

21st June 2014

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### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Creative kids make waves to save lives

The winners of a competition to design an anti-vandalism message for essential life-saving equipment on our waterways will have their designs unveiled at a special ceremony hosted by East Northamptonshire Council.

Each winner received a £25 Amazon voucher and Georgia Russell was also picked at random to receive an extra prize. She has been invited to a paddle boarding session at Woodford Marina, kindly donated by River Spirit Stand Up Paddle Boarding.

Run by The Royal Life Saving Society UK (RLSS), Drowning Prevention Week (21st – 29th June) aims to ensure everyone knows how to have fun and stay safe near water.

#### Learn to play the ukulele

Following on from previously successful courses, Raunds St Peter's Community Centre, (opposite the Spar) in association with Raunds Ukulele Orchestra, will be hosting a 'Learn to play the Ukulele' course over the space of two Saturday mornings on 12th and 19th July, 10–11.30am.

Places are limited and more details and booking information can be found at [www.raundsukulele.co.uk](http://www.raundsukulele.co.uk) or by emailing Chris [raundsukulele@hotmail.com](mailto:raundsukulele@hotmail.com)

# Secretary of State gives green light to Rushden Lakes

**Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles has given the go ahead for the Rushden Lakes development to start.**

In October 2012, East Northamptonshire Councillors voted unanimously to grant planning permission for the old Skew Bridge Country Club and dry ski slope on the edge of Rushden to be developed into retail units, restaurants and a lakeside visitor centre, along with a hotel, leisure club and boathouse.

Under planning rules, the application was referred to the Secretary of State

who determined that the decision should be reviewed at a public inquiry which took place in June 2013.

The official confirmation states: "The Inspector recommended that planning permission should be granted subject to conditions. For the reasons given [in the report], the Secretary of State agrees with the Inspector's recommendations."

Cllr Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, says: "This is great news for East Northamptonshire as it will provide local people with a better retail offer on their doorstep as well as new jobs and a

regenerated site that has become a blot on the landscape.

"The leisure opportunities will add to the Nene Valley project that encourages people to make the most of the river and help to give better access through a footbridge and cycleway across the A45.

"Rushden Lakes will complement rather than compete with the High Street, and many local retailers are keen to see this happen as it will bring more people to Rushden than ever before."

Andy Sawford MP says: "I am very pleased that Rushden lakes has finally

been given the go ahead. This will provide a great boost to jobs and the economy in East Northamptonshire and I have strongly supported the development. I gave evidence at the Inquiry and have consistently pushed for a decision to be made. After a year's delay I hope we can now get on with the development as soon as possible. I have always been mindful that the Rushden Lakes development will bring challenges to existing town centres across the county but it would not have been right to block this important opportunity for people in East Northamptonshire. I want all our town centres to succeed in the five towns that I represent and I will do my best to support them in the future."

Tom Pursglove, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Corby & East Northamptonshire says: "The decision to grant planning permission for the Rushden Lakes development is a huge boost for our area. Local people have campaigned vigorously for this development and this victory is testament to their efforts – particularly those of 'Yes to Rushden Lakes'. This decision is evidence that the Prime Minister's long-term economic plan is working and is delivering for local people."

Artist's impression



We want to hear from you, so please submit your news story or event at [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk)

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- **Warmington** - The Red Lion, Peterborough Road, Warmington
- **Woodford** - Duke's Arms, 83 High Street, Woodford
- **Yarwell** - The Angel Inn, 59 Main Street, Yarwell

## Oundle School pupils to perform in Edinburgh

**A talented cast of Oundle School's Sixth Form actors have been rehearsing Just by Ali Smith in preparation for the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in August.**

The play, originally commissioned for the National Connections Festival, is a dark comedy, an absurdist take on British national identity and the British concept of justice, featuring corpses impaled with umbrellas, a blind judge, townspeople who speak in synchronised verse, and an amnesiac malaprop cop: Kafka meets Alice in Wonderland.

Robbie Younger (18) plays Albert, and the role of Victoria is played by Livvy Sellers (18). They are admirably supported by Emma Kemsley-Pein (17), Georgie Anstey (18), Alex Wallitt (16), Monica Dahiya (16) and Annabelle Sherwood (17), with Polly Halstead (17) as stage manager.

Livvy Sellers will be starting a course at Central Drama School later this year.

Performances in Edinburgh will run from 12th to 17th August at 4.50pm in Paradise Green at St Augustine's, on George IV Bridge.

English teacher, Andrew Martens, commented: "Pupils have worked hard on this production over many weeks and are hoping to do Oundle proud at the Edinburgh Festival. They will be spending a couple of days in Oundle getting the show up to scratch with some intensive rehearsals, before travelling up to Edinburgh for a week of performances. As well as performing their own show, pupils will also immerse themselves in the experience of the world's biggest arts festival."

Emma Kemsley-Pein said: "Just is certainly a challenging play to work on. It is far from run-of-the-mill and as a result we have to really push ourselves and think outside the box in terms of how we are going to portray our characters and our interaction with others onstage. The political nature of the play is thought-provoking and also encourages us to consider the wider effects of imbalances of justice and power. We are, I'm sure I can speak on behalf of the whole cast, really looking forward to what promises to be an unforgettable week in Edinburgh."

Oundle School pupils



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## Cable ties to replace waste sacks

**East Northamptonshire residents who currently do not use the wheeled bin system for disposing of their rubbish will soon take delivery of waste cable ties which will replace the blue waste sacks.**

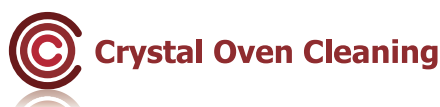
It has been found that many residents are only using the blue sacks as outer liners for other sacks. So, rather than residents double bagging their waste they can just simply place a cable tie around the top of any refuse sack and place this out. This reduces the amount of plastic bags being collected and disposed of.

The cable ties have been successfully trialled for six months for residents requiring extra capacity and no issues with their use have been raised.

Your waste should be placed in a refuse sack and must be secured with one of the cable ties supplied. You need to use one cable tie per sack and refuse crews will only collect standard sized sacks up to 90 litres in capacity. It is requested that you don't overfill the sacks as the crew needs to be able to lift them safely without splitting. If you have any blue sacks left over then please use them up and you don't need to use cable ties with them.

Each household will receive 100 blue cable ties for general waste and 100 clear sacks for recycling which should last until 30th June 2015. If you have any questions, please call 01832 742026.

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# Luxury retirement scheme coming to Thrapston

**Growing demand for high quality retirement properties in Thrapston has seen two housing providers team up to bring a luxury retirement scheme of 29 brand new apartments to the historic market town.**

The luxury apartments are being developed by Keystone Developments, with the daily management of the scheme being handed over to Spire Homes, both members of the Longhurst Group of companies. Close partnerships with East Northamptonshire Council, Seagrave Developments and Richard Julian Associates, have ensured work will begin on the scheme this summer to bring a vacant piece of brownfield land off Chancery Lane back to life.

"Keystone Developments has a lot of experience developing purpose-built, high quality retirement communities," said Andy Patchitt, Development and New Business Manager at Longhurst Group. "We're very pleased to be working with Spire Homes who have great local knowledge and strong ties with the community here, as well as East Northamptonshire Council with whom we've worked very closely to ensure that we're developing property that meets local needs."

Councillor Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, said: "This great new development will not only give people the chance to downsize as they enter retirement, it is perfectly situated to provide access to all the facilities that Thrapston has to offer."

Promising a luxury independent retirement for residents, each of the 29 apartments will come with a fully fitted kitchen including a

hob, high level oven, integrated fridge-freezer and a washer dryer as well as a bathroom specially equipped to make life easy for residents. The scheme will consist of a variety of one and two bedroom apartments ranging in size from 48 to 88 square metres.

A lot of features within the scheme have been incorporated to help make life as stress-free as possible for residents," added Andy. "For instance, we know that security is really important so we will be installing CCTV and door entry systems on the development and a discreet 24-hour monitored emergency call system. But we also know that convenience is essential; on top of a fantastic location that puts people within walking distance of the high street, the scheme will have wifi, access to digital and Sky television, and a Scheme Manager who will have responsibility for ensuring the day-to-day maintenance of the communal areas are taken care of, as well as giving residents peace of mind and advice should they need it."

Katy Sagoe, Director of Housing Services for Spire Homes said: "We are extremely excited to be a part of the team that is delivering this new important development to Thrapston. We are always looking for new ways to create much-needed homes for people and these offer a fantastic opportunity to achieve exactly that."

The scheme is set for completion in summer 2015 with apartments available for outright sale and shared equity.

To register your interest in the scheme, or for more information about purchase options, please contact Millers New Homes on 01604 638000.

Chancery Lane Retirement Scheme



## Champing Open Day at All Saints Church, Aldwinckle

Sunday 22nd June from 11am to 4pm

### What's Champing?

"That's what we'd love to show you," says Richard Nelson of Canoe2, the canoe hire company operating along the River Nene.

"Working with The Churches

Conservation Trust, the national charity protecting historic churches at risk, together we've created an exciting new and unique offering whereby you can enjoy a very special night staying over in the beautiful All Saints Church in Aldwinckle."

Trips that include one or two days canoeing the Nene are available, or you can simply enjoy all that the wonderful medieval church and Aldwinckle village have to offer – the choice is yours.

"We're holding an open day to show off our new church camping 'CHAMPING'. The church will be all set up for camping

and our Storyteller, Richard York will be on hand to entertain you with some old folk tales and some musical sounds from his wonderful and interesting medieval musical instruments."

Just drop in anytime from 11 to 4pm or, for more information, please phone Canoe2 on 01604 832115, email [info@canoe2.co.uk](mailto:info@canoe2.co.uk) or see [www.canoe2.co.uk](http://www.canoe2.co.uk). Parking is available a short stroll away, opposite Pear Tree Farm in Aldwinckle, where you'll also find refreshments available.



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## A SPOTLIGHT ON RUSHDEN

### Action 2 Mobility

**Action 2 Mobility is a long established family-run business which has been providing the local community with mobility aids and equipment since 1980. Their extensive showrooms situated on the corner of Washbrook Road and Quorn Road junction in Rushden is just like visiting 'Aladdin's Cave'.**

The shop is stocked full of scooters, new and reconditioned, electric recliners, adjustable beds, walkers, wheelchairs, comfy shoes, slippers and a vast range of personal hygiene and toileting products; in fact just about every mobility product you could think of. On the odd occasion when they don't have your particular choice in stock, they will be able to order it for you and deliver it to your home. To make life even easier, there's free customer parking right outside the main entrance

in Quorn Road.

Another speciality of Action 2 Mobility is its own Stairlift Division, complete with a team of highly trained technicians. They install a comprehensive range of stairlifts to suit all homes and budgets, making getting up and down stairs a breeze. Simply ask for a no obligation home survey and they'll take care of everything.

What sets Action 2 Mobility apart from other mobility centres is its own servicing and repair department. This facility enables customers to have scooters, wheelchairs, recliners and even stairlifts regularly serviced and maintained, ensuring that their investment continues to function as new for many a year.

Opening hours are Monday to Fridays from 8am to 4pm, or you can call them on 01933 414979 to discuss your particular requirement.

### EPT Gym

**"At EPT Gym, our aim is to evolve your approach to health and fitness and weight loss. We want to start from the beginning to help you build your fitness and encourage you to take that first step to achieving your goals."**



"With so much advice out there on different styles of training and areas of fitness, it's easy to lose sight of the big picture. Knowing where to start and how to get motivated is not easy, that's why our focus is to help you overcome that. Everyone has different diet and fitness goals and with the increasing numbers affected by diabetes and other illnesses our aim is to also help raise awareness of how important a healthy lifestyle is."

"At EPT our friendly advisors will ensure you get all the help and advice you need."

#### SO LET'S GET STARTED...

"We are offering a six-week membership here at EPT for just £60 in July and August. This great offer includes eating plans, fitness programs, assessments, challenges, top tips, classes, talks on different topics and much more! Why not find out more and pop in and see our facilities and soak in the atmosphere."

"We also offer other services on site, such as sports therapy and personal training."

"Don't give up before you try!"

Call 01933 357710 to book.

### Life on the permanent wave – all about perms today

**When most of us hear about 'permed hair' it invokes memories of ladies with very tight, curly hair.**

Many ladies today like to have their hair permed to give it body or for blow drying. A light perm for instance can simply add body to fine limp hair or to straighten hair if desired. Methods and products used have changed drastically over the years and today perm treatments are safe and take around one to two hours from start to finish and generally last for three to six months.

Sadly the art of perming nowadays is not often an option taken by young hair stylists when at college, so you need

to search long and hard to find an experienced stylist who knows about perming techniques.

Kathie Lissimore of Pippins Hair and Beauty in Rushden offers perming using modern products and methods in her boutique hair salon. Kathie is very experienced in perming and has trained and grown up with it since she started styling hair. Kathie is willing to give anyone thinking of a perm help and advice to ensure that perming is suitable for them.

Give Kathie a ring on 01933 805966 or email at [fatflossie@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:fatflossie@hotmail.co.uk) for your free consultation.

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## A SPOTLIGHT ON RUSHDEN

### Rushden Town Partnership Independents' Day – Friday 4th July 2014

**It is now less than two weeks until Independents' Day in Rushden High Street, when the Rushden Town Partnership will be taking part in this national event to celebrate and promote all that is good and great about Rushden.**

Why not come down to the High Street on Friday 4th July between 10am and 4pm? Our seaside themed day will include ice cream, candy floss and popcorn sellers, music and seaside entertainment alongside a Mini Market, where you can sample and buy local produce. And enjoy a one day

special offer of a fish & chip lunch from Copperfields

Challenge yourself by participating in one of our taster courses, when you can experience the art of sausage making with Tim Brown, sugarcake decorating with Heavenly Delight and pizza making at Pizzeria Venezia. There will be lots of promotional offers from retailers too throughout the day.

Don't miss out on the opportunity to enter our competition and win fantastic seaside prizes by spotting buckets and spades in shop windows. Entry forms can

be downloaded from [www.rushdentown.org.uk](http://www.rushdentown.org.uk) or picked up from RTP members' shops along the High Street.

For further information please contact [rushdentownpartnership@gmail.com](mailto:rushdentownpartnership@gmail.com) or Julia on 01933 356424.

## Get to know Rushden

**Rushden has a population of nearly 30,000 and is the largest town in East Northamptonshire. The town is an interesting mix of historic factories, terraced housing, imposing Victorian and Edwardian properties and latterly new housing developments.**

Rushden has an interesting and varied High Street with national chains present, together with a strong presence of independent shops

that gives a unique and charming feel to the town.

Our Town Partnership and Town Council work very closely to organise events within the High Street and on 4th July the Partnership will be organising 'Independents' Day' which will showcase all the individual shops and what they have to offer.

We will also be running our Get to Know Rushden event from 4th-13th July. This event is very community focused and

includes organisations, businesses, charities, schools, faith groups and community groups. Over 70 events will be run across the town throughout week and the event culminates with our Party in Park, in Hall Park on 12th July and Service at the Heritage Church, Park Road on Sunday 13th July. This is an opportunity for people to come and see what Rushden has to offer and enjoy our lovely town and hospitality.

## Tennyson Road Infant School

**We are a friendly infant school serving our local community. The school is set in its own grounds and although named after the adjacent Tennyson Road is in fact sited on Highfield Road.**

At Tennyson Road we want our children to enjoy learning and coming to school, to settle in happily and to derive a sense of purpose, achievement and independence. We aim to enable each child, regardless of his/her ability, to reach their full potential. This can only occur if school and home build a sound relationship based on mutual respect, trust, understanding, co-operation and regular communication.

We strive, at all times, to make our school a place where people like to be. We warmly invite you to visit the

school, see us at work and share in that enjoyment.

Ofsted says: 'This is a Good school. Children experience a rich variety of rewarding and interesting learning experiences. There is a varied range of activities, both indoors and outside, that captures children's interests. Children enjoy themselves and develop skills quickly.'

'Tennyson Road is a very inclusive school. Through targeted support, it successfully removes barriers

to learning.'

At Tennyson Road Infant School, we strive to enable children to develop academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually, by providing a safe, secure, challenging and stimulating learning environment. Children are encouraged to respect and value themselves and others, to grow and develop into self-confident, aspiring citizens of the 21st century.

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**Tennyson Road Infant School**

Highfield Road,  
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Tel: 01933 314161

Headteacher: Miss Caroline Hall  
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Children are encouraged to respect and value themselves and others, to grow and develop into self-confident, aspiring citizens of the 21st century.

We encourage children to 'Be the best that you can be.'

**Book a visit on  
01933 314161**



**4 - 13 JULY 2014**

A project involving communities, organisations and businesses from across RUSHDEN, working together to find out about, participate in and celebrate all that is good about RUSHDEN.

- Open Days and Evenings
- Afternoon tea & entertainment
- Children's Shows
- Guided Walks around the town
- Displays in Rushden Hall from Monday to Saturday 7-12 July 2-5 pm
- Tours of local businesses
- Museum WW1 exhibition
- Train rides
- Choir concerts

**SOAP BOX DERBY at Rushden Hall Park on Friday 4 JULY  
launched by the Mayor at 7 pm.**

**PARTY IN THE PARK - Saturday 12 JULY 1-10 PM**

Events brochure available from Rushden Town Council



## Nene Valleynews

FORTHCOMING  
FEATURES

5th July Property  
19th July Spotlight on Thrapston  
2nd August Weddings  
16th August Spotlight on  
Higham Ferrers  
30th August Outdoor Activities

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513515 or email  
[advertising@nenevalleynews.co.uk](mailto:advertising@nenevalleynews.co.uk)



## A SPOTLIGHT ON RUSHDEN

### Quality shoes at affordable prices

D B Shoes Ltd can boast not one, but two shoe shops that are open to the public and located next to the company's headquarters at 19-21, Irchester Road, Rushden. Their factory shop features sizes 3-8 in ladies footwear, sizes 6-12

in men's shoes and a range of children's styles.

"The shop offers the largest range of men's and ladies shoes in the area, including shoes, sandals, boots and slippers, in a wide choice of colours and styles," remarked Managing Director, Charles

Denton.

Factory store opening hours are 10am to 5pm, Monday through Saturday and from 10am until 4pm each Sunday.

If you have wide or swollen feet, then you may want to visit the DB specialist fitting centre and shop, right next

door, which stocks a huge variety of styles in a full range of colours and sizes.

"We know how difficult it can be for people with wider feet to find the correct fitting shoes in High Street stores," commented Charles, "so we have our own centre, allowing them to try several styles in comfort and providing them with expert help in finding exactly the right size and fit."

The company offers width fittings of EE, 4E, Variable



fit, 6E and 8E. All styles have padded ankle support, a lightweight sole, smooth internal seams, and a deep toe box for extra comfort.

Fitting centre opening hours are from 10am to 4pm,

Monday through Saturday.

Nene Valley News readers can claim 10% off any purchase in either store, by quoting code NN2614. For further information please call 01933 410305.

### Rushden Golf Club

Rushden Golf Club is approaching another significant landmark in its illustrious history, marking its first anniversary as an 18-hole course next month.

Originally formed in 1919, the club is now reaping the benefits of extending from a 10-hole track to the full distance according to Secretary/Manager, Ellie Williams.

She said: "With only a month to go before Rushden Golf Club celebrates its first birthday as 18 holes, we continue to go from strength to strength.

"As well as the full course, which opened on 13th July 2013, a player can improve their golfing technique by using our small, six-hole Par 3 course, large practice area and putting green. With special membership prices starting from only £49 per month there has never been a better time to join the club."

Non-golfers are also welcome to come to Rushden. For an annual fee of only £5, a

visitor can enjoy a variety of social events held throughout the year, or just pop down for a meal or a drink.

Ellie added: "We will be celebrating our anniversary with a 'Party on the Fairway.' This will be held on Saturday 12th July from 7.30pm. Ticket prices are just £6 per adult, with children under 16 coming free. So, bring your own picnic!"

For more details contact Ellie at the club on 01933 418511 or email [secretary@rushdengolfclub.org](mailto:secretary@rushdengolfclub.org).



### St Cecilia Singers' Summer Concert "My Spirit Sang!"

After its successful Easter Concert, St Cecilia Singers are hard at work getting ready for their Summer Concert on Saturday 5th July at 7.30pm in Park Road Baptist Church, Rushden.

This concert will be part of the Get to Know Rushden festival and so will be a totally free event! This will be a wonderful opportunity to hear your local choir perform and the choir's Musical Director, Emma Trounson has chosen a wide variety of music to lift the spirits and brighten up your summer evening, with a programme of music spanning 1599 to 2004 and ranging from

madrigals, to songs from the shows, from Simon and Garfunkel to Elgar.

#### NEW MEMBERS

The Choir is eager to attract both male and female singers. We are a Community Choir and an ability to read music would be an advantage but is not essential. For more details please contact the Secretary or visit the St Cecilia Singers' website (see below).

For all other information regarding the St Cecilia Singers, please contact the Secretary on 01933 356656 or visit the Choir's website: [www.stceciliasingers.org.uk](http://www.stceciliasingers.org.uk)



## INDEPENDENTS' DAY

4th July 2014 10am - 4pm



Exciting Offers – Mini market in the High St  
Taster Courses (learn from the experts)  
Fantastic Seaside Prizes to be Won!

Come and celebrate independent retail with us on 4th of July! Look out for more details or visit our website [www.rushdentown.org.uk](http://www.rushdentown.org.uk) or follow us on Twitter @RTPNN10

RUSHDEN TOWN PARTNERSHIP, WORKING TOGETHER TO ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY





# Higham and Rushden U3A celebrate 5th birthday

The Higham and Rushden U3A celebrated the 5th anniversary of their foundation in May, with a talk from a local celebrity speaker, Reverend Richard Coles, the parish priest of St Mary the Virgin Parish Church in Finedon and Radio 4 presenter of Saturday Live.

Rev Coles gave a sincere, but light-hearted talk about his interesting life, from his time as a choirboy at Wellingborough School, which he admitted he left with little in the way of qualifications, to his stellar career as a self-taught soprano saxophonist.

He notably achieved a number one hit in 1986, with 'Don't Leave Me this Way' with his lifelong friend, Jimmy Sommerville and their group The Communards. A life in theatre and music followed, with work for the BBC providing regular employment.

His calling to the church, from his self-

admitted atheism, came following a visit to St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh. A consultation with a psychiatrist, concerning his overwhelming feeling of confusion about his faith, led to a meeting with a priest, who suggested that studying for a theology degree might prove rewarding.

This was followed by two years of training for ministry in the Anglican Church at The College of the Resurrection in Mirfield, West Yorkshire. After time in parishes in Boston, Lincolnshire and Knightsbridge in London, Rev Coles by chance saw an advertisement for an incumbent in the Peterborough Diocese for Finedon Church. The village had been without a vicar for several years and he thought it would be a wonderful opportunity to serve in a parish so near to his Northamptonshire roots. He was appointed as the parish priest of St Mary the Virgin, Finedon in January 2011.

## Lights Out in East Northamptonshire

On 4th August 2014, East Northamptonshire Council will show its support for the Lights Out event which will mark the hour that Britain entered the First World War 100 years ago.

Lights Out is an invitation to everyone in the UK to turn off their lights from 10pm until 11pm on 4th August, leaving on a single light or candle for a shared moment of reflection.

This is a headline project

of the cultural programme 14-18 NOW and was initiated by the Department for Culture, Media & Sport.

14-18 NOW is a programme of new artworks across the UK that forms part of the official commemorations of the centenary of the First World War, and is hosted within Imperial War Museums.

Lights Out complements a candlelit vigil to be held at Westminster Abbey from 10pm-11pm on 4th

August. Every member of every community in the UK is invited to respond to Lights Out, bringing their own personal thoughts and reflections to the occasion.

Many community groups are organising candlelit gatherings at local war memorials. Some are researching the history and lineage behind the names listed on memorials. Volunteers with the Royal British Legion are organising candlelit gatherings; to find out where your nearest event is go to [www.britishlegion.org.uk](http://www.britishlegion.org.uk)

Businesses can also be a part of it by ensuring all lights are switched off (where safe to do so) and that a single light of any kind (e.g. a lamp, stairwell light, outdoor uplighter etc.) is left on.

For more information on Lights Out, visit [www.1418now.org.uk/whats-on/lights-out/](http://www.1418now.org.uk/whats-on/lights-out/)



## Different ways to pay

Although cash payments are no longer taken at East Northamptonshire Council, there are still many ways to pay for council services.

The council's customer services centres at Thrapston, Rushden and Oundle will accept payments by debit and credit card or cheque. Cheques can also be posted if you cannot visit during office hours.

You can pay for services 24 hours a day, seven days a week online or by telephone. Visit our secure website [www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/onlinepayments](http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/onlinepayments) or call 01832 742259 with your card and account

details.

Some payments, such as those for Council Tax, could be paid for by direct debit. This easy and convenient method of payment can be set up by visiting [www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/directdebit](http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/directdebit) or calling 01832 742044.

Paying the council using bank giro slips at banks or the Post Office is also an option, as is BACS transfer using the following bank details: Sort code 20-45-77 Account No. 00858846.

Please call 01832 742000 if you have any queries or difficulties when making a payment.



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.

### Brigstock

**14/00148/FUL (12/07/2014)** (LB/CA) Demolition and rebuild 12 garage units due to disrepair at Ransom Strip adj garage area Grafton Rd Brigstock Northants

### Bulwick

**14/00906/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Parking area for 3 cars and new vehicle access at 3 Blatherwycke Rd Bulwick Northants NN17 3EU

### Chelveston-cum-Caldecott

**14/00961/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Installation of solar hot water panels to south (inner courtyard) roofscape; adaptation of existing steel building to form secure garaging/tractor/wood store with office over at Spinney Barn Water Lane Chelveston Northants NN9 6AF

### Collyweston

**14/00986/FUL (12/07/2014)** (LB/CA) (Info) Remove worn out Collyweston roof & replace with Atlas conservation tiles at The Walks 19 High St Collyweston Northants PE9 3PW  
**14/01008/FUL (12/07/2014)** (LB/CA) Single storey rear glass room extension at 1 Bluebell Lodge Bluebell Yard Main Rd Collyweston Northants PE9 3PL

### Kings Cliffe

**14/01000/LBC (12/07/2014)** (LB/CA) (LBRegs) Replacement gates at 31 West St Kings Cliffe Peterborough Northants PE8 6XB

### Lutton

**14/00989/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Extension to existing front dormer window at Grendon House Oundle Rd Lutton Peterborough Northants PE8 5ND  
**14/00996/VAR (05/07/2014)** (Info) Removal of Condition 2 (Occupation of property) from application 94/00067/FUL: Conversion of barn to dwelling for holiday accommodation and agricultural workers accommodation dated 18.03.94 at Wildflower Barn Warmington Rd Lutton Northants PE8 5ND

### Oundle

**14/00939/FUL (12/07/2014)** (LB/CA) (Info) Conversion of attached outbuilding to provide additional accommodation, to include the raising of the roof height, dormer windows to the existing outbuilding and alterations to existing windows and doors to the property at The Long House Behind 43 West St Oundle Northants

**14/00965/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Change of use from waste and recycling centre to B1 to B8 (offices, light industry/storage, distribution) use at Recycling Centre Herne Park East Rd Oundle Northants PE8 4BZ

**14/01026/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Proposed loft conversion at 8A Glapthorn Rd Oundle Northants PE8 4JA

### Raunds

**14/00990/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Two storey side extension at 45 Langham Rd Raunds Northants NN9 6LB  
**14/01025/LBC (12/07/2014)** (LBRegs) Remedial work necessary to rear portion of roof and to replace Collyweston tiles with blue reclaimed slate at Berrister House Berrister Place Raunds Northants

### Ringstead

**14/01041/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Erection of a small agricultural barn at OP6681 SP9874 Raunds Rd Ringstead

### Rushden

**14/00987/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Single storey rear extension at 12 Barker Close Rushden Northants NN10 0EJ  
**14/01002/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Proposed replacing of existing timber windows with powder coated aluminium windows, double glazed at 44 High St South Rushden Northants NN10 0QX

### Stanwick

**14/01009/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Erection of two storey rear extension, first floor extension over existing garage (conversion of existing garage to habitable family room) and erection of single attached garage at 5 Courtwood Stanwick Northants NN9 6PN

### Thurning

**14/00821/FUL (05/07/2014)** (Info) Erection of general purpose agricultural building at OP9780 TL0882 Winwick Rd Thurning Northants

The reason for applications being advertised is as follows:

**Art8 – Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.**

**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.**

David Reed

Head of Planning Services  
Dated 21 June 2014

Consultation deadlines will differ for each application. Please go to [www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planningapplications](http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planningapplications) for details.



# Community Facilities Fund continues to support local projects

**An East Northamptonshire Council fund to support the development of community facilities throughout the district has received 34 Expressions of Interest and will now see 16 groups move to the second stage of bidding.**

The Community Facilities Fund (CFF) was set up in 2013 by East Northamptonshire Council, using money it receives from central government as new homes are created in the district. This 'New Homes Bonus' is based on the number of properties added to the Council Tax base each year, including new builds and empty properties being brought back into use. The total available in 2014/15

for CFF grants is over £200,000.

Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, Steven North, says: "Members decided to use a proportion of the New Homes Bonus to invest in community-based projects taking place across East Northamptonshire and with grants of up to £50k available, this fund is a great way for communities to improve where they live, work and play.

"Last year, we awarded £284k across 13 projects ranging from new play equipment to village hall improvements, many of which are already making an important contribution to local people's health and wellbeing. This year, we've seen applications for developing pocket

parks and refurbishing community halls which will only improve the community offer for new and existing residents."

High scoring projects have now been shortlisted and are being invited to stage two of the process where they will make a full

application. Councillors will then consider each application and make a decision on final awards in September of this year.

For more information on the Community Facilities Fund, visit [www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/cff](http://www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/cff)

## Explore Thrapston's history

Did you know Thrapston's Court House was originally a 19th Century police station? Get to know the historical aspects of the market town by following the Heritage Trail. It's a great way to teach your kids about the history on their doorstep. Pick up the Thrapston Heritage Trail leaflet from the East Northamptonshire Council offices or download it online from [www.nenevalley.net/adventure/](http://www.nenevalley.net/adventure/)

walking.

Put on your boots or get out your bikes to explore miles of footpaths, cycle routes and bridleway between Thrapston and Rushden. With so much wildlife to see and so many pubs to visit, the route can be enjoyed by the whole family. The Boots & Bikes Thrapston 2 Rushden leaflet is available from the East Northamptonshire Council or visit [www.nenevalley.net/adventure/cycling](http://www.nenevalley.net/adventure/cycling) to download.

## Ferdi's Kitchen

By José Ferdi Tavares

[ferdis.kitchen@gmail.com](mailto:ferdis.kitchen@gmail.com)



**Sardinhas Assadas com Salada de Pimentão – Grilled Sardines with Bell Pepper Salad.**

Summer is upon us and thoughts turn to barbecues and lazy summer days spent in Europe's western-most country: the culinary delight that is Portugal. Evocative memories of sitting at a harbour-side fish shack tucking into platters piled high with sardines fresh off a rustic, outdoor barbecue and thin-cut potato chips spring to mind. A languid sea breeze, bright sunshine, ice cold beer and white wine. What better way to spend a few glorious hours rediscovering your inner hedonist? Bom appetite!

Serves 4 as a starter.

### INGREDIENTS

8 fresh sardines, whole  
1 cup coarse sea salt  
Extra virgin olive oil for drizzling on cooked sardines  
Flat leaf parsley – chopped for garnishing cooked sardines  
Ground black pepper  
2 lemons or limes cut in half

### For the Bell Pepper Salad

4 bell peppers – mixed colours: 2 red, 1 green and 1 yellow or orange  
1 red onion  
Extra virgin oil for dressing salad  
Cider or white wine vinegar  
1/2 cup flat leaf parsley chopped (extra if serving with boiled potatoes)  
Salt  
Black pepper

### METHOD

- Sprinkle half the salt on a baking tray. Place sardines on the salt and cover with the remaining salt. Place sardines in the refrigerator for 60 minutes.
- Put the peppers on a hot grill and char the skin, turning until all the skin is blackened. Remove from grill and place in a sealable plastic bag or a glass bowl covered with cling-film. Leave for 10 minutes.
- Finely slice the onion, chop the parsley and place in glass salad bowl.
- Remove peppers one at a time and rub the charred skin off. It doesn't matter if a few little black bit remain as it adds a barbecue/smoky taste to the salad. It is easier to remove the skins under running water but this reduces the smoky flavour. Slice the peppers into strips and add to

the onions and parsley. Dress with salt, ground pepper,

vinegar and olive oil. Toss gently to combine all the ingredients.

- Remove sardines from fridge and brush most of the salt off. Dab sardines with kitchen paper to ensure they are completely dry. Season with a grind of black pepper.
- Ensure the grid on the barbecue is very clean. Brushing well with a metal brush to remove any residue is necessary. Brush grill with kitchen paper or a brush dampened with a little vegetable oil to prevent the fish sticking.
- If you have a fish grid, place sardines in and close; otherwise place sardines directly onto the grid. The temperature should be medium hot and, if possible, the grid should be about 5cm (2 inches) from the coals which have no visible flames.
- Place the lemon or lime halves cut-side down on the grill for about 4 or 5 minutes. This gives the juice a wonderful smoky flavour.
- Cook for 3–4 minutes (depending on how hot the fire is) and flip grid or carefully flip the sardines with a spatula. Cook for another 3–4 minutes. Try not to turn them more than once as the sardines will become quite tender and break apart.
- Place on a platter and drizzle with olive oil and a sprinkling of chopped parsley. Garnish with chargrilled lemon or lime halves.
- Serve with the Bell Pepper Salad and boiled potatoes (peeled and tossed with olive oil, salt, pepper and chopped parsley) or a pile of crispy potato chips.

### CHEF'S NOTES

Traditionally the sardines are left whole, un-gutted, but they must be very fresh. If you are using defrosted sardines or if you are only going to use the fresh sardines a day or two after purchase, then it's best to gut them. Take extra care when turning them, as they will be more fragile when gutted.

An ice cold bottle of Vinho Verde from Portugal's northern-most province, Minho (on the border with Spain), is the perfect accompaniment. Or just a well-chilled beer.

Organised in partnership with Tresham College Prince's Trust Team, Service Six, Rushden Town Council, and Phoenix Resource Centre

**Team programme**

**FINISH LINE AHEAD**

**SOAP BOX DERBY**

**4th July 2014**  
**Judging at 6:30pm**  
**First Race 7:00pm**  
**Rushden Hall Park**

**£25 cash prize**  
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## From the ENC Chairman

*Cllr Gill Mercer is looking forward to meeting people from East Northamptonshire and further afield in her role as Chairman of the Council*

**In my first column as Chairman, I would like to thank my fellow councillors for electing me to this position. I'm very proud and honoured to represent East Northamptonshire and I'm sure it's going to be a busy but enjoyable year.**

My first engagement was to cut the ribbon for the new Customer Services desk at Oundle Library. I studied librarianship and worked in libraries as my first job, so it was like going home for me. This project is a marvellous example of partnership working with the County Council library. The East Northamptonshire Council Customer Service desk is open Monday to Saturday 10am-1pm so you can get advice and help from the district council staff.

Helping to judge the 'Saving Lives on the River Nene' competition was no easy task. With 217 entries, the standard was very high. The aim was to design the centre for a lifebuoy to deter vandalism and the six winners produced great messages, which will be displayed on a lifebuoy at a lock in Northamptonshire. There were some good, strong messages from many of the other entries so a collage will be created using some of the runners-up. Over the next few weeks I will be presenting prizes to the winners at Huxlow



ENC Chairman, Cllr Gill Mercer

School and Rushden Community College, where the majority of the winners attend.

My next event will be attending Buckingham Palace for the Queen's Garden Party. That will be the experience of a lifetime and I am very much looking forward to it.

My chosen charity for this year is Prostaids, which raises money for prostate cancer. This is a Cinderella condition that is not much discussed and hasn't received a great deal of funding. In particular, I'm raising money for diagnostic equipment for Kettering General Hospital.

Golfers may be interested in my Golf Day on Thursday 11th September at Collingtree Park Golf Club with fabulous prizes including a £15,000 car. To book or for more information, contact Glenvil on 01933 624615.

To make a donation to Prostaids, please use my Just Giving account online at [www.justgiving.co.uk/gill-mercer](http://www.justgiving.co.uk/gill-mercer). You can also text a donation to 70070 using the code GMER51 and then the amount, e.g. £5. All donations are very gratefully received.

## Rotary in East Northamptonshire

### CALVERT TRUST

The Calvert Trust is a charity whose aim is to challenge disability through outdoor adventure! District Organiser, Mark Winfield of the Rotary Club of Rushden, with his eager band of helpers, took a group of 30 young people with diverse disabilities to Keswick, in the Lake District, for a week's activities. These included hill walking, rock climbing, abseiling, horse riding, archery, sailing and cycling.

The whole ethos is to teach the participants what they can do as opposed to what they can't do, which is often the case in their normal environment. The week promoted independence in a safe environment and everyone was encouraged to do as much as they could and almost always achieved more than they expected. Without doubt they all found their comfort zone challenged at some moment during the week – the impact of this is often life changing.

District Governor, Margaret Morley, who joined the activity for part of the week, said: "There is a team of totally dedicated and committed Rotarians from many clubs who totally believe in what they are doing. Without doubt everyone who took part in Calvert loved every minute of it. Their confidence has soared and they experienced things they had never done before."

### KIDS OUT DAY 2014

Most of the local Rotary Clubs in the district hosted disadvantaged children at Wicksteed Park last Wednesday for the Annual Kids Out Day.

A total of 2,100 children launched themselves on the Park's facilities and enjoyed a day out, all at Rotary's expense. The children from the district's schools, who were supervised by their own teachers,

enjoyed a free wristband and a T-shirt with the Kids Out Day logo emblazoned on the front.

The Rotary Club of Kettering Huxloe took on a mammoth task by hosting no fewer than 410 children, all from the Kettering area. The Rushden Club employed the use of two coaches to transport children from six junior schools from Rushden and Higham Ferrers. A very good day was had by all children.

### TREAT FOR YOUNG CARERS

The Rotary Club of Rushden presented the Rushden support group of Northamptonshire Young Carers with a cheque to give the youngsters a break from their caring duties. The donation will pay for a day's 'outward bound' adventure at the Irthlingborough Frontier Camp. NYC leader Joanne Johnson said: "It will give some deserving young carers a welcome break and introduce them to a spirit of adventure. It was something the carers chose for themselves and I am sure they will really appreciate the Rotary Club's generosity."



Rushden Rotary Club presents cheque to Young Carers

## Oundle pupil through to Care Awards Final

**Oundle School pupil, Sam Ratcliffe (13), a volunteer at Tixover Care Home in Tixover (between Rutland and Peterborough) has made it through to the finals of the Barchester Care Awards.**

These are the 9th Barchester Care Awards and this year more than 1,000 people were nominated for awards by care home residents, staff and visitors. All entries have been of a very high standard and Sam is thrilled to find himself through to the finals.

Sam said: "It's a great honour. I really enjoy spending time with the people living at Tixover, I have learnt so much."

The awards are open to volunteers from all Barchester homes across the UK and celebrate their commitment in the delivery of high-quality services to more than 10,000 residents cared for in more than 200 locations.

The 12 categories have been created to reflect excellence in a variety of roles across the company, ranging from 'Registered Nurse of the Year' to 'Maintenance Champion' and this year sees the introduction of an exciting new category, 'Volunteer of the Year', which acknowledges the special people who go above and beyond to help others in the community.

General Manager, Alan Geeves said: "This is an amazing achievement and the whole home is supporting Sam. At a time when young people are given such a bad press, Sam is an example to all young people. Thirteen-year-old Sam was 10 when he started as a volunteer at Tixover House.

"His commitment is outstanding. He spends his time reading the local paper and books to residents as well as supporting them with activities. We at Tixover are extremely proud

of Sam and he is loved by so many of our residents."

The Community Action programme at Oundle School, which is for Fifth Form (Year 11) to Upper Sixth Form (Year 13), aims to cultivate in pupils a spirit of service and social awareness of the needs of people from all sectors of society and from September four more pupils will be helping at Tixover regularly on a Wednesday afternoon.

All finalists will now meet the panel of judges in London for the final round of judging and will then attend an awards luncheon at the Hilton Metropole Hotel in Birmingham, to celebrate their achievements and discover if they have won a national award.



Tixover Care Home resident, Aubrey Rimington along with General Manager, Alan Geeves and Sam, who is from Brigstock near Oundle.

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**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 10.00am to 6.00pm**  
**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> July 11.45am to 6.00pm**

**Drinks & cakes in the schoolroom and slides of Old Ringstead**

A village event to celebrate our Baptist Church's 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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**Name: Lila**

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# Discovering church wall paintings

Our regular feature gives a flavour of the history in East Northamptonshire.

**Church interiors have altered over the centuries. What is seen today is often the result of work carried out in Victorian times.**

The early churches would have had painted walls, woodwork and monuments. Over the centuries themes of wall paintings changed, reflecting different religious ideas. They were used to beautify the church and to illustrate Bible stories and the lives of saints. The medieval congregations would be illiterate but understand the meanings conveyed in the paintings. Eventually wall paintings were seen as less important, or no longer in keeping with new religious ideas. Many decayed, were

whitewashed over, or lost when plaster was removed from the walls during renovation. The tradition did not completely disappear and there are Victorian and 20th Century wall paintings often based on medieval conventions of design.

In the county there are over 40 churches with wall paintings, often in poor condition. In East Northamptonshire St Leonard's Church, Glapthorn has fragments of 13th Century paintings, including two of St Christopher. Other paintings (rather faded) of him can be found at All Saints Church, Aldwinckle and All Saints Hargrave. He is shown carrying the infant Christ to safety across a dangerous river. He became the patron saint of travellers.

The Day of Judgement or Doom was usually painted across the chancel arch, impressing the horrors of Hell and the joys of Heaven on the congregation. An example of this can be found at St Mary the Virgin and All Saints Church, Nassington along with other wall paintings.

Amongst the medieval wall paintings in St Peter's Church, Raunds two have moral themes, Pride and the Seven Deadly Sins and another version of worldly

pride, the Three Kings and Three Skeletons. The Kings scorn the Skeletons; however they say to the Kings 'As you are now so were we. As we are now so shall you be.'

The future of these wonderful paintings is in jeopardy as the whole church is now in need of major repair. A campaign,

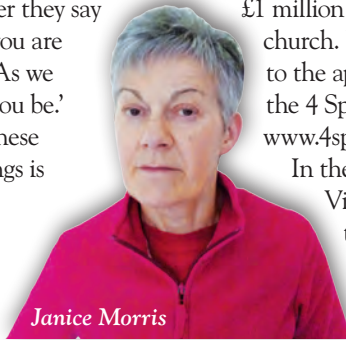
Great Past, Greater Future, has raised £90,000 so far towards the £1 million needed to save the church. Details of how to donate to the appeal can be found via the 4 Spires Benefice website [www.4spires.org](http://www.4spires.org)

In the chancel of St Mary the Virgin Church, Titchmarsh there are Victorian wall paintings by Miss Agnes Saunders, as well as the earlier painted

memorial by Elizabeth Creed to the poet John Dryden.

For further information on this topic visit The Churches Conservation Trust website at [visitchurches.org.uk/wallpaintings](http://visitchurches.org.uk/wallpaintings)

By Janice Morris



Janice Morris

If you would like to submit an article for our Time Trail feature please email [news@nenevalleynews.co.uk](mailto:news@nenevalleynews.co.uk)

## Family camping adventure at Stanwick Lakes

**Is your family looking for a new experience? Have you ever wanted to cook your tea over an open fire, build a den and sleep under the stars? Well, you can do all this and more at Stanwick Lakes this July.**

You can join the Stanwick Lakes Rangers for a 'Survive at Stanwick' overnight camp on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th July. The Rangers will teach you all the bushcraft skills you need, not just to survive, but to enjoy a night in the wilds of the Stanwick Lakes nature reserve. You will learn how to tie knots and use them to help you build a shelter to spend the night in, map read and light your fire without using matches!

The Survive at Stanwick event is perfect for families with children aged 8 and over, and each child needs to be accompanied by an adult – only £60 per pair (one adult and one child) includes

evening meal and breakfast.

To find out more, ring the Stanwick Lakes Rangers on 01933 625522, email Dave on [d.mackay@rftrust.org.uk](mailto:d.mackay@rftrust.org.uk) or visit the website [www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)



Survive at Stanwick Lakes



Titchmarsh Church



### THE BRIDGE HOTEL

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Enjoy a Traditional Afternoon Tea in comfortable surroundings, served in style.

Indulge in selection of finger sandwiches, warm scones with thick cream and strawberry preserve, home-made cakes. Wash it all down with speciality Teas or freshly brewed coffee.

**SPECIAL SUMMER OFFER - £12.00 for 2 people**  
usual price £9.95 each.

Served Monday to Friday between 2pm and 5pm

**Offer ends August 2014**

**Bookings must be made in advance.**

**Please bring this advert to qualify for this special offer.**

Call 01832 732128 or email [info@thebridge-hotel.com](mailto:info@thebridge-hotel.com)  
Bridge Street, Thrapston NN14 4JP



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Small Wonders



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out of school club

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Funded places available, please call to check availability

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- ★ Close links with all local schools including Laxton Junior School and Oundle Primary School
- ★ Forest School included in fees throughout the year - working with Northamptonshire Rangers
- ★ Yoga for PreSchool with a professional instructor included in fees
- ★ Newly renovated Out of School and Holiday Club - recent events include Mobile Planetarium, Popdance Workshop, Zumba and Sublime Science

We would really welcome the opportunity to show you around our Nursery so please call us or email at [smallwondersnursery@firstforchildcare.com](mailto:smallwondersnursery@firstforchildcare.com) to arrange a visit. We look forward to your call.



**NDNA**





**Saturday 21st & Sunday 22nd June**  
**The Players' Summer Concert at the Stahl Theatre**  
 West Street, Oundle.  
 Curtain up at 7.30pm.  
 Tickets cost £10 each and are available at Oundle in Stitches, Market Place, Oundle or by phone or email from Paul Weetman. Tel: 01832 273830 [pweetman@btopenworld.com](mailto:pweetman@btopenworld.com)  
 An evening full of song entitled Once Upon a Time with our take on the world of books and book-related topics.

**Saturday 21st June**  
**Northamptonshire Macmillan Nurses' Charity Dance**  
 Titchmarsh Village Hall  
 7.45pm–11pm  
 £7. Call George on 01933 622827. Featuring MC Dee Chapman and the Ivel Valley Band. Raffle/tombola, bring food to share, BYOB.

**Messy Church**  
 Rushden Salvation Army Church Street, Rushden  
 4pm–5.30pm. Admission Free  
 Further details from Gill Valentine on 01933 353528  
 An hour and a half of fun with craft, songs and meal for parents and children.

**Warmington School P.F.A. Summer Fete & Maypole Dancing**  
 Warmington School, School Lane, Warmington, Nr Oundle PE8 6TA  
 2pm–4pm  
 Free admission  
 Traditional summer fayre, fun and games for all the family, cake stall, raffle, cream teas, live musicians!

**Armed Forces Day**  
 Rushden Transport Museum, The Railway Station, Station Approach, Rushden, Northants NN10 0AW  
 Trains from 11am–4pm  
 Adults £4 Children & OAPs £2  
 Contact: John Sugars 01933 353111 [www.rhts.co.uk](http://www.rhts.co.uk)  
 Learn more about our armed forces and local cadet forces.

**Sunday 22nd June**  
**Morning Worship with Holy Communion**  
 Whitefriars Church at Whitefriars Junior School, Boughton Drive, Rushden  
 10.15am. Free  
 Contact: Philip Evans 01933 316834  
 An informal church service to which everyone is welcome.

**Thursday 26th June**  
**Discovery Walks**  
 Meet at Fotheringhay Church.  
 2pm  
 £1.50, no need to book.  
 Tel 01780 782747. [www.weanorthamptonshire.org](http://www.weanorthamptonshire.org)  
 Exploring Northamptonshire – Fotheringhay, Elton and Eaglethorpe. 4.75 miles.

**Saturday 28th June**  
**Car Boot Sale**  
 The Meadow, Bridge Street Brigstock  
 Gates open 8am–12noon  
 £5 per car, £8 per van/trade  
 Refreshments available in the Village Hall.

**Raunds Temperance Band in Concert**  
 St Peters Church, Raunds  
 7pm  
 £8 inc refreshments  
 Tel 07966 456186  
 Please support your local church and band. Tickets on the door.

**Family Day**  
 Lyveden New Bield  
 10.30am–9.30pm  
 Normal property admission charges  
 01832 205158 [www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lyveden](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lyveden)  
 Enjoy family friendly games and the beautiful sunset at Lyveden.

**Pop-up Craft Market**  
 Stanwick Lakes Visitor Centre, Stanwick Lakes  
 10am–4pm  
 Selection of local independent trader stalls with a variety of local produce. Come and support our community traders.

**Strawberry Fayre**  
 The Shrubbery residential Home, 66 College Street, Higham Ferrers, Northants NN10 8DZ  
 2.30pm–4.30pm  
 Free  
 Alison Malin 01933 317380  
 Everyone welcome to our annual Strawberry Fayre. Variety of stalls include wine and water/cake stalls and more.

**Alpha Preschool Summer Fair**  
 Alpha Preschool, Westfield Terrace, Higham Ferrers  
 10am–12noon  
 Free admission  
 Fun for all the family including children's games, tombola, raffle, cake stall.  
 Proceeds to the preschool.

**Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June**  
 Art Exhibition  
 Chichele College, Higham Ferrers  
 9am–5pm (Sat) 10am–4pm (Sun)  
 Free admission  
[marlenesnee@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marlenesnee@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Local talented artists Tamsin Edwards and Marlene Snee are holding an exciting joint exhibition showcasing their latest work.

**Sunday 29th June**  
**Morning Worship**  
 Whitefriars Church at Whitefriars Junior School, Boughton Drive, Rushden  
 10.15am. Free  
 Contact: Philip Evans 01933 316834  
 An informal church service to which everyone is welcome.

**Bulwick Fete**  
 Bulwick Hall Gardens  
 2pm  
 Further details 01780 450300.  
 Thrapston Town Band, tombola, plants, teas, raffle, Pimm's tent, stalls, games and many other attractions, all in the magnificent gardens of Bulwick Hall.

**Walking Quiz & Cream Tea**  
 St Mary's Church Hall  
 Rushden  
 3pm  
 Adults £4 Children £2 just a cream tea £3  
 Tel 01933 315383  
 Proceeds going to The Children's Society.

**Friday 4th July**  
**Whitefriars Church Retireds' Group**  
 With Rev Philip Evans talking about his recent visit to Uganda  
 The Bridge Community Office at Whitefriars Junior School, Boughton Drive, Rushden  
 1.30pm–3pm  
 Free  
 John & Celia Underwood 01933 676989  
 A friendly group to which all are retirement age are welcome.

**Saturday 5th July**  
**Village Fete**  
 Newton Bromswold  
 2pm  
 Contact Helen Lines 01604 256879  
 Rushden Mission Band will be playing the music and there will be the usual variety of stalls and games, including a bouncy castle. Afternoon teas will be served. The Children's Fancy Dress competition will be judged at 3.10pm.

**Coffee Morning**  
 St Mary's Church Ringstead  
 10am–12noon  
 Free  
 Contact: Rosemarie Coles 01933 624262  
 Coffee morning including book stall, bric-a-brac and raffle. Proceeds towards new church facilities. All welcome.

**Baby/Kids Nearly New Sale**  
 The Pemberton Centre, H E Bates Way, Rushden NN10 9YP  
 10am–12noon  
 £1 (Kids free)  
[Karen\\_aves@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Karen_aves@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Lots of stalls with baby and kids clothes, toys and equipment. Come and pick up some bargains!

**Craft, Gift & Vintage Fayre**  
 Masonic Hall, Wellingborough Road, Rushden  
 10am–4pm  
 Free & free parking  
[kaytandmick@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:kaytandmick@hotmail.co.uk)  
 Lots of lovely items made by local people at affordable prices. Refreshments available.

**Cotterstock Village Fete and Duck Race**  
 Location: PE8 5HD  
 Duck Race starts at 1pm at Cotterstock Lock. Fete opens at 2pm in the Village Hall Grounds.  
 Traditional Village Fete with lots of stalls, tombola, books, bric-a-brac, plants, homemade cakes and teas. Games – lucky dip, bean bags, bowling, skittles and more. All welcome!

**Sunday 6th July**  
**Morning Worship**  
 Whitefriars Church at Whitefriars Junior School, Boughton Drive, Rushden  
 10.15am. Free  
 Contact: Philip Evans 01933 316834  
 An informal church service to which everyone is welcome.

**Clay Shoot**  
 Off Kirby Hall Lane  
 2pm  
 Free admission, £5 per round.  
 Contact: Robert 01780 450100 or Rod 01780 450270  
 Clay Shoot, 30 bird sporting shoot plus a have-a-go stand. Refreshments available.

**'Praise in the Park'**  
 An open air church service for everyone.  
 The Walled Garden, Hall Park, Rushden  
 3pm. Free  
 Contact: Andrew Presland  
 Organised by Rushden & Higham Ferrers Council of Churches as part of Get to Know Rushden.

**Sunday 6th & Wednesday 9th July**  
**Get To Know Rushden Week**  
 Rushden Transport Museum, The Railway Station, Station Approach, Rushden, Northants NN10 0AW  
 Sunday from 11am  
[www.rhts.co.uk](http://www.rhts.co.uk)  
 Tel 01933 353111  
 Learn about what's involved in running the railway in Rushden.

**Every Tuesday and Thursday (except Christmas and New Year)**  
**Health Walks**  
 Stanwick Lakes

10am–11am  
 Free – normal car park charges apply  
 Tel 01933 625522  
[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Regular walking can help improve your health. Join us in our regular walks

**Every Wednesday (except December)**  
**Rainbow Cafe for Tots**  
 (aimed at up to age 5) and their carers  
 Stanwick Lakes  
 10.30am–12noon  
 £2 per child – normal car park charges apply  
 Tel 01933 625522  
[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Make new and exciting crafts then join Lisa from Music and Movement to play, sing and dance.

**Every Thursday during school term time**  
**Music Makers**  
 Titchmarsh Pavilion  
 9.30am til 10.15am  
 £4 per child and £2 per sibling  
 Naomi Cooper on [musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com](mailto:musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com)  
 Funky music and movement group for 0–5 years with parachute, puppets, balls, bubbles and more.

**Music Makers**  
 Joan Strong Centre, Oundle  
 11.15am til midday  
 £4 per child and £2 per sibling  
 Naomi Cooper on [musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com](mailto:musicmakersnorthants@gmail.com)  
 Funky music and movement group for 0–5 years with parachute, puppets, balls, bubbles and more.

**Little Treasures Tots group**  
 St Laurence's Church, Stanwick  
 9.30am–11am  
 Donations to cover costs  
 Contact: Nicki 01933 625658  
 For pre-schoolchildren and their adult carer. Bible story, song, craft and fun – all welcome.

**First Friday of the month**  
 (recommend checking before travelling)  
**Craft Cafe**  
 Stanwick Lakes  
 10.30am–1pm  
 Modest charges for some materials – normal car park charges apply  
 Tel 01933 625522  
[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Learn new craft skills, share your experience and meet up with crafty friends.

**Third Friday of the month**  
 (recommend checking before travelling)  
**Stanwick Stitchers**  
 Stanwick Lakes  
 10.30am  
 Free entry – normal car park charges apply  
 Tel 01933 625522 or Pauline on 01933 229817

[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Come and join this informal friendly group of stitchers to chat, stitch and eat cake!

**Second Saturday of the month**  
**WE Watch and Phoenix Group**

Stanwick Lakes  
 For more information email [wewatchstanwick@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:wewatchstanwick@hotmail.co.uk)  
 01933 625522  
 Two clubs for keen young nature lovers. WE Watch for ages 8–13 and Phoenix for ages 13–18. Supported by RSPB and Wildlife Trust.

**Last Sunday of the month (except December)**  
 (recommend checking before travelling)

**Local Producers' and Farmers' Market**  
 Stanwick Lakes  
 10am–2pm  
 Free entry to market – normal car park charges apply  
 01933 625522  
[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Browse through tempting treats and gifts made and farmed by local businesses.

**First Sunday of the month (March to October)**  
 (recommend checking before travelling)  
**Fun Bike Ride**  
 Stanwick Lakes  
 10am–4pm  
 Free – book with Reg on 07860 461058 – normal car park charges apply.  
[www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)  
 Join other bike enthusiasts on a cycle ride round the Lakes.

**Same Saturday as Oundle Farmers' Market**  
**Coffee 'n' Cakes**  
 Oundle Methodist Church, Drummingwell Lane (behind the Talbot Hotel)  
 10am–12noon  
 John Hewitson 01832 272209  
 Filter coffee, tea, squash (free refills), homemade cakes. Warm welcome. Proceeds to various charities.

**Sundays July, August and September**  
**Tea and cake**  
 Fotheringhay Village Hall  
 3pm–5.30pm  
 Tea and cake £2  
 Tel 01832 226440 or email [villagehallfotheringhay@gmail.com](mailto:villagehallfotheringhay@gmail.com)  
 Sunday afternoon tea in the Village Hall. Free concerts on some Sundays at the Church.

**Ongoing**  
**Drawing and Painting Classes**  
 Ecton Village Hall, Chelveston Village Hall, Warkton Village, Hall, Kingthorpe Community Centre  
 Various (see website [dgartweb.sharepoint.com](http://dgartweb.sharepoint.com))  
 £65 per term  
 Derek Geater 01933 381848  
 Drawing and Painting. Mainly working in watercolour with some soft pastels.



**Taurus Holidays**

**6 DAYS**

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**THE BEAUTIFUL COAST OF AYRSHIRE DEPARTS 8 SEPTEMBER**

Jaw-dropping scenery and a lovely four-star hotel are the first sights to greet you on our journey north. But we have much more in store for you. A coastal scenic tour and Culzean Castle, a ride on the ferry to the peaceful Isle of Bute, Robbie Burns' Birthplace Museum and an optional tour of Edinburgh are all on the agenda, plus all your breakfasts and dinners, and even entry to our included destinations. We don't know how we do it for this price...

**OR**

**5 DAYS**

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**THE GARDENS OF KENT DEPARTS 19 SEPTEMBER**

After a gentle drive south, we'll be taking you to Kent's finest gardens, the amazing Chatham Dockyard where old England's wooden battleships were built, and to the stunning Canterbury Cathedral, where you can see the spot where Thomas Becket was murdered by knights of King Henry II. On our itinerary is Leeds Castle beloved of Catherine of Aragon, Sissinghurst Castle Garden and the delightful Penshurst Place and Gardens. Don't forget your walking shoes!

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**Weekend Sale Event**  
**Saturday 28th & Sunday 29th June**  
**Gowns from £195**  
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Email: [info@gownsandgarters.com](mailto:info@gownsandgarters.com)

**Medieval Day**



**Saturday 12th July 10.30am-5.00pm**  
**Higham Ferrers, Northants NN10 8BT**  
**Tel: 01933 312075**

**Castlefields, Market Square, Chichele College & St Mary's Church**

14TH CENTURY MILITARY ENCAMPMENT  
12TH CENTURY MEDIEVAL KNIGHTS  
BARBER SURGEON  
MEDIEVAL COOKING  
SCRIBE  
HAVE A GO ARCHERY  
MEDIEVAL GAMES  
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**Free Admission!**

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CHAPEL TENT

[www.highferrers-tc.gov.uk](http://www.highferrers-tc.gov.uk)

**Colemans Craft Warehouse**

**BIG CRAFT DAY**  
**SATURDAY 5TH JULY**

**SPECIAL OFFERS!**

**FREE EVENT!**

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 & free refreshments**. We have plenty of helpful and knowledgeable staff on hand to give you advice on all the latest products. We open for shopping at 8.30am.

Our next Big Craft Day is on **Saturday 5th July** & will feature the following demonstrators:-

**PROVOCRAFT** - Suzie Candlin - demonstrating the Cuttlebug die cutting & embossing machine  
**Jo Firth-Young** - will show her own range of Rubber Stamps

**STAEDTLER** - Bonnie McGough - making Characters & Jewellery with FIMO  
**Fiona Jones** - Jewellery Making

**Some comments from our visitors' book:-**

Unbelievable - such a choice! - M.S., Northants  
My wife gets to come here & I get to play golf!. Don't close! - P.S., Northants  
Wickedly tempting! - D.C., Enfield  
A brilliant place with even better bargains - S.P., Northants  
Heaven!, staffed by Angels! - F.L., Moreton In Marsh  
Inspiring! - P.G. Swindon  
As usual, a great day, lovely friendly staff & great demonstrations - S.Y., Wigston  
Superb selection & excellent service - J.H., Crick  
Just what I wanted & all under one roof! - P.H. Northants

**OPEN FOR SHOPPING** We open for shopping on **Thursday & Friday (9.00 to 4.00), Saturday (8.30 to 4.00) & Sunday (10.00 to 4.00).**

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If you are just starting out or if you are an experienced Crafter we have a Workshop for you!

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Workshops are held in an informal, fun atmosphere at The Craft Warehouse.

To book, check availability or to request a leaflet detailing the dates & content of our Workshops please T: 01933 355530.

Alternatively, please visit any Colemans branch or our website [www.colemans-online.co.uk](http://www.colemans-online.co.uk).

**WHY NOT TRY ONE OF OUR 70 CRAFT WORKSHOPS?**

[www.colemans-online.co.uk](http://www.colemans-online.co.uk)

Unit 6, Brindley Close, Rushden, Northants., NN10 6EN T: 01933 355530 E: [craft@colemangroup.co.uk](mailto:craft@colemangroup.co.uk)



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# STOP!!

## Are you retiring?

The radical changes proposed in the Budget affect everyone claiming the benefits from their pensions.

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[advice@bowerock.co.uk](mailto:advice@bowerock.co.uk)

I The Square, Raunds, NN9 6HP

# Your Garage

# Only Beautiful

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**Your 6 point guide to help you decide what you need**

1. Will your garage door need extra locks?
2. How much room do you want or need for your car?
3. Would you like to have a maintenance free material?
4. Do you use your garage as part of your living space?
5. Would you like an automatic door with a remote control?
6. How would you prefer it to open: upward, outward around the corner, on side hinges or otherwise?

**Simply book a survey, make your choice and leave the rest to us!**

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**HEAD OFFICE & MAIN SHOWROOM**

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Deadlines for all classifications: 5pm Monday prior to issue date.

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Pay by credit/debit card or cheque. All major credit/debit cards accepted.

## Family notices

Nene Valley News can help you make those important family announcements.

BIRTHS

ENGAGEMENTS

MARRIAGES

ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

DEATH NOTICES

IN MEMORIAM

THANKS

For help and information to place your notice please call 01522 513515 or visit [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk)

**Congratulations**  
Clare and Craig on the arrival of your baby boy  
**Charlie Ward**  
9lb 2oz on March 30 2014

Love from all the family xxx

**Happy 1st Birthday**  
Chloe Booth have a wonderful day.  
from Mummy, Daddy

Walker, Aaron  
Hunt, Nicola  
married on April 2 2014  
at St Andrews Church.  
The couple had their

## ACCOUNTANCY

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

**East Northamptonshire Council**

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990  
PUBLIC INQUIRY**

at East Northamptonshire Council,  
Cedar Drive, THRAPSTON

On Tuesday, 1 July 2014 at 10am  
**scheduled to last for three days –  
1, 2 and 3 July 2014**

Reason for inquiry: Appeal by Michael Cawthorne against the enforcement notice served by East Northamptonshire Council.

The notice alleges: Without planning permission, the material change of use of the land from a dwelling with ancillary grounds; (2) for wood storage, seasoning and cutting, that element taking place in the 'wood yard area' (land hatched blue on the attached plan\*); and, (3) the manufacture of wood products, that manufacturing process being carried out in the buildings shown hatched purple on the attached plan\* at **Manor Farm House, Main Street, Lower Benefield.**

An Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State under paragraph 1(1) of schedule 6 to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 will attend at the place, date and time shown above to decide the appeal.

Members of the public may attend the inquiry and, at the discretion of the Inspector, express their views. The public gallery in the council chamber is fully accessible to people in wheelchairs.

Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/G2815/C/13/2208062.

Contact point at the Planning Inspectorate: Paul Eland, Room 3/23, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Temple Quay, Bristol BS1 6PN. Telephone 0303 444 5307.

\* A copy of the plan and related documents are available for inspection at the Council Offices, Cedar Drive, Thrapston.

2014SN2

**NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION  
ACT 1984 - SECTION 14**

**THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
(PUBLIC BYWAY NV9 - PARISH OF TANSOR &  
PUBLIC BYWAY ME9 - PARISH OF ASHTON)  
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the above Order made by Northamptonshire County Council on 19th December 2013 and which came into effect on 1st January 2014 has been extended until the works to which it relates have been completed or until midnight on 1st January 2015 whichever is sooner by the Secretary of State for Transport. Private access to land or premises adjacent to the said byways is unaffected.

**REASONS FOR RESTRICTION:** The restriction is required in the interest of public health and safety.

Dated this 21st day of June 2014  
QUENTIN BAKER, Director of LGSS Law PKG/ROW/124  
If you require any further information please contact Katie Brown on 01604 883451.

**SCHEDULE**  
(Lengths of byways to be closed)

The existing route of NV9 to be closed to pedestrians, equestrians, cyclists and all motorized vehicles begins at point A on the map at National Grid Reference (NGR) SP06894 89841. The route travels approximately 481 metres generally west of south to point B at NGR SP06673 89421, at the parish boundary with Ashton and the start of byway ME9.

The route is shown by a solid black line between points A - B.

The existing route of ME9 to be closed to all motorized vehicles begins at point B on the map at NGR SP06673 89421, at the parish boundary with Tansor and byway NV9. The route travels approximately 573 metres generally west of south to point C at NGR SP06461 88900.

The route is shown by a solid black line between points B - C.

**ALTERNATIVE ROUTE:** There are no suitable alternative routes.

## LICENSING ACT 2003, APPLICATION FOR A PREMISES LICENCE (SECTION 17)

Notice is hereby given that Richard Michael Pochwalowski has applied to East Northamptonshire Council for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Weavers, 37a High Street, Rushden and intends to carry on the following licensable activity: sale of alcohol between the hours of 9am and 9pm Monday to Saturday and 11am to 5pm on Sundays. The licensing register may be inspected at the Licensing Authority, East Northamptonshire Council, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, 9am to 5pm. It is an offence knowingly to make a false statement in connection with an application punishable on summary conviction by a maximum fine of £5,000.

## CV

## JOBS BOARD

**Oundle School**

### PURCHASING CO-ORDINATOR - Furnishings

£12,761 p/a - 20 hpw (4 hours per day - Mon-Fri) - 52 weeks  
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Closing Date: 25 July 2014 / Interview Date: w/c 4 August 2014

### COMPLIANCE MANAGER - Buildings

40 hpw - 52 weeks per annum  
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Closing Date: 4 July 2014 / Interview Date: 15 July 2014

### GENERAL CATERING ASSISTANTS

To start late August 2014 - 80 hpw over 2 week rota, with every other weekend off  
Role 1: £13,046.40 p/a - 36.4 working weeks  
Role 2: £14,841.60 p/a - 41.4 working weeks  
Closing Date: 27 June 2014 / Interview Date: 7 July 2014

### DOMESTIC ASSISTANTS

To start late August 2014:  
Role 1: £7,218.82 p/a - 41.4 working weeks - Mon-Sat - 09.00-12.30hr - 21 hpw  
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Role 3: One Year FTC - Maternity Leave - £8,064.32 p/a - 35 working weeks  
Mon-Fri - 09.00-14.30hr + Sat 09.00-12.30hr - 28.5hpw  
Closing Date: 11 July 2014 / Interview Dates: 15 & 16 July 2014

Application forms and full Job Descriptions can be downloaded from the School website: [www.oundleschool.org.uk](http://www.oundleschool.org.uk), or contact the HR Department on Tel: 01832 277196  
Email: [recruitment@oundleschool.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@oundleschool.org.uk)

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Interviews to commence week commencing 8th July 2014.

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# Tennis triumph for Oundle girls

On Saturday 7th June, the Oundle School U14 tennis IV won The Perse School's tennis tournament against opposition from The Perse, The Leys, Bromsgrove, Uppingham and Felsted schools.

The Oundle girls had to play a set of doubles and a set of singles against their opponents in what was a long afternoon of

tennis in very hot conditions. Captain Lily Craven (14), Miranda Joicey (14), Clare Taylor (14) and Thalia Garnett (14) were paired in the first round, winning both their matches 6-1 against The Perse. In the second round the first pair won 6-1 against Uppingham and the other pair narrowly lost. In the singles matches the girls all won

their matches in the first round and this trend continued through to the final where they won nearly all of the finals matches. Head of Girls' Tennis, Heather Amps commented: "I was very impressed with the girls. They played extremely well, getting better as the afternoon progressed. They played without more than a five minute break for nearly four hours in unexpectedly hot weather and were worthy winners."



L to R Captain Lily Craven (14), Miranda Joicey (14), Clare Taylor (14) and Thalia Garnett (14)

## East Northamptonshire Tennis League

Corby A are making solid progress in their quest to retain the Men's Division One title. A 6-2 win over Kettering B with Neil Shorrock / Jamie Wetherell claiming all four sets puts them on course for a showdown with Kettering A, which will almost certainly decide the championship.

Meanwhile after three matches Kettering A are still to drop a point. 8-0 wins against Geddington A and Burton Latimer B have given them a slight advantage over their Corby rivals.

After two comfortable wins Thrapston A might have had high hopes of ending the Kettering and Corby dominance but their ambitions were severely dented when losing 7-1 to Kettering B. Adam Brown / Wayne Tideswell eased to a straight set haul beating Martin Welsh / Terry O'Reilly 6-1, 6-0 and Henry Spencer / Matt Watts 6-2, 6-1. Jon Burrows / Jamie Hills collected three sets, their only reverse being a 1-6, 6-2 half against Welsh / O'Reilly.

Desborough gained their first win of the season defeating Burton Latimer B 7-1, though the scoreline hardly reflected the closeness of the match. Lewis Britchford / Connor Fairweather

won a first set tie-break 12-10 against Alisdair Orr / Steve Draycott but lost the second 6-4 and were then edged out 7-5, 6-4 by Dave Henson / Tony Kilborn. Burton's second pair Harvey Miller / Richard Chapman were also unlucky going down to both Desborough pairs. Geddington A were another team obtaining their first victory of the season. Graham Love / Lance Holland beat Simon Hossack / Chris Hutchinson 6-2, 6-2 and Tom Roberts / Phil Taylor 6-3, 6-4. Likewise Paul Rowden / John Fuller completed an exemplary evening for Geddington beating Hossack / Hutchinson 6-2, 6-1 and Roberts / Taylor 6-2, 6-2.

### Men's Division One

	P	W	D	L	Pts
Kettering A	3	3	0	0	24
Corby A	3	3	0	0	20
Thrapston A	3	2	0	1	16
Desborough	4	1	1	2	14
Kettering B	3	1	0	2	9
Geddington A	2	1	0	1	8
Rockingham	1	0	1	0	4
Burton Latimer B	3	0	0	3	1
Thrapston B	2	0	0	2	0

## Chess corner

Recently Rushden Chess Club has seen some new players coming to the club, they are newcomers to chess and looking to learn this great game that has been played for many centuries here and around the world.

What has been striking about the new influx is that they are mainly women. This is unusual in a game that has been traditionally dominated by men. In fact less than 2% of Grand Masters are female. The reasons for this are unclear, as women have no disadvantage in a game that exercises brain rather than brawn. The reasons would then seem to be cultural/sociological, with chess not traditionally being seen as a woman's game.

I had the privilege the other week of playing against one of our new ladies. I wouldn't normally be involved in tutoring a new player as there are many more able players in the club. I was pleased to be able to

point out some alternative moves as we played and she took my advice. I was a little surprised when she made a tentative move with her Queen, she had spotted a pawn that I had carelessly left undefended. Perhaps suspecting some devious trap, she was not sure about taking it. I told her to follow her instinct unless she could see some ulterior reason why it was not defended. She then proceeded to take the pawn and with growing confidence she launched a ruthless attack ending in checkmate for this poor unsuspecting male! As I said, women are definitely not at a disadvantage in playing chess. We are always pleased to welcome new members of all abilities to the club. We meet up from 7.15pm onwards and are a friendly bunch. Club/County chess info: [rushdenchessclub.com](http://rushdenchessclub.com) & <http://www.norchess.lloydbunday.co.uk>.

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