

31st January 15

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Newsagents in Rushden robbed

A newsagents in Rushden was robbed by a man who forced staff to lock themselves in the toilet after he emptied the safe.

The man, who is believed to have been armed, walked into the McColl's newsagents in Grangeway just before 10pm on Sunday 25th January, just as the store was due to close.

He demanded to know where the safe was and told the two staff members to empty it and put the money in a bag.

He then told the shop workers to lock themselves in the toilet while he escaped.

It is believed he may have fled in a silver people carrier which was parked behind the shop.

He was a white man and was wearing a jacket that was either pink, red or brown as well as blue jeans and gloves.

Witnesses, or anyone who knows anything about this incident, can call Northamptonshire Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Salvation Army First Sunday Event

On Sunday 1st February Rushden Salvation Army, Church Street, Rushden will present their First Sunday Event.

The guest will be Mairi Addy, a member of Boobs and Brass, supported by folksinger Jim Carroll. The event commences at 6pm. Prior to this event, at 5pm, free refreshments will be available. Admission is free.

World Champion gymnast Daniel Keatings to be ambassador for Northampton Schools

Commonwealth, European and World Champion gymnast Daniel Keatings visited Windmill Primary, Raunds, an Education Fellowship academy, in his new role as an ambassador for the Northamptonshire based Fellowship.

He held two gymnastic workshops with pupils in school years 3 to 6 and took a whole-school assembly. Dressed in his Team GB kit, he wowed the children with an amazing floor gymnastics demonstration, showed them his medals, and spoke about how he first became interested in sport aged just five years. He spoke about the importance of sport and fitness and working hard at what you believe in, inspiring the children with his energy and passion.

Lizzie Rowe, Deputy CEO of The Education Fellowship, said: "The Fellowship gives its sincere thanks to Daniel for being so willing to take up this new role of Ambassador for the Fellowship. He plans to visit our academies and deliver a strong message of fitness, sport and a healthy lifestyle to them, and equally importantly inspire and motivate our pupils to believe that their dreams and potential can be fulfilled if they work at them hard enough."

Daniel Keatings said: "I was really pleased to receive the invitation from The Education Fellowship to become an Ambassador. I have been lucky enough to be able to pursue my dream of being a professional sportsman but would never have got to where I now am without the support and guidance I received from a very young age. Having the opportunity to hopefully inspire and encourage these pupils to go for the dreams, whatever they may be, is an absolute honour."

Windmill Primary Principal, Michelle Ginn said: "We are delighted that Daniel, as a well-known popular local sportsman, came here to inspire and enthuse our pupils. Windmill Primary is the first school Daniel has visited since his success last summer at Glasgow 2014. It's important for our children to understand that there is a whole world of opportunities out there. This visit will hopefully increase the aspirations of every pupil within our school community."

As a new ambassador for the Education Fellowship, Daniel is committed to inspiring its pupils, lifting aspirations and underlining the importance of sport and fitness by visiting the schools and meeting and working with students of all ages.



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

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Friends of St James Church, Thrapston

The parish church of St James is probably the oldest building in Thrapston. Parts of it date back to the 13th century, when Thrapston was awarded its charter in 1205. For centuries, it has been a place of worship, sanctuary and solitude. It is a place where important events, such as weddings, funerals, baptisms, services of remembrance and civic services are held. Recently, it hosted a very moving service to remember those of the town who fell in the Great War.

As with all ancient buildings, the cost of maintaining it escalates year on year and this has increasingly become a struggle for the congregation to fund. The church does not receive any finance from the state or the Church of England to maintain the building and it is becoming more difficult to obtain grants from other bodies to fund

major repairs, as funds are scarce and grants generally only cover a small proportion of the costs.

Everyone is welcome to worship in St James but many who do not feel able to do so may nonetheless value the contribution the church makes to the local community. You might admire its architectural beauty, its historical or genealogical heritage (it is the resting place of some of the ancestors of George Washington) or you may value the services offered by the church, such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

If you do, you may wish to support the church in some way. Your support could be financial and/or helping to raise further funds to preserve our wonderful building.

If you feel you would like to help, then please contact Lindsey Burch on 01832 730019 or theburchbunch@uwclub.net



Super shortlisting success for Spire Homes

Local housing association Spire Homes has been shortlisted for two awards in recognition of their work to get more people online as well as their investment in the community in partnership with their contractor, Keepmoat.

The two awards see Spire Homes shortlisted in the Excellence in Digital Engagement and Contractor Engagement categories at the TPAS (Tenant Participation Advisory Service) Central Region Awards. The awards recognise both individual and collaborative initiatives that have made a real difference to people's lives and their wider communities.

Over the last two years, Spire Homes have developed an expanding digital engagement

programme which is encouraging more of their tenants to get online along with providing more self-service options, so tech savvy customers can manage their account securely online.

"We launched My Account in May last year so our tenants could do things like check their rent balance, make a payment and report repairs securely through our website," said Samantha Wylie, Head of Customer Service.

"It's been really popular amongst tenants who use the internet a lot, but we've been careful to make sure those who aren't online yet don't get left behind. We've been building up confidence with free training and internet taster sessions but also trying to improve

people's access to the internet with things like our laptop loan scheme."

The second shortlisting in the Contractor Engagement category comes from Spire Homes' work with repairs contractor Keepmoat Property Services. Since entering into a contract two years ago, the partnership has provided training and work experience opportunities for young Spire Homes tenants as well as significant investment into the community through Spire Homes' Community Grants Fund and, most recently with the 12 Deeds of Christmas, where

people could nominate unsung heroes and community groups to receive a good deed from Santa's little helpers.

"To be shortlisted for one award is great but two is a huge achievement," said Lynn Stubbs, Director of Business Services at Spire Homes. "Helping tenants get online and investing in the communities where we work are two really important areas for Spire Homes. These shortlistings really are a testament to the passion and drive of our staff and contractors to help our tenants and the wider community."

National Voter Registration Day – 5th Feb

On Thursday 7th May there will be a UK Parliamentary election as well as local government elections in some parts of England.

Voting will take place in all Parliamentary constituencies of the UK to elect Members of Parliament (MPs) and local councillors in some English local authority areas.

To be able to vote, you must be registered. You can do this online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. All you need is your National Insurance number, date of birth and address to register online.

To be able to vote in the May elections, you must be registered to vote by Monday 20th April 2015.



Want to place an advertisement or submit an article?

If you wish to contribute or have any comments please email news@nenevalleynews.co.uk or call 01522 513515. To advertise, call 01522 513515. Alternatively you can email advertising@nenevalleynews.co.uk

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The recipe for a great meal out this Valentine's Day



After flowers or chocolates, the next big question that's usually on the agenda for Valentine's Day is whether to go out to that romantic restaurant or enjoy a quiet meal in.

Whatever your decision this Valentine's Day, make sure you choose one of the 673 of eateries in East Northamptonshire with a rating of 3 or more.

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme rates food businesses on their hygiene standards, based on inspections carried out by East Northamptonshire Council. Businesses in the area are rated on a scale ranging from 0, which means urgent improvement necessary, to a top rating of 5 which is very good.

So, whether you're reserving a table at that romantic hotspot, a cosy little cafe, or planning on ordering a takeaway on your way home

for a romantic meal, make sure to check the hygiene rating first!

Look out for the green and black Food Hygiene Rating stickers displayed on windows and doors. If you can't see a sticker, then ask staff or check online at www.food.gov.uk/ratings

Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, says: "Valentine's Day is a busy time for our local restaurants, cafes and pubs. With the majority of food businesses in the district rated 3 or above, the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme makes it easier for everyone to choose to eat their romantic meals in places where food

hygiene is taken seriously."

Catriona Stewart, Head of Food Hygiene Ratings team at the Food Standards Agency, said: "The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme is a great tool when choosing where to eat out, particularly when celebrating a special meal, because it tells you what's going on in the kitchen and behind the scenes. For local eateries, a good rating will be good for business during this busy season."

This Valentine's Day, make sure you order the flowers, buy the chocolates AND check out the Food Hygiene Rating of your favourite places to eat or order from, at www.food.gov.uk/ratings



Freemasonry in Oundle

There has been a Freemasons' Lodge in Oundle, St Wilfrid Lodge, since 1922, meeting at the Talbot Hotel from October to April. It is one of 94 Lodges in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire.

Freemasonry is the oldest and largest of the secular (non-religious) fraternal societies.

Freemasons give their time, skills and money freely and quietly towards helping local, national and international charities. St Wilfrid donated £5,000 to East Anglian Children's Hospice (EACH) in 2014.

Freemasonry is a tolerant, diverse fraternity that does not discriminate against members, or prospective members, because of their religion, race or nationality.

It's based on honesty, fairness and kindness of heart. It's friendly, fun and family inclusive, enabling members to develop their social skills and make life-long friendships.

There are myths, rumours and misconceptions about freemasonry. If you would like to know more about its tradition, heritage and culture, and see a Freemason's Lodge set out, then come along the open day on Saturday 14th February at the Westgate Suite, Talbot Hotel, Oundle from 10am until 2pm.

Wives and partners are welcome to have a guided tour and enjoy a cup of coffee.

If you would like to know more you may email the Provincial Grand Secretary pgsecretary@northants-hunts-masons.org.uk

Pancake Day fun in Raunds

Pancake Day will be fun at Raunds Enterprise Centre this year, where you are invited to tuck into delicious pancakes (variety of fillings) and other refreshments.

Children will be on half-term holiday, so bring them along to celebrate Shrove Tuesday, without the bother of cooking pancakes yourself.

This invitation comes from St Peter's Church Steering Group who are organising the event, and they look forward

to welcoming everyone to pop in to the Centre between 10am and 12noon, to enjoy

the piles of pancakes and other refreshments they are planning for you.



Maureen Windust getting ready for Pancake Day

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Romance in East Northamptonshire



FROCKS – FOR ALL YOUR SPECIAL OCCASIONS

The winter may be fully upon us but with Christmas now a distant memory, many of our visitors are looking forward to a Spring or Summer wedding and therefore, that perfect wedding outfit.

It may be a customer who has been invited as a guest or as an important member of the wedding party itself. For all those ladies, what is always consistent is that they want something beautiful and unique – and timeless, for the years to come when the wedding photos are circulated.

Our Mother of the Bride/Groom ranges are proving to be immensely popular and similarly our range of less formal day dresses, when teamed with a stunning hat or fascinator make beautiful wedding guest, or race, outfits.

We look forward to seeing even more ladies come through the door over the



coming months, searching for that perfect frock.

THE SNOOKS

Hidden inside The Snooks is the Limelights Suite which has been refurbished with dressed walls, ceilings and chandeliers to give the feel of a marquee, but inside.

The noticeable difference from a normal garden marquee is that situated behind the drapes are coloured lights which can be switched to coordinate with your wedding colours.

We also offer the service of dressing the room so you can have tablecloths and chair covers along with sashes and table runners to match your wedding theme. We have numerous table centrepieces to choose from and we also can provide a cake and post box table.

We offer a range of food from a full three course meal to just a finger buffet.

We can combine different elements to suit your budget for your wedding reception.

VALENTINES @ THE KINGS ARMS, THRAPSTON

Why not treat yourselves to a gorgeous meal out this year? On Valentine's Day and the 13th of February we will be serving a delicious three-course meal for £29.95 per person. Each couple will also be treated to a free bottle of



wine! Our Restaurant is intimate and friendly, and with only around 10 tables available each night, book early to avoid disappointment!

DINNER & LIVE JAZZ @ THE KINGS ARMS, THRAPSTON

On Friday 20th February we have the wonderful up and coming jazz singer Katherine McLean, singing alongside her pianist. She will be performing in our restaurant, so you can relax, dine and soak up the atmosphere! Katherine, who also entertained us on New Year's Eve will be playing a selection of songs from throughout the eras. Ring or email us to book and to enquire about the menu. The King Arms, Thrapston 01832 733911 info@kingsarmsthrapston.co.uk

WEDDINGS AT RUSHDEN HALL

Rushden Hall dates back to the 14th century and is an interesting mix of styles, which has resulted in an attractive



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house of mellow limestone. The hall is surrounded by 34 acres of beautiful parkland, which makes a superb backdrop for wedding photographs. There are two rooms available for wedding ceremonies, the Fletcher Room and the Panelled Room.

The Fletcher room can accommodate 56 seated guests, or if required for a reception this room can accommodate 40 guests seated at tables.

The Panelled Room is

a smaller, more romantic ceremony room with attractive 15th century 'linen fold' oak panelling and superb carved doors and overmantle. 42 seated guests can be accommodated in this room and this room is adjacent to the Morning Room and kitchen facilities.

We can accommodate larger wedding receptions in the Walled Garden, which is adjacent to the Hall and a perfect siting for a marquee.

Although the area is part of the public park, as the name suggests, the surrounding wall gives complete privacy and is the perfect venue for a summer wedding.

We are flexible in our approach to the hiring of the rooms at Rushden Hall and whether you require just one room or the whole ground floor site and/or the Walled Garden for a larger wedding, we can usually accommodate most requirements.

THE BRIDGE HOTEL

The Bridge Hotel is based in the market town of Thrapston, Northamptonshire and has a wonderful mix of old and new, with old oak beams and period furniture combined with modern facilities to create a perfect venue for your special day. We are licensed to hold civil ceremonies and partnerships in our stunning ceremony room which will take your breath away and create the perfect romantic mood. We can cater for up to 100 guests for a sit down meal in our Rothwell Suite and up to 150 guests for the evening reception with a private bar within the room. For a more intimate reception we have the Latimer Suite which can cater for up to 60 for a sit down meal and up to 100 in the evening.

Whether it's a Civil Ceremony in our beautiful ceremony room or a Church wedding with a reception at the hotel, you are assured that your special day is in experienced hands. The wedding coordinator and dedicated team will lead you through the whole process from the initial meeting, planning and through to the big day itself.

Rushden Hall



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Weddings at Rushden Hall



Rushden Hall would be delighted to host your special day and will do everything possible to ensure your celebrations go according to plan. Whether you require one room or the whole ground floor suite, most requirements can usually be accommodated.

For larger events, the walled garden is available.

Although part of the public park as the name suggests, the surrounding wall gives complete privacy and is the perfect location for a Summer Wedding.

For details and friendly advice please contact:

Rushden Town Council

Rushden Hall

RUSHDEN, Northants NN10 9NG

Tel. 01933 316216

www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk





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:

Significant applications
All “significant” applications are highlighted in green. These are defined in the 2006 Statement of Community Involvement as those for:

- 100 dwellings and over
- residential development of 3ha or over if number of dwellings not known
- 1000 square metres of floor space or over
- commercial/industrial development of 1ha or over if floor area not known
- would, in the council’s opinion, alter the overall character of the locality by means of scale, use or visual appearance
- would, in the council’s opinion, be sensitive due to substantial demolition in a conservation area
- would, in the council’s opinion, be sensitive due to development next to a listed building

For more information on “significant” planning applications, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/dcnotification

Benefield
15/00059/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info)
Replacement of existing pig buildings with purpose-built agricultural building for pigs at Hill Farm Glapthorn Rd Upper Benefield PE8 5AL

Brigstock
14/02372/OUT (21/02/2015) (LB/CA) (Art8) Outline: demolition of buried reservoir and residential development of 110 houses with access and associated infrastructure (All matters reserved apart from access and demolition of buried reservoir) at land off Benefield Road and Old Dry Lane Brigstock

15/00103/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Dropped kerb and hardstanding to driveway at 19 Sudborough Rd Brigstock NN14 3HP

Harringworth
15/00087/FUL (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Proposed alteration to existing window opening to front elevation including new window, replacement of existing windows and external doors to all other openings with windows of different fenestration and rendering of all external brickwork to walls on all elevations

together with a new chimney at The Elms Gretton Rd Harringworth NN17 3AD

Higham Ferrers
14/02369/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) 33Kv substation and ancillary equipment with new vehicle access at Compound 1 Newton Rd Higham Ferrers
15/00047/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info)
Subdivision of existing site to create new four bedroom detached dwelling at 5 Chichele St Higham Ferrers NN10 8HT

Irthlingborough
14/01213/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) To widen existing access to field and move gate further into field. Place drop kerbs and add grey crushed concrete to hardstanding at field west of cemetery Wellingborough Rd Irthlingborough

Islip
15/00060/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Two storey front extension to existing house at 41 Kettering Road Islip NN14 3JT

Kings Cliffe
14/02374/FUL (21/02/2015) (LB/CA) (LBRegs) Alteration to fenestration on rear elevation of extensions approved as part of 80/01302/FUL & 82/01587/FUL at 52 West St Kings Cliffe PE8 6XA
14/02375/LBC (21/02/2015) (LBRegs)
Alteration to fenestration on rear elevation of extensions approved as part of 80/01302/FUL and 82/01587/FUL. Installation of gates and internal alterations to include new ground floor cloakroom, new staircase to replace 1980s staircase, new opening in 1980s extension for breakfast bar and new first floor en-suite at 52 West St Kings Cliffe

Lowick and Slipton
14/02314/LBC (21/02/2015) (LB/CA) (LBRegs) Alteration to outside steps and new covered barbecue area at 27 Main St Lowick NN14 3BH
15/00034/FUL and 15/00035/LBC (21/02/2015) (LB/CA) Alterations to extension section of house to include new conservation roof lights, new windows, and doors. Internal alterations including conversion of garage to living accommodation and section of first floor over garage at Little Thatch 8 Drayton Rd Lowick NN14 3BG

Nassington
14/02225/FUL (21/02/2015) (Art8)
Change of use of Jacks Green at Rockingham Forest Park to provide for a range of tourist accommodation (caravan lodges and camping pitches), with supporting

access infrastructure, hardstanding bases with drainage and service provision, visitor facilities and landscape planting at Rockingham Forest Park Wansford Rd Kings Cliffe

Oundle
14/01823/FUL (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Renovation of semi derelict and uninhabitable existing cottage to provide a single dwelling and conversion of disused buildings (comprising a brewery, maltings, stables, kiln, cartshed and cowshed) into eight dwellings (total of 9 dwellings) with associated alteration to access, parking and landscaping at 15 Mill Rd Oundle PE8 4BW
14/02235/VAR (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Variation of condition 7 in order to provide larger external play area pursuant to application 02/00977/FUL: Day nursery dated 25.02.03 at 2A Eastwood Rd Oundle
15/00079/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Single storey front extension at 20 Clifton Drive Oundle PE8 4EP
15/00104/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Single storey rear and side extension at 21 Bridge View Oundle PE8 4DT

Polebrook
15/00080/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Two storey side extension at Orchard House Lutton Rd Polebrook PE8 5LX

Rushden
14/02376/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Change of use from residential (C3) to church meeting hall (D1) including modification of existing access and internal alterations at 131 Bedford Rd Rushden NN10
15/00003/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Proposed detached dwelling with highway access at 166 Avenue Rd Rushden NN10 0SW
15/00007/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Proposed replacement windows and external alterations at 15–21 Church St Rushden NN10 9YU
15/00022/FUL (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Conversion of first floor into 3 apartments together with new external staircase to rear at 105 High St Rushden NN10 0NZ
15/00055/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Change of use from vacant B1 to sui generis use as fourteen units of House in Multiple Occupancy at 42 Victoria Rd Rushden NN10 0AS
15/00064/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Change of use from single residential dwelling (class C3) to residential care home (class C2) for five residents at 78 Wymington Rd Rushden NN10 9JX
15/00069/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Garage conversion and internal alterations at 87 Melloway Rd Rushden NN10
15/00072/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Single

storey front porch at 176 Newton Rd Rushden NN10 0SZ
15/00105/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Single storey front extension at 21 Keswick Drive Rushden NN10 0JJ
15/00107/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info)
Conversion of individual dwelling into four flats at 32 Montague St Rushden NN10 9TS

Thrapston
15/00006/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info) Iron railings to front and side of property at 16 Market Rd Thrapston NN14 4JU

Titchmarsh
15/00058/VAR (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Variation of condition 1 – to change garage design pursuant to planning permission 13/00905/FUL dated 23.9.13 – Erection of new dwelling, detached garage and new accesses to highway at 17 St Andrews Lane Titchmarsh NN14 3DN

Warmington
14/02164/FUL (14/02/2015) (Info)
Conversion and extension of existing barn to create a new residential unit at Springfield Farm Barn Spinney Close Warmington

Woodford
15/00027/VAR (21/02/2015) (LB/CA)
Variation of condition 3 – doors now removed and condition 15 – approved plans to be changed to new drawing numbers as fenestration to doors and windows been changed and garage design is single storey with no doors to southern elevation pursuant to planning permission 12/00198/RWL dated 12.4.12 Renewal – Construction of detached two storey dwelling and detached garage and footpath to Club Lane. Reconstruction of stone wall behind footpath at 3A De Capel Close (Resubmission of 08/01228//FUL) – allowed under appeal ref APP/G2815/A/08/ 2090727 dated 06.03.2009 at 3A De Capel Close Woodford Kettering NN14 4HR

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 31 January 2015

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

Time to reflect on a winter walk

Here in Northamptonshire the National Trust has a range of inspiring places to get out and enjoy the winter with family and friends. Harry Bowell, Regional Director for the National Trust in the Midlands, says: “Gardens, parks and the countryside all have a stark beauty at this time of year. With no leaves on the trees, you can appreciate the size and structure of ancient and veteran trees. Winter opens up our landscapes like no other season, with new and unexpected views.”

Winter is a great time to get the walking boots on and get out for a walk – whether that’s a leisurely stroll with lots of time for quiet reflection or something a bit more vigorous and challenging. And of course there are many National Trust tearooms to help visitors warm up afterwards by providing hot chocolate or a warming bowl of soup. The website has lots of inspiration, with details of self-guided and downloadable walks, such as the route through the woodlands surrounding Lyveden New Bield.

Lyveden New Bield is a perfect place to relax, reflect and unwind. Visitors can enjoy a stroll around the grounds, discovering the beautiful Elizabethan water garden and seeing the Garden Lodge in full view now that the trees have lost their leaves. A walk to nearby

Ladywood or, for the more adventurous, a stride out along the Lyveden Way offers rewards of wonderful wildlife.

Claire Barrett, Operations Manager at Lyveden New Bield says: “Lyveden reveals its strange and mysterious setting in winter, with the dramatic scale of the Garden Lodge in full view now that the trees have lost their leaves. I enjoy walking along the Lyveden Way to nearby Ladywood, following the boundary of Sir Thomas Tresham’s ancient deer park.”

Winter is also a great time to spot some seasonal wildlife. As well as more familiar birds like robin and blackbird, it’s possible to spot something more unusual at this time of year, like siskins, jays, fieldfares or redwings. Winter can be a difficult time for small birds to find food – we can all help by putting out food for them at home or even by making garden bird feeders. We love to see photos of the wildlife visitors have spotted – pictures can be sent in via Facebook (/NTmidlands), Twitter (@NTmidlands) or Instagram (NTMidlands).

Visitors can plan their winter walks and wildlife adventures by visiting www.nationaltrust.org.uk/midlands

First round of Rotary Club Young Chef Competition takes place at Manor School



Winner of the heat –
Tom Roberts, Year 8 student

Students from Manor School participated in the first round of the Rotary Club Young Chef Competition 2015 in December.

Organised by the

Thrapston and Raunds division of the Rotary Club, four students participated in the local heat where they had a maximum of 90 minutes to cook a main meal.



The winning meal – beef stroganoff served on tagliatelle

Head judge for the competition was Ian Campbell, chef patron at The Chequered Skipper in Ashton. Alan Dodds, President of the Thrapston and Raunds Rotary Club and three of his fellow club members were also on hand to provide their opinions on the meals presented.

Whilst there was a high standard of cooking from all participants, it was Year 8 student Tom Roberts who took first place with his beef stroganoff. Second place went to Louis Exall, also in Year 8, who cooked a vegetarian stroganoff. Tom won a £10 gift voucher and now has the opportunity to participate in the district final taking place this month.

Stanwick Races Group

Stanwick Races Group arose when a group of villagers that carried out fundraising for the Millennium Village Sign decided they needed a new project to keep them occupied once the sign was in place. It was suggested that a fundraising race could be organised. The Stanwick Races Group was born.

In 2014 the group donated around £2,400 to local good causes such as Stanwick Rovers Football Club, Stanwick Brownies, Friends of Stanwick School (FOSS), Stanwick

Environmental Project (STEP) and Stanwick Drama Group etc.

The next races are due to take place on Easter Monday 6th April 2015 which the group are in the process of organising. The 10k race will as usual start at 10.30am in the High Street with the 2k Fun Run starting five minutes later from the same place.

Any offers of assistance in organising and/or running the event would be gratefully received and should be directed to either Chairman of Stanwick Races Group,

Les (Tel: 01933 624820) or Race Organiser, Simon (Tel: 01933 623607).

Because there will be a road closure in place around the High Street and Grange Road, the refuse collection on that day will have to be rearranged. This may mean that the day will be changed, or as in 2014 an early collection in the area of High Street and Grange Road with a request that the empty bins in that area are removed as early as possible. Whichever is decided will be publicised in good time.

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From the East Northants Chairman

I was delighted to attend an extraordinary event at the Guildhall in Northampton, where the French Government honoured several men from Northamptonshire for their contribution to the liberation of France during the Second World War.

Sydney Forscutt of Woodford and two other gentlemen from Northamptonshire were presented with the prestigious Legion d'honneur, the highest decoration that can be given in France and rarely awarded to anyone who is not a French national.

The medals were presented by the French consul, Robert Mille on behalf of François Hollande, the President of France, Grand Master of the Order. The consul had not had this honour bestowed on him personally, so he was not able to pin the badges on to the veterans; he could only hand the boxes to them. It was a very special day for all who gathered at

the ceremony.

The Mayor of Oundle organised a very enjoyable concert at St Peter's Church to raise money for Chat Youth counselling and Volunteer Action. It showcased the talents of some wonderful musicians from Oundle School and those who had won Oundle Musician/Singer of the Year contests.

Having stepped down last summer due to health reasons from the role of Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, I was saddened to hear of Lady Juliet Townsend's untimely death at the end of last year. The family organised a private funeral, but there will be a memorial service to remember this most remarkable woman. I have the honour of representing the people of East Northamptonshire and will pay our respects. Lady Juliet is described in her obituary as a countrywoman and writer and for many years the Lady in

Waiting to Princess Margaret. She will be sorely missed.

I was also sad to hear that the US Air Force is pulling out of two local airbases – Alconbury and Molesworth. We have formed a close attachment to the base with regular visits and will miss this

association.

On a more positive note, I'm looking forward to attending the Rotary Young Musicians competition in Rushden which I'm sure will showcase a wealth of local talent.

ENC Chairman, Cllr Gill Mercer



ENC Chairman, Cllr Gill Mercer at the presentation of the Legion d'honneur to three Northamptonshire gentlemen for their contribution to the liberation of France during WWII

Sign up for eBilling and enter iPad Mini free prize draw

You could win an iPad Mini when you sign up to manage your Council Tax or Business Rates bills online.

Each new eligible household or business that signs up to the eBilling service provided by East Northamptonshire Council by 27th February 2015 will be automatically entered into a free prize draw to win an iPad Mini (16GB) supplied by AMC Computer Supplies Ltd of Kettering.

eBilling is the quick, safe and secure way to access your Council Tax and Business Rates bills. You can easily and

securely keep track of your bills from the comfort of your own home and you don't have to worry about waiting for bills in the post. You also don't have to bother with filing as your bill is stored for you on your own account, which you can access online at any time.

Leader of East Northamptonshire Council, Steven North, explains: "Each year, East Northamptonshire Council sends up to 80,000 bills and notices. Every household and business that signs up to eBilling will help us to save paper and

postage, money that can be used elsewhere on local services.

"By signing up to this free service, you'll be able to view your council bills when and where you like in a secure and easy way, happy in the knowledge that you're also doing your bit to save paper."

Sign up at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/alien, sign up by 27th February 2015 and you will be entered into a prize draw with the chance of winning an iPad Mini. See www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/alien for terms and conditions.

Team Balancise offers Youth Running Course

Team Balancise is pleased to offer a new 12-week Youth Running Course.

The course is the brainchild of Graham Bufton and Philip Middleton, two England Athletics trained coaches, who are keen to develop young local athletic talent.

The course will start at 11.30am on Saturday 21st February at the Cricket Pavilion in Higham Ferrers, and run to Saturday 16th May with the Easter Bank Holiday weekend off (Saturday 4th April). It is open to boys and girls aged 13 to 17 years old. It will cost just £24 for the entire course which is to be paid at the beginning of the 12 weeks.

Graham Bufton said: "I think this course is a great opportunity for young people to get out there and find out what it is like to commit to their sport and to be coached along the way. The one-hour sessions will cover track work, hill

sessions, speed work, general running and other enjoyable drills. I'm hoping we will find the next Mo Farah!"

For further information please call Graham on 07788 698 883 or Philip on 07545 980972.



Graham Bufton



Phil Middleton

And the winners of The Education Fellowship Bake Off are...

Students from Rushden Academy and pupils at Windmill Primary won the inaugural Fellowship Bake Off, which took place in all The Education Fellowship's academies in the run-up to Christmas. The two winning schools each receive £100 of John Lewis vouchers to spend on board games for a wet break.

The Bake Off proved to be great fun for everyone taking part. Each Fellowship school was provided with all the ingredients needed to make and decorate gingerbread people and have the opportunity to win the £100 for their school. Having done the baking and designs, representatives from each academy chose their best gingerbread man from all the entries and these special gingerbread men were submitted to and

judged by a professional Waitrose in-house chef.

Because of the high quality of the Bake Off and range of talent shown in the gingerbread designs, the Fellowship decided to award not just one but two prizes, one for a Secondary academy and another for a Primary academy. Pupils and students of all ages were really enthused about the fun to be had with the competition – not least eating the gingerbread afterwards!

Lizzie Rowe, Deputy CEO of The Education Fellowship, said: "The pupils and students from our academies really embraced this Christmas competition; the level of attention to detail, enthusiasm and fun we all had in making our wonderful little men, and indeed woman, was infectious."

Oundle pupil enters fourth year in business

“It’s been an exhilarating journey so far,” declares Oundle Lower Sixth Form pupil, Crawford Johnston (17), as he enters his fourth year in business helping young people to score top marks in English exams.

Invited to present a workshop at the UK’s largest home educators’

gathering, HESFES festival, Crawford’s Creative Writing Magic Money Cards attracted crowds of interest. Mike Greene, star of Channel 4 television’s Secret Millionaire programme, met the schoolboy for a second time and after listening to Crawford present on his progress declared: “I am increasingly

impressed with your focus and business aims.”

The Chief Executive of the Cambridgeshire Chamber of Commerce has recently offered to mentor Crawford, who himself gained a top grade A* IGCSE for English.

This time last year, Crawford received a powerful boost when

business superstar and government adviser Doug Richards described the schoolboy businessman as “a little Apple” at an Entrepreneurs and Education Programme seminar, where Mr Richards discussed the different kinds of business opportunities that exist in a wide array of markets.

Crawford is not shy when it

comes to making friends with the famous. Back in 2012 he met the author Alexander McCall-Smith, who described his Creative Writing Magic Money Cards as “magnificent” and “a most remarkable idea.” Praise indeed.

To see why Crawford has sales across five continents visit www.creativewritingmmc.co.uk

Helping Rushden people in need

A few old Rushden charities were brought together by the Charity Commission in 1877 to form a combined charity called the Rushden Parochial Charities. Since then, it has helped generations of Rushden residents at times of particular need by using some its income for certain purposes, as defined in the scheme that set up the charity.

These include: “... the benefit of deserving inhabitants of the Parish of Rushden by providing them with clothes, bedding, fuel, medical or other aid in sickness, food or other articles in kind, or with pecuniary aid in special cases...Or in providing evening

classes or lectures for young persons of the poorer inhabitants.”

Recently, this has been done by the charity paying for particular items for people in need, such as a bed or washing machine.

Any person or organisation seeking a grant for a resident of Rushden should, in the first instance, contact the Town Clerk (Vivienne Prodger) at the Town Council offices on 01933 316216 or at clerk@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk so that a short application form can be completed. Although the trustees meet only twice a year, they can make decisions on applications between meetings, and aim to respond to applications promptly.

Ferdi’s Kitchen

By José Ferdi Tavares – ferdis.kitchen@gmail.com

Lemon and Herb Roast Chicken
Serves 4–6

- Ingredients**
- 1 Free range chicken approx. 2kg
 - 2 Lemons (preferably un-waxed)
 - 4 Garlic cloves, cut into halves
 - 1 Handful of fresh rosemary
 - 1 Handful of fresh thyme
 - 4 Large fresh bay leaves
 - 50ml Olive oil
 - 2 Rashers of streaky bacon
 - 2 Carrots, peeled
 - 2 Parsnips peeled
 - 2 Sticks of celery, leaves trimmed off
 - 1L Chicken stock
 - 1 Small knob of butter, preferably unsalted
 - Salt and freshly ground black pepper

- Method**
- Pre-heat the oven to 180C
 - Squeeze one of the lemons and rub the juice all over the chicken. Allow to dry. Reserve the squeezed lemon, cut into quarters, to stuff into the cavity.
 - Rub the chicken generously with olive oil.
 - Season well, inside and out, with salt and pepper.
 - With a sharp knife make a 2-centimetre incision through the skin between the thigh and carcass on both sides.
 - Insert a bay leaf, a quarter of the rosemary and thyme and two halves of garlic into each incision, pressing the herbs down towards the thigh joint.
 - Cut the lemon into quarters and stuff into the cavity with the remaining herbs and garlic.
 - Cut the bacon rashers in half and place over the breast.
 - Put the carrots, parsnips and celery in the roasting pan to form a trivet and place the

- chicken on them.
 - Pour the chicken stock into the roasting pan.
 - Baste the chicken with the chicken stock every 20 minutes. Try to baste quickly to prevent the oven temperature from dropping too much.
 - Roast the chicken for approximately 2 hours or until the internal temperature has reached 75–80C. Use a kitchen thermometer and insert the probe deep into the thigh.
 - Alternatively insert a metal skewer deep into the thigh and remove. Press gently. If the juices run clear the bird is done.
 - Remove the bacon after about 1 ½ hours to brown the breast.
 - Start testing the temperature after 1 ½ hours and then every 15 minutes until done.
 - Remove the chicken and place on a platter and cover loosely with foil. Rest for 10 minutes before carving.
 - Pour the pan juices into a saucepan and reduce by 1/3. Thicken with a little corn flour mixed with water if desired. Whisk in the butter to give the sauce a lovely sheen.
- Chef’s notes:
My favourite chicken is the St. George’s, available at Trendalls Butchers. It has a gorgeous flavour and the breast is thicker than supermarket chicken. This helps to keep the breast moist whilst ensuring the thigh is cooked through.



Mike Green and Crawford Johnston



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23rd February (5 Days) Half Board
£219 per person sharing, £239 per single traveller
2 Excursions included

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Stars of Dance Weekend
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Full Board
£285 per person sharing standard bungalow
£299 per person Bungalow Plus
2 Half Day Excursions included

Shanklin Hotel, Shanklin, Isle of Wight
23rd March (5 Days)
Half Board, one Lunch & one Free Drink with dinner
£189 per person sharing, £199 per single traveller
Excursions included

Winnock Hotel, Drymen, Scotland
5th April (5 Days)
On the banks of Loch Lomond this hotel is ideally situated,
Half Board Excursions
1. Travel on the steamship Sir Walter Scott (included)
2. Falkirk Wheel, Bo’ness & Kinneil Railway (included)
and afternoon tea.
£349 per person sharing

22nd–27th Apr St Agnes – Rosemundy House Hotel
8th–12th May Sidmouth – Royal York & Faulkner Hotel
5th–8th Jun Midsummer Mystery
15th–19th Jun Llandudno – St Kilda Hotel
28th Jun–4th Jul Galway, Ireland – Menlo Park Hotel

11th–15th Jul Blackpool – Queens Hotel
22nd–26th Jul Shetland Explorer
1st–6th Aug Tenby – Cliffe Norton Hotel
24th–28th Aug Warners Nidd Hall
3rd–7th Sep Rhine & Moselle – Ebertor Hotel
18th–31st Sep Paignton – Palace Hotel
2nd–5th Oct Autumn Mystery
24th–31st Oct Grand Tour Scotland
9th–13th Nov Warners Bembridge Coast Hotel
14th–18th Dec Turkey Tinsel – Shap Wells Hotel, Cumbria

2 Day Breaks

7th/8th March Mystery Trip
16th/17th May Mystery Trip
12th/13th Sept Mystery Trip
27th/18th Sept, London Break staying at Guoman Towers Hotel, next to Tower of London

Day Trips

20th May Tour of Ely, surrounding area finishing in Newmarket with Lunch
11th Jun Sheringham & North Norfolk Railway
24th Jun Wroxham with Broads Cruise
8th Jul London River Cruise with Lunch
9th Aug Clacton
12th Aug Cotswolds Tour with cream tea
15th Aug Shrewsbury Flower Show
24th Sep Tour of Banbury Area with Guide plus Lunch
29th Nov Bury St Edmunds Xmas Market
5th Dec Birmingham Xmas Market
Mystery Trips: 19th April, 19th July & 18th October

Thursford

We are also taking bookings for the Thursford Christmas Spectacular Day Trips, 2 Day Break

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Telephone 01832 720524 or 01933 624497 for more information

20 Pilton Road, Wadenhoe, Peterborough PE8 5SU

Oundle Music Trust announces appointment of Camilla Sherwin as Administrative Director

Oundle Music Trust is delighted to announce the appointment of Camilla Sherwin as its new Administrative Director, to support the Oundle International Festival, Music in Quiet Places and Oundle for Organist programmes.

Camilla brings with her a wealth of experience from the private, not for profit and voluntary sectors.

Most recently she has been the chair of two local organisations; roles which involved working closely with staff and volunteers to deliver successful projects and useful services in the community, marketing and public representation, raising funds and managing their expenditure.

Through this and work undertaken for Oundle School, she has established strong links with local organisations and businesses and made many friends in the area.

Before moving to Oundle, Camilla was Business Development Manager at London Remade, a private public partnership which was funded primarily through the Mayor's office. Whilst in post she raised significant amounts of public funding and ran the corporate sponsorship programme. She was also responsible for initiating new projects, developing networks and partnerships as well as managing the marketing and events team.

Kenneth Richardson, Artistic Director of Oundle Music Trust said: "I am delighted that we have persuaded someone of Camilla's experience to join us and help us realise the many exciting projects and programmes for 2015 and beyond."

Commenting on her appointment Camilla said: "I'm really looking forward to working for the Oundle Music Trust.

The programme for July's Oundle International Festival, put together by Artistic Director Kenneth Richardson, promises to be fantastic, with something for everyone. The Oundle for Organists courses are renowned worldwide for being an incubator for many of the country's leading organists, Oundle's excellent Food Festival is also coming under our umbrella and our season kicks off with Music in Quiet Places in May. There are busy times ahead!"



Camilla Sherwin

East Northamptonshire Council approves tenant protection scheme

Tenants, and those thinking of renting a property, are being urged by East Northamptonshire Council to ensure their agent is affiliated to a government approved redress scheme.

Since 1st October 2014, letting agents and property management agents in England have been required to register with one of three such schemes, designed to provide a free, independent service for resolving disputes between letting agents and their customers.

This compulsory requirement comes as a response to an increasing number of complaints from tenants and landlords about letting agents.

The schemes give tenants somewhere to turn if they have concerns about discrimination, hidden fees, missing deposits or other disputes – and, importantly, receive compensation if it is due.

Letting agents and property management agents have a choice of three approved redress schemes to join:

- The Property Ombudsman Service – www.tpos.co.uk
- Ombudsman Services: Property – www.ombudsman-services.org/property
- The Property Redress Scheme – www.theprs.co.uk

Steven North, leader of East Northamptonshire Council, said: "Most tenants and landlords are happy with the service they get from their letting agent. But the changes mean that - in the few cases where people have complaints – they now have somewhere to go with their concerns.

"It's our responsibility to ensure that letting agents are all abiding by the rules and providing the sort of service and reassurance their clients have a right to expect."

Agents who have yet to join one of the approved redress schemes are reminded that they should do so immediately as non-compliance could result in a fine of £5,000.

Don't know which way to turn? Struggling with personal circumstances? Need a listening ear?

From February 2015 Listeners@No.1 will be offering a new service to all who may wish to talk through the difficulties they are experiencing with an impartial but sensitive listener.

The confidential one-hour sessions are offered over a four to six week period.

The aim is to reduce the stress and isolation that can accompany difficult times. All Listeners have achieved a Pastoral Care Certificate and will be supervised by trained counsellors. If a deeper level of support is required, users will be signposted to more specialised services. There is no fixed charge but donations

are invited. Those who wish to find out more or use the service at No. 1 St Osyth's Lane, Oundle can pop in on a Tuesday or Thursday for an application form to arrange an initial meeting, or contact us on 01832 770011 or email managerno.1@oundlebaptist.org.uk A burden shared is a burden halved.



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Islip 8 - 9pm starts 2nd Mar

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Higham Ferrers 1.30 - 2.30pm starts 24th Mar
Barton Seagrave 6.30 - 7.30pm starts 17th Mar
Barton Seagrave 7.45 - 8.45pm starts 17th Mar

Wednesday
Personal Training 10.30 - 11.30am
Yelden 6.00 - 7.00pm starts 25th Feb
Raunds 7.30 - 8.30pm starts 25th Feb


Thursday
Oundle 9.30 - 10.30am starts 5th Mar
Rushden 6.15 - 7.15pm starts 26th Feb
Rushden 7.30 - 8.30pm starts 26th Feb


Friday
Personal Training 10.30 - 11.30am
Yelden 5.30 - 6.30pm starts 27th Feb

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**31st January–13th February
Oundle Inspirations**

Yarrow Gallery
Mon to Sat 10.30am–1pm
and 2.30pm–5pm, Sundays
2.30pm–5pm
Admission free
Showcasing images of the
beautiful town of Oundle
which have inspired Oundle
pupils as photographers.

**First Sunday of the month
Priceless – for young
children and their families**
St Laurence’s Church
Stanwick
9.30am–10.15am
Join Tanya and Nicki for
45mins of fun, craft and
prayer.

**Sunday 1st February
Whitefriars Church**
Morning Worship
Whitefriars Church at
Whitefriars Junior School,
Boughton Drive, Rushden
NN10 9HX
10.15am
Admission free
Tel: Andrew Presland 01933
316927
An informal church service
open to anyone of any age.

**First Monday of month
Wildlife Trust Little Bugs
Club**
Irthlingborough Library
1.30pm–3pm
Free, donations welcome
Tel: Louise Tuffin 01604
405285 louise.tuffin@wildlifebcn.org
A fun monthly session for
Under 5s and their parents to
discover local wildlife.

**Every Monday
Oundle Ladies’ Running
Group**
Oundle Pool car park
6.45pm
Jane Walker
janewalkercakes@icloud.com
Tel: 01832 272898
All levels welcome. Come and
give us a try, it’s free.

**Every Monday
Wesley Centre Art Class**
Irthlingborough Methodist
Church
2pm–4pm
Tel: 01933 650195
Experienced teacher, all
abilities welcome.

**Every Tuesday and Thursday
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.

**First Wednesday Monthly
Raunds Ladies Group**
The Saxon Hall , Raunds
8pm–10pm.
Visitors £3.50 .
Guest speaker, refreshments.

**Every Wednesday
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 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.

**Every Wednesday (except
school holidays)
Allegra Singers – Three-
part Ladies’ Choir**
Music Room at King John
School, Thrapston
7.30pm–9.30pm
£3 per session
Tel: Veronica 01832 732611
or 07753 472225
If you enjoy singing come and
join us in singing modern/
show songs. New members
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.

**Wednesday 4th February
An illustrated talk on The
Historic Rose with an
emphasis on Old Garden
Roses**
Methodist Church Hall,
Drummingwell Lane, Oundle
PE8 4AA
7:45pm
Entrance £2 patrons, £3
visitors
Tel: 01832 272623
An illustrated talk in the
company of fellow gardeners,
free light refreshments, all
welcome.

**Wednesday 4th February
Raunds Ladies’ Group**
Saxon Hall Raunds
8pm
Visitors £3.50 includes raffle
& refreshments.
Linda.lintony.lew@btinternet.com
Tel: 01933 622926
Monthly Meeting. Guest
speaker, Shirley Allen –
Spotlight on Spain.

**Wednesday 4th February
Older Person Health Forum**
St Peter’s Church, Midland
Road, Rushden
2pm–4pm
Admission free – refreshments
provided
Tel: Diane Eaton at Serve
01933 315555
Free information afternoon
with speakers: Early Stage
Symptoms on Dementia –
Mobility equipment/
Adaptation to your home.

**Wednesday 4th February
Champagne Ruinart Tasting
& Supper**
The Marquess of Exeter,
Lyddington
7.30pm prompt
£25
A Champagne ambassador
will host an awesome evening
tasting Champagnes made at
Ruinart, the oldest
Champagne house. You’ll
have an unforgettable time
with amazing fizz, fish & chips
and fantastic company!

**Wednesday 4th February
Musical Opportunities
Concert**
Gascoigne Recital Room, off
North Street Oundle PE8
4AL
6.15pm
Admission free

Concert offering Oundle
pupils a small audience to run
through new repertoire prior
to exams.

**Every Thursday
Rushden Folk Dance Club**
St Mary’s Church Hall,
Rushden
8pm–10pm
First visit free £2 per night
thereafter
Tel: Val 01933 387327
Everyone will be made
welcome, singles or couples.

**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.

**Every Thursday
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
[musicismakersnorthants@
gmail.com](mailto:musicismakersnorthants@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
[musicismakersnorthants@
gmail.com](mailto:musicismakersnorthants@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.

**Every Thursday during
school term time
Music Makers**
Stanwick Village Hall
2pm–2.45pm
£4 per child and £2 per sibling
Naomi Cooper on
[musicismakersnorthants@
gmail.com](mailto:musicismakersnorthants@gmail.com)
Funky music and movement
group for 0–5 years with

parachute, balls, bubbles and
more. FREE taster sessions up
for grabs.

**Thursday 5th February
Discovery Walks**
Meet at Apethorpe Church
2pm
£1.50, no need to book.
Tel: 01780 782747
[www.weanorthamptonshire.
org](http://www.weanorthamptonshire.org)
Exploring Northamptonshire
– Apethorpe and Tomlin
Wood – 4 miles.

**Thursday 5th February
Oundle Art Group Meeting**
Tansor Village Hall
1.45pm–3.45pm
£6 Non-members
Tel: Jane Sanders 01832
226495 or Chris Yates 01832
226345
'Life Drawing' with Mike
Alabaster. Bring charcoal/oil
pastel and large paper.

**Thursday 5th and 12th
February
Lunchtime Concert**
St Peter’s Church, Oundle
1.15pm
Admission free. Lunch can be
purchased.
Concerts in this beautiful
church setting in Oundle.
Lunch is offered in the form of
soup and bread rolls from 1pm
for £3 provided by The Little
Soup Kitchen.
5th February – Fifth Form
Performances
12th February – Fifth Form
Performances.

**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.

**Friday 6th February
The Colourful, Creative
World of Mark Hearld**
The Great Hall, Oundle
School, PE8 4GH
7.45pm–8.45pm.
Tickets £7 (£5) from Oundle
Box Office
Tel: 01832 274734
More info at [www.
oundlelitfest.org.uk](http://www.oundlelitfest.org.uk), Helen
07743 988181.
Mark Hearld is a York-based
artist who takes his inspiration
from the flora and fauna of the
British countryside. Mark
works across a number of
mediums, producing limited
edition lithographic and
linocut prints, unique
paintings, collages and
hand-painted ceramics.

**Friday 6th February
Vintage Port Tasting**
Amps Fine Wines, Oundle
7pm prompt
£40
A special tutored tasting of an

interesting and exciting
collection of vintage ports.
Philip Amps will host the
evening, which will also
feature a small selection of pies
and cheeses to accompany the
line-up.

**Friday 6th February
Jersey Boys (12A)**
Ringstead Village Social Club,
High Street NN14 4DA.
Disabled access from rear car
park.
Doors open at 7.30pm, film
starts 7.45pm. Bar available.
Tickets £4
Tel: 01933 460373 for details
The story the 1960s pop group
Frankie Valli and The Four
Seasons. Come and enjoy the
'60s music.

**Friday 6th February
Whitefriars Church**
Retireds’ Group – Sue
Chapman with Spooner the
Guide Dog
The Bridge Community Office
at Whitefriars Junior School,
Boughton Drive, Rushden
NN10 9HX
1.30pm to 3pm
Admission free
Tel: John & Celia Underwood
01933 676989
A friendly group to which all
of retirement age are welcome.

**First Saturday of the month
Thrapston Farmers’ Market**
Thrapston High Street
9am–1pm
Free
[www.thrapstonfarmersmarket.
moonfruit.com](http://www.thrapstonfarmersmarket.moonfruit.com)
Every first Saturday of the
month. Local meat, beer, cider,
cheese, eggs, deli, preserves
etc.

**Saturday 7th February
Rusty Players Orchestral
Concert**
The Thrapston Plaza NN14
4PS
5pm
Admission free
www.rustyplayersoundle.org.uk
Come and enjoy a popular
programme played by this
50-strong orchestra –
Conductor, Vince Davy.

**Saturday 7th February
Tea and Entertainment**
Roman Catholic Church Hall,
Hayway, Rushden NN10 0AG
2.30pm
£5 per ticket
Tel: Christine on 01933
317719 or 07949 694206
Entertainment by Steve Perry
followed by tea. Everyone
welcome. Organised by Hope
Methodist Church.

**Sunday 8th February
Barnwell Pudding Club**
Barnwell Village Hall PE8
5QD
2pm–4pm
Adults £5, Children (age 2-12)
£3
Tel: 01832 274549
Barnwell Pudding Club. Eat
all you can homemade
puddings and desserts. Tea,
coffee and raffle.

Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11

Sunday 8th February

Second Breakfast

Whitefriars Junior School,
Boughton Drive, Rushden
NN10 9HX
10.15am
Admission free
Tel: Simon King 01933
356871

A very informal church –
come and share a second
breakfast with us, and relax
whilst the kids play.

Sunday 8th February

Woodwind Concert with James Rae

Great Hall, Oundle School
4.30pm
Admission free
James is experienced as a
player in West End
productions, the country's
leading orchestras and
ensembles.

Sunday 8th February

Whitefriars Church Silver Service

The Bridge Community Office
at Whitefriars Junior School,
Boughton Drive, Rushden
NN10 9HX
10.30am
Admission free
Tel: Melvyn Hunter 01933
222910
A traditional church service
open to anyone of any age.

Sunday 8th February

'Cranford before the Concrete' – A countryside walk

Old Forge Village Tea Room
in Grafton Road, Cranford St
John NN14 4JE
10.30am
Admission free
Tel: Andrew Presland 01933
316927

A circular walk of 2 to 3 miles,
in the area between Kettering
and Cranford that is soon to
be built on. Organised by
Whitefriars Church, Rushden,
but all are welcome.

Monday 9th February

Oundle U3A Monthly

Meeting
Victoria Hall
Refreshments 2.15pm,
Speaker 3pm
Members £1, Non-members
£2
Tel: 01832 274778
The Apollo Mission and
Development of Rocketry:
John Wright.

Tuesday 10th February

Tea Dance

Pemberton Centre, Rushden
2pm–4.15pm
£3 Includes tea/coffee and
cakes
Tel: 01933 356552
Ballroom/sequence dancing.
Proceeds to charity.

Tuesday 10th, Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th February

The Exam

The Stahl Theatre
7.45pm
£5
The Exam offers a hilarious
yet thought-provoking look at
the considerable pressures
facing pupils today. By Andy
Hamilton, directed by
Andrew Martens.

Wednesday 11th February

Matthew Jukes' Australian Wines Roadshow

The Great Hall, New Street,
Oundle
7.30pm–9.30pm
£10
Masterclass: Additional £10
Matthew will be showing an
awesome array of around 50
wines from his 100 Best
Australian Wines List and will
be on hand throughout the
evening to answer any
questions you may have.

Wednesday 11th February

Oundle Branch of the Northamptonshire Family History Society – Jan

Pearson, Genealogy Specialist

Oundle Methodist Church,
Drummingwell Lane
7.30pm–9pm
Visitors £2/ members free
Tel: 01832 272061
www.northants-fhs.org
Learn about the forum
'Tracing Our Past, Discovering
Our Genes' affectionately
known as TOP DOG.

Thursday 12th February

Raunds WI

The Saxon Hall, Raunds
7.30pm
Musical Memories with
Geraldine & Michael.

Thursday 12th February

Composers' Concert

Gascoigne Recital Room, off
North Street Oundle PE8
4AL
7.45pm
Admission free
'World Premiere' by home-
grown Oundle pupil
composers.

Thursday 12th February

Oundle Art Group Meeting

Tansor Village Hall
1.45pm–3.45pm
Non-members £2.50
Tel: Jane Sanders 01832
226455 or Chris Yates 01832
226345
'Textures' – Bring acrylic
paints etc.

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.

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.

Saturday 14th February

Autism Concern Bake-Off and Cake Sale

Wesleyan Church Hall,
Queen Street, Rushden
2pm–4pm
Admission free
Vicki White
littlewhitecakery@yahoo.co.uk
Email for Bake-off details.
Cake sale at 2.30pm with
refreshments, kids' cupcake
decorating and tombola.

Saturday 14th February

Valentine's Dinner in the Cafe Solar at Stanwick Lakes,

Stanwick Lakes Visitor Centre
7pm–9pm
Booking essential. Menu and
price details nearer the date.
www.stanwicklakes.org.uk
info@rfrtrust.org.uk
Tel: 01933 625522
Enjoy a romantic candlelit
meal in the beautiful
surroundings of the Visitor
Centre Cafe Solar.

Saturday 14th February

Coffee Morning and Community Shop

Laxton Village Hall
10.30pm–12noon
All welcome
Tel: Tim Gilbert 01780
450005
Valentine's Day! Freshly
brewed coffee and tea, cakes,
sale of local and seasonal
produce. Newspapers also
available. Crafter's circle.

Sunday 15th February

Whitefriars Church Morning Worship

Whitefriars Church at
Whitefriars Junior School,
Boughton Drive, Rushden
NN10 9HX
10.15am
Admission free
Tel: Andrew Presland 01933
316927
An informal church service
open to anyone of any age.

Third Wednesday of month

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.

Third Thursday of each month

Painting Class with Nick Baldwin

St John Ambulance Hall,
Raunds
10am–4pm
£15 per session
Tel: Kathy Gyngeell 01933
389936
Friendly class seeks new
members to learn painting
with mixed media. All abilities
welcome.

Third Friday of the month

The Poetry Group

Raunds Library
2.30pm
Admission free
Tel: 01933 622151

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
Come and join this informal
friendly group of stitchers to
chat, stitch and eat cake!

Third Friday of every month

Raunds Tea Dance

Saxon Hall, Raunds
2pm–4.15pm
£3 (plus 50p for Raffle)
Tel: Mrs Wicks 01933
312623
Tea dance and raffle with
music by Dave Hawkes.

Third Sunday of the month

All Age Worship

St Laurence's Church
Stanwick
9.30am
Join us for our All Age
Worship designed for people
of all ages. Teas/coffees served
after the service.

Third Sunday of the month

Leisurely, sociable strolls

Pub Start – if not lunching
please do not use Pub Car
Park
10am for 10.30am
prompt start.
Guests £2 or join for the
year £8
Contact: secretary@northamptonshireshamblers.org.uk
Circular walks enjoying
our beautiful
countryside. A week's
notice to secretary please
if wanting lunch.

Third Sunday of each month

Afternoon Teas

King's Cliffe Village Hall
(Pedestrian access via Eagle
Lane off West Street; vehicle
access via Orchard Lane and
Church Walk at the west
end of the village. Parking at
rear of hall.)
Open 2pm– 4.30pm
Pots of tea or coffee,
homemade cakes and
scones. Sale of homemade
preserves and Secondhand
Book Corner.

Last Sunday of the month (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.

Last Saturday of the month except December

Farmer's 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.

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.



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WE HAVE 250 Carpet & VINYL END OF ROLLS

All priced to clear.
Just look at these prices.

	NORMAL PRICE	CLEARANCE PRICE
Heavy Domestic Twist Pile 2.07m x 3.53m	£124	NOW ONLY £53
Heavy Domestic Brown Twist 3.93m x 4m	£254	NOW ONLY £125
Heavy Domestic Beige 100% Wool Natural 2.92m x 5m	£259	NOW ONLY £130
100% Wool Natural Heavy Domestic Beige 2.92m x 4m	£443	NOW ONLY £159
Tintawn, Simply Natural Heavy Duty 3.65m x 5m	£693	NOW ONLY £222
OCW Wool Twist Heavy Duty Grey 3.77m x 4m	£302	NOW ONLY £185
OCW Wool Twist Heavy Duty Cream 4.23m x 4m	£508	NOW ONLY £210
Tintawn, Simply Natural Heavy Duty 6.92m x 4m	£1051	NOW ONLY £323

OUR END OF ROLLS IN VINYL 2m x 2m from Just **£10**

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Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds LS9 6NF

stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice.

Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A guide to making representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.



THE Falcon INN

Commis Chef Vacancy

The Falcon Inn is set in the historic and picturesque village of Fotheringhay, Northants. Originally a well known Dining Pub, The Falcon has achieved many awards over the years including Northants Dining Pub of the Year (Good Food Guide) for the last six years.

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This is a full-time live-out position with a salary of up to £14,000 per annum plus excellent weekly tips.

Please apply in writing to Peter Lane, Head Chef, at the address below or email your C.V.. No agencies please.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING ACT 2003

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR VARIATION OF A PREMISES LICENCE (SECTION 34)

Notice is hereby given that Deene & Deenethorpe Village Hall has applied to East Northants Council for the variation of a Premises Licence in respect of Deene Village Hall, Deene NN17 3EJ to vary licensable activities: sale of alcohol and provision of regulated entertainment.

The Licensing register may be inspected at the Licensing Authority, East Northants Council, Cedar Drive, Thrapston NN14 4LZ. Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm. Any representation by a Responsible Authority or Interested Party must be made in writing to the above address by 23rd February 2015.

It is an offence knowingly to make false statement in connection with an application punishable on summary conviction by a maximum fine of £5,000.

Nene Valley news

FEATURES FEBRUARY/MARCH

Higham Ferrers Feature
14th February

Mother's Day
28th February

Irthlingborough Feature
14th March

Farming
28th March

Oundle Feature
11th April

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Chess corner

By Derrick Sims

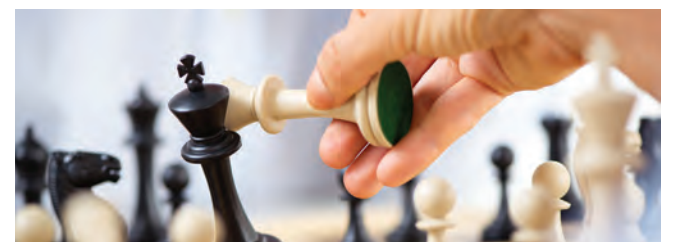
Rushden A's elite players ventured into the wilds of Corby for their recent Silver King Northamptonshire League game. It's fair to say that they were in confident mood following the 4-1 thrashing of Corby at Rushden in November. It was perhaps a little naïve to think that Corby would roll over and play dead.

The defeat had clearly rattled the Steelmen, who defied all expectations and showed real backbone in engineering a 3½-1½ win over the unsuspecting men of Rushden. Revenge was sweet for a rampant Corby on that wintry night. It was a mystery how we managed to lose the game as Club Secretary Nik Puryer, James Gardner and Keith Bristow all built good winning positions on the way to inglorious defeat. To paraphrase a well-known saying, 'defeat was snatched from the jaws of victory'. A good win by Hugh Murphy and draw by Alan Lewis helped to sugar the bitter pill. Despite the loss Rushden A remain in fourth place ahead of Corby and Kettering B in Division I.

Silver King Northamptonshire League I Match

Thu Jan 8th, A-Div: Corby 3½ – 1½ Rushden A		
Bd1: John Hart (164)	0-1	Hugh Murphy (195)
Bd2: Chris Chambers (U)	1-0	James Gardner (150)
Bd3: John Sawiak (126)	½	Alan Lewis (140)
Bd4: Tony Blott (114)	1-0	Nik Puryer (127)
Bd5: Jack Duckworth (133)	1-0	Keith Bristow (117)

A week is a long time in chess as well as in politics. Rushden A dusted themselves down after their bruising Corby encounter and sallied forth into the quarter-finals of the prestigious John Robinson Knockout competition. Their victims were Kettering B who found themselves on the wrong side of a chess thrashing. Once again Hugh Murphy played an outstanding game to beat David Walker with James Gardner and Nik Puryer returning to winning ways against their opponents. A little more icing was put on top of a heavily iced cake by Sajjan Ganger who generously offered a draw to Kettering's Ron Cooper despite having a marginally better position. All in all a very satisfactory result!



John Robinson Knockout Match (quarter-final)

Mon 19th Jan, Kettering B 1½ – 3½ Rushden A		
Bd1: David Walker (146)	0-1	Hugh Murphy (195)
Bd2: Graham Arch (140)	0-1	James Gardner (150)
Bd3: Chris Keech (141)	1-0	Alan Lewis (140)
Bd4: James Brutus (136)	0-1	Nik Puryer (127)
Bd5: Ron Cooper (112)	½	Sajjan Ganger (114)

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>.

Rushden secure bonus point win against Bedford Queens

Rushden welcomed Bedford Queens to Manor Park, intent on maintaining their winning streak. Despite the visitors' low league position, Rushden knew this wouldn't be an easy contest, having lost to Queens earlier on in the season.

The toss won, Rushden opted to attack uphill in the first half. Queens immediately put the home side under pressure, their big pack making yards with some great carries. However, with great defence by Rushden, the ball was cleared.

Rushden's attack strategy of getting the ball out wide seemed to be paying off with

Harvey Hilson breaking through two tackles and gaining 30 yards before being bundled into touch.

On 12 minutes, Rushden were again on the attack. The ball was passed wide to Hilson again as he made 40 metres up the touchline. The Queens full-back covered well, but Hilson looped the ball back in field as he was tackled for the ever present Matt Stanley to score under the posts. Converted by Nathan Buckley, 7-0.

Rushden's second try came from a fantastic lineout. With the ball passed into midfield, the forwards made inroads, the second wave of forwards carried deep into the Queens half

before the backs showed excellent handling to get the ball wide to winger Buckley who crossed in the corner. Conversion missed, 12-0.

Half time: R&H 12 Bedford Queens 0.

Now with the slope in Rushden's favour, the aim was to pass out wide, open gaps and tire Queens. Some fluid play between forwards and backs enabled Rushden to work through numerous phases and allow fly half Ben Cowling to spot a gap in midfield to cross the line under the posts untouched. Converted by Buckley, 19-0.

A smaller Rushden pack were dominant in the scrum all afternoon and when they were

awarded a penalty five metres from the Queens line, they showed this dominance by walking them over their line for Number 8, Tom Spencer to score their fourth, bonus point try.

Conversion missed, 24-0.

They did manage one more score as the backs executed a setpiece move for Max Sturgess to score out wide. Conversion missed, 29-0.

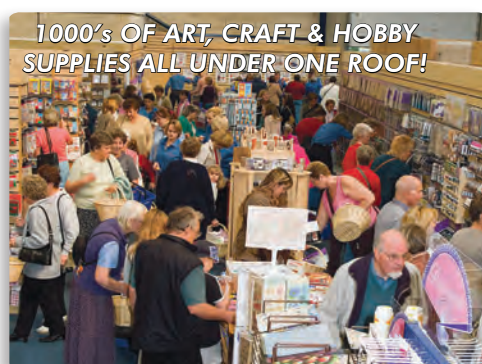
Queens did have the final attack of the match, but Rushden were in no mood to concede, they secured the turnover and cleared their lines.

Final score: R&H 29 Bedford Queens 0.



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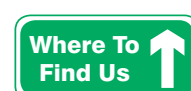
For all sewing enthusiasts, hand or machine, beginners or experienced, join Trish at The Coleman's Craft Warehouse for our 'Sew What....' sewing club.

It's every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 6.30pm - 9.00pm, admission £5.00 which includes refreshments and a 20% discount off all non-offer items.

Trish will be on hand to guide you through your project or to help you start a new one!

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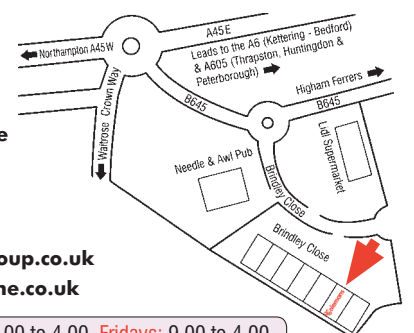
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E: craft@colemangroup.co.uk

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Our next Big Craft Day is on **Saturday 7th February** & will feature the following demonstrations:-

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Ali Reeve from **Stamps Away** will be showing us her own range of MDF blanks to decorate.

Hazel Eaton representing **Visible Image** showing their unique range of rubber stamps.

Steve Duffy and **Scary Mary** herself will be showing us how to create amazing 3D keepsakes from **Scary Mary Cards**.

Our very own **Trish Ablett** will be working her magic with fabric and patchwork templates.

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Inspiring! - P.G. Swindon

As usual, a great day, lovely friendly staff & great demonstrations - S.Y., Wigston

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