

Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Marina helps boaters stay safe

Boaters who sign up to join the Friends of the River Nene at White Mills Marina will each receive a 3 ply face covering to help them stay safe on their boating journey thanks to a new initiative.

White Mills had already handed out disposable masks and gloves to all of its boaters.

Debbie Skinner explained: "Once restrictions began to ease, we realised that many people were feeling quite vulnerable and exposed as they ventured out. To help alleviate their concerns, we decided to provide them all with a couple of masks and disposable gloves to help them on their way."

"We were so pleased with the response that once the comings and goings along the River began to increase, we thought it would be really nice to extend the idea to include boaters signing up to join the Friends of the River Nene."

White Mills Marina has been able to open the marina to overnight visitors and re-open its boathouse café, as well as welcome caravanners to its Certificated Camping and Caravanning Club site.

100k challenge raises close to £1k for Special Care Baby Unit

Twelve-year-old Willow Cooper has successfully completed her self-set challenge to run 100km in June.

Willow, a Year 7 student at Southfield School for Girls in Kettering, ran 3.4km every day for 30 days, so actually ran 102.4km, or the equivalent of two-and-a-half marathons over the month, which saw her running in hail as well as 20-degree heat, such is the British weather!

She chose to run to raise money for



Setting off on their last run

Kettering General Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU) where Willow and her younger (by three minutes) twin sister Bronte were cared for for five weeks after being born eight weeks prematurely, weighing 2lb 14 and 4lb 7 respectively.

Willow hoped to raise £250 but so far, thanks to donations from generous friends and family and a number of anonymous donations, she is nearing £1,000.

Mum Naomi, 48, from Titchmarsh, who accompanied Willow on the run, said: "She did really well. It's a real achievement. Running every day is physically as well as mentally exhausting and I am really proud of her. We would like to thank everyone so much for their generous donations, especially those who gave anonymously so we are unable to thank them in person."

Nurse in charge at Kettering General Hospital's Special Care Baby Unit, Suzy

Edgar, said: "This is a great challenge set by Willow and it's brilliant that she has chosen to raise money for SCBU. We are lacking in developmental care items and would particularly like some Zaky hug hands which are heavy bean-filled bags which are given the scent of the parent and are laid across or alongside the baby and used as a comforter when the parent isn't there."

"At the moment, due to Covid-19, only one parent at a time, wearing a mask, is allowed to be with their baby and with restricted hours between 9am and 5pm, and parents can't stay overnight which is really impacting on parent bonding and breastfeeding. Zaky hands could really help with comforting the baby when their parents aren't there."

"They are expensive at £80 each so any fundraising towards them would be very gratefully received."



Willow and mum Naomi at the end of the 100km run

There is still time to donate, if you haven't already, by clicking on the Just Giving link: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/willow-runs-for-poorly-babies-to-keep-out-covid>

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Making French language learning fun

The pandemic lockdown has meant many changes and restrictions for everyone, but a professional linguist and a local illustrator were determined to make the time a positive one.



Clare Jones

In a collaboration of their very different talents, Clare Jones and Tamsin Edwards concentrated on completing the project that they had been working on, to proudly publish their informative but fun language-learning guide, 'Mustn't Push Granny in the Nettles: 200 French Expressions'.

Clare is a passionate Francophile, and has designed the book to help learners of French at home, school, evening class or university, to get truly acquainted with the richness of the language.

Clare says: "Make your French sound more natural and understand more of the figurative language the French use every day, such as 'Il ne faut pas

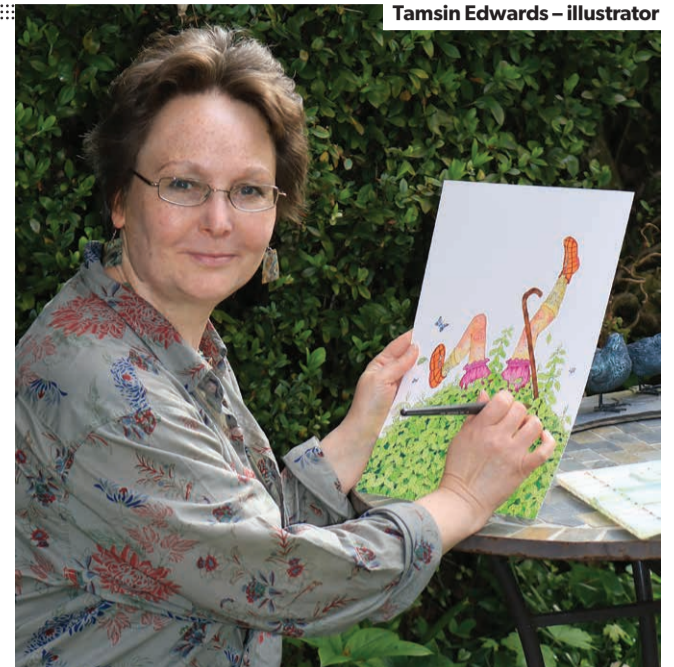
pousser mémé dans les orties!" Literally translated the expression is 'you must not push granny in the nettles'! Its meaning is not to push things too far.

Clare's book has been diligently researched and includes 200 expressions on food and drink, love, laughter, health and happiness. Her aim is to help lovers of the language to learn to speak like the French, preferably without a cat in their throat and a hair on their tongue! It allows readers to deepen their knowledge by understanding the origins and cultural significance of the idioms, and has a fun multi-choice quiz at the end of each chapter.

Wanting very much for the book to be humorous as well as educational, Clare enlisted the talents of artist Tamsin Edwards, whose illustrations are known for their charming quirkiness.

"It is important not to make learning dry and difficult," explained Tamsin, "so I very much designed the images to have the emphasis on FUN."

Dotted throughout the pages, the quirky descriptive pictures



Tamsin Edwards – illustrator

help keep the reader's mind focused.

'Mustn't Push Granny in the Nettles' is the pair's second book, the first in the series being 'Je mourrai moins bête: 200 French expressions to help you die less stupid', which has just been released in a second

edition. Both books are available as an e-book and paperback, and easily available on Amazon as well as from Oundle Bookshop.

For more information and to download a chapter of the first book for FREE, visit www.figureoutfrench.com

For more information about Clare as a tutor, please visit www.frenchtuition-northants.co.uk

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Rather than writing a book, which I was talking about last time, do any of you have your own website?

Some of the large organisations such as Ancestry and FindMyPast have the facility for you to upload your tree or just use it to record information – in as much or as little detail as you want. Ancestry will then create a basic story for each individual. You can also upload any photographs and copies of documents.

But there are other family tree website hosts out there as well and worth having a look around for.

Having your tree on the

internet can be extremely helpful if you have family on the other side of the world – or even beyond visiting distance in this country – who are interested. You can keep control so that you are the 'webmaster' – the only one allowed to add or change details – but also the little internet spiderbots will pick up details and you could have contact from someone out of the blue with a nugget of information. In such cases, it is wise to have a guestbook on the website.

But also, consider what your focus will be on your website. Apart from your family name,

will you have sections on places that they have lived? Occupations? What will the search options be? It would be very worthwhile looking at family history websites by other people – some are easier to follow than others and you don't want your website to be boring or difficult to navigate!

Oh yes – a blog can also help attract new viewers. It does not have to be done regularly on a set day each week but general musings on what has been discovered, places visited (cemeteries are now open...), and any other happenings in your research journey all help. Post them every so often.

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You can also subscribe to Nene Valley News for £39 per annum.

Nene Valley News is produced by KM Media & Marketing, County House, 9 Checkpoint Court, Sadler Road, Lincoln LN6 3PW.

Copy dates for Nene Valley News

Publication date: Saturday 25th July
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 15th July

Publication date: Saturday 8th August
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 29th July



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Teens tackle local litter problem

The Eco-Team of Manor School, Raunds have been doing litter-picks in our area in an effort to prevent an abundance of rubbish building up as the lockdown is eased.

WORDS BY PHOEBE MARTIN

In Northamptonshire, many areas are affected by endless amounts of litter being thrown onto our streets, and by the sides of roads. With the recent re-opening of fast food chains, the build-up of waste is getting worse.

Reducing litter is one of the three aims of the 'Eco-Schools' team at Manor School, Raunds (the others are increasing biodiversity and making more connections around the world). Eco-Schools is a global programme which engages 19.5 million children across 67 countries, with the aim of raising awareness and improving local communities. Its aims complement Manor School's

'Work, World, Wellness' ethos and curriculum, which helps to ensure that students are happy, healthy, employable and have a positive view of the world, by improving our environments, mental well-being and allowing students to practise new skills.

Many of the students, inspired by the Eco-Schools committee, have filled up bags upon bags of litter from the streets, and fields. The waste, which consists of aluminium cans, crisp packets, cigarette packs and plastic bottles, has been sorted into recyclable and non-recyclable waste. If it had all been left, it would have taken years to decompose.

One student even persuaded his local football team, the Thrapston Warriors, to do a litter-pick around



their area. Another student remarked: "It all starts with one piece, then it's everywhere. We aren't the problem; we are the solution for a brighter future!"

The Eco-Schools team are working hard to keep encouraging students to pick up litter if they see any on the floor or by the roadside.

If you have been inspired to do any litter-picks, make sure you wear reflective clothing so you can be seen, always use a litter-picker or gardening gloves when handling rubbish and be aware of your surroundings.

Thrapston Baptist Church – back to the same?

Whether the future is 'normal' normal, or 'new' normal, over the past months the Covid-19 episode has sparked many to rethink their lives, to take stock of what is really important and to re-examine their life choices.

Mat Hussain, minister at Thrapston Baptist church, says: "Spirituality has become something to be seriously considered, rather than rejected without thought, or rejected based on misconceptions."

Worldwide, church websites are seeing a significant increase in hits, and research is showing something like a 50 per cent surge in online searches for prayer, as people are looking for ways to cope with their feelings of anxiety and hopelessness.

Mat continues: "The questions 'Is there more to life?', 'Is God real?' and 'How can I have faith?' seem more relevant now than they have ever been. If you have been challenged to seriously seek answers to some

of these questions, then we have something for you – Alpha."

Alpha is a series of informal, video-based, sessions that explore the relevance of the Christian faith to daily life, and help people understand more about God, and how they can relate to him. Each video is followed by a short, informal discussion where no question is too simple or too hostile.

The new series, being hosted by Thrapston Baptist church, starts at 7pm on Monday 20th July remotely online via Zoom and there is no charge.

For more details, or to register, check the Thrapston Baptist church website: www.thrapstonbaptist.co.uk/alpha

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ARMED FORCES DAY 2020

The planned Armed Forces Day parade and displays were not held on Saturday 27th June due to Covid-19. Instead, the Rushden branch of The Royal British Legion held a short service at Rushden's War Memorial led by Branch Padre Rev Linnet Smith – she made mention of this year's 70th Anniversary of the Korean War.

The service was attended by a handful of people due to the social-distancing rules and RBL Biker Branch Member, Bob Crick played the bugle. Armed Forces Day is a celebratory event, so a 30-second clap was held instead of the 2-minute silence.

Rushden Town Council lent their support and there was bunting, two flags (the other was in the Park) and two dressed cyclists! Here is a selection of images from the day.



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Wildlife **NEWS**

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

Our lives are often governed by time; when to go to work, or take our meals or catch our train, all seems to depend on the watch, or the calendar. Yet in the 'real' world of nature that is not the case; dates on the calendar may guide us as to when certain events are likely to take place, but that is all, and we have to be ready when it happens.

For example, at certain times during the year we see spring flowers, or migrating birds arriving (or leaving – our local cuckoo is still calling us at unearthly hours, though textbooks tell us they should be heading back to Africa, but they cannot read), or butterflies flapping their dodderly way across the garden, but not because it is a booked time or date. It is just 'the right time of the year' for it.

Two or three weeks ago weather conditions, both now and earlier in the year, combined to give us a good 'crop' of amphibians' eggs – frogs and toads and, hopefully, newts. After

the spawning, then the hatching of the eggs in their bubbles, finally they were ready to clamber out of their watery world and enter the air-filled space above. They all grew up under similar conditions and came out of the water at around the same time of the same month, with perhaps a few days' variation either way because of what those conditions did to growth; but the net result brought open surfaces covered in a mass of little crawling figures, and we realise that large numbers are necessary because they are easy pickings for many predators, such as herons and grass snakes to name but two, which are hanging round hoping for just such an unexpected feast for their own families.

This year's population explosion has almost passed, but for every little animal making it to new hunting grounds there could be hundreds which do not; we may avoid treading on those whose paths cross ours (if we see them in time) but motor vehicles pose larger dangers. Never imagine that because there are large numbers of any creature (or plant) they are any less deserving of attention and care.

SUPPORT FOR WELL-BEING OF CARE WORKERS AND CHILDREN

Children's author, BJAS Addy, who was a peripatetic crisis nursing home manager in Northamptonshire, wanted to support care workers who have been and still are carrying an especially heavy burden due to coronavirus, so is donating royalties to support them from one of a new series of children's books.

The semi-retired nurse, who has worked in both NHS and social care sectors, had an "Enid Blyton moment" that led to the 'Our Cat in Our House and Friends' series of books published on Amazon designed to support children's well-being and a proportion of the royalties from the second book 'Our Cat in Our House in Lockdown: When she cannot visit her friends or play outside' will be donated to well-being for Care as well as being a living memorial to a grandparent taken too soon, a victim not of the virus but the restrictions.

The books explore four themes: remote playing with a friend, virtual relationship with extended family, reassurance for children and the imagination word game.

"Lockdown may be easing," said the author, "but it isn't over. Not all children will be going back to school and the books aren't just for now, they can be read any time and can help with the transition after lockdown. And carers will need support for their well-being for some time into the future. Now we've stopped clapping for our key workers we mustn't forget them and it can be more difficult for carers as they lose people they've looked after for years, not just the days or weeks

people are in hospital."

The books can be used after lockdown as a way of allowing young children to express how they feel to help their long-term well-being and can be read as stories at any time. The lockdown imagination game is educational and not specific to now.

The author added: "The government talks about extra money for social care but it has been channelled via bureaucracy not direct to homes. What carers really need is support for them. Ideally I would like to sell enough books to provide appropriate training for one member of staff in each home to be able to give information to colleagues on where to get advice and support.

"My father-in-law may not have had the virus but his GP practice wouldn't see him and his treatment was delayed. There will be other elderly people we've lost prematurely and carers feel strongly the loss of residents who they've looked after for months or years."

Just published: 'Frog's Birthday When She Can't Meet and Play with her Friends' and another book which is a version of the imagination game for families or adults.

The four existing books can be found at <https://www.amazon.co.uk> by searching 'our cat in our house'.

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Notice of planning APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Notice is given that the following applications have been received:

> BENEFIELD

20/00727/VAR (4 August 2020) (CA) Variation of condition 2 pursuant to Application Reference Number: 18/02423FUL - Date of Decision: 17/01/2019 Conditions(s) Removal: Plot 2 - omit the approved front extension and replace with a front window; Plot 2 - retain the existing snug room window opening instead of the originally approved bi-fold door; Plot 2 - omit the originally approved window and bi-fold door in the side elevation; Plot 2 - retain the existing portion of the rear extended element, rather than to demolish the south-eastern extent of it; Plot 2 - retain the single porch on the rear elevation rather than to demolish it; Plot 2 - change the existing living room rear door to a window; Change of the proposed elevations and plans. The Benefield Wheatsheaf Main Street, Upper Benefield Applicant: The Benefield Wheatsheaf

> EASTON-ON-THE-HILL

20/00687/FUL (4 August 2020) (CA) Alterations to and conversion of existing stone barn into a residential annexe; Re-roofing of a 'folly'. 26 High Street Easton On The Hill Stamford Applicant: Ms L Young

> 20/00673/FUL (4 August 2020) (CA)

Demolition of a modern PVC conservatory to the rear elevation and its replacement with a single storey glazed extension. 40 Church Street Easton-on-the-Hill Stamford Applicant: Mr Jerry Watson

> GLAPTHORN

20/00665/LBC (4 August 2020) (LB)

Replacement of the existing windows and glazed front door panel with bespoke new double glazed window units. The Granary 6A Lower Farm Main Street Applicant: Mr and Mrs C Morris

> ISLIP

20/00686/FUL (4 August 2020) (CA) Two storey rear Extension. 6 Wellington Terrace Islip Kettering Applicant: Mr Trevor Walker

> OUNDLE

20/00659/FUL and 20/00660/LBC (4 August 2020) (CA) (LB) Installation of new windows and doors (rear); New door opening (rear); New disabled WC and internal alterations; General associated works as per the Design and Access statement. 10 Stoke Hill Oundle Peterborough Applicant: Oundle Osteopaths - Mr and Mrs Milborne

> RAUNDS

20/00715/LBC (4 August 2020) (LB) Replacement of wooden double glazed windows, with UPVC double glazed windows. 40 Grove Street Raunds Wellingborough Applicant: Mrs Liz Hicks

> 20/00664/FUL (4 August 2020) (ART15)

Retrospective application for change of use from open space to residential garden land (Re-submission of 19/00249/FUL). 51 Thorpe Street Raunds Wellingborough Applicant: Miss M Chadbon

> RUSHDEN

20/00700/FUL (4 August 2020) (CA) The recolouring of existing shopfront grey and the installation of new bi-parting entrance doors and side screens. Unit 1 48

- 50 High Street Rushden Applicant: Mr Ken Jones - Iceland Foods Ltd

> 20/00706/ADV (4 August 2020) (CA)

Fascia and projecting signs to front elevation, loading bay sign to side, 2 directional and 2 disclaimer signs elevation together with vinyl window graphics to internal face of windows/doors. Unit 1 48 - 50 High Street Rushden Applicant: Mr Ken Jones - Iceland Foods Ltd

> 20/00515/FUL (4 August 2020) (NS)

Removal of single storey flat roof cabin office located against Unit 9 and erection of new B1 Light Industrial unit following the demolition of existing mechanics workshop and removal of tent. Yard at Elan Court Norris Way Applicant: Roy Neal Builders - Mr Neal

> WARMINGTON

20/00674/VAR (4 August 2020) (CA) Variation of Condition 3 - Approved plans - pursuant to application 19/00598/FUL - to allow for minor amendment to bedroom 1 wing and siting of car port. Condition Number(s): 3 - minor material amendment Conditions(s) Removal: See statement accompanying application. Application is for a minor material amendment to bedroom 1 wing and siting of car port. Variation of condition 3 substitution of following approved plans. Delete proposed site plan 080 PL 30 rev D substitute proposed site plan 080 PL 30 rev E Delete: Proposed Plan - 080 (PL) 31 Revision D; Substitute: Proposed Plan 080 (PL) 31 Revision D, and delete Proposed Elevations - 080 (PL) 32 Revision C. Substitute: Proposed Elevations - 080 (PL) 32 Revision C. 3 Spinney Close Warmington

Peterborough Applicant: OCS Developments Limited - Mrs S Bateman

> YARWELL

20/00736/LBC (4 August 2020) (LB) Modification to two rear dormer windows (revised scheme to 17/02640/LBC). Spring Barn 1 Manor Farm Main Street Applicant: Mr and Mrs Gareth and Catherine Voyle

The reason for applications being advertised is as follows:

Art 15 - Publicity for planning application under Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended);

EIA - Publicity for planning application accompanied by an Environmental Statement under Article 15 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 (as amended);

LB - Publicity for listed building consent/planning application affecting the setting of a listed building under regulation 5/5a of the Listed Buildings and Conservation Area Regulations 1990 (as amended);
CA - Publicity for planning application which may affect the character and appearance of a Conservation Area under regulation 5a of the Listed Buildings and Conservation Area Regulations 1990 (as amended).

GPDO - Publicity for prior notification application in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).

Only applications required by legislation to be published in a local paper are listed above. You can view the full weekly list of applications received along with application documents, plans and environmental statements on our website. Copies of environmental statements may be purchased from the Council (whilst stocks last) at a cost of £1.51 plus 15p per page.

Comments on applications should be submitted in writing (by the date shown in brackets for each application) via the website, by email to planning@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk, or by letter to: Planning Services, Council Offices, Cedar House, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, Northamptonshire, NN14 4LZ.

Please note: In the case of a householder or minor commercial application, in the event of an appeal proceeding by way of the expedited procedure, any representations made about the application will be passed to the Secretary of State and there will be no opportunity to make further representations.

Paul Bland, Head of Planning Services Dated 11 July 2020

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

From the CHAIRMAN

Well, after we all baked in the glorious sunshine of previous weeks, we came back down to earth with a deluge of rain as we marked Armed Forces Day.

**WORDS BY
CLLR HELEN HOWELL
CHAIRMAN OF EAST
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
COUNCIL**

I was delighted to be asked to join The Mayor of Raunds, Cllr Sylvia Hughes, on the steps outside the town hall in Raunds on Saturday 27th June, to raise the flag in their honour.

Armed Forces Day is a chance to show our support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community: from currently serving troops to Service families, veterans and cadets. It was quite a different event from those that we have done in the past, due to social

distancing rules, but it was felt that we should mark the day as best we could.

I have started to think about future events now with the relaxing of the lockdown rules. However, I will have to wait and see if we get to the stage in this year where we can have a social gathering. The Mayor of Raunds and I are planning on a joint event in January 2021, so hopefully that will get the go-ahead as I am keen to raise funds for East Northants First Responders to support them in the amazing work they do in and around our District.

I would love to hear about your experiences during lockdown, so please feel free to get in touch. My contact details are on ENC website.

Take care and stay safe.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

Licensing Act 2003
Application for a Premises Licence (Section 17)

Notice is hereby given that Independent Drinks Supplies Ltd has applied to East Northamptonshire Council for the grant of a Premises Licence in respect of Unit 2A Newbarn Farm, Raunds, Northamptonshire NN9 6HY, and intends to carry out the following licensable activities; The supply of alcohol for consumption off the premises (home delivery service only): Monday to Saturday: 9am-5pm.

The licence application may be inspected at the Licensing Authority, East Northamptonshire Council, Cedar Drive, Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4LZ during normal office hours. Any representation by a Responsible Authority or Interested Party must be made in writing to the above address by 27th July 2020.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is not exceeding £5,000.

Independent Drinks Supplies Ltd

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(SCARBOROUGH STREET & ST PETERS WAY, IRLINGBOROUGH)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC & PROHIBITION OF WAITING AT ANY TIME) ORDER 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding and waiting at any time along those lengths of Scarborough Street and St Peters Way, Irthlingborough as set out below.

LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES:
Scarborough Street – outside school. St Peters Way – between Oak Terrace and Oak Way.

FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during installation of new road markings and lining.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 24th July 2020 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 2016.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the roads will be restricted for one day.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: none, access is restricted during works.

Dated this 11th day of July 2020
DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES
Executive Director LGSS Law Ltd
PKG/T20/231

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp ref: 20/21 – N098 on 01604 883400.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(MARKET ROAD, THRAPSTON)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2020

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Market Road, Thrapston as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES:
That length of Market Road, Thrapston from Midland Road to Hortons Lane.

FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during installation of new road markings and lining.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 24th July 2020 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 2016.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for one day.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Midland Road and Huntingdon Road.

Dated this 11th day of July 2020
DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES
Executive Director LGSS Law Ltd
PKG/T20/230

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp ref: 20/21 – N099 on 01604 883400.

CLASSIFIEDS

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SPECIALISTS SINCE 1980

Housebuilder gives parents a sporting BOOST TO KEEP CHILDREN ACTIVE

Parents in Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire are being offered an online 'sports day at home' pack thanks to a leading housebuilder's partnership with Team GB.

During the Covid-19 crisis many parents have had to get used to home schooling amid the uncertainty of when their children will return to

school.

Now Persimmon Homes Midlands, thanks to its ongoing partnership with The British Olympic Association,

is offering parents the chance to download special sports packs for free and start planning their own sports day at home.

World Championship silver medallist and Team GB Tokyo 2020 hopeful Laviai Nielsen (athletics) helped to launch the virtual sports day scheme.

The campaign also includes a social media competition asking people to take a picture or video of their home sports day and either comment on

Facebook or upload to Instagram with the hashtag #PersimmonSportsDay to be in with a chance of winning a £250 Amazon voucher.

Simon McDonald, Regional Managing Director for Persimmon Homes Midlands, said: "We are all going through unprecedented times. We hope that our sports day campaign will bring a smile to people's faces and help households plan a day of fun and activity. These packs are designed to help inspire the sporting passion of the younger generation."

The sports day packs support the British Olympic Foundation's youth engagement programme, Get Set, created to inspire a generation of young people and celebrate the Olympic values of respect, excellence and friendship.

Last year, the housebuilder supported schools by sending out free Team GB sports day packs, to help give events a special Olympic and Team GB twist.



To download a virtual sports day pack, visit <https://www.persimmonhomes.com/sportsday>

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