



Christmas in East Northamptonshire – Page 5



Remembrance across the district – Page 8



NEWS IN BRIEF

The Magic of Christmas

The world famous illusionist Steve Price is performing a special event free of charge at Rushden Salvation Army on Sunday 7th December at 4pm.

Price is secretary of the renowned Magic Circle and has entertained people around the world with his sleight of hand and comedy performance style. This is a unique opportunity for the people of Rushden to enjoy some extra special magic this Christmas. Come along, bring family and friends and be amazed.

Rushden Salvation Army is located at 16–20 Church Street, Rushden, Northamptonshire NN10 9YT.

Oundle Late Night Shopping

Residents of Oundle who are struggling to find time for present buying during the day will have the chance to do Late Night Shopping until 8pm on Wednesday 10th December, or take advantage of Men's Shopping Night (women very welcome too) on Wednesday 17th December.

Here is a chance, gentlemen, to buy your Christmas gifts, have them gift wrapped and then go for a coffee or a pint in the warm knowledge that you have done it!

Housing tour shows benefits of new schemes

Councillors and officers from East Northamptonshire Council were recently joined by the Homes and Communities Agency and housing association colleagues for a tour of housing in the district.

It was an opportunity to see some of the new affordable housing that is being developed across the district and the difference it is making to the lives of those people lucky enough to either rent or buy one of the new properties.

The day started with a display of housing schemes in the pipeline and an outline by Michael David of how the Homes and Communities Agency works with local councils and housing associations to ensure their investment is in tune with local priorities.

Michael advised that nearly £2 million had been allocated to East

Northamptonshire for affordable housing for 2015–18, and that further funding was available to enable associations to bid for additional funds as development opportunities arise. He stressed the importance of ensuring that new developments offer good value for money with associations expected to sell redundant stock and reinvest the money into new housing.

First stop was the Spire Homes scheme at Castle View, Well Lane, Barnwell which boasts rented and shared ownership housing. Shared ownership is a great way for first-time buyers to get a foot on the housing ladder by part-buying and part-renting which makes monthly outgoings much cheaper. The homes are highly energy efficient and include solar PV panels,

which generate free electricity for the occupants.

The next stop was Warmington, to look at the five rented and three shared ownership homes developed under a S106 obligation as part of a larger site in Stamford Lane. This scheme was developed by Cross Keys Homes, their first in the district. Whilst shared ownership is popular with first-time buyers, one lady has downsized, moving into shared ownership following the death of her husband. The property has enabled her to stay in the village and remain near her children and grandchildren.

Then it was on to The Drove at Collyweston. Developed by Northants Rural Housing Association, this scheme consists of six properties for rent – three two-bedroom houses and three two-bedroom bungalows. The site had historically been a slate quarry and the scheme was developed in collaboration with the Parish Council, to ensure the homes were in sympathy with the village and met local needs.

Another Spire Homes development at Elm Close in Kings Cliffe, part of the Sovereign Grange development, boasts 15 homes for rent and another 15 for shared ownership, all for people with a local connection to the village.

From there, the group went to Meadow View at Creed Road in Oundle, another Spire Homes S106 scheme providing 30 homes for rent and 28 for shared ownership, with a mixture of houses and flats ranging

from one to four bedrooms.

At Heron Avenue in Thrapston, Spire Homes have almost completed the conversion of an underused garage court to four rental homes. One of these has been advertised to let under the Council's Choice Based Lettings scheme, each attracting over 30 bids.

In Rushden, the group visited:

- Imperial Court in Rushden, the Extra Care Charitable Trust's 41-flat scheme for older people. The impressive flats also house a restaurant, activities room, hairdresser's and a gym.
- Broadlands Close in Victoria Road – an asra Housing Group development of 20 rented and six shared ownership houses.
- Nippendale – Spire Homes redevelopment of an outdated scheme for older people into 41 homes for rent, shared ownership and outright sale, including some bungalows.
- Goulsbra Road – another Spire S106 scheme providing 22 homes for rent and shared ownership.

The route back to the council offices took the group past the new Thrapston South development which will deliver 680 homes, including 164 affordable homes. Orbit Homes are currently onsite developing the first 156 homes, 56 of which will be affordable properties.

To find out more about housing, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/housing or call 01832 742000.



The East Northamptonshire housing tour took in various parts of the district.

We want to hear from you, so please submit your news story or event at www.nenevalleynews.co.uk



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Special meeting planned to discuss Irthlingborough West development

A planning application proposing an expansion to the west of Irthlingborough will be considered by an extraordinary meeting of the East Northamptonshire Council's Development Control Committee at 7pm on 24th November.

The proposed mixed-use development is located above abandoned ironstone mines and includes:

- residential development for up to 700 homes;

- commercial development for business, industrial and storage use;
- land for the expansion of Huxlow Science College and
- drainage and highways infrastructure, including a new roundabout on Finedon Road (A6)

Several rounds of consultation have been conducted since this application was first submitted in 2010 and further information has been submitted to enable a full assessment

of the scheme. Details of the proposal can be viewed at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planning using application number 10/00857/OUT.

Chair of Development Control, Cllr Pauline Bradberry, said: "Due to the scale of the application, we decided to hold an extraordinary meeting where we can dedicate significant time to discussing the benefits and risks of the proposal.

"As with all council meetings, members of

the public are welcome to come along to the council chamber in Thrapston and hear the discussions or to voice their opinions."

To speak at the meeting, please contact the Planning Committee Clerk on 01832 742198 by 5pm on Friday 21st November.

The agenda for this meeting will be available four working days before the meeting at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/agendas and at the Council's customer service centres in Thrapston, Rushden and Oundle.

Letters to the Editor

If you would like to submit a letter to the editor please send it to news@nenevalleynews.co.uk for consideration. The maximum word count is 200 words.

Dear editor

Can anyone tell me if there are any local charities that collect plastic bottle tops to raise funds? My daughter and I have been collecting for some time and I have been taking them to a friend in Bedford for Beds & Cambs Air Ambulance. I have contacted Warwicks & Northants Air Ambulance, as I live in Northants and would have liked to support our local charity, but they do not want them. Any suggestions? *Rushden resident*

Dear editor

We are a group of new mums living in the Rushden area and would like to make people aware of the changes that are happening at the Sure Start Centres within the east of the region. Unfortunately, they are not for the better and if proposed plans go ahead it will see a significant reduction in services being offered to mums, dads and families who do not fit into the 'targeted' groups. Instead this 'support' is being transferred over to Liberians who do not have the training and experience the staff at Sure Start Centres have in order to ensure all children are being cared for and mums receive the support they need, many of whom do not have family nearby as support networks and may be isolated or lonely.

The local council have contracted out the children's centres to the lowest bidder, Spurgeons, who have been very vague about their intentions to change the centres apart from saying that 50% of staff will be made

redundant and universal access sessions will be reduced to 20%. It seems that Spurgeons are blaming the Council for the lack of funds, yet the Council tendered the work to the lowest bidder, and there is only funding available for the targeted user. This is a false economy because many women feel that they would have become a targeted user once they had been diagnosed with PND through lack of local support.

We would therefore like Spurgeons and the local council to reconsider their reduction in universal access services and increase their offer to nearer the 50% mark that it sits at now. Only supporting targeted users removes the positive role models that other mothers can provide, and creates a further divide between those that can afford private baby groups and those that can't. It is positive discrimination that will affect the whole community, and more importantly the children within it.

We have launched an online petition to Spurgeons and Peter Bone MP but we need to make as many people aware as possible to help support all the current and future mums and dads of Rushden and the surrounding areas to receive the support they deserve and to safeguard our children. As we know, child protection isn't exclusive to certain classes or cultures. The petition can be found at: <http://www.change.org/p/northamptonshire-county-council-increase-the-amount-of-universal-access-sessions-offered-by-the-rushden-and-surrounding-areas-childrens-centres>

Dear editor,

I write regarding your article 'Denford and Superfast Broadband'. For your customers' information Virgin Media have had superfast broadband for nearly 20 years (including the

time when it was ntlworld). Fibre optics were laid in many towns and villages and it is still the fastest broadband available. I have heard (but only on the grapevine, however) that if at least seven customers approach Virgin Media for broadband to be connected, they will try to lay cables to enable them to install. If Denford does not have fibre optics laid in their village I would suggest that the residents club together and contact Virgin Media, who will give them the correct information – hopefully to the good of them all. I'm sure there are more than seven residents that need the superfast broadband in Denford, so it's worth a try!

Hello Nene Valley News,

I have read your letters on the declining songbirds in Raunds with interest. I too live in Raunds and my neighbours and friends and myself have all noticed the decline over

the last few years of the little birds. This year we had a small number of songbirds, all through the season we watched when we saw them build nests and then take in food. A day or so later we only found empty shells and chicks' feathers. No success at all for them. We are all of the opinion that the rise of the magpie is to blame. We have seen these birds grow ever bigger, and many more in their numbers, and we all wish they could be culled; then the songbirds, we feel, would stand a better chance of survival, or they will be lost to us forever, and this would be sad.

Kath

The views expressed in our Letters to the Editor are not necessarily those of Nene Valley News Ltd or any of its employees. Whilst we try to ensure the information provided is correct, mistakes do occur and we can not guarantee the accuracy of the material.

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Prince's Trust revamps Rushden youth centre

Prince's Trust Rushden Team 26 has recently completed its community project – painting and redecorating Rush2TheDen, a local community youth group.

The team completed two days of fundraising beforehand to cover the costs of the materials and tools needed to carry out the work. The fundraising involved two days of bag packing in two different local supermarkets. On Thursday 16th October they were helping in Asda and the following day, Friday 17th October they were in Waitrose. Thanks to people's generosity they successfully managed to raise £440.

The project was carried out over a two-week period by the team. During this time they made a large improvement to the appearance of the youth centre. The team repaired walls, painted, glossed, decorated with fun wall stickers and in one area wallpapered some of the room to create a feature wall. To complete the project in the time that they had, the group split into separate groups and all took on different jobs and rooms to work on as a priority.

All members of the team, however, pulled together to help with any other jobs that needed doing and to help someone else with a task, when needed. Whilst completing the project, the team received help from River, who runs Rush2TheDen. Another helper, Billy, who works in

community relations at Asda, also joined in with the project for a couple of days, which was much appreciated.

For information on joining Prince's Trust Team 27 in January please contact Dan Freeman on 07720 948110 or dffreeman@tresham.ac.uk.



Painting the Den

R.A.T.S. panto time's here again

Priscilla (pictured) is on her way to Rushden to appear in Rushden Amateur Theatrical Society's production of Mother Goose.

She said she is delighted to be part of the cast and is looking forward to being cared for by Mother Goose (David Wicks) and the fairy (Lesley Evans) and having a lot of fun with the rest of the principals – Colin (Alice Dobell), Simon (Jack Ebsworth), Jill (Justine Abbott), Goose Queen (Odette Green), Smith (Michael Cartledge), Jones (Chris Taylor), and all the chorus and dancers – but is afraid of the Wicked Pieman (Ian Bayes).

The panto runs from 3rd to 10th January, at the Pemberton Centre, Rushden. Tickets: Adults £10, Concessions £8, Family Ticket £30 available from Jan's Floral Boutique 27 High Street, Rushden or email bookings@rushden-rats.co.uk



Mother Goose

Poetry competition winners

Thrapston and District Royal British Legion Branch are pleased to announce that the winners in the 2014 Remembrance Poetry competition were:

- Under 7 years – Lily O'Dwyer, Archie Skerrit, and Izzy Walker, from Titchmarsh Primary School.
- Under 12 years – Masie Clark and Milly Machinchy, from King John School, Thrapston.
- Adult – Cindy McCormack.

who presented prize certificates and gift cards to the winners of the Under 7 age group at Titchmarsh School on Monday 17th November, said: "As a branch we were pleased to receive the number of entries that we did, all poems submitted were very good, those of Masie Clark and Milly Machinchy, from King John School, Thrapston were very well received at the Dedication of the new War Memorial on Remembrance Day.

"We would like to thank the judges for their time and effort on the competition."

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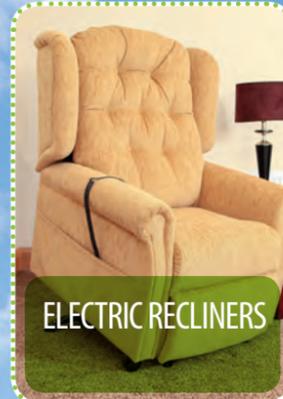
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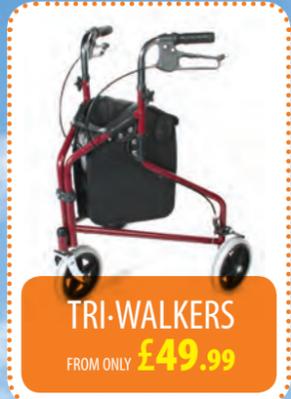
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- Switch on by War Veteran Mr Jack Pentelow**
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- With Raunds Community Choir**
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Christmas in East Northamptonshire

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR AT THE KINGS ARMS THRAPSTON

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Christmas parties – Served throughout December by booking only. Really indulge this year and enjoy our amazing three course meal in our festive restaurant, perfect for the office party or a family get together.

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CHRISTMAS COMES TO RAUNDS

On Sunday 30th November, starting at 2.30pm, Santa, his Elf, Ladybird and the Mayor Cllr Louisa Thomas will parade from the Town Hall to the Square. Santa's Grotto opens at 3pm. Between 3.30pm and 4.40pm Raunds Schools & Community Choir will be singing in the Square. The Christmas lights will be switched on at 6pm by Raunds WW2 Veteran Mr Jack Pentelow, followed by Fireworks at the Snooks.

Come and enjoy The Fair, all the various Stalls, Santa's Grotto, Face Painting, the Mayor's Raffle & Tombola, Hot & Cold Food & Drinks, Mulled Wine and hear who won the best dressed window competition.

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And you don't even have to worry about carrying your shopping home – Colemans offer free delivery in their own vans at your convenience – and even have a free gift wrapping service in December! They really have thought of everything!

But if you really can't choose then consider giving a Colemans gift voucher, available in any value and redeemable at all Colemans branches – including the Oundle Bookshop – where you can also purchase National Book Tokens.

If you want to buy locally this Christmas – and from a "real" shop from people who really care about their customers – then look no further than Colemans. Traditional gifts which are great value – in lovely surroundings with a truly festive feel.

And don't forget Colemans Craft Warehouse – a 5000 square foot Aladdin's cave of craft and hobby products at fantastic prices just off the A45 at Higham Ferrers.

And finally, The Oundle Bookshop is also part of the Colemans "family". A rare treat – a wonderful traditional bookshop in the middle of the historic town of Oundle. In addition to a superb selection of books in categories like cookery, biography, history, gardening, humour and travel, they also stock some really original gifts and greetings cards.

So this Christmas Colemans have it all wrapped up!

TREASURE ISLAND PANTOMIME

For the first time in 10 years Raunds is to have its own panto.

Raunds Community Players has been set up to celebrate the 70th birthday of Bob Odell, who instead of a party wanted to put on a panto. The panto has been written by Steve Lack and won a National Operatic & Dramatics Association Award for best Panto in 2011. Treasure Island is a great family panto with lots of audience participation, the usual baddies in the form of Long John Silver and his pirates, a larger than life Dame and a cast of 25.

If successful we hope to make this an annual event for Raunds, so please come and support us. Tickets are only £5 per head, and £6 on Saturday night. Show runs 10th to 13th December with a matinee on Saturday. For more details please contact Steve on 01933 624310.



The Kings Arms



Treasure Island Pantomime

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Council

Notice of planning applications received

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

Aldwinckle

14/02108/LBC (13/12/2014) (LBRegs) Removal of non-original non-supporting wall between kitchen and dining room to revert the space back to one open space at 5 Cross Lane Aldwinckle Northants NN14 3EG

Barnwell

14/02113/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Two storey side extension, single storey rear extension and alterations to existing single storey front extension at Keepers Cottage Barnwell Wold Clopton Rd Thurning Northants PE8 5RE

Benefield

14/02085/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Demolition of existing buildings. Erection of six dwellings with garaging. Alterations to access at buildings and land adjacent and rear of 15 Main St Upper Benefield Northants

Brigstock

14/02128/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Erect single storey kitchen extension to side of house and erect single storey extension to courtyard part of house at 28 Bridge St Brigstock Northants NN14 3ET

Chelveston-cum-Caldecott

14/01904/FUL (13/12/2014) (Info) (LB/CA) Proposed additional stable block, horse walker and lunge pen to include change of use of part of the application site at Manor Farm House Bidwell Lane Caldecott Chelveston Wellingborough Northants NN9 6AR

Higham Ferrers

14/00607/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Erection of pair of semi-detached dwellings and new access at 53 Handcross Way Higham Ferrers Rushden Northants NN10 8AD

14/02047/FUL (13/12/2014) (LB/CA)

Replacement kitchen extract system incorporating carbon and prefiltration systems at The Griffin Inn High St Higham Ferrers Rushden Northants NN10 8BN

14/02048/LBC (13/12/2014) (LB/CA) (LBRegs)

Replacement kitchen extract system incorporating carbon and prefiltration systems at 7 High St Higham Ferrers Northants NN10 8BW

Irthlingborough

14/01841/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Removal of existing conservatory to be replaced by a new larger conservatory at 7 Knightlands Rd Irthlingborough Northants NN9 5SU

Kings Cliffe

14/01793/FUL (13/12/2014) (Art8) Change of use and alterations to form agricultural dwelling and erection of new agricultural barn at land OP0069 TL0096 Morehay Lane Kings Cliffe Northants

14/02020/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed detached hot food takeaway unit (A5) at Elliotts Yard Park St Kings Cliffe

Laxton

14/01896/VAR (06/12/2014) (Info) Variation of condition 3 to allow timber cladding instead of green steel pursuant to application 13/01619/FUL: Replace dilapidated garages and pigsties with another building, workshop and vintage tractor store dated 06.12.13 at Hill Top Farm Bulwick Rd Laxton Corby

Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe

14/02057/LBC (13/12/2014) (LBRegs) Reconstruction of damaged parapet on a like-for-like basis at Lilford Bridge Pilton Rd Lilford Northants PE8 5SG

Oundle

14/02061/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed garage conversion to form a kitchen and utility extension. A single storey rear sitting room extension. A new black metal external flue at 110

Creed Rd Oundle Northants

14/02077/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed erection of an oak framed garage incorporating a garden store: re-submission of 14/00699/FUL (approved 05.06.2014) at The Long House behind 43 West St Oundle

14/02115/ADV (06/12/2014) (Info) Entrance, opening times and directional signs and visitor orientation panel within car park at Lyveden New Bield Harley Way Oundle Northants PE8 5AT

Rushden

14/01874/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Install cladding system with render finish to all exposed elevations of Nos. 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36, 41, 43, 45 and 47 Denton Close at Denton Close Rushden Northants

14/01875/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Install cladding system with render finish to all exposed elevations of Nos. 2 and 8 Balmoral Avenue at Balmoral Avenue Rushden Northants

14/01876/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Install cladding system with render finish to all exposed elevations of Nos. 2, 4, 8, 10, 12 and 16 Gloucester Crescent at Gloucester Crescent Rushden Northants

14/01877/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Install cladding system with render finish to all exposed elevations of Nos. 24, 28, 30, 32 and 34 Windsor Rd at Windsor Rd Rushden Northants

14/01996/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Bathroom extension to side of property at 99 Upper Queen Street Rushden Northants

14/02058/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Front porch extension at 9 Sylmond Gardens Rushden Northants NN10 9EJ

14/02080/OUT (06/12/2014) (Info) Residential development of four houses to include upgrade of access road (all matters reserved) at The Croft Alexandra Rd Rushden Northants NN10 0HY

14/02136/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Single storey extension at 14 Gentian Close Rushden Northants NN10 0UG

14/02147/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Rear and side extension at 11 Springfield Rd Rushden Northants NN10 0QT

Southwick

14/02009/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed two storey extension to rear and conversion of existing garage into playroom at Boars Head Cottage Bulwick Rd Southwick Northants PE8 5BP

Stanwick

14/02069/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed two bedroom detached dwelling at 2 Rectory Close Stanwick Northants NN9 6QR

Tansor

14/01908/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Creating off road parking for two cars at land between Aston House and Ash House Main St Tansor Northants

Woodford

14/02117/FUL (06/12/2014) (Info) Proposed alteration, works, rear extension and demolition of garage to dwelling at 13 Church St Woodford Northants NN14 4EX

Woodnewton

14/02005/FUL (13/12/2014) (LB/CA) Fixture of eight additional solar panels to the roof of the garage at Olivers Folly 12 Main St Woodnewton Northants PE8 5EB

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 22 November 2014

Oundle Neighbourhood Plan – Residents' Survey

Consultation with residents is an essential part of the development of the Oundle Neighbourhood Plan and the next step is the distribution of a questionnaire seeking views on the range of topics to be covered in the Plan.

Two questionnaires will be delivered to each household in the town over the weekend of 22nd/23rd November 2014; if you need more please contact the Courthouse on 01832 272055 or email admin@oundle.gov.uk. Please note that the views of under 18s are very important to us, even though only those on the electoral register will be able to vote in the referendum, which will decide whether or not the Plan will be accepted.

Completed questionnaires should be taken to one of the following collection points by

15th December 2014: the Courthouse; the Library; the Medical Centre; Oundle News or Smiths at No. 4. Alternatively you can complete the questionnaire online via the link at www.oundle.gov.uk but the completion date remains 15th December 2014.

In February 2015, after a review of the results from the questionnaire, there will be a public presentation to let residents know more about how the Plan will look.

Meanwhile, more background information can be found on the Town Council's website at www.oundle.gov.uk or by visiting the Courthouse. This is a great chance for the town's residents to be involved in the future of Oundle, so please take a little time to complete the questionnaire.

Kale for the kids

By Catherine Burbage

I love getting my veg box each week (Riverford based at Sacrewell Farm, and Abel and Cole are just two of the companies delivering them in the Nene Valley) as it means we cook and eat a far wider variety of local, seasonal veg than we would otherwise.

To be honest, getting a bag of kale did used to make my heart sink. My husband and I would eat it as we knew it was 'good for us', but the children just refused, and to be honest, who can blame them?

And then I discovered that kale is just one of those things that needs a bit of love up front to help it blossom into something a lot more enjoyable. I was amazed at how fast children can demolish a plate of crispy kale, and how much more I enjoyed it with the simple addition of butter and lemon juice. This has the added benefit of helping with the digestion and absorption of the nutrients in kale.

KALE FOR KIDS

Preparation: Take a whole leaf of kale and fold over lengthways (see photo). Cut away the central stem as this is the tough, chewy bit. Roughly chop the leaves.

Mix a tablespoon of olive oil with half a teaspoon of sugar, half teaspoon of sea salt,

pepper and a little chilli if your kids like it. Using a bag of leaves prepared as above, toss the leaves in the oil mixture to thoroughly coat it. Spread the leaves in a single layer on a large baking sheet. Put the oven on as low a setting as it will go and bake the kale. Check it regularly, as the time you need to bake it for will vary so much from oven to oven. In my fan oven, which tends to blast everything, it takes about 30 minutes. The kale should be crisp without being burnt and will taste similar to the crispy seaweed you get in a Chinese restaurant (which is made from cabbage too). Using a dehumidifier will give you the best result, so if you're into kitchen gadgets, maybe one to consider for a Christmas present?

EVERYDAY KALE

Chop some kale as above. Put on to steam, and while that's happening, mix some butter with seasoning, crushed garlic and chilli. When the kale is ready, mix through the butter mixture and add a generous squeeze of lemon juice. If you have an anchovy lurking in the fridge it will add to the flavour, and some crispy bacon or fried chorizo is good too. Eat as a side dish or add a fried egg or two to make a meal of it.



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

Former Olympic gymnast Craig Heap inspires Manor School students

Former Olympic and Commonwealth Games gymnast Craig Heap visited Manor School Sports College on Friday 7th November to speak to students and lead a gymnastics session.

Recently seen on BBC One's *Tumble*, Heap spoke about his gymnastics career, encouraged students to set goals and gave advice on how to achieve them. Humorous anecdotes were balanced with words of wisdom, with audience participation a key aspect of the presentation. One of the main themes was having the courage to pursue your dreams no matter what others may think, with Heap remarking, "Dare to be different! It changed my life." Students commented afterwards that they thoroughly enjoyed Heap's visit, with many individuals queuing up to have their photograph taken with him.

The students who attended the assembly are currently at an important stage in their education, where they are beginning to consider their GCSE, A Level and career options. Guest speakers make up part of the school's careers and further education programme, and are a welcome opportunity for

students to interact with individuals and companies who may come from a field of work that they are interested in.

Toni Hustwait, Assistant Head of Faculty for Sports and Creative Studies, commented:

"Firstly getting Craig Heap to agree to come in to the school was an amazing achievement but then having listened to the delivery of his 'Steps to Success' session to Year 9 and 11 students, I can honestly say I've never witnessed a more motivating and engaging person.

He was so down to earth and was the perfect example of what a true champion should be: an inspiration to others."

Following the presentation, Heap went on to assist with a gymnastics session organised by two students in the school's Girls Activate Club. The club runs every Friday after school and offers a wide variety of sporting activities for girls to participate in. Heap led a fun active warm-up and then allowed organisers Lucy and Charlotte Irons to show their own gymnastics

routine. He helped students with basic techniques involved in forward rolls and cartwheels and

was generally very friendly and enthusiastic which helped engage the girls.



Craig Heap with students Charlotte and Lucy Irons who helped organise the event

Look before you book this Christmas

If you're planning that special Christmas meal with friends, family or work colleagues, East Northamptonshire Council is reminding you to check the food hygiene rating before you book.

Christmas is a time to enjoy good company and good food without worrying about what's happening in the kitchen. There's one easy way to set your mind at rest – visit www.food.gov.uk/ratings or download the free Food Hygiene Standards app to check the rating.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme (FHRS) rates food businesses on their hygiene standards, based on inspections carried out by the Council's food safety officers. Businesses are rated on a scale ranging from 0, which means 'urgent improvement

necessary', to a top rating of 5, which is 'very good'.

Ninety-five percent of food businesses in East Northamptonshire are rated 4 or 5 so there are plenty of places to choose from not only at Christmas, but all year round.

Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, said: "Whether you're sitting down to a three-course meal or grabbing a sandwich on the go, take a moment to check the food hygiene rating. It's quick and easy to find and could save you or a loved one from food poisoning over the festive period."

To find out more about how the Council works with businesses to achieve good food safety in the district visit: www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/foodsafety

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Remembrance in East Northamptonshire

We take a look round the district at the Remembrance Day Services.

Remembrance at The Ferrers School

Students and staff united to observe the two minutes' silence at 11am on Armistice Day.

The Ferrers School was proud to join the nation in silent remembrance of the fallen on 11th November. Most students gave up a few minutes of their morning break in order to return to class to observe the silence. Some were able to open the windows of their classrooms onto the Quad where sixth form students, main school students representing their peers and school staff gathered.

The start of the silence was signalled by the school bell and a rendition of the Last Post by talented trumpeter Will Mantle, from Year 9, who had borrowed a bugle

especially for the Remembrance weekend. Will was flanked by Harry and George wearing their Sea Cadet uniforms and representing the students in the school who form part of the uniformed youth organisations.

Ms Renney, Behaviour Support Coordinator, who has a son currently serving in the Army said: "It was a very moving and fitting tribute."

Headteacher, Jonathan Giles, was joined at the War Memorial in Higham Ferrers by Head Boy, Jack Nason, and Year 7 student, Jasmine Dorks, where they laid a poppy wreath on behalf of the school. Jack said: "This is the most significant event I have taken part in since I joined The Ferrers.

I am very proud to have the honour of representing the school and join the local dignitaries in remembering those who died."



Ferrers School remembers

Raunds Remembers

A large crowd gathered to watch the annual procession; led by Town Mayor Cllr Louisa Thomas and Raunds Temperance Band.

The Royal British Legion, Councillors, youth groups, schools and business representatives paraded to the Memorial Gardens for the annual act of Remembrance, with readings from representatives of local churches.

A record 43 wreaths were laid at the War Memorial, including those from Raunds & Thrapston Rotary Club, Raunds Brownies, Guides, Cubs and Scouts, Raunds WI, Manor School, Windmill School, St Peter's School, The Co-Op, Friends of St Peter's, St John's Ambulance together with the Police, Fire Service and TS Collingwood, Navy Training Corps.

Following the Remembrance Service, Cllr Thomas unveiled a new First World War Memorial Plaque marking the centenary.



Raunds Parade

A huge thank you in Rushden's month of remembrance

The poignancy of Rushden's month of remembrance has been so emphatic this year, not just due to the commemorative centenary of the Great War but also by the measure of the townsfolk's generosity.

Whilst all the collections are yet to be counted, the schools have been very active in fundraising for the Poppy Appeal with some exhibiting fantastic displays. Mrs Lynne Baker, a retired art teacher, was invited by many schools to deliver a short presentation

about the poppy, Remembrance and the war's impact on families, receiving great enthusiasm from pupils and positive feedback. The various activities attended by the public have been a Garden of Remembrance, Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade with Peter Bone MP present, observing two minutes' silence at various locations around the town and a highly successful Remembrance Band Concert from the Rushden Town Band last Saturday 15th November at St Mary's Church Rushden,

with well over 100 people in attendance.

All this has resulted in the Poppy Appeal raising so far in excess of £36,000. On behalf of our hardworking Poppy Appeal Organiser Barbara Clark and her husband Alan, who is the Branch Secretary, their army of helpers and Rushden Branch of the Royal British Legion generally, we wish to say a huge "Thank You" to the people of Rushden and neighbouring villages for their fantastic support.

Major (Retired) Jake Baker for RBL Rushden

Oundle Remembers

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:

Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.

At the going down of the sun and in the morning,

We will remember them.

At 11am on 11th November 2014, the Last Post sounded and the Oundle School community fell silent for a unique Service of Remembrance, commemorating 100 years since the start of the First World War and remembering the former pupils (Old Oundelians) and teachers who died during the conflict.

On the lawns in front of the school chapel, a memorial to the Old Oundelians (OOs) who died in the Great War, 1,100 pupils and 400 teaching and support staff gathered for a Drumhead Service. A tradition, of forming an altar from the drums of a Marching Band, was borrowed from the British Army and used to form the centrepiece for the Service.

As the school gathered on the lawns, the 56-strong Combined Cadet Force (CCF) Marching Band played the slow march Scipio and The Day Thou Gavest Lord is Ended, before a lone piper, upper sixth former Morgan Ball, played a piper's lament whilst the Corps of Drums built the Drumhead Altar.

Head of Brass, Adele Hudson said: "This was an opportunity for the band to lead the school in a fitting act of Remembrance to mark the sacrifice made by a previous generation of Oundelians. I am very proud of their performance today."

Senior Chaplain, Brian Cunningham said:

"This was a unique and poignant occasion for all the Oundle School community, standing side by side, remembering our fallen in war."

At the end of the service the school cast poppies into a field of 260 crosses, as a personal gesture of respect to pupils who had studied in the same classrooms, lived in the same boarding houses, and made the ultimate sacrifice with most of their adult life ahead of them.

Charles Bush, Headmaster, said: "This was a very special and poignant ceremony of remembrance by the whole community at our War Memorial on the chapel lawns. All at Oundle School owe so much to those who made the ultimate sacrifice in war and we will remember them."

Before the service all pupils gathered in Houses for a short address on the subject of Remembrance and the sacrifice of Old Oundelians.

As has become traditional, a Colour Guard from the school's CCF, Pipers and the CCF Marching Band paraded through Oundle on Sunday afternoon, as part of the town's Service of Remembrance and laying of wreaths at the War Memorial. Eight of Oundle's pupil trumpeters played the Last Post in various locations in Oundle and its surrounding villages and members of the Chamber Choir sang at a Remembrance Service in Apethorpe.

Remembrance at Rushden Academy

Over 1,000 students, staff and governors at Rushden Academy took part in a moving outdoor ceremony marking Remembrance Day.

A number of the students represented their Army and Navy Cadet groups and one large poppy, created by staff and students each making a single poppy as part of the community event the 'Big Draw', was the stunning visual centrepiece.

Acting Principal, Jude Goodacre said: "I would like to congratulate all students at Rushden Academy for their conduct this morning at what was a very moving occasion, they displayed great dignity and respect throughout.

"Special thanks to Year 11 student and Deputy Head Boy, Drew Pettit and his fellow cadets who demonstrated the qualities and values of our sponsor the Education Fellowship, and which are displayed by many of our students here at the Academy – you made us very proud. The poppy installation was a fitting centrepiece and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who were involved in its construction."

Mrs Goodacre spoke to the students about the significance of Remembrance Day, particularly this year which is the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War. Drew Pettit read 'We will remember them' and at 11am the Last Post marked the beginning of the two minutes' silence which ended with the Reveille.

Assistant Principal, Paula Smith organised the Big Draw event in October. She said: "All students and staff created their own poppy. This was also one of the activities completed by

Year 6 students from local primary feeder schools visiting us for our Open Evening in October, including pupils from The Education Fellowship's Risdene Academy. We will now be contacting the primary headteachers to ask if they would like to play host to the poppy wreath over the next couple of weeks."

Lizzie Rowe, Deputy CEO of The Education Fellowship, said: "All 12 schools in The Education Fellowship marked Remembrance Day with special activities on Tuesday 11th November. These ranged from a two-minute silence at 11am through to very special assemblies with reflections, readings, music and poetry. Remembrance inspires many strong messages of course but the most powerful message is that our pupils all have the democratic right to live in freedom as individuals in harmony with our fellow citizens wherever they are in the world."



Rushden Academy Students representing their Army and Navy Cadet groups, Academy Head Boy and Girl, Mrs J Goodacre (Acting Principal) and Mr P Bocking (Assistant Principal) – The large poppy was made by staff and students each creating a single poppy. This is part of a community event (and competition) called the 'Big Draw'

Manor School Sports College named 2014 Secondary Sport School of Year

Manor School Sports College, Raunds, was centre stage at the Northamptonshire Sports Awards, which took place at Kettering

Conference Centre on Thursday 6th November.

In the tenth year of the Awards, Manor School was awarded Secondary Sport School of the Year. The

category was sponsored by Create Development, with a shortlist of five strong nominees.

Manor School took the prestigious award after

the panel vote before the Awards night, ahead of Friars Academy, The Parker E-ACT Academy, Lodge Park Academy and Malcolm Arnold Academy. An inspiring video to highlight the achievements of staff and pupils at Manor School was shown on the night, including interviews with SPARK Academy leaders and members of the Activate Girls Club.

Over 350 people attended

the event, compered by BBC Sport Broadcaster Mike Sewell. Manor School sixth form student Taylor Kennedy-Hoyland was also nominated for Young Leader of the Year. Taylor runs and leads the satellite club for girls at Manor School and is a Gold Young Ambassador.

Representing the Sport and Creative Studies department to collect the Secondary Sport School of

the Year Award were Matt Sturgess, Carl Brown, Lee Donovan, Nick Somers and Toni Hustwait. Mr Sturgess commented: "We are extremely proud to have won such a prestigious award and it is testament to the hard work of both the staff and students at the school."

For further information about the Northamptonshire Sports Awards and to view photographs visit www.northamptonshiresport.org

Inner Wheel in Oundle

Inner Wheel is the largest international women's group in the world. During its lifetime the Oundle Inner Wheel Club has raised funds for a number of small local charities, as well as contributed to the Salvation Army and various Service charities.

At one time it was only wives and female relatives of Rotarians who could join, but now it is open to any female who wishes to help in the local community.

Oundle Inner Wheel Club has been established for 32 years. During that time the Club members have actively sought ways to contribute to aspects of community care in Oundle. Recently, Mrs Jane Morgan regained her independence due to the Inner Wheel's intervention.

This year, funds were raised for a 'wheels'

project to celebrate 90 years of Inner Wheel and the Club serviced and recharged a scooter given to Mrs Morgan. She is now able to go out unaided to church and socialise with friends, and is absolutely delighted. As part of the same project, the Club also provided funding for new tricycles for the Oundle Pre-school playgroup that meets at Fletton House.

The Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month at the Chequered Skipper for a short meeting, followed by supper and a speaker. If you are interested in becoming involved, please call Pam on 01832 272747 or Sylvia 01832 272429. Newcomers are welcome to visit one of the Club meetings to evaluate how it is currently contributing to welfare in the Oundle community and to hear about planned future activities. The Club aims to have fun while helping others.

High-speed broadband – the debate continues

The great debate on high-speed broadband is rumbling on and we've received further correspondence pointing out the problems being encountered by some local residents. We don't have the space to print all the comments but some of the more interesting concerns highlighted by those who don't have access to faster speeds are as follows:

- Lower property values because potential residents won't move to an area where they can't use the internet at an acceptable speed.
- Fewer job opportunities because businesses can't work effectively with slow internet.
- Some schools and pupils are suffering because children can't learn via computers.

One individual has gone to great lengths to drastically reduce his system usage for a month but has noted that system updates and incoming emails, and their attachments, use up a huge amount of his transmission allocation. He also said that the email he sent us, which was around 400 words long, would take some two minutes to send and use up two megabytes of his allowance.

Local councillors and MPs have been involved in the debate, with a general acceptance that there is a problem, but it remains to be seen what, if anything, can be done to resolve it. There is a note on our letters page which suggests a possible solution; if you have experience of a means of improving broadband speeds, we would be happy to hear from you.

Think TEN for Christmas and New Year events

Christmas and New Year is a time of celebration and partying, but if you want to hold an occasional event which includes alcohol sales or live music then you might need to submit a Temporary Event Notice (TEN).

TEN applications must be submitted at least ten working days before the event is held, so you need to act quickly if you haven't already got one for an event you're holding this festive season. You will need a TEN if:

- alcohol is to be sold or supplied for a contribution (even if a glass of wine is included in the ticket price it is still considered as alcohol being sold).
- there is any 'regulated entertainment' that is open to the public e.g. Disco, Live Music, Dancing. Please note that TENs are not required for private events by invitation

- only.
- any drinks or hot food will be sold between 11pm and 5am.

Events must involve no more than 499 people at any one time and last no longer than 168 hours.

Applications for Temporary Event Notices can only be made by those who are 18 years old or over. Each person can submit up to five notices per year, and a fee of £21 is payable for each notice.

For more information and to submit an application for a Temporary Event Notice, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/temporaryeventnotice. If you are unsure whether you require a Temporary Event Notice, please email licensingunit@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk or call 01832 742102.



L to R: Matt Sturgess, Nick Somers, Tim Dancer (Create Development – sponsors of the Secondary School Award), Carl Brown and Lee Donovan

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From the East Northamptonshire Council Chairman

First of all, a huge thank you to everyone who supported my Afternoon Tea event, it was a stunning success.

I had 60 people attend whilst others sent donations or raffle prizes which meant that we raised £615 for Prostaed, my chosen prostate cancer charity. I'd also like to thank the speaker for the afternoon, David Laing, the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire. It was a lovely afternoon and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves.

As I write this, my thoughts go to those who made the supreme sacrifice in the two World Wars and other wars we have been involved in. The work of the British

Legion in organising the Remembrance Day events is marvellous.

In Rushden, we had a service at the Garden of Remembrance which was well attended. This year was very poignant, as pupils from Alfred Street School planted 18 crosses at the war memorial – one for each of the men from Rushden who died in 1914 as a result of the First World War.

Remembrance Day in Rushden gets bigger every year, with a longer parade and hundreds taking part. We had a service at the war memorial and the laying of wreaths. This was followed by a Remembrance Service in St Mary's Church. It is

good to see how the people of Rushden support this event, with more people than ever this year.

We all wear our poppies with pride and I notice that the British Legion have now issued some jewellery which can be purchased from their website, including a pin and an elegant poppy brooch.

My consort, Andy and I attended the spectacular Northamptonshire Sports Awards at Kettering Conference Centre. Congratulations to all the winners and especially to Manor School who won the Secondary Sport School of the Year award. It is the lead school for coaching, delivering a successful project

to increase the number of young leaders achieving Level 1 qualifications. It also runs a comprehensive programme of curricular and extra-curricular sport.

We were amazed at the talent locally and in particular the two winners of Local Sportswoman and Sportsman of the year, who were both medal winners at the Commonwealth Games. They were Frankie Jones, who won a gold medal and five silvers in rhythmic gymnastics, and Daniel Keatings, who won a gold medal for the pommel. Daniel also won Sports Personality of the Year and explained that he achieves



L to R: Special guests at the ENC Chairman Gill Mercer's charity Afternoon Tea event were Mary Laing, wife of the Lord Lieutenant, Anne Burnett, High Sheriff of Northamptonshire and David Laing, Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire

such success by hard work and training 35 hours a week, which shows real dedication

and is to be admired.
ENC Chairman,
Cllr Gill Mercer

Oundle Job Club celebrates first anniversary of service

Under the umbrella of Christians Against Poverty (CAP), Oundle Job Club has now been running for one year at No. 1 Community Services in Oundle.

The Club has had a great year helping jobseekers who require support in honing their job application skills. Clients' self-confidence and awareness is encouraged, and help in writing a clear and up-to-date CV is provided, as well as computers for job searches, support for

those filling in application forms, and practice in interview techniques. By taking advantage of some or all of these services, many people have been helped into full or part-time work. The service is free, includes a free breakfast, and new clients are welcome.

The Club is based at 1 St Osyth's Lane and is open fortnightly 9.15am–11.30am. The Club will be open on 3rd and 17th December. For more information, call 01832 770011 mornings.

Church organist publishes poetry

Trevor Warland has been the regular organist at St Mary's Church, Ringstead for over 30 years. Now Trevor has revealed that he can write poetry as well as play music.

He has decided to publish a book of verse using a selection from the huge collection he has written over many years, under the title 'Not Averse to a Little Verse'.

This sweet little volume will be launched at the next St Mary's Church, Ringstead, Coffee Morning on Saturday 6th December, when Trevor will be selling signed copies at £5. Or

you can contact him on 01933 318245.

Back in 1989, Trevor rebuilt and installed the present organ in St Mary's Church after he and fellow organist, Alan Richardson conveyed it, in small sections, all the way from Kent, after buying it from a Tonbridge Methodist Church.

Those attending the event will be able to enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, choose a slice of cake from the delicious selection of homemade cakes, enter the special Christmas Tombola, and look at the goodies on sale at the variety of stalls.



www.colemans-online.co.uk

Unit 6, Brindley Close,
Rushden, NN10 6EN.
T: 01933 355530



1000's OF ART, CRAFT & HOBBY SUPPLIES ALL UNDER ONE ROOF!



FREE DEMONSTRATIONS!

SAVE 20%!
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FREE PARKING

Special Craft Warehouse Christmas Evening

Tuesday 9th December 6 to 8.30pm

Get in the Christmas spirit with a glass of mulled wine & a mince pie - all are welcome to this **FREE** event.



Enjoy **20% Off** all non-offer products plus plenty of great gift ideas - like THE "must-have" Christmas Present for crafters - The X-Cut Express at **£89.99** (RRP £139.99)!



1000's OF CRAFT & HOBBY SUPPLIES - ALL AT GREAT PRICES & ALL UNDER ONE ROOF!

At Rushden, Northants our 5000 sq. foot warehouse has 1000's of craft, card making, beading, baking & cake decorating, fabric & quilting supplies - **all at great prices!**

On the last 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 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 6th December & will feature the following demonstrators:-

Nicky Hall: Polka Doodles - fabulous effects with the new Pearlescent colours from Pan Pastels

Sharon Bramley: - quick & easy Christmas cards **Neil Burley:** - Altered Art tips & tricks

Deb Moore: - Kumihimo jewellery **Julie Eaves:** - decorating Christmas cakes

Make Your Own Christmas Cards & Decorations!

Need materials or know-how & inspiration? We have it all at The Craft Warehouse!



Craft workshops Great Gift Idea!

For details of our Craft Workshops please visit our Website (www.colemans-online.co.uk) or ask for a leaflet at The Craft Warehouse or any Coleman's Branch.



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Rushden
Northants
NN10 6EN

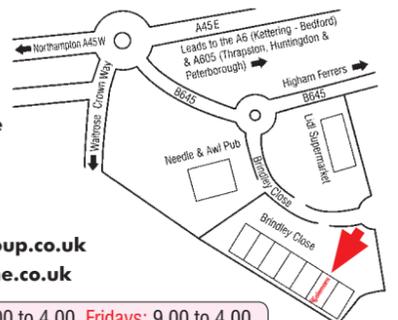
T: 01933 355530

E: craft@colemangroup.co.uk

www.colemans-online.co.uk



Thursdays: 9.00 to 4.00 Fridays: 9.00 to 4.00
Saturdays: 8.30 to 4.00 Sundays: 10.00 to 4.00



Saturday 22nd November

Quiz Night
Thrapston Town Football Club, Chancery Lane, Thrapston
7pm-9pm
£5 entrance or £20 for a team of up to 4 players.
Contact Kevin 07894 534093
£100 prize for winning team.

Craft & Gift Fair

Milton Ernest Village Hall
1pm-4pm
£1, Children 12 and under FREE.
Lynne Bufton 01933 412206
Homemade crafts & gifts plus refreshments available.
Stalls bookable (£10).
Tel: 01933 412206. Come visit!

Children's Nearly New Sale and Bake Sale

Irthlingborough Methodist Church
10am-12noon
Free admission
Becci McFadyen
Good quality nearly new children's clothes and homemade cakes.

Monday 24th November 'The Magic of Christmas' A flower arranging demonstration by Anne Marie Kendrick

Warmington Village Hall
7.30pm
Advance ticket only, £6 from Glebe Stores, Warmington
Mike Palmer 01832 280585
warmhortsoc@hotmail.co.uk
Arrangements to be auctioned and raffled. Bar and other refreshments available.

Tuesday 25th November

Rushden Historical Transport Society
Meeting - Change of speaker/presentation.
Rushden Conservative Club, High Street, South, Rushden
8pm
Due to circumstances outside our control, Tuesdays talk has been amended.
Robin Cullip will be showing slides titled 'Northamptonshire Railways Part 1', which will concentrate mainly on the London to Birmingham route and Northampton to Peterborough route.
Entrance Fee £2 for members

and £3 for non-members includes a buffet.
Richard Woodcock 01933 353111.

Mens group Pensioners' Parliament

Prize Whist drive and general session.
Rushden Hall, Hall Park, Rushden
2pm-4pm
£1 + Raffle
Secretary Malcolm 01933 314090.

Thursday 27th November

Discovery Walks
Meet at Yarwell Church
2pm
£1.50, no need to book.
Tel 01780 782747
www.weanorthamptonshire.org
Exploring Northamptonshire - Yarwell and Wansford - 4 miles.

Oundle Art Group Meeting

Tansor Village Hall
1.45pm-3.45pm
£2.50
Jane Sanders 01832 226495; Chris Yates 01832 226345
'Mixed Media' - Bring a selection of media and paper.

Friday 28th November Friday Club and 'Pub' Night

Laxton Village Hall
10.30pm-12midnight
All welcome, £1.50 to cover hall costs.
Tim Gilbert on 01780 450005.
Start the weekend with friends and neighbours for chat, games (table tennis), drinks (BYO), crafting.

Friday 28th November and Sunday 30th November

Information Day for New Volunteers
Lyveden New Field, The Cottage Tea Room.
10am-2pm
Come and find out if you could be part of our volunteering community.

Saturday 29th November Rushden Christmas Lights Switch-On

Rushden High Street
11am-5.30pm (lights on at 4.30pm)
Free
rushdeneventsgroup@gmail.com
Santa, reindeer, puppet show, rodeo bull, free face painting, choirs, Musical Santas Band, fairground rides.

Dickensian Christmas Fair

St Peter's Church, Irthlingborough
11am-3pm
Free admission
Contact Margaret Bull 01933 651360 or Linda Hogg 01933 653192
Special guest Father Christmas, Bottle stall, cakes, crafts, cards, books, plus competitions, tombola and lots more.

Thrapston Christmas Lights Festival

Thrapston High Street
2.30pm-6pm
Free
Thrapston Town Council
Christmas market, rides, snowboarding, food, festive music, Mr Marvel, lights switch-on at 5pm.

Harringworth Christmas Bazaar

St John the Baptist Church, Seaton Road, Harringworth
NN17 3AF
10.30am-1.30pm
£1.50 (includes tea and mince pies)
Philippa Gasson 01572 747700
Features 'Made in Harringworth' produce, famous Hamper Raffle, gift ideas and Hexacopter feature!

Sunday 30th November

Stanwick Lakes Christmas Tree Decoration
Stanwick Lakes Visitor Centre
11am-4pm
Modest charges to make baubles; normal car park charges apply
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk - info@rftrust.org.uk - 01933 625522
Drop in to help us decorate our Christmas Tree. And make baubles to take home.

Tuesday 2nd December

Mens group Pensioners' Parliament

Presentation by Mike Dunkley on Weapons of War 1939-45
Rushden Hall, Hall Park, Rushden
2pm-4pm
£1 + Raffle
Secretary Malcolm 01933 314090.

Wednesday 3rd December Mostly Green and

White: A guide to snowdrops

Methodist Church Hall, Drummingwell Lane, Oundle
7.45pm
Entrance £2 patrons, £3 visitors
An illustrated talk on snowdrops, opportunity to meet fellow gardeners, free light refreshments, all welcome.

Thursday 4th December Oundle Art Group Meeting

Tansor Village Hall
1.45pm-3.45pm
£6 for non-members
Jane Sanders 01832 226495; Chris Yates 01832 226345
'Watercolours' with Ann Smart. Bring watercolours and paper.

Lunchtime Concert

St Peter's Church, Oundle
1.15pm
Free / Lunch can be purchased
Saint-Saens - Carnival of Animals. Last lunchtime concert of 2014 delivers the greatest zoological fantasy of all time.

The Snowman

Oundle School Chapel
9pm
Free
Embrace the season with this musical gem. Clasp the cup of hot chocolate on offer and enjoy the projection of the organ onto screen, with Narrator and Treble before you.
Music and words by Howard Blake.

Thursday 4th, Friday 5th and Saturday 6th December

Romeo and Juliet

The Stahl Theatre, Oundle
7.45pm
£5
Shakespeare's archetypal love story thrives on contradiction and counterpoint. It starts as comedy and ends in tragedy; those who seek to enforce peace find only anger; love between two teenagers ends the hate between their parents.

Friday 5th December (10.30am-1pm)

Saturday 6th December (1.30pm-3.30pm)

Sunday 7th December (1.30pm-3.30pm)

Stanwick Lakes Lantern Workshop

Stanwick Lakes
£5 or £7 depending on size of lantern - normal car park charges apply
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk - info@rftrust.org.uk - 01933 625522



Make a beautiful willow lantern to take home and also carry on the Winter Solstice Walk (see 21st Dec below).

Friday 5th December Film: American Hustle (15)

Ringstead Village Social Club, High Street NN14 4DA.
Doors open at 7.30pm film starts 7.45pm.
Tickets £4.
Contact 01933 460373 for details.
A crime comedy drama.
Bar available.

Rotary Club of Oundle Christmas Concert

St Peter's Church, Oundle
8pm-10pm
Tickets £10 each available from Oundle Post Office, Oundle Book Shop, Green Man Antiques.

Christmas Wreath Making Night

Brigstock Village Hall.
Doors and bar open 7.30pm for 8pm start.
Tickets £20 (includes glass of mulled wine and mince pie)
Sam Read 07766 573400
Learn how to make your own unique Christmas wreath - you'll be delighted with the quality of the beautiful wreath you take home. Join us for a fun festive night. Why not gather some friends and come together? In aid of Brigstock Playgroup.

Saturday 6th December Thrapston Farmers' Market

Thrapston High Street
9am-1pm
Free
www.thrapstonfarmersmarket.moonfruit.com
Local meat, beer, cider, cheese, eggs, deli, preserves etc. Meet Santa!

Cinderella Pantomime

Brigstock Village Hall
2pm
Tickets £5
Available from local Post

Office or 01536 373598/01536 373191
Caroline Motion
The Looking Glass Theatre presents 'Cinderella'. Pantomime fun for all the family. Refreshments available. Hearing loop available.

Wildlife Trust Lantern Walk

St Peter's Church, Irthlingborough
4pm-6pm
Free, donations welcome
Claire Wylde 01604 405285 claire.wylde@wildlifebcn.org
Booking required. Make a lantern followed by a candlelit walk, hot drinks and mince pies.

Stanwick Lakes Christmas Celebration

Stanwick Lakes Visitor Centre
10am-4pm
Modest charges for some activities - discounts for Stanwick Lakes Members - normal car park charges apply.
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk - info@rftrust.org.uk - 01933 625522
Festive food, arts and crafts, music and merriment!

Christmas Fair

Glaphorn Church PE8 5BE
10am-1pm
£2, children free
Liz Barnish 01832 273957 or eabarnish@hotmail.com
Homemade crafts and wreaths, cakes, bric-a-brac, and a visit from Father Christmas. Fundraiser for the church.

Christmas Meal

Laxton Village Hall
7.30pm (prompt for meal service)
£9
Fiona Harding 01780 450235 (by 3/12 for numbers please)
Traditional Christmas meal with festive decorations, licensed bar and raffle. Pudding donations welcome.

Continued on page 12



Continued from page 11

Craft, Gift & Vintage Fayre

Masonic Hall,
Wellingborough Road,
Rushden
10am-4pm
Free & free parking
kaytandmick@hotmail.co.uk
Lots of lovely items made by local people at affordable prices. Refreshments available.

Woodford Christmas Fayre

On the Village Green
2pm-5pm.
Free to all
Sara Coyle -
cdix509@btinternet.com

Oundle Christmas Market

Market Place, Oundle.
12noon-7pm.
Free event
Contact Alison Newcomb on alisonnewcomb@oundlefoodfestival.co.uk or www.oundlefoodfestival.co.uk.
60 stalls selling Christmas food, gifts and crafts with Father Christmas, reindeer, brass band and carols.

Baby/Kids Nearly New Sale

The Pemberton Centre HE
Bates Way, NN10 9YP
Rushden
10am-12noon
£1 (Kids free)
karen_aves@hotmail.co.uk
Lots of stalls with baby and kids' clothes, toys and equipment. Come and pick up some bargains!

Coffee Morning

St Peter's Church
Midland Road, Rushden
10am-11.30am
Admission 50p
Bric-a-brac, cakes, raffle and much more.

6th, 7th, 13th, 14th, 20th, 21st December

Stanwick Lakes Santa
Stanwick Lakes
11am-4pm
Admission price to be decided - check website (address below) - normal car park charges apply.
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk - info@rftrust.org.uk - 01933 625522
Visit Santa in his magical grotto and receive a present. You can also explore the playground or come inside and make lovely Christmassy gifts.

Sunday 7th December Symphony and Chamber Orchestra Concert

Great Hall, Oundle School
4pm
Free
Oundle School's fine orchestras feature in a one hour concert that offers

sublime melody in abundance. Featuring music from Beethoven, Copland, Poulenc and Dvorak.

An Afternoon with Paul Blinkhorn

Bede House, Higham Ferrers
2pm-3.15pm (members meeting 3.30pm-4pm)
Visitors £4, members £3
Olwen Mayes 07904 014750; www.hifars.org.uk
Christmas lecture with Time Team's Anglo-Saxon and Medieval Pottery expert.

Bird Walk with Bob Webster

Stanwick Lakes
9am-11am
£1 per person (free to members) Booking recommended - normal car park charges apply.
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk - info@rftrust.org.uk - 01933 625522.
A gentle walk with a chance to identify Stanwick Lakes' wildfowl on migration through the Nene Valley.

First Monday of month (different date)

Wildlife Trust Little Bugs Club
Irthlingborough Library
1.30pm-3pm
Free, donations welcome
Louise Tuffin 01604 405285 louise.tuffin@wildlifebcn.org
A fun monthly session for under 5s and their parents to discover local wildlife.

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
Regular walking can help improve your health. Join us in our regular walks.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Fridays

Exploring Northamptonshire by Bus (refreshments optional)
Various villages & countryside
From 10am
£2.50 per map.
Tel: 01933 461480 (answerphone available)
Suitable for everyone.
Various journeys just to see more; short stroll or a longer walk.

Every Wednesday evening

Dog Training and Socialisation and Ringcraft
Halefield, Woodnewton, near Oundle
Classes from 6.45pm
Tel: 01832 293432

oundledogs@aol.com or website www.oundledogs.co.uk

Dog training classes following the KC Good Citizen Scheme and Ringcraft. New members always welcome.

Alternate Wednesdays U3A Country Dancing

St James' Church hall
Thrapston
2pm-3.30pm
ghearnden@tiscali.co.uk
Tel: 01933 622827
The U3A Country Dance Group meets on alternate Wednesdays. All are welcome. Non U3A members are welcome for a taster.

Third Wednesday of month (different date)

Higham and Rushden U3A
Pemberton Centre, Rushden
2pm-4pm
£2 for visitors
Tel: Membership Secretary 01933 314425.
Monthly speaker followed by beverages and mixing for social chat.

Every Wednesday (except December)

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

Every Thursday

Folk Dancing
St Mary's Church Hall
8pm-10pm
First visit free, £2 per night thereafter.
If you enjoy folk dancing come and join us.

The Silverfox Turners Club

Dale End Scout
Headquarters, Croyland Road, Wellingborough
Bet 10am-1pm
£2 all members
Secretary Trevor Rhodes
Tel: 01933 382790
Newly formed wood turning club. Open to all levels of wood turners.
Warm welcome guaranteed.

Every Thursday during school term time

Music Makers
Titchmarsh Pavilion
9.30am-10.15am
£4 per child and £2 per sibling.
Naomi Cooper on 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-12noon
£4 per child and £2 per sibling.
Naomi Cooper on 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
Tel: Nicki 01933 625658
For pre-schoolchildren and their adult carer - Bible story, song, craft and fun. All welcome.

Ongoing - third Thursday of each month.

Painting Class
St John Ambulance Hall, Raunds
10am-4pm
£15 per session.
Drawing and painting class using mixed media. Very friendly class - all abilities 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
Learn new craft skills, share your experience and meet up with crafty friends.

Third Friday of the month

The Poetry Group
Raunds Library
2.30pm
Free
Tel: 01933 622151
How World War One changed poetry.

Third Friday of the month (recommend checking before travelling)

Stanwick Stitches
Stanwick Lakes
10.30am
Free entry - normal car park charges apply.
Tel: 01933 625522 or Pauline on 01933 229817
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk
Come and join this informal friendly group of stitchers to chat, stitch and eat cake!

Third Friday of the month

Poetry Group
Raunds Library
2.30pm
Free, donations welcome
Mrs S J Hall 01933 622151.

Second Saturday of the month

WE Watch and Phoenix Group
Stanwick Lakes
For more information email wewatchstanwick@hotmail.co.uk
Tel: 01933 625522
Two clubs for keen young nature lovers. WE Watch for ages 8-3 and Phoenix for ages 13-18. Supported by RSPB and Wildlife Trust.

First Saturday of the month

Thrapston Farmers' Market
Thrapston High Street
9am-1pm
Free
www.thrapstonfarmersmarket.moonfruit.com
Every first Saturday of the month. Local meat, beer, cider, cheese, eggs, deli, preserves etc.

Second Saturday of every month (Same Saturday as Oundle Farmers' Market)

Coffee 'n' Cakes
Oundle Methodist Church,
Drummingwell Lane (behind the Talbot Hotel)
10am-12noon
Tel: John Hewitson 01832 272209
Filter coffee, tea, squash. (free refills)

homemade cakes. Warm welcome. Proceeds to various charities.

Last Saturday of the month (except December)

Farmers' Market
Market Square, Higham Ferrers
9am-1pm
danielle@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Aberdeen Angus beef, organic eggs, vegetables, Italian peppers, organic pork and lamb, free range poultry, beer, pork in all its forms in addition to pickles, pies, herbs, fresh fish, fruit and honey, preserves, traditional bread, plants & cheese.

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.
Tel: 01933 625522
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk
Browse through tempting treats and gifts made and farmed by local businesses.

Ongoing Drawing and Painting Classes

Ecton Village Hall,
Chelveston Village Hall,
Warkton Village Hall, Kingsthorpe Community Centre
Various (see my website)
dgartweb.sharepoint.com
£65 per term
Tel: Derek Geater 01933 381848
Drawing and painting, mainly working in watercolour with some soft pastels.

More events can be found at www.nenevalleynews.co.uk
To submit your event please contact us via our website in the following format: Date, event, place, time, admission fee (if applicable), contact information, 15 word description.





‘Your Care Your Way’

Meet the homecare team pictured above

Serve was formed in 1981 as an information and resource agency providing support for older people of Northamptonshire.

Serve was initially operated solely by volunteers and is proud of its traditions; it remains fundamentally a voluntary organisation but many of the services are now delivered by trained, paid staff.

We assist Clients with all aspects of personal care.

Washing / showering • Dressing / undressing • Medication support • Meal preparation • Companionship • Sleeping / sitting service

We offer the following hours of care: **1 hour visits for personal care needs, as above.**

We understand that not everyone can afford an hour care visit, we have listened to our service users and consulted so we also offer:

30 minute visits at a lower rate than our competitors, so we are able to meet your care needs at an affordable cost.

We also offer 15 minute visits for medication checks and pop in calls.

Respite care

We offer a unique pay as you go service

Do you have a special occasion/weekend away booked but want to know your loved one is cared for

We can help

BIG SOCIETY AWARD WINNERS 2012

Email: info.serve@org.uk

Website: www.serve.org.uk



Classifieds

Deadlines for all classifications: 5pm Monday prior to issue date.
A complete version of our Terms and Conditions can be found online at www.nenevalleynews.co.uk
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jon@essamca.co.uk www.essamca.co.uk

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Kettering, Northants, NN14 4PL
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EASTON ON THE HILL PARISH COUNCIL

This Parish Council has a vacancy for a parish clerk. CVs are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons, although training will be offered as an alternative to formal qualifications. Any applicant must be computer literate and with good communication skills. 10 hours per week, working from home. Information available on request.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

The Cock Inn, Denford

On 23 July 2014, East Northamptonshire Council received a nomination from Denford Parish Council to list The Cock Inn, Denford as an Asset of Community Value under the Localism Act 2011.

East Northamptonshire Council agreed that the property met the definition given in the Act and listed it as an Asset of Community Value on its website. Listing the property in this way gives local community groups more time to raise finance and prepare to bid for it if they wish to do so if the asset comes up for sale.

The owners have now notified East Northamptonshire Council that it is their intention to sell the property. A six week interim moratorium period now begins which allows any local community interest group to make a written request to be treated as a potential bidder for the property.

Groups that are eligible to submit an expression of interest are:

- A legally constituted organisation such as a charity
- A company limited by guarantee that does not distribute profits amongst its members
- An Industrial and Provident Society
- A Community Interest Company
- A Parish Council

If your community group is eligible and wishes to be considered as a potential bidder, you must notify East Northamptonshire Council by **5pm on Wednesday 10 December**. You can make a submission in writing by emailing panp@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk or by writing to Policy & Performance Team, East Northamptonshire Council, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, NN14 4LZ.

For more information about assets of community value, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/communityrighttobid or call 01832 742210.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14
THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(WOOD ROAD, KINGS CLIFFE)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC)
ORDER 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Wood Road, Kings Cliffe as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES:
 That length of Wood Road, Kings Cliffe from the junction of Kings Forest to junction of Walkers Field.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required to install a new supply.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 8th December 2014 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted until 11th December 2014.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: Use Station Road, Park Street, West Street and Forest Approach.

Dated this 22nd day of November 2014
 QUENTIN BAKER
 Director of LGSS Law
 JCM/T14/389

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp on 01604-364359.

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Rushden & Higham RFC match report

Rushden welcomed Melton Mowbray to Manor Park in Round 2 of the Senior Vase competition.

A disappointing display by Rushden saw them knocked out of the cup competition by a well organised Melton Mowbray side.

From the off, the visitors showed their intent on attacking at every opportunity and when a clearance kick from Rushden was fielded by their No. 15, he jinked his way through the defence to score the opening score. Try converted, 0-7.

Rushden kicked off and again Melton were on the attack. An infringement at the ruck saw Melton kick over a penalty, 0-10.

Jackson's clearance kick was charged down and Melton's winger was on hand to dot down in the corner, 0-15.

An infringement by Melton at the ruck saw Rushden gain a penalty and glimpse a comeback. Score 3-15.

Unfortunately for Rushden, these were to be their only points of the afternoon, as Melton dealt with the weather conditions much better and things got worse as Jackson was sin-binned for repeated team infringements.

Melton continued to

dominate the first half and went on to score three more tries, converting two of them. Half time: 3-34.

With the game seemingly over as a contest, the second half was a bit of a non-event, with Melton adding one more converted try.

Full time: 3-41.

Chromasport & Trophies United Counties League results

Saturday 15th November

Premier Division

AFC Rushden & Diamonds 0 - 0 Yaxley

Division One

Irchester United 1 - 4 Woodford United

Peterborough Sports 0 - 1 Rushden & Higham United

Reserves Division

Rushden & Higham United 1 - 5 Bugbrooke St Michaels

Thrapston Town P Raunds Town

Under-21 Division

Histon P AFC Rushden & Diamonds

Berks & Bucks Intermediate Cup

Buckingham Town 3 - 2 Langley Wanderers

Hambleden 1 - 5 Olney Town

Northants Lower Junior Cup

FC Titchmarsh 2 - 2 Raunds Town Res

Penalties 5 - 6

Chess corner

By Derrick Sims

The gallant troops of Rushden made the epic journey to Northampton to take on the superior force of Chess Mates A recently, which was no adventure for the faint-hearted against the Silver King Northamptonshire League Division I leaders.

Rushden were undaunted and joined battle with gusto. It was soon clear that this was going to be no walkover for Northampton's chess giants. Rushden's big guns, Hugh Murphy and Raj Ganger gave as good as they got. Hugh managed to wrestle a draw out of Northampton's Chris Ross with Raj holding his own against Greg Smith, despite being handicapped by a sprained ankle.

Further draws by James Gardner and Alan Lewis left Rushden with an unprecedented four draws against Northampton. Alan was particularly unlucky, having missed taking a piece in the opening moves against Eva Ressel, a consideration I've never received when I've played him! Alan was later spotted crying into his beer in the bar.

Despite a gallant fight Saj Ganger was unable to overcome a 32 point grade deficit against Tim Lawson and thus was Northampton's victory ensured.

Rushden A remain in fourth place, ahead of Kettering B and Corby.

The final results were:

Chess Mates A		Rushden A
1) C. Ross (200)	0.5	0.5 H. Murphy (195)
2) G. Smith (173)	0.5	0.5 R. Ganger (182)
3) F. Kamau (169)	0.5	0.5 J. Gardner (150)
4) E. Ressel (131)	0.5	0.5 A. Lewis (140)

5) T. Lawson (146) 1 0 S. Ganger (114)

All of the games can be found on the Rushden Chess Club website by clicking on 'County League Games'.

Chess is a game for people of all abilities, disabilities, and lifestyles. 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 - for details please call the Club Secretary on 07810 474969, or visit the club website <http://rushdenchessclub.com> and for the NCA (County Association) it's <http://www.norchess.lloydbunday.co.uk>.



Oundle Friendly Darts League

Results for 29th October

Bulwick Queen's Head 4-5 Benefield Cricket Club B

King's Cliffe Club 6-3 Apethorpe King's Head

Results for 5th November

Bulwick Queen's Head 4-5 Benefield A

Benefield B 4-5 Apethorpe

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