go along. For details of their next meeting, or information on Fibromyalgia and the group, please get

in touch using the following contact details:

SUPPORT & INFORMATION
Based in Kingsthorpe, Northampton
New Enquiries/Membership
0844 8872456
Admin: 01604 716798
Email: fms.nene@gmail.com
Website www.nenevalleyfms.co.uk

Also, join Suzanne Wilders for a cup of coffee/tea at Nuffield Health, Northampton Fitness & Wellbeing Gym, Walter Tull Way, Sixfields Leisure, Northampton, NN5 5QL at 6pm-7pm on the first Tuesday of the month.
Website www.fmauk.org

Genealogy jottings

I remember watching a Who Do You Think You Are television programme about the ancestry of Matthew Pinsent, the Olympic rower. They somehow managed to trace his family back to God! (Check it out on YouTube!) I have traced one branch of my family back as far as 1434. I was lucky – they didn't move around much. However, whilst I have this long list of people taking me back to my 22 x great grandfather, what do I know of the people in between? Some people are name hunters – just trying to see how far they can trace their family back, whilst others really like to know as much as possible about those names that they have discovered.

I was at a Family History Show a few years back and one chap to whom I was talking was saying that he had finished his tree. I cannot see how anyone can say that as there is always something more to discover about our ancestors. What sort of house did they live in? What did they do? How did they survive? What did they eat? What was their health like? Okay, I know that some of this information is easier to find than others but I am on a quest. This

By Jan Pearson
Genealogy Specialists, Tracing Our Past, Discovering Our Genes (TOP DOG)
www.genealogy-specialists.com

is my own detective story and much of the thrill is in the chase – discovering things about my ancestors that I didn't know before. When I started to follow my father's line, little did I realise that I would discover that they were blacksmiths responsible for some of the ironwork on Henry VIII's ships. I have seen the Mary Rose, Henry VIII's flagship – I wonder if my several times great grandfather touched the metal that is on the remains.

Sometimes, you can discover a lead that will take you back several generations in one go. Parish registers are the best resource for that. But, once the thrill of the chase has died down a bit and you are staring at those names, go back over them and explore further. Find out about the town, village or street where they lived – add some colour to their lives so that they can live again.

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Editor's notes

There is some good news in this edition for the businesses and residents of Nassington, Fotheringhay and the surrounding area because the bridge over the Willow Brook is due to be reopened after repair work in early June. This is a little earlier than originally estimated and will provide welcome relief for locals who have been forced to detour while the bridge has been out of commission. Speaking to the masons working on the bridge on 16th May, they were confident that they would be finished before you read this, so hopefully the rest of the work on the structure can be accelerated and the bridge will be back in action before the new scheduled end of the programme. However, Northamptonshire County Council have latterly pointed out that the post-masonry works, some of which are weather dependent, still need to be done.

Sadly, it seems that the bridge closure was a contributory factor in the death of 82 year old Josephine Booth of Nassington, who was killed on the morning of 11th May 2017 when her Nissan Micra collided with a UPS lorry at the A605 junction with the B671, Overend/Wansford Road. The driver of the lorry was not injured. We understand that the Nissan was turning right at the junction, onto the

main road towards Oundle where it was market day. Mrs Booth was a regular attendee at the market and the shortest and quietest route from Nassington to Oundle is via Fotheringhay. Doubtless, this dreadful loss of life will also lead to further questions about the safety of this T-junction and add to the weight of evidence supporting calls for a roundabout to be installed. All of us at the Nene Valley News offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mrs Booth.

A jobs and skills fair is being held at the Pemberton Centre in Rushden from 10am to 4pm on Friday 26th May 2017, with the aim of recruiting a wide range of staff for the new Rushden Lakes project. The free event will bring employers, job-seekers and employment support services together under one roof. So, if you have an interest in working at the site, get along to the Centre to register and find out what's available; you will be able to meet prospective employers in person and access the skills workshops or advice sessions hosted by Jobcentre Plus in conjunction with Recruit Rushden Lakes, which is a free recruitment and training programme. The Recruit Rushden Lakes workplace coordinator will provide ongoing support for candidates, including workshops, training programmes and one-to-one workplace mentoring.



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Laxton Junior School – exploring and learning about the coast

On Friday 21st April Year 5 pupils from Laxton Junior School enjoyed a day out to Hunstanton to kick start their learning about coastlines during the Summer Term.

The children worked tirelessly and carried out three activities in the morning which will further support learning back in the classroom. Year 5 teacher Miss Pateman organised three field work pieces for the children to complete: a sand dunes investigation, a field sketch and understanding how cliffs erode. Despite a blustery, grey morning, the children enjoyed their beach activities and working in a different location. After a slightly windswept picnic lunch on the beach and a very competitive sand castle building competition the children rounded off a great afternoon with a quick visit to the Fun Fair. After rides had been braved by all, the children listened to a short

talk about the oldest ride, a Victorian carousel, before refueling on some delicious chips in a cone along the sea front.

The day out was very successful and the children came back to school with lots of data and drawings to

support their onwards study. Mr Worthington, Director of Teaching and Learning commented that, “the children really enjoy learning outside of the classroom in this way, it also crystallizes their understanding of new topics taught on their return.”



Manor School performing arts students to go on New York tour

In July musicians and dancers from Manor School Sports College will depart for New York and embark upon an 8 day trip which will see them entertain audiences during three concerts. They will also enjoy a variety of tourist attractions such as the Empire State Building, Statue of Liberty and a Broadway show.

This travel and performance opportunity will no doubt provide the students with memories that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. Previous concert tours to Germany and Lake Geneva certainly confirmed that experiences like these truly enhance and enrich the students' performing and personal development.

Year 12 student Matthew Dixon

commented “I am really looking forward to singing New York State of Mind on tour - I never thought I would get the chance to perform this actually in New York!”

Year 9 student Henry Grant added “I think the best bit will be playing at different venues to audiences that don't normally go to our concerts and also watching a show on Broadway.”

During the past year the school has been raising money to fund the hiring of musical equipment to be used during the concerts and merchandise for the performers, and they are very grateful for the donations that have been received so far. Please contact the school if you feel that you are able to help with the fundraising programme.

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Cricketing stars in the making

Three Oundle School cricketers, Tommy Simeons (14), Will de Capell Brooke (13) and Will Park (12) together with Laxton Junior School pupil, Thomas Kemp (11) have all been selected to captain their respective Northamptonshire County Cricket teams this season.

Thomas Kemp (U11 Captain), who, at just four years of age, started playing with the 'Jelly Tots' squad run by School cricket professional Merwe Genis, commented, "I hope one day to play professionally and in the meantime to continue to enjoy playing. My cricketing hero is Joe Root, because of the way he conducts himself; he's not big and strong but he has incredible timing and when I was the newest and youngest player for Oundle Town U11's he was the youngest and newest player for England."

Thomas enjoys all sports and his highlight so far in his cricketing career is scoring fifty runs at Great Oakley and, of course, becoming cricket captain of his county age group.

Will Park (U12 Captain), who in addition to cricket enjoys hockey, rugby, football and chess, also began his career with the 'Jelly Tots' and scored 117 (not out) in his very first county cricket match. Will's hero is Ashes-winning former England Captain, Alistair Cook, who made an appearance at a cricketing event at Oundle in 2015. Will hopes to follow in Alistair Cook's footsteps playing cricket at an international level.

Will de Capell Brooke (U13 Captain) started playing cricket at the age of six and is aiming high, hoping to become a professional cricket player for Northamptonshire and then England. His cricketing hero is the South African, Quinton de Kock. Will is also a keen hockey, tennis and rugby player and recalls his finest cricketing moment as getting 116 (not out) in a cricket match against Kimbolton – a record he hopes to beat this season.

Tommy Simeons (U15 Captain), who started playing when he was seven also hopes to play professionally for Northamptonshire. Tommy also plays

hockey at county level and is a school first team rugby player. His cricketing hero is Northamptonshire and England cricketer, Graeme Swann and his greatest achievement so far was scoring his first century whilst at his Prep School, Spratton Hall.

Master in Charge of Cricket at Oundle School, John Crawley (Cambridge University, Lancashire, Hampshire and fifty caps for England) commented, "It is great to see these boys being given the honour of captaining their county teams; it is a just reward for all their hard work. It also highlights the role of Oundle Town CC in their development as well as the school,

with the two bodies working beautifully in partnership together. I can't wait to see how all four progress in their cricketing careers at Oundle School and beyond - we will be doing our level best to help them achieve their dreams in their time here.

The Cricket Club at Oundle School believes that cricket should be a sport for all and that every boy or girl who wants to play should have the opportunity to enjoy this great game as part of a team in a competitive environment which reflects their ability. The programme at Oundle is differentiated to cater for all abilities, from the social cricketer to those who harbour a desire to play the game professionally."

Official opening of 'Pretty Little Things' in Raunds



The new Mayor of Raunds Cllr. Nick Beck was a special guest when Yvonne Noble hosted a party to celebrate the official opening of her shop, Pretty Little Things, in Raunds High Street.

This is wedding planner Yvonne's first venture into the retail trade; she has completely redecorated the shop and filled it with attractive gift items and cards to suit every age and occasion, including

wedding accessories. Yvonne will divide her time between running the shop and her wedding business, and she said she sees her shop as an attractive browsing area for customers to seek that special little gift or card that is something different and attractive, but not expensive.

Cllr Beck said he was impressed by Yvonne's enterprise, and appreciated the appeal of her shop,

as he believes in small businesses, and supports any new retail shop in Raunds, especially as the community is growing, with new people coming to live in the houses that are being built: "New people will breed new ideas and help develop the community spirit of Raunds even more". He also said he was 100% pleased for Yvonne and wished her every success with her new venture.

It's your age. Or is it?

Have you ever had an ache and been told by friends and family "It's your age, you've just got to put up with it"? Or "There's nothing we can do, it's age-related"?

Just this week a patient told me he was just old, so it's what he should expect at his age.

Well, there are processes that can't be stopped or reversed, but some aches and pains are fixable.

So how do you know the difference?

Usually arthritic pain starts gradually, it's bothersome initially, but not agony. It starts when some of the cartilage covering the ends of the bones roughens and becomes thin, and the bone underneath thickens. So the pain is not sudden.

As time goes on (we're talking months and years here, not days) the bone at the edges of the joint thickens and form

bumpy bits called spurs or osteophytes. The joint capsule, that surrounds the joint, can also thicken and can make extra fluid, which causes the joint to swell. The ligaments can also thicken as the body tries to stabilise the joint. All of these things can make arthritic joints look a bit fatter than normal.

Once the wear and tear is established it can cause a lot of pain. Some of this pain is due to the exposed bones rubbing against each other, but the mechanical changes in the area can also cause a change in the way the joint moves, which means the muscles work differently and the joints above and below have different strains put on them.

These changes can also cause pain, but can

normally be fixed with the right treatment and exercises because they're just mechanical strains. The bone pain can sometimes respond well to treatment and exercises too – but you need to make sure you're doing the right exercises. Look on the Arthritis Research UK website for advice, get one of their leaflets, or see a local professional to make sure you're doing the right things to help.

So don't sit and blame your age – get the right exercises and treatment. You don't have to put up with it!

Top tip: If joint pain is really bad do see your GP. Don't diagnose arthritis yourself, or by using Google!

Have a great week whatever your age!

Claire

Claire Short is a Registered Osteopath, and runs The Ashgrove Clinic in Higham Ferrers. Send your questions to claire@ashgrovehealth.co.uk or Tweet to @AshgroveClinic

Symphony Hall beckons for pupils from Polebrook School!

A group of Year 6 children from Polebrook Primary School are celebrating after hearing that they have been selected to appear at Birmingham's Symphony Hall as part of the prestigious 2017 National Festival of Music for Youth. The children entered the Regional Festival in March, where they performed 'Some Wild Tales', the group's own composition based on Colin Thompson's 'Wild Stories', a collection of funny stories about the inhabitants of an abandoned garden. The music mentors at the

event were highly impressed by the children's enthusiasm and musical and performance skills.

"Enrichment opportunities in the arts form an important part of our school's curriculum and we are very proud of what these Year 6 pupils have achieved," said head teacher Hazel Johnson.

Everyone in the group was very happy to learn about their invitation to the National Festival on the 4th July, especially as it gives them the chance to perform at one of the UK's major concert venues – wearing a onesie!



Culture and Cooking

Over the Easter break, thirteen Third Form (Year 9) pupils from Oundle School visited Granada for a joint Religious Studies/Spanish trip led by staff from both departments within the School.

On their first day, pupils visited and learned about the history of the Alhambra, a palace and fortress complex in Granada, enjoyed tours of the local area and watched a flamenco show in the evening. Highlights during the rest of the week included tours of Mezquita de Granada, the first mosque in Granada where the pupils learned about

Islam and a paella cooking course where pupils made their own lunch. Pupils also visited Granada Cathedral and the Royal Chapel, learning about the history of Christianity in Granada.

Spanish teacher, Rebecca Blacknell commented, "The purpose of the trip was to engage pupils with Religious Studies in a Spanish context, giving a taste of what will be studied

in the Fourth Form (Year 10) in both subjects, allowing the pupils to understand key parts of Spanish history which impact the country's culture and language today."

Pupil, Tani Edu (14) commented, "The trip to Granada was full of excitement and variety and I would like to thank the staff who made this trip possible."

Oundle International Festival – Volunteers needed

The Oundle for Organists Summer School is an internationally renowned organ course, running from the 10th - 16th July 2017,

during which world-class organists tutor intermediate level students, many of whom are in the process of applying for organ scholarships to cathedrals

and Oxbridge colleges. The courses are professionally minded but great fun and during them the students form life-long friendships. Volunteers play a vital

role in the running of the courses and as such, the search is on for people to help in 2 areas: sitting in on tutorials and driving a minibus. Due to a change in the Church of England's safeguarding requirements, the course organisers are looking for volunteers to sit in on some of the tutorials.

This is an interesting way to see and hear excellent tutors working with young musicians, or to simply take time read in a quiet church away from the hustle and bustle of life. Sitters do not need to be DBS checked.

Three minibus drivers are also sought to take

students to and from local venues, as well as on trips to Ely and Cambridge. A Category D1 driving licence is required, insurance is covered up to the age of 75 and the position is paid (£55 per day). Meals are included throughout the week and all expenses will be reimbursed.

To find out more, please email georgina@oundlefestival.org.uk or ring 01832 274 919.



Royal British Legion Rushden Branch Awards 2017

Rushden's Royal British Legion Branch recently held an awards ceremony attended by the town's Mayor Councillor Tracey Smith. A total of 36 Awards were made for a variety of services to the RBL, ranging from community fundraising to a number of committee roles and covering a period of 5 years to 65 years.

A grand total of £46,613.71 has been raised so far which includes £837 recently raised at the Cavalcade - a fantastic sum all round. The generous people of Rushden are conveyed a huge message of thanks from Rushden Branch Royal British Legion Membership, not to mention the amazing level of commitment and volunteering given by all

of the fundraisers. Branch Poppy Appeal Organiser Barbara Clark said "This is a tremendous effort and the sum total represents about £1.50 per head of the population of Rushden; thank you for all your support and we look forward to seeing many of you over the Armed Forces Day and weekend commencing Friday evening 16th June 2017."

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East Northamptonshire Council

Notice of planning applications received

Notice is given that the following applications have been received together with the last date for making representations:

Aldwincle
17/00879/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Pitched Roof to Replace Existing Flat Roof over Single Storey Kitchen at 30A Main Street Aldwincle NN14 3EL

Barnwell
17/00877/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Extension and alterations to house and garage to create self-contained accommodation for a family member at 28 Main Street Barnwell PE8 5PZ

Benefield
17/00662/VAR (10/06/2017) (LBRegs) To vary condition to allow the inclusion of a 30CM trickle vent to the first floor bathroom window pursuant to 17/00071/LBC - Proposal Replace 5 painted timber windows, inclusion of 10mm Conservation glazed units at 27 - 28 Main Street Upper Benefield
17/00831/FUL and 17/00832/LBC (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) (LBRegs) Renovation of and new vaulted rear extension to the redundant coach house to provide a three bedroom house with a double and single garage at Coach House Berkeley House Main Street

Lower Benefield
17/00850/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Erect one and half storey rear extension to Stocks Hill Cottage, Lower Benefield PE8 5AD at Stocks Hill Cottage Stocks Hill Lower Benefield PE8 5AD

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott
17/00766/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Demolition of existing garage and erection of new detached dwelling, alteration to the existing access and parking for the existing and proposed dwelling at White House The Green Chelveston NN9 6AJ

Deenethorpe
17/00786/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) First floor extension over existing double garage, study WC and entrance hall on ground floor at 15 Deenethorpe NN17 3EP

Easton-on-the-Hill
17/00613/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Side extension and alteration to front elevation including relocated front door and new porch at 35 Church Street Easton On The Hill PE9 3LL
17/00886/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Double garage with associated storage areas and new vehicular access from High Street at 2 Stamford Road Easton On The Hill PE9 3NS

Great Addington
17/00773/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Steel portal framed cattle shed at Site 1028 Former Quarry Cranford Road Great Addington

Higham Ferrers
17/00808/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Removal of existing rear single storey and replacing with new single storey extension to existing dwelling at 68 High Street Higham Ferrers NN10 8BJ
17/00833/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Single-storey Side and Rear Extension. Loft Conversion with rear facing dormer at 59 Kimbolton Road Higham Ferrers NN10 8DU
17/00843/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Proposed front and rear extensions to include new attached garage to front and two storey element to rear. at 24 Windmill Banks Higham Ferrers NN10 8JF

Irthlingborough
17/00856/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Erection of detached annexe to rear of existing garage (Resubmission of 17/00036/FUL) at 6 Diamond Drive Irthlingborough NN9 5PT

Kings Cliffe
17/00793/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Single storey extension to the side of the property to form a new sun room at 99 Oak Lane Kings Cliffe PE8 6YY
17/00818/LBC (10/06/2017) (LBRegs) Replace the single glazing of seven window units with discreet double glazing units (as per Design and Access Statement dated April 2017) at 16 West Street Kings Cliffe PE8 6XA
17/00854/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Replace the single glazing of seven windows with discreet double glazing units. at 16 West Street Kings Cliffe PE8 6XA

Laxton
17/00880/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Extension of front porch, addition of frontage vestibule, conversion of garage and roof space, single and two storey extension to rear, addition of single storey garden room to west gable with roof terrace and construction of separate garage and store building at 18 Main Street Laxton NN17 3AT

Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe
17/00837/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Single Storey Rear Extension Linking House to Outbuildings at 7 Lilford PE8 5SG

Nassington
17/00827/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Conversion of existing double garage to teenage/family room with toilet. Double garage doors will be replaced with oak framed half height windows and a door (resubmission of 16/01080/FUL) at 10 Church Street Nassington PE8 6QG

Newton Bromswold
17/00853/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Change of use of land to side of property from agricultural to garden land; and erection of a part two storey and part single storey side extension at 2 Church Walk Newton Bromswold NN10 0SS

Oundle
17/00811/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Demolition of small redundant armoury store and replacement with a single storey metal clad storage unit at Armoury And Parade Ground Milton Road Oundle PE8 4AB
17/00823/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Change of use from A1 (retail) to Sui Generis (dog grooming salon) at Unit 3 Mill Road Oundle PE8 4BW
17/00909/FUL (07/06/2017) (Info) New garage to side and room to rear at 106 Glapthorn Road Oundle PE8 4PS

Ringstead
17/00897/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Erection of two-storey residential dwelling at 7 High Street Ringstead NN14 4DA

Rushden
17/00567/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Erection of agricultural/ farm shop building and the retention of staff facilities building to be used as a temporary rural workers dwelling for a period of 3 years. The retention of the toilet/shower block, parking areas, Elsan disposal point and containers (part retrospective) at Glebe Meadow Fishery Ditchford Lock Ditchford Lane Rushden NN8 1RL
17/00787/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Demolition of garage and erection of single storey rear extension at 18 Prospect Avenue Rushden NN10 6DH
17/00795/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Installation of external condenser units and heat recovery unit within roof plant platform at Unit 4 Northwalk Rushden Lakes Rushden NN10 6FG
17/00834/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) Single storey side and rear extension and loft conversion with side facing dormer at 125 Higham Road Rushden NN10 6DS
17/00835/OUT (03/06/2017) (Info) Outline: Four bedroom dormer style dwelling (all matters reserved except access) (Resubmission of 16/02204/OUT) at Spenwood Alexandra Road Rushden NN10 0HY
17/00839/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) First floor and rear two storey extension with a single storey garage extension. Demolish existing garage to rear garden. at 219 Avenue Road Rushden NN10 0SN
17/00855/ADV (03/06/2017) (Info) One fascia sign to front of shop unit and 1 fascia sign to rear of the shop unit at Unit 13 South Terrace Rushden Lakes Rushden NN10 6FS
17/00868/ADV (03/06/2017) (Info) Fascia sign 1 - 800mm high internally illuminted white acrylic letters black sides, fixed fascia panel finished tiger grey, fascia sign 2 500mm high internally illuminated white acrylic letters with black

sides fixed to stainless steel bars at Unit 3 Northwalk Rushden Lakes Rushden NN10

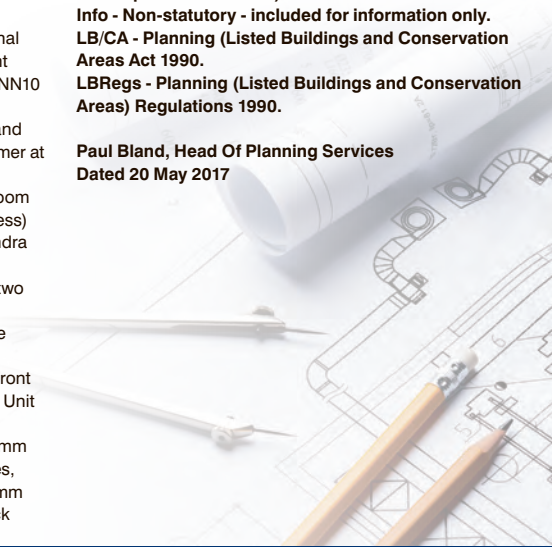
Thrapston
17/00896/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) To convert the roof space of house into habitable rooms with two rear dormers and velux windows to front. The new interior would consist of two bedrooms and an en-suite bathroom at 6 Kenilworth Gardens Thrapston NN14 4XS

Warmington
17/00870/FUL (03/06/2017) (Info) The demolition of the existing dwelling and the construction of a replacement dwelling as well as the conversion of an adjoining range of rural buildings to form one single dwelling house at Davys Lodge Morborne Road Warmington PE8 6UP

Yarwell
17/00864/FUL (10/06/2017) (LB/CA) Widen an existing bridge at Yarwell Mill country park by dismantling the southern elevation and saving the existing stone, extend the deck of the bridge to a width of 5 metres and re-instate the southern elevation using the previously removed stone at Yarwell Mill Mill Road Yarwell PE8 6PS

The reason for applications being advertised is as follows:
Part3 - Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 2015.
Part16 - Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 2015.
Info - Non-statutory - included for information only.
LB/CA - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas Act 1990.
LBRegs - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990.

Paul Bland, Head Of Planning Services
Dated 20 May 2017



Consultation deadlines will differ for each application. Please go to www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planningapplications for details.

A grand day out

Over one hundred elderly residents from Oundle town and surrounding villages, including visitors from local residential and nursing homes, were recently hosted by pupils from Oundle School’s Community Action department at their ‘Grand Day Out’.

Visitors were treated to afternoon tea and scones in the School’s Two Acre Club, where they spent the afternoon enjoying a host of activities which included bingo, flowers for fun, board games, croquet and a photo booth. elspeth langsdale, the school archivist, set up film footage of Oundle gone by and a Gently Be Laughter Yoga session ran throughout the afternoon. Pupil, Henry Phillips-Sheard (18) brought along his record collection and record player providing musical entertainment.
The most popular activity on offer was

without a doubt, the nail bar, where visitors were treated to a relaxing hand massage and manicure before choosing from the array of colours of nail polish on offer.
Head of Community Action, Liz Dillarstone commented, “This was the first event of its kind on such a grand scale and we were delighted with the response. Visitors and pupils alike enjoyed the interaction and fun was had by all.”
Over 300 pupils from Oundle School’s Community Action Department are out and about during term time hosting activities and volunteering in the community. Anyone



interested in receiving pupil visits to help with shopping, housework or gardening, or who would like to attend the weekly 660 Club sessions or ICT classes please contact Liz or Amanda in the CA office on 01832 277267/ca@oundleschool.org.uk.

40 years of the Nene Valley Railway

Steam trains at the bottom of your garden. That's something you might imagine in the middle of rural Wales but it's not the sort of thing you'd expect in Peterborough, but for the last 40 years that's exactly what has been happening.

When it came to setting up Greater Peterborough as a new town it was decided that people needed hobbies and diversions. With a strong steam railway club, the Peterborough Railway Society, led by the Revd Richard Payton, it didn't take long for the Development Corporation to decide that this great idea would tick all the boxes. In 1974 the line between Yarwell Junction and Peterborough which was once a branch of the London to Birmingham Railway, was bought as the foundation of the country's newest preserved railway. As this year is the 40th anniversary year it doesn't take a genius to work out that the first trains ran along the line in 1977.

Thomas, named by the Rev Awdry in 1971 (while the engine was still working at the Peterborough sugar beet plant) had been bought by the Peterborough Railway Society in 1973 and by 1979 was running on the NVR and continues to do so, as perhaps its most famous resident.

In four decades the NVR's infrastructure has grown from a motley collection of sheds and porta-cabins to a purpose built station building with engine overhaul facilities, and smart new

stations have sprung up along the line.

Securing the railway's link with the East Coast mainline a couple of years ago was a major step in guaranteeing the railway's place as a leading contender in the preserved railway stakes.

The latest major development has been the purchase of the original 1845 station building which following the closure of the line had been hived off along with the station yard. While finally owning the original building is amazing and a bit of a dream come true nobody is under any illusions about the massive undertaking, the purchase price being only a drop in the ocean when compared to the costs of restoration.

The year-long 40th Anniversary celebrations have seen and will continue to see some of the most impressive steam and diesel locomotives within the steam movement arriving at the railway to delight both enthusiasts and the general public alike.

The locomotive Royal Scot makes an appearance for three days of the 'main' 40th Anniversary celebration from 2nd to 4th of June, and from this the railway rushes headlong into the next Thomas event only a



few days later on the 10th and 11th of June.

With barely a pause to fling a few more shovels of coal onto the fire it's onto the open weekend of the 17th and 18th of June. The railway can take a little time to oil the bearings and fill the boiler again before Thomas' summer holiday on 12th and 13th August.

The 40th year rounds off with two huge events only a week apart, the first being the steam gala on 9th and 10th September followed by the appearance of the magnificent streamlined A4 Main-line express locomotive Union of South Africa for the 'Pacifics' weekend five days later on 16th and 17th September.

The amazing volunteers who have facilitated this year's incredible celebration events don't get a rest either, they are soon back on duty for the Santa Specials dealing with some 20,000 delighted visitors in only one month, little wonder that January 2018 has very few days

steaming planned, everybody will need a rest.

On the subject of volunteers, it cannot be stressed enough just how much the wonderful volunteers mean to the railway, without them it simply wouldn't function. On the other hand, many of the volunteers really enjoy the camaraderie and the unique challenges of being part of such a unique undertaking. The fact that some who were present right at the very start 40 years ago still come along today surely says something. But it's far from a closed shop, new volunteers come along every day and if anybody reading this would like to take part and enjoy this too, then please contact the Railway.

It's certain that the NVR will change over the years but the one thing that people should be confident of is that no matter what lies in store there will still be trains running at the bottom of the garden in 2057.

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www.colemans-online.co.uk
Unit 6, Brindley Close,
Rushden, NN10 6EN.
T: 01933 355530

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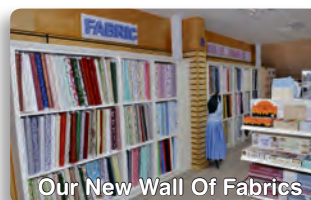
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Same Great Staff!



Our New Wall Of Fabrics



New Weddings Section



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New Demonstrations & Workshops Area

Colemans Craft Warehouse has re-opened, completely re-furbished with a new mezzanine floor for Workshops & Demonstrations, a brand new Café area & wonderful new displays to show off all your favourite craft & haberdashery supplies! Also, we now **OPEN 6 DAYS A WEEK!**

Although the layout has changed we are pleased to report that we still have the same team of dedicated & knowledgeable crafters to give you inspiration & advice.

Our Next Big Craft Day Is On Saturday 3rd June - With Special Guest Demonstrator DEBI POTTER

On the **first Saturday of each month** we hold one of our famous **Big Craft Days**. We have simultaneous craft demonstrations by professional demonstrators which are continuous between 10.00am and 4.00pm. There are lots of **special offers** and **free refreshments**. We open for shopping at 8.30am. Demonstrations start at 10.00am.

DEBI POTTER



Debi Potter

Debie Potter from **Sizzix** will be joining us on **Saturday 3rd June** to demonstrate their latest range of dies, including some designed by Debi herself.

Debi has been papercrafting for over 10 years and currently works as a freelance designer creating inspirational projects for consumer craft magazines.

More recently, Debi has turned her attention to creating stylish home décor projects with fabric. Her style is shabby chic using florals, stripes and polka dots.

OTHER DEMONSTRATORS

Our Big Craft day on Saturday 3rd June will also feature:

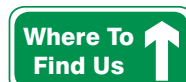
John Lockwood will use the latest ranges of stamps and dies to create beautiful cards for all occasions

Deborah Burrow will be introducing us to the wonderful art of Macramé.

Sandra Carey from **Daisy Jewels & Crafts** are all things MDF. She will show us how to create beautiful home décor projects.



MDF Project by Daisy Jewels & Crafts



Unit 6 Brindley Close
Rushden
Northants
NN10 6EN

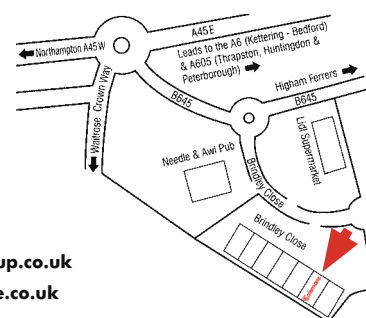
T: 01933 355530

E: craft@colemangroup.co.uk

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Craft workshops

SUMMER 2017

NEW!

For details of our new Craft Workshops for Summer 2017 please visit our Website or ask for a leaflet at The Craft Warehouse or any Colemans Branch

Raunds Music Festival 2017

The Festival kept up its reputation for putting on top-drawer acts with another fine programme of concert performances. Fred's House had the audience pleading for more after a set featuring some of the most uplifting folk-pop you've ever heard.

Saturday night had a dance feel. It was opened up by Doughboy Zydecajun, playing their wonderful mixture of English, Latvian, Cajun and American roots. The Swing Commanders were great to watch with entertaining stage routines, but their variety of music delighted the audience. It took little encouragement to get many people dancing.

The Saxon Hall was packed on Sunday night. We discovered why the Askew Sisters are becoming one of the most popular and respected duos on the English folk scene. From

dark ballads to uplifting dance tunes, they played with driving energy. The Festival ended with a great set by two of the U.K.'s finest songwriters, Steve Tilston and Jez Lowe. They did not disappoint! Who will forget the humour of "Mrs Einstein" featuring Jez's mandolin and Tilston's trademark guitar?

As usual participation by the local community is a very important aspect of the festival. This included concerts by the Raunds Community Choir and the Raunds Temperance Band. Other local artists featured included the Wellingborough Folk Band and a guitarist Toble Noble. Jessica Affia did two sets and stunned the audience with her wonderful vocals on traditional tunes.

Sunday afternoon's Comedy Corner produced gales of laughter as we were entertained by the music and

mischievous wit of local duo Sweet F.A. and the totally original performance of Les Barker. There really is no-one else like Les Barker, he tells the most fantastic stories!

Each year the Festival runs projects with local Primary schools. Folk dancing sessions are arranged at each school and are followed up by a school ceilidh. On the Friday afternoon the Saxon Hall was buzzing with primary school children performing dances that they had devised themselves to traditional music provided by students from Manor School. This was followed by the Festival Ceilidh that evening, with adults and children dancing to the music of Tautas Roks. The Raunds Ukulele Orchestra gave great support during the interval.

The volunteer festival organisers would like to thank all those whose

support helped to make the festival a success. Thanks to all the people from Raunds who came to the events, we hope you enjoyed the concerts. Thanks to the editors of Nene Valley News for allowing space to publicise the festival and all the sponsors who help to keep the Festival running.



We are now planning for 2018 and possibly an event in between. If you would like to help in any way with the running the festival get in touch by email: contact@raundsfestival.com

Something for all at the Chichele Garden Fair

Walled Kitchen Gardens are the theme of the sixth Chichele Garden Fair in Higham Ferrers on Saturday 27th May. The event, organised by Higham Ferrers Tourism Group, provides something for everyone with plants and garden accessories for sale, children's activities, a scarecrow display, art and craft workshops and cookery demonstrations as well as, of course, much for the garden lover to enjoy. Entry is free and it is open from 9am-4pm.

A key feature in the College building is an exhibition by Northamptonshire Gardens Trust accompanied by a display of local children's Tray Gardens and Art by Ferrers School students.

The setting is a beautiful scheduled monument set within one of the oldest walled gardens in the country. In medieval times, the secular canons who lived there would have grown herbs for healing and medicinal purposes, vegetables and fruit for the kitchen and flowers to adorn the church.

Today the Chichele Garden is truly a community garden but all developments are mindful of the sites special heritage. Most recent developments are the Chichele Border, the Physic Garden and the Altar Border, all

of which carefully reflect the history of the College founded by Henry Chichele, Higham Ferrers' most famous son. Worthy of a visit at any time, the Chichele Garden is always open.



For more information about the garden go to www.chichelegarden.co.uk

Fotheringhay Bridge repairs

Works – Fotheringhay Bridge. Willow Brook just outside Fotheringhay on the road to Nassington.

Start date – Monday 15th May. Work will start on Monday and we are installing the scaffolding over the weekend from Friday 12th May.

Completion – The programme is weather dependent and will take 3 weeks.

Scheme type – Repair the damaged highway bridge and associated works.

Closures – The bridge has been closed since February and will remain closed until the repairs are complete.

Days of work – Monday to Friday.

Hours of work – 08.00 to 16.00 hrs.

What we are doing/ the benefits – The current bridge was damaged significantly, by a vehicle, in February this year. It was closed immediately for safety reasons.

We have been working with all partners to repair this the quickest and most appropriate way and this has required agreements with various partners. Scheme preparation work has taken some time due to the fact the bridge is Grade 2 listed and requires various permissions to ensure the solution is sustainable and durable, whilst providing a sympathetic repair to the structure.

When undertaking any works on or around structures of this nature there are a number of activities, procedures and approvals that are required before works can commence these include:

- ecological constraints appraisal
- detailed design to current British and European standards
- temporary works design and approval

- flood drainage consent from the Environment Agency
- tendering the works to specialist contractors

The requirements are now in place and our objective is to repair and reopen the bridge as swiftly as possible. Some of our works are weather dependent but the project should take 3 weeks to complete.

Programme of works:

- Friday 12th May - scaffolding installed over weekend.
- Monday 15th May. Start repair works
- 3 week programme.
- Reinstate road markings
- Install additional warning safety signs
- Friday 2nd June. Open bridge to traffic
- We will update if the programme of works is delayed in any way

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your co-operation and patience during this closure.

Contact: Rob Carroll RCarroll2@kierwsp.co.uk 01604 883400. To ensure any enquiries are dealt with correctly and to report defects please use our online Street Doctor service. This process ensures issues are recorded and dealt with appropriately. Once reported you will be issued with a unique reference number and be able to follow the progress of your enquiry.

Website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/streetdoctor

For information and transport and highway updates follow us on Twitter @nnhighways

Craft & Vintage Fairs in Higham Ferrers

On the last Saturday of each month Rainbow Craft Events holds a Craft & Vintage Fair at the same time as the ever popular Farmers' Markets in Higham Ferrers. The fairs are open between 9am-1pm at the Working Men's Club, Westfields Terrace and showcase a fantastic range of handmade and vintage items from local sellers. On Saturday 27th May there will be over 20 stalls including upcycled furniture, handmade wax melts, vintage cake stands, jewellery, book art, memory jars and boards perfect for gifting. Many stallholders raise money for charity and last month saw Phillip reach £1000 for the NSPCC with his beautiful hand carved wooden items. What a wonderful achievement!

This month, if you 'check in' on the

Facebook page during the fair, you can have a free hot drink, so why not pop along and check out what's on offer! There is a new cake stall so come and enjoy a slice with your cuppa. Last month there was a wartime cookery demonstration which taught people about cooking during rationing and in July there will be the opportunity to come and have a go at cupcake decorating. Unfortunately there won't be a fair in June but there is a lot planned for the rest of the year.

For more information:
www.facebook.com/rainbowcraftevents
www.rainbowcraftevents.co.uk
 If you'd like to know how to book a stall, please email Louise:
rainbowcraftevents@yahoo.co.uk

Cransley Hospice Summer Ball

Kindly Sponsored by Wilson Browne Solicitors

Cransley Hospice Summer Ball is to be held on Friday 16th June, in a splendid marquee in the magnificent grounds of Harrowden Hall, the home of Wellingborough Golf Club.

The evening begins with a drinks reception on the terrace, followed by a delicious two course meal, with live entertainment from Nigel Adair, Pure Genius and Bill Burton Disco, with dancing till the early hours. The ticket price only £45 per person, and to book your tickets visit the website: www.cransleyhospice.org.uk or contact the Fundraising Office on 01536 452423

The fundraising continues with The Bands in the Park Concerts, which are being

held on Sundays during June, July, August and September. Bring along your chairs and a picnic to Rockingham Road Pleasure Park and enjoy some great music in the park. All Concerts commence at 3pm. The events are being held courtesy of Kettering Borough Council. Contact 01536 410333, www.kettering.gov.uk or Cransley Hospice Fundraising Office, www.cransleyhospice.org.uk for further details.

A 10k and Half Marathon in and around Cranford

Village with a Junior Run (9 – 14 years of age on the day), are being held on Sunday 17th September. This popular event is UK Athletics Road Race licensed, and starts with a short tour of Cranford Village before heading out on an out and back route taking in the surrounding Northamptonshire countryside. A £2 Early Bird Discount is available until 31st May 2017, so get booked in quickly! Registration starts at 9.00am, with the race

starting at 11.00am. Cransley Hospice will waive the entry fee if you commit to raising £75 for the hospice.

The Strictly Dance for Cransley Hospice is being held on Saturday 14th October, at the MaSh Dance Studio. Five men and five ladies are needed to take part in this event. If you are available from August to learn to dance, please contact the fundraising team on 01536 452423. The dancers must need to aim to raise £1000 in sponsorship for Cransley Hospice. In return the dancers will rehearse as individuals for two hours a week with a professional dance teacher, where two set ballroom dances, and a show dance will be taught. All this training will lead to a performance in front of friends, Cransley Hospice supporters and a panel of judges in October.

If you can't dance or run, then you can still support

Cransley Hospice by donating any unwanted gifts or unused items, gift sets, wine, chocolates or sweets to use as raffle or tombola

prizes. Please take any items to the office at St. Marys Hospital or drop off at their shops with a label for the Fundraising Office.



Raunds Town Council are pleased to advise that at the Annual Meeting on the 8th May, Councillor Nick Beck was elected Town Mayor for the 2017/18 Civic Year. Cllr Beck's consort for his Mayoral year will be Mrs Nicola Potheary. Councillor Richard Levell was elected as Deputy Mayor and his consort will be Mrs Magda Levell.

Why volunteer?

If you've ever thought about volunteering but wonder how you'd fit it into a busy work and family life, why not use National Volunteering Week (29 May to 4 June) to look at some options?

Organisations looking for volunteers usually have a range of roles they need help with – from things that require a regular time commitment, to just occasionally asking for an extra pair of hands.

Whatever you choose to do, for whatever group or organisation, volunteering is all about doing something that interests you in the time you have available. And apart from knowing you'll be making a difference, volunteering is

so much more – chances to make new friends, learn new skills, boost your confidence and have fun!

During National Volunteering Week at Oundle Library, community groups, organisations and charities will be showcasing the range of volunteering vacancies that exist locally – everything from conservation projects, the Oundle Cinema and Oundle Museum to the local Brownies, Scouts and Guides. And during the week volunteers from different groups will be on hand to chat with customers about what they do. It really is a chance to hear first-hand how you could get involved, so why not pop along?



Oundle Library is open Tuesday-Friday 9am to 6pm, Saturday 10am to 2pm and Sunday 11am to 2pm.

“What's In a Name?”

Names of people, places, objects and a few famous locations will feature in well-known songs such as Annie's Song, Puttin' on the Ritz, Send in the Clowns and California Dreamin' together with a special tribute to Disney. The cast of more than forty excellent

performers, once again directed by Gill Potts and accompanied by Ben Smith, will perform for you nightly

at the Stahl Theatre, West Street, Oundle on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th June – curtain up at 7.30pm.

Tickets will be on sale from Monday 22nd May at Oundle In Stitches, 5 Crown Court, Market Square, Oundle telephone 01832-274433 – Monday to Saturday but closed on Wednesday or through the website www.oundlegands.org or by email to ticketsales@oundlegands.org.

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Monday
Personal Training 10.30 - 11.30am
Finedon 6.30 - 7.30pm starts 26th Jun
Islip 8 - 9pm starts 22nd May

Tuesday
Rushden 11.00 - 12noon starts 11th Jul
Barton Seagrave 6.45 - 7.45pm starts 11th Jul
Barton Seagrave 7.45 - 8.45pm starts 11th Jul

Wednesday
Personal Training 10.30 - 11.30am
Yelden 6 - 7pm starts 31st May
Yelden 7.15 - 8.15pm starts 31st May

Thursday
Oundle 9.30 - 10.30am starts 18th May
Rushden 1.30 - 2.30pm starts 15th Jun
Rushden 6.15 - 7.15pm starts 15th Jun
Rushden 7.30 - 8.30pm starts 15th Jun

Friday
Personal Training 10.30 - 11.30am

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Oundle Cinema: The theme for June is life's journey...

A shipwreck, a game of chess and a ginger cat are central to the plots in this month's listings. The films feature three distinct sets of personal circumstances yet all of them share the common themes of love, sacrifice and life-changing decisions.

The first film to be screened, on Thursday 1st June, is 'The Light Between Oceans' (12A). Tom is a World War I veteran who maintains a lighthouse off the shore of Australia with his wife Isabel, a woman desperate to have a baby. Her prayers are answered when an infant is washed ashore

in a rowing boat. They decide to keep the child and bring it up as their own. The unfolding story behind the child's arrival forces Tom and Isabel to make a decision that will forever affect the lives of four people.

"Prepare for a massive bull market in Kleenex shares. There are oceans of tears in this surging and swirling emotional melodrama from writer-director Derek Cianfrance, adapted from the 2012 bestseller by Australian author ML Steadman" (The Guardian)

On Wednesday 7th June, another emotionally charged film, Disney's 'Queen of Katawe' (PG), portrays the colourful and true story of 10-year-old Phiona Mutesi, a girl selling corn on the streets of rural Uganda. Her world of constant struggle changes rapidly when she meets Robert Katende, a soccer player turned missionary who teaches local children chess. She is captivated by the game and immediately shows real potential. Recognising her natural aptitude and the fighting spirit, Katende begins to mentor Phiona, but

All films will be screened at 7.45pm in The Stahl Theatre unless specified. £5 Adults/£3 U18. Advance booking is recommended through www.oundlecinema.org.uk (where film trailers are also available), through the Oundle Festival Box Office, 4 New Street, Oundle, PE8 4ED or on 01832 274734.

Email: information@oundlefestival.org.uk to receive email updates about forthcoming films, follow us on facebook.com/oundleinternationalfestival and @Oundlecinema

her mother is reluctant to provide any encouragement, not wanting to see her daughter disappointed.

With fantastic audience reviews, this feel-good film set in East Africa enjoys an outstanding performance by Lupita Nyong'o.

Finally, to end the spring season, Oundle Cinema presents the box office hit, 'A Street Cat Named Bob' (12A)

Based on the international best-selling book, and starring the real Bob, this is the true story of how James Bowen, a homeless young busker and recovering drug addict, had his life transformed when a stray ginger cat walked into his life. The duo soon become inseparable, giving James the motivation to turn his life around; a moving, uplifting and often humorous story.

"Treadaway may be sympathetic and charming as the struggling musician, but this is Bob's show, all the way." Devan Coggan, Entertainment Weekly

After this you'll be left thinking a cat is a man's best friend!

Get your hands on history at Stanwick Lakes

On Sunday 4th June, the Rockingham Forest Trust Trading Places project, proudly presents "Hands on History". This exciting family heritage event takes place at Stanwick Lakes in East Northamptonshire and is possible thanks to funding from the Heritage Lottery.

Take a journey back through time and discover more about the working lives of Victorians in the Nene Valley, a bygone era when nearly everything was hand-made by skilled crafts people.

Visit Stanwick Lakes between 10am and 4pm and enjoy our traditional crafts and trades demonstrations, great children's activities and authentic Victorian refreshments!

Try your hand at many of the activities including Wool Spinning and Brick Making, Basket Weaving and Lace Making, and watch expert crafts people such as Blacksmiths, Dry Stone Wallers, Green Wood Workers, Shoe Makers, Wood carvers and Bee Keepers at work.

You can spin yourself a bracelet, make

a willow fish or make a building brick the Victorian way. There will also be an exciting children's "Hands on History" trail; find out more about the crafts and the crafters to win a prize. Visitors can also get involved in Victorian dressing up or make a traditional Victorian Peg Doll.

For more information about this event, visit www.stanwicklakes.org.uk, the Trading Places Nene Valley facebook page or ring 01933 625522.



Quality Kitchens, Bathrooms and Bedrooms

Showroom Open
Monday - Saturday
9:00 am to 4:30 pm

PeterCrisp
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01933 356424

www.petercrisp.co.uk

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Free Design, Planning and Quoting

Inclusive Start to Finish Project Management

Wednesday 24th May
Afternoon Tea with entertainment by Just Good Friends
 St Mary's Church Hall Rushden
 2-4pm, admission by ticket £5
 From Mary 01933 315383 or
 Chris 418399
 In aid of The Children's Society
 Basic One Stroke Workshop

Ringstead Village Social Club
 1pm -4.30pm, £17 booking
 essential
 01933 460676
 An easy class for first time painters
 create flowers, leaves and a cute
 teddy bear.

Thursday 25th May
Tiddlers Group for 0-3 year olds
 Thrapston Baptist Church
 9.30am-11.30am
 Friendly and welcoming with lots of
 toys and play equipment for the
 little ones to enjoy. £1 per carer –
 as many toddlers as you like!

Oundle Group of the Wildlife
Trust Market Stall in Oundle
 Oundle Thursday Market
 8.30am-12noon
 Keith Alvey on 01832 272666
 Trust market stall to raise funds.
 Donations of plants, cakes, other
 goods welcome.

Lunchtime Concert
 St Peter's Church, Oundle
 1.15pm, free/lunch can be
 purchased
 Concerts in this beautiful church
 setting in Oundle. Lunch is
 provided for £3.50

Friday 26th May
Blue & yellow flowers on a
wrought iron plaque
 Ringstead Village Social Club
 10am-4pm, £27, booking essential
 01933 460676
 Create this lovely composition of
 blue & yellow flowers on wrought
 iron plaque for your home.

Fusion for 7-11 year olds
 Thrapston Baptist Church
 6.30pm-8.00pm
 Lively and fun group with games,
 songs and bible based
 illustrations.

Saturday 27th May
Open Day
 Raunds Road, Stanwick
 11am-3pm, free
 Visit the Gardens and see what we
 have to offer. Plants for sale, cake
 stall and children's activities on the
 day.

Higham Ferrers Farmers Market
 Market Square, Higham Ferrers
 9am-1pm
 Danielle@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
 01933 312075
 Good quality local produce
 including organic meat, poultry
 and eggs, vegetables, plants,
 olives, preserves and much, much
 more.

Craft & Vintage Fair
 Working Men's Club,
 Westfields Terrace,
 Higham Ferrers
 9am-1pm, free admission
 Contact Louise
 rainbowcraftevents@yahoo.co.uk
 Over 20 stalls selling handmade
 and vintage items. Refreshments
 and cakes available. Every month
 during the Farmers' Market.

Sunday 28th May
All Age Service
 Thrapston Baptist Church
 10.30am
 Preacher: Mat Hussain
 Ordinary People, Extraordinary
 God - David

Sunday 28th & Monday 29th May
Woodford Open Gardens
 Woodford Village
 1pm-5pm both days, tickets £4 for
 both days (under 16s free).
 Brian Mearns 01832 734929
 (07912 421177) Over 15 gardens
 open, plant sales and tickets on
 village green, tea and cakes.

Tuesday 30th May
Paint a dawn landscape in
watercolours
 Ringstead Village Social Club
 12pm-3.30pm, £17
 Booking essential 01933 460676
 For beginners a dawn landscape
 in the valley with pine trees and
 distant mountains

Thursday 1st June
Flowers & Bird on coasters &
cards includes project pack
 Ringstead Village Social Club
 12.30pm-3pm, £25 booking
 essential
 01933 460676
 For beginners, paint easy flowers
 & birds in the Baulameri style of
 brushstrokes includes project pack
 to take home.

Oundle Cinema, The Light
Between Oceans (12a)
 Stahl Theatre, West Street Oundle
 Peterborough PE8 4EJ
 7.45pm, £5/£3 under 18s
 Oundle Festival, 4 West Street,
 Oundle PE8 4ED
 01832 274734/
www.oundlefestival.org.uk,
information@oundlefestival.org.uk
 "... ruthlessly sentimental, this
 films tugs away at your heartstrings
 like it's ringing in the New Year."
 The Guardian

Friday 2nd June
Film Sully (12A)
 Ringstead Village Hall, High Street
 Doors open 7pm film starts
 7.30pm, tickets £5.
 Refreshments available
 Contact 01933 460373
 The true story of Captain
 Sullenberger who landed his
 damaged plane in the Hudson
 River.

Music in Special Places, Caprice
Duo, Helen Smith (violin) & Ben
Smith (accordion)
 The Barn, Thorpe Castle House,
 Thorpe Waterville, NN14 3ED
 7.30pm, £14/£12 concessions / £4
 under 18
 Oundle Festival, 4 West Street,
 Oundle, PE8 4ED
 01832 274734/
www.oundlefestival.org.uk,
information@oundlefestival.org.uk
 Caprice Duo plays all kinds of cafe
 music including tangos, musette
 waltzes, folk dances and cafe
 favourites from around Europe and
 beyond.

Fusion for 7-11 year olds
 Thrapston Baptist Church
 6.30pm-8.00pm
 No Fusion this week - half term

Saturday 3rd June
Hemington Barn Dance
 Hemington Lodge Farm PE8 5QP
 7.30pm, adults: £15, children aged
 5-11: £10, family ticket: £40
 John on 01832 293 620, or email
hemingtonchurch@outlook.com
 Fun and friendly charity barn
 dance with live band and caller,
 great food and bar.

Sunday 4th June
Morning Service
 Thrapston Baptist Church
 10.30am
 Preacher: Mat Hussain
 Theme - Knowing Jesus:
 Demolishing Strongholds

Higham Ferrers Footpath
Group
 Saffron Road car park Higham
 Ferrers for car sharing
 9.05, free
 01933 387991
 11 mile walk from Toddington

By Appointment
Counselling & Listening Service
 No 1 St Osyth's Lane,
 Oundle, Northants PE8 4BG
 These services are free
 Marilyn 07936015965

Housing, benefits and
employment advice
 No 1 St Osyth's Lane,
 Oundle, Northants PE8 4BG
 01832 770010/
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

Half-Term
All-age Touch Typing Club
 9.30am-10.30am Mon-Fri
 Diane Gifford 07432 123 438
 Learn or Refresh your skill £15
 course intro with coffee.

Every Monday
Baggy pants Yoga Class
 Masonic Hall, Wellingborough
 Road, Rushden
 8.30am-9.30am, £5 per class
 perfect for all ages /abilities
 07873743256/
carole.wyatt@virginmedia.com

Islip Ladies Choir
 Thrapston Church Hall
 2pm-3.30pm
 Barbara 01536 394431

Yoga Classes
 Denford Village Hall
 9am-10am, £4 per session
 Anita Hackney 01832 733274

Titchmarsh Folk Dance Club
 The Club Room,
 High Street, Titchmarsh
 NN14 3DF
 8pm-10pm, £1 inc tea/coffee
 Kev Prigmore 01536 514023/
titchmarshfdc@gmail.com

Oundle Ladies
Running Group
 Oundle pool car park
 6.45pm
 Jane Walker 01832 272898/
janewalkercakes@icloud.com

Baggy pants Yoga
 Masonic Hall, Wellingborough
 Road, Rushden
 10am-11am, £5 per session
 01933 382837/07873 743256/
carole.wyatt@virginmedia.com

Spanish Tuition
 The Old Town Hall,
 Market Place, Oundle
 9am-8pm, £25 per class
 01832 776336/
info@antlerlanguages.co.uk

Every Monday (term time)
Praise and Play
 St James' Church Thrapston
 1.30pm-2.45pm,
 refreshments available
 Anita 735443

Aqua Aerobic Classes
 Oundle School Swimming Pool,
 Milton Road, Oundle
 8.45-9.30am, £25 for 5 sessions
 01832 277208/277195

Every Monday, Friday &
Saturday (term time)
Otters Swim School Lessons
 Oundle School Swimming Pool,
 Milton Road, Oundle
 Mon 3.55pm-6.10pm,
 Fri 3.55pm-6.10pm, Sat 8.30am-
 12noon, booked in advance as a
 block (£5.50 per lesson)
 01832 277208/277195



1st Monday of the month
Oundle Wives
 Methodist Church, Oundle
 7.45pm, £3 refreshments/raffle
 01832 272178

Oundle & District Royal
British Legion Meeting
 The Talbot Hotel, Oundle
 7pm
 Les Starks 01832 270073

Finedon Irthingborough &
District Branch Royal British
Legion Branch Meeting
 Finedon Bowls Club
 7.30pm
 Peter Eames 07434328237

Every 2nd Monday
(except January & August)
Thrapston & District Royal
British Legion Branch Meeting
 The Thrapston Centre,
 High Street, Thrapston
 7.30pm
 Veronica McCurdy 01832 735206

2nd Monday of the month
Royal British Legion Rushden
Branch Monthly Meeting
 Rushden Football & Social Club,
 Hayden Road, Rushden
 7.15pm, annual fee £17
 Jake Baker 07525 441267

2nd & 4th Mondays of the month
StitChat
 No 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle
 1.30pm-3.30pm
 01832 770010/
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

Monday once a month
Woodturning Club
 Hardwick Village,
 Near Wellingborough
 NN9 5AL
 7pm-10pm
 Paul Lawman 01933 674260

Every Monday & Thursday
Oundle Bridge Club
 Fletton House, Fletton Way,
 Oundle PE8 4JA
 7pm start
 01832 273044

Every Tuesday
Short Mat Bowls
 Islip Village Hall
 10am-12noon, £3
 Barbara Finch 01832 733154

Phoenix Gaming Club (Age 12+)
 The Rushden Scouts Hall,
 Brooke Close behind Orbit Tyres
 (Skinners Lane, Rushden
 NN10 0XH)
 7pm-11pm, membership £5 pa
 Aron 07739563657/
aron.phoenix@virginmedia.com

Art Classes (10 weeks)
 Knuston Hall, Knuston
 7-9pm, 10 Lessons £100
 Jamie 07899 676769

East Northants Classic
Motorcycle Club
 New Inn Public House, Wymington
 Meet around 7.30pm

Sling Walk
 11am
 First Tuesday of the month there
 will be Sling Library at 10am prior
 to the walk. Second Tuesday meet
 at Rushden CC Hayway instead of
 Higham Ferrers. 01933 410112

Rushden Mission Training Band
 Mission Church, Wellingborough
 Road, Rushden
 7.30pm-8.45pm
 Alan Richardson 01933 355302

Short Mat Bowls
 Saxon Hall, Raunds
 1.45pm-4pm, £3
 01933 624545

Yoga Class
 Whitefriars Infant School,
 Boughton Drive, Rushden
 7.15pm-8.15pm, £5 per session
 Carole 07873743256/
carole.wyatt@virginmedia.com

Ringstead's Jolly Good Company
 Ringstead Shared Church
 10am-11am, £4
 Music & Movement for over-55s.

Every Tuesday (term time)
Toddlers' Drop In
 No 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle
 9.15am-11.30am, free
 01832 770010/
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

1st Tuesday of every month
Great Companions (singles 55+)
 Rushden Bowls Club,
 Northampton Road
 7-9pm, yearly membership £6
 Pat Bazeley 07931 964360

2nd Tuesday of the month
Woodford WI Meeting
 Woodford Sports and Social Club
 7.30pm
 Lynn Sortwell 01832 732740

Tea Dance
 Pemberton Centre, Rushden
 Dancing to 'Music Box'
 2pm-4pm, £3 per person including
 tea/coffee & cake

Higham Ferrers Guided Tour
 Groups of 6 minimum. Trained
 guides. Tea & cakes, optional.
 01933 411191

Wildlife Trust Little Bugs Club
 10am-11.30am,
 £1 per child (adults are free)
 Louise Tuffin 01604 774043/
louise.tuffin@wildlifebcn.org

50+ Adventure Club
 For further information
 01536 505548/www.fiftyplus
 northants.adventureclub.org.uk

Every Tuesday & Thursday
Health Walks Stanwick Lakes
 10am-11am, free, car park charges
 01933 625522/
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk

Every Tuesday, Thursday
& Friday
Whist Drive
 Rushden Bowls Club
 Northampton Road, Rushden
 7.30pm, £2
 01933 313714

Every Tuesday & Saturday
Coffee Mornings
 St James Church, Thrapston
 10am-12noon
 01832 730019

Every Wednesday
Ladies Archery
Pemberton Maid Marions
 The Pemberton Centre,
 H E Bates Way NN10 9YP
 Diane 01933 314032 or
 Nicki 01933 395913

Tai Chi
 Chelveston Village Hall
 2pm-3pm, £5

Dog Training and
Socialisation and Ringcraft
 Halefield, Woodnewton,
 near Oundle
 Classes from 6.45pm
 01832 293432/oundledogs@aol.
com/www.oundledogs.co.uk

Rainbow Cafe for Tots
 Stanwick Lakes
 10.30am-12noon and 1.30pm
 (term time only), £2.50 per child –
 car park charges apply.
 01933 625522/
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk

Club Night
 Apethorpe Tennis Club
 From 6pm

Returners to Work
 No.1 St. Osyth's Lane
 10am-12noon
 01832 770011

Art & Craft Class
 Oundle Rural Mind,
 1 Herne Park, East Road,
 Oundle PE8 4BZ
 Irene Issitt 01832 275020

Inflatable Fun Session
 Oundle School Swimming Pool,
 Milton Road Oundle
 5-6pm (May vary during school
 holidays), £3 adult & £2.25 child
 01832 277208/277195

Cambridge First
Certificate in English
 The Old Town Hall,
 Market Place, Oundle
 9.30am-12.30pm, £25 per week
 01832 776336/
info@antlerlanguages.co.uk

French Tuition

The Old Town Hall,
Market Place, Oundle
From 6pm, £25 per week
01832 776336/
info@antlerlanguages.co.uk

Ringstead's Beat Bugs

Ringstead Shared Church
NN14 4DA
2pm-2.45pm, £21/6-week session
(£3.50 per week)
Angela 01933 622316/
rbc-rsc@angeladavis.net

Jelly Babes Toddler Group

Rushden Independent
Wesleyan Church
9.15am

**Every Wednesday (term time)
Community ICT Classes**

Needham Building,
Oundle School SciTec,
Glaphthorn Road, Oundle
2.30pm-4pm
01832 277267 to enrol

Tiny Tots

Oundle Cof E Primary School,
Glaphthorn Road
1.45pm

660 Club (Age 60+)

Two Acre Club, off Milton Road
2.15pm-3.45pm
Afternoon tea and
entertainment hosted by
Oundle pupils.

Allegra Singers –

Three-part ladies choir
Music room, Sports Pavilion, Islip
7.30-9.30pm, £3 per session
Veronica 01832 732611/
07753 472225

**Every alternate Wednesday
Psychic & Spiritual Awareness
Development Group**

Rushden
1pm-3pm or 7.30pm-9.30pm,
£7 per session
Renalta Hall 07712 740495

**1st Wednesday of the month
Raunds Ladies Group**

The Saxon Hall, Raunds
8pm-10pm, Visitors £3.50

1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month

Thrapston Country Dancers
St Johns Ambulance Hall
2pm-3.30pm
G Hearnden 01933 622827/
ghearnden@tiscali.co.uk

**2nd Wednesday of the month
Coffee Morning**

Raunds Methodist Church
10am-12noon
01933 383378

2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month**Northants Model Makers**

Windmill Primary School,
Raunds NN9 6LA
Main meeting starts 7.30ish
First couple of meetings free
Bob Humpage 07960 054405/
modelmaker@tiscali.co.uk

**NWR – linking lively
minded women**

Dovedale, 1 Herne Park,
East Road, Oundle
7.30pm-7.45pm
Carol 01832 270061

**3rd Wednesday of the month
Wellingborough Flower
Arrangement Society**

St Mary's Church Hall, Knox Road,
Wellingborough NN8 1HU
7.30pm, £5
Chairman 01933 222326/
Secretary 01604 870275

Higham and Rushden U3A

Pemberton Centre, Rushden
2pm, visitors always welcome to
attend (£3 charge)
www.highamandrushdenu3a.org.uk

**4th Wednesday of the month
Rushden Pensioners Forum**

St Peters Church Hall,
Midland Road, Rushden

2pm-4pm

Mary Morby 01933 312476/
e.m.m@btinternet.com

Wednesday & Thursday**Free Counselling**

No.1 St. Osyth's Lane Oundle
By appointment 0793 6015965

Wednesday & Saturday**East Northants Athletics Club****– 'Getting Kids Into Athletics'**

The Ferrers School,
Higham Ferrers
Wed 6-7pm, Sat 9-10am, £4 per
session or Wed & Sat £7
Graham Bufton 07788 698883/
grahambufton.ena@gmail.com

**Wednesday evenings and
Sunday mornings****Ferrers & Rushden Tennis Club**

Higham Ferrers Recreation
Ground, off Wharf Road
10am-12noon (Sundays);
6.30pm-8.30pm (Wednesdays)
Per club session £2 adults and £1
junior (youngest aged 10)
Steve Roberts 01933 461028/
07960 846092
Please come and join us if you
have just a little tennis experience.

Every Thursday**Rushden Folk Dance Club**

St Mary's Church Hall, Rushden
8-10pm, first visit free,
£2 thereafter
Val 01933 387327

The Silver Fox**Woodturning Club**

Dale End Scout Headquarters,
Croyland Road, Wellingborough
10am-1pm, £2 all members
Mick Webb 01933 682517

Move to Health

No 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle
2.15pm-3pm
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk/
01832 770010

Thursday Drop-In

No 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle
10am-2pm
01832 770010/
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

Little Ducklings Pre-School**Stay & Play 'Tea & Tots' Sessions**

1.30pm-3pm, £1.50 per family.
01832 358085

Short Mat Bowls

Wymington Memorial Hall
1.45pm-4pm, £2 admission
Mrs Smith 01933 355960

Olde and Sequence Dancing

Woodford Sports and Social Club
7.30pm-9.30pm, £2
Dorothy 01832 732534 or
Keith 01832 731896

Every Thursday (term time)**Music Makers**

Titchmarsh Pavilion
9.30am-10.15am, £4 per child,
£2 for siblings
Naomi Cooper on
musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com

Music Makers

Joan Strong Centre, Oundle
11.15am-12noon, £4 per child,
£2 for siblings
Naomi Cooper on
musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com

Little Treasures Tots Group

St Laurence's Church, Stanwick
9.30am-11am,
donations to cover costs
Nicki 01933 625658

Music Makers

Stanwick Village Hall
2pm-2.45pm, £4 per child,
£2 for siblings

Naomi Cooper on

musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com

Community Art Classes

Oundle School Art Department
7.30pm-8.30pm, free classes for
people with a disability.

**Coffee/tea and biscuits
in the Bede House**

St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers
10am-12noon, no charge just a
donation to cover costs.

Adult & Child Swim Sessions

Oundle School Swimming Pool,
Milton Road Oundle
9.15-9.45am, booked in advance
as a block (£4.75 per lesson)
01832 277208/277195

1st Thursday of the month**Raunds District History Society**

Saxon Hall, Raunds
7.30pm-9.30pm, £3 each,
includes refreshments
Secretary 01933 461480

3rd Thursday of the month**Painting Class with Nick Baldwin**

Chelveston Village Hall,
10am-4pm, £17 per session
Janet Lowe 01933 389647.

Ise & Nene Valley Turners

Counties Community Centre,
Hertford Rd, Kettering NN15 6LG
7pm, members free, visitors £7
Peter Bond 01933 741835/
peterjbond@btinternet.com

Thursday Market Day**No.1 Cafe - Free Drop-In**

No.1 St, Osyth's Lane
10am-2pm
01832 770011

Every Friday**Walk and Chat**

Rushden Hall Park,
under flag pole
10am
Sue Mckay 07739 327022/
sue.mckay@groundwork.org.uk

Music Makers

Nene Centre, Thrapston
12.45-1.30pm & 1.45-2.30pm,
£4 per child, £2 for siblings
Naomi Cooper 07815 293893/
musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com

French Beginners

The Old Town Hall,
Market Place, Oundle
6pm-7.30pm, £25 per class
01832 776336/
info@antlerlanguages.co.uk

Every Friday (term time)**Over 60s FREE swim**

Oundle School Swimming Pool,
Milton Road, Oundle
3pm-3.45pm
01832 277208/277195

**Pre-School Swimming
Lessons**

Oundle School Swimming Pool,
Milton Road, Oundle
1.55-2.25pm & 2.30-3pm
Booked in advance as a block
(£6.75 per lesson)
01832 277208/277195

Most Fridays**Local Focus 'explorations'**

Various East Northants locations
9.30am-12.30pm/2.30pm
£3 per re-usable map
01933 461480

**1st Friday of the month
(Check before travelling)****Craft Cafe**

Stanwick Lakes
10.30am-1pm, modest charge for
some materials – car park charges
01933 625522/
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk

Oundle Evergreen Club

2.30pm in the Victoria Hall for tea
and cakes plus entertainment.
01832 273826/272340

3rd Friday of the month**Raunds Tea Dance**

Saxon Hall, Raunds
2pm-4.15pm, £3 (50p for raffle)
Mrs Wicks 01933 312623

U3A Branch Meeting

The Plaza, Cosy Nook,
Thrapston NN14 4PS
10am-12noon, £2 (visitors), £1
(members) includes refreshments

Former Carers Group

No 1 St Osyth's Lane,
Oundle PE8 4BG
2pm-3.30pm, free
01832 770010/
office@oundlebaptist.org.uk

**3rd Friday of the month
(Check before travelling)****Stanwick Stitches**

Stanwick Lakes
10.30am, free, car park charges.
01933 625522 or Pauline on
01933 229817/
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk

**1st Saturday of the month
Coffee Morning**

St Mary's Church, Ringstead
10am-12noon
01933 624262

Thrapston Farmers' Market

Thrapston High Street
9am-1pm
www.thrapstonfarmersmarket.moonfruit.com

2nd Saturday of the month**It's All Greek to Me –****Greek cookery classes**

Fletton House, Oundle
9am-3pm
Andreas Panos 01832 720043

Coffee 'n' Cakes

Oundle Methodist Church,
Drummingwell Lane
(behind the Talbot Hotel)
10am-12noon
John Hewitson 01832 272209

WE Watch

Stanwick Lakes
01933 625522/
wewatchstanwick@hotmail.co.uk

Oundle Farmers' Market

Market Place, Oundle
8am-1.30pm
Oundle Town Council
01832 272055

3rd Saturday of the month**Greek cookery classes &****pop up Taverna**

Wadenhoe Village Hall, Church
Street, Wadenhoe PE8 5ST
11am-11pm
Andreas Panos 01832 720043

Phoenix Group

Stanwick Lakes
01933 625522/
wewatchstanwick@hotmail.co.uk

Messy Church

Rushden Salvation Army,
Church Street, Rushden
4pm
George Ellitson 01933 313106

**Last Saturday of the month
(except December)****Farmers' Market**

Market Square, Higham Ferrers
9am-1pm
danielle@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk

Every Saturday & Sunday**Coffee & cakes/Sunday worship**

Rushden Independent Wesleyan
Church (Entrance Queen St)

Saturday coffee & cakes

10am-11.30am, Sunday worship
10.45am with children's activities
2nd Sunday in the month 4pm.

Every Sunday**Morning Worship****Rushden Mission Church**

Wellingborough Road
10.45am
Alan 01933 355302

Morning Church Service

Rushden Heritage Chapel Hall,
Park Road, Rushden NN10 0RG
10.30am

Church Service

The Heritage Chapel and Halls,
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Cheryl 07969 603958/
cheze49@gmail.com

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Mike Freeman 01933 389796/
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Service for all (Communion first
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Chess Corner



By Derrick Sims

A few weeks ago many people watched the fight between Anthony Joshua and Wladimir Klitschko for the IBF, WBA and IBO World Heavyweight titles. It was refreshing to see the respect that they held for each other in the pre-fight publicity meeting. We have become used to these over-hyped events becoming very confrontational and sometimes even degenerating into violence. One of the observations made of the fighters at the time was that they both had a love of chess and regularly played against each other. One of the features of chess is the etiquette it enforces and players in competitive matches are expected to shake hands both before and after the game. There is good reason for this, as it was not uncommon in

mediaeval times for games to end in violence with instances of murder being recorded in historical records. In more recent times the Soviet Union banned its Cosmonauts from playing chess in space after one of its research scientists was murdered over a game in a remote polar outpost.

On the face of it chess and boxing seem odd bedfellows but it is surprising the number of top fighters who also have a love of chess. Wladimir Klitschko's brother Vitali is also an enthusiastic chess player who regularly plays against the former world chess champion Vladimir Kramnik. Unsurprisingly Kramnik always wins these encounters! Vitali is reported to have commented that "Chess is similar to boxing. You need to develop a strategy, and you

need to think two or three steps ahead about what your opponent is doing. You have to be smart".

Lennox Lewis also plays chess and is reported to be a skilled exponent of the game. Joshua claims that Lewis was his inspiration for taking up the game. Boxing like chess is not totally dominated by men and Olympic boxing gold medallist Nicola Adams is also a chess player who has played the game since childhood.

An interesting development occurred when Dutch middleweight fighter Iepe Rubingh decided to create a sport fusing the skills of boxing and chess together. The idea came from the 1992 comic 'Froid Équateur', written by French comic book artist Enki Bilal. The competitors fight in alternating rounds of chess and boxing. The first chessboxing competition took place in Berlin in 2003 with the first world championship fight held later that year in Greece. There are currently world champions in three weight categories, Heavyweight, Light Heavyweight and Middleweight. Chessboxing is particularly popular in Germany, Great Britain, India and Russia.

Chess is a game for people of all abilities, disabilities, and life styles. Rushden Chess Club loves welcoming new members, so do come along to a meeting if you're interested in playing chess in a very friendly environment. The club opens most Monday's from 6pm for junior players – for details please call the Club Secretary on 01933 625767, or visit the club website <http://rushdenchessclub.com>.



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