

Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Local elections in May

Preparations for local elections in May are underway and East Northamptonshire residents are being urged to make note of important deadlines. On Thursday 6th May 2021 a poll will be held to elect Councillors for the new North Northamptonshire Council (NNC).

The new unitary authority will replace Corby Borough Council, East Northamptonshire Council, Kettering Borough Council and the Borough Council of Wellingborough and Northamptonshire County Council on Thursday 1st April.

Electors will also be able to cast votes for the Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner and representatives for the 95 parish and town councils across North Northamptonshire.

Candidates who wish to stand in the NNC election will be able to submit their nomination paper from Friday 26th March, with the deadline being 4pm on Thursday 8th April.

Pupils and staff don rainbow colours for NHS fundraising event

East Midlands Academy Trust schools took part in a special rainbow-themed mufti day to raise money for the NHS.

Pupils and staff from the Trust's seven schools dressed up in rainbow colours, painted their faces with rainbows and created rainbow-coloured art as part of the fundraiser, which took place on 5th March.

Children learning from home shared photos of their colourful costumes which were then published on the Trust's social media channels.

The aim of the event was to recognise those in the NHS who have cared for people affected by Covid-19 and to raise money for NHS Charities Together.

Joshua Coleman, Chief Executive of East Midlands Academy Trust, said: "As a family of schools, we wanted to give something back to the heroes in the NHS who have cared for us and our loved ones during this pandemic.

"We also thought it would be a fantastic event to spread some positivity and to involve our pupils both in school and at home to mark the final day before schools re-open.

"Seeing the photos of our pupils in their fantastic rainbow-coloured outfits and how much effort they put in was truly heart-warming. We also heard some incredibly moving stories of families who have been personally affected by Covid and how much this event meant to them as a way of saying thank you to the NHS.

"I'd like to say a massive well done and thank you to everyone who took part and donated."

NHS Charities Together funds projects that improve services for patients and supports NHS staff and volunteers. The event has already raised more than £800 for the charity.



Pupil from Prince William School, Oundle

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WILDLIFE NEWS

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

Why does 'getting up time' always come too quickly, just as we are ready to snuggle down for a few more minutes? It is different for each of us – humans and wildlife; some jobs mean getting out of bed before the sun shows itself – even though we are just entering the summer months when that heavenly body can be seen for a longer time than during winter.

In some branches of agriculture – for example, dairy farming – certain jobs must be done at set times of the day or year, and we have just come through the lambing season where working hours depend on the animals' needs to determine start/finish times.

Plants depend, directly or indirectly, on the hours of daylight because that is how solar energy comes ("no sun, no energy", so we need storage systems). Some animals need the sun's light for growth, while others do not at first sight appear to have any preference (though further examination often appears to disprove that). Common examples can be found in our own gardens and in both farmed and uncultivated land, and we can almost construct

a work schedule through the day.

In our own garden, after the hedgehogs have completed their nightly 'shopping trip' the blackbirds are normally the first to show (Dad first) which sometimes leads to fighting to determine "right of possession", and after a short time the 'rush hour'.

Now the "heavy mob" take up the story. Magpies, wood pigeons, collared doves, only show how big they are when they take over the whole bird table for its fresh feed; in and out of the crowd dart house sparrows and other finches. And finally, the 'closing number', with the arrival of the cock pheasant.

All this in a small, not particularly extraordinary, garden. Species will differ, but the plot is being played everywhere.

Busy summer is almost here but for now the main job is keeping up with the continual changes (sometimes by several minutes every day) within the time allowed. Be thankful that we only have one clock change per year in each direction, and let your own breakfast show start!

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Well, that is England, Wales and Ireland mentioned, but what about Scotland?

It became a requirement in 1552 for events such as baptisms, marriages and burials to be recorded in the Registers for the Church of Scotland. However, this was not cheap to do and so many people chose not to do so. As a result, those early records were few and far between in many cases and so are not completely reliable.

No regulations were in place to say how the details should be recorded and so entries in the early registers are very mixed up. They were entered by either the Minister or the Session Clerk and their handwriting is not always the easiest to read! Whilst the Church of Scotland records date from the mid-16th century, Catholic records date from the 18th century, with many of them not appearing until 1790 – and then mainly in the large towns and cities.

Many of the records have been lodged with the

General Register Office for Scotland in Edinburgh, but some are still with the Parish Church or Kirk. A great deal of them are available to download from the Scotland's People website: <https://www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk/> You will need to register with them and purchase some credits and you will then be able to download a copy of the entry. A full explanation of their costs is available on the website.

As well as the Church of Scotland, from 1716 onwards, other Presbyterian churches in Scotland kept registers of baptisms, marriages and burials, so your ancestors might not necessarily have been Church of Scotland! But do bear in mind that the Church of Scotland parishes did not cover the same areas as Roman Catholic parishes and the parishes of other churches. Confusing, eh!

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Seamless bin collections confirmed ahead of new council

People in North Northamptonshire will see no interruption to their household waste and recycling collections when the new council takes over on Thursday 1st April.

During a meeting of the North Northants Shadow Executive Committee in February, members approved the Household Waste and Recycling Policy the new North Northamptonshire Council will follow from day one.

Cllr Steven North, the North Shadow Authority's Portfolio Holder for Planning, Strategic Planning and Regulatory and Enforcement Services, said: "From the very beginning of the reorganisation of local government in Northamptonshire we have said residents should be at the heart of what we are doing.

"With many working from

home, and everyone eating in, now is not the right time to make major changes to our household collections.

"There are some big changes now made possible by all the councils in North Northamptonshire working as one, but decisions on those opportunities are being left for the new council once it has a fresh mandate after the local elections in May."

The policy also confirms

there will be no change to opening times at any of the county's Household Waste and Recycling Centres or changes to the e-permit scheme for commercial type vehicles.

A Street Cleansing Policy was also approved during the Executive Committee harmonising response times for fly-tipping, graffiti and fly-posting across North Northamptonshire.



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Spotlight on > Farmers' Markets

> OUNDLE FARMERS' MARKET

Oundle Farmers' Market is held in the Market Place on the second Saturday each month between 8am and 1pm. The market supplies a wide range of fresh, locally produced goods including meat, fish, eggs, cheese, freshly baked breads, pies, cakes, and even locally roasted coffee.

The market has continued to operate throughout the current pandemic and although social distancing has meant some changes to the market (including stallholders and visitors wearing facemasks,

a new one-way system, provision of hand sanitisers and contactless payment), both stallholders and visitors have taken this on board to ensure a safe shopping environment.

With free car parks, a

convenient and regular bus route on the X4 and local coffee shops continuing to provide takeaways, there is still much for new visitors to enjoy in Oundle when visiting our historic town and vibrant market.



Your Health – Getting ready

WORDS BY CLAIRE SHORT

There's been a change of plan: I'm not going to write about arthritis as promised. This is because I've broken the lawnmower. It's only March and I've managed to break the wretched thing already.

Oh, you may laugh, but I feel it's a reflection on what happens at this time of year – the sun comes out for one day and we all start running, gardening and playing sport again. And many of us injure ourselves in that first sunny week. Just like my lawnmower.

I don't mean the stupid, overweight, string-dependent

machine suddenly took up training for a marathon. I mean that it wasn't ready. It had been sitting in a shed for months and I didn't check whether it was in working order.

Sound familiar? Do you feel like you've spent the winter sitting in a shed? With all the cold, darkness and lockdowns, it wouldn't surprise me if you said yes.

And it doesn't matter whether you're training for an online marathon like many of our patients, or whether you're getting ready to dig the

garden. Exercise is exercise. Your body doesn't assess the type of exercise and choose whether to hurt or not. It gets used too much too soon and then hurts.

So, get yourself in shape first. Start with walking, shorter runs or smaller weights, even if only for a few days.

As for me, with the mower broken I'll be doing a bit of gentle training with the garden shears before starting on the lawn with them.

Enjoy your fitness prep this week!

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



OUNDLE FARMERS MARKET

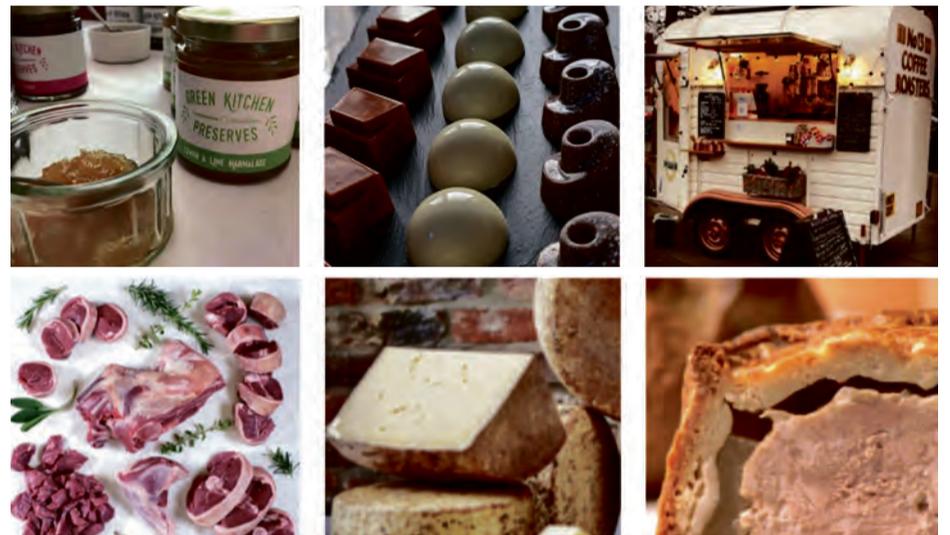
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Oundle retains Fairtrade Town status

Oundle became a Fairtrade Town in 2007, a status which has to be renewed every two years by the Fairtrade Foundation. The Oundle Fairtrade Town Steering Group has been successful in its most recent renewal application (January 2021).

The popular Fairtrade/Eco Market last year had to be cancelled because of Covid-19 restrictions, but local shops still stock a large number of Fairtrade foods and other goods. The Oundle Co-operative Foodstore has been particularly supportive, most recently by promoting Fairtrade foods in Fairtrade Fortnight (February–March). Oundle Town Council has also given its strong backing.

Chair of the Oundle Fairtrade group, Eleanor Rayden, says: "This is great news for Oundle, but even more so for the farmers who

grow the tea, coffee and other foods we depend on. This year more than ever, it's important we come together to stand with the people behind our food, as they face the daily realities of the climate crisis."

Fairtrade provides crucial help to the farmers and workers who grow these crops in the struggle against climate change. Fairtrade standards encourage producers in the developing world to protect the environment by planting trees, improving soil, conserving water and avoiding pesticides. And by guaranteeing fair

prices for their produce, Fairtrade enables farmers to be better equipped in building long-term sustainable businesses.

By choosing Fairtrade, we can all help to build a better world.



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Michael Gidney

Michael Gidney
Chief Executive
Fairtrade Foundation



Freehold transfer of Finedon recreation ground, toilets and Obelisk

The Borough Council of Wellingborough has approved the freehold transfer of the Finedon recreation ground and toilets, and Obelisk, to Finedon Town Council, under the council's Community Asset Transfer policy. This will enable the town council to invest in the recreation facilities and maintain the historic monument for the benefit of current and future residents.

The recreation ground is considered important to the health and wellbeing of residents, and the Obelisk is of unique historical significance.

Councillor Martin Griffiths, Leader of the Council, said: "I am proud that before vesting day of the new North Northamptonshire Unitary Authority on April 1st, 2021, we have agreed to transfer these facilities to Finedon Town Council. There is no denying that the Obelisk is a monument that belongs to the people of Finedon in perpetuity.

"This is the latest of a number of Community Asset

Transfers that the Council has completed, dating back to 2015 when Glamis Hall was successfully transferred to Glamis Hall for All.

"Sport and recreation are so important to people's health and wellbeing. I am confident that the assets will be in very safe hands, and that residents and visitors to Finedon will benefit for many years to come."

Terry Kendall-Torry, Chairman of Finedon Town Council, said: "As part of Finedon Town Council's rolling five-year strategic plan, it is our intention to take a more direct responsibility for the public assets and

amenities of Finedon. As a result of this policy Finedon Town Council has now taken ownership of Banks Park, the green, the war memorial, the cemetery and the pocket park/Tainty Field.

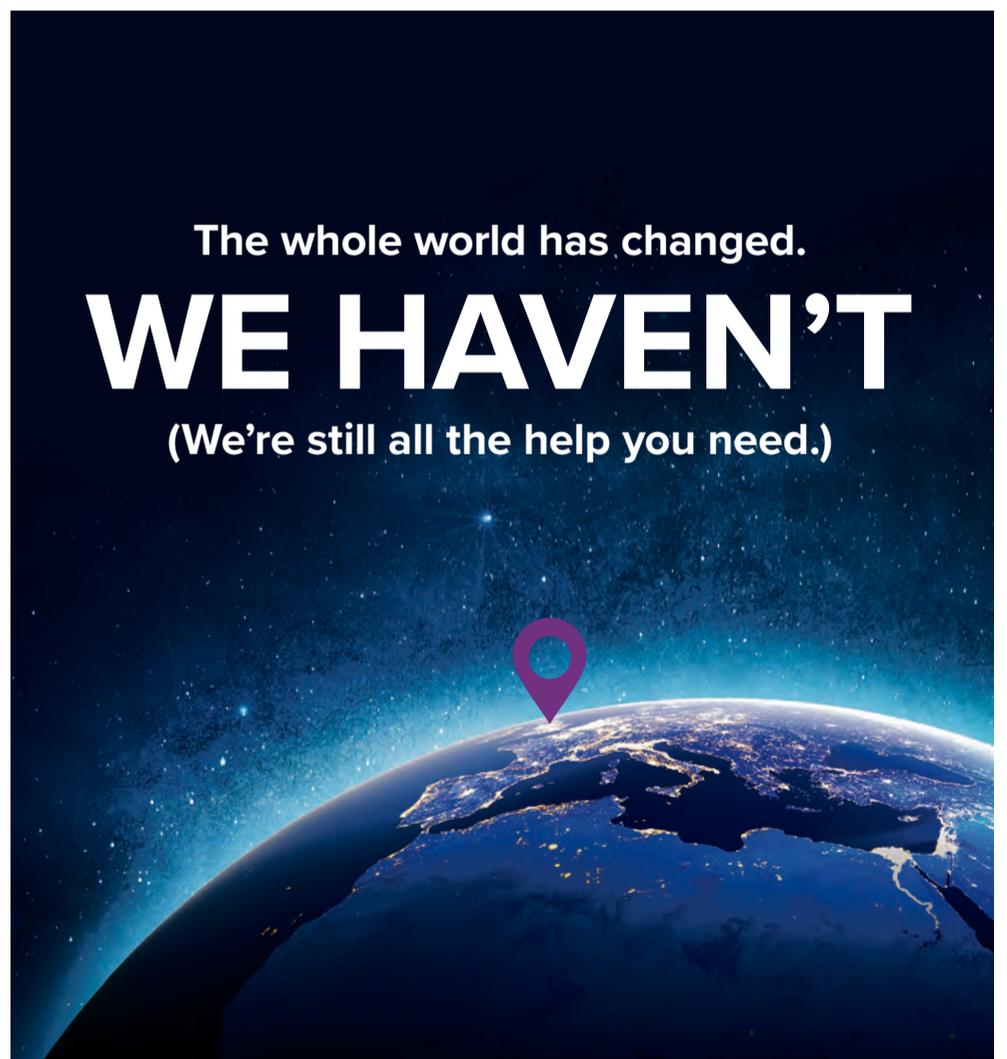
"With the addition of the recreation ground and Obelisk we will now have the opportunity to further develop the recreational and leisure facilities for the benefit of the people of Finedon.

"On behalf of Finedon Town Council I would like to thank the Borough Council of Wellingborough for their support in helping us achieve our goal."

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Notice of planning APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Notice is given that the following applications have been received:

> RUSHDEN

NE/21/00256/FUL (13 April 2021) (CA) Garden room/office.
31 Griffith Street Rushden
Applicant: Mr Matt Lee

> THORPE ACHURCH

NE/21/00252/LBC (17 April 2021) (LB) Proposed extensions and alterations together with conversion of outbuilding.
Thorpe Farmhouse Aldwinckle Road
Thorpe Waterville
Applicant: Mr And Miss Sorabjee And Hodgson-Jones

> TITCHMARSH

NE/21/00303/LBC and NE/21/00302/FUL (13 April 2021) (LB)(CA) Reinstatement and refurbishment of fabric following fire damage, relocation of stair, internal alterations and addition of second floor accommodation.
13 High Street Titchmarsh
Applicant: Mr M Alderman

> DEENE

NE/21/00280/FUL (13 April 2021) (ART15) Habitat creation
Priors Hall Site Kirby Lane Deene
Applicant: Urban And Civic Corby Ltd – Mr M Nelson

> HIGHAM FERRERS

NE/21/00340/LBC (13 April 2021) (LB) Part demolition of rear flat roof extensions and erection of 2 storey rear extension; Alterations to front door and windows; Internal works to allow for the change of use from offices to part

retail and part residential.
3 Market Square Higham Ferrers
Applicant: Irthlingborough Directors Pension Fund - Mr Langley

> TANSOR

NE/21/00175/LBC (13 April 2021) (LB) Works to listed building to allow for the installation of secondary glazing for certain windows (see site plan and covering letter).
Tansor Manor Fotheringhay Road Tansor
Applicant: Jonathan Smith

> BRIGSTOCK

NE/21/00320/FUL (13 April 2021) (CA) Levelling of garden pond and associated drainage works (retrospective application).
Mill House 18 Latham Street Brigstock
Applicant: Mr Max Marsden

> WADENHOE

NE/21/00345/FUL (13 April 2021) (CA) Removal of the existing flat roof to be replaced with new pitched roof to the existing single storey portion at the rear of the house.
Holly House Church Street Wadenhoe
Applicant: Mr Nick Henchy

> ALDWINCKLE

NE/21/00284/LBC (13 April 2021) (LB) Change of use of the tearoom to a hair and beauty salon.
31A Main Street Aldwinckle
Applicant: Mr Hankins

> BULWICK

NE/21/00261/FUL (13 April 2021) (ART15) Erection of residential dwelling (Change to the floor plan and elevations of the residential dwelling consented under planning application 20/01378/FUL).

New Lodge Farm Laxton Road Bulwick
Applicant: Mr Simon Singlehurst

> Tansor

NE/21/00262/FUL (13 April 2021) (ART15) Part demolition of the existing outbuildings and erection of a part single and part two-storey dwelling, new vehicular access and soft and hard landscaping.
The Fieldings Main Street Tansor
Applicant: Mr Duncan Foster

> HIGHAM FERRERS

NE/21/00339/FUL (13 April 2021) (CA) Change of use from offices to part retail and part residential (3 apartments); Part demolition of rear flat roof extensions and erection of 2 storey rear extension; Alterations to front door and windows.
3 Market Square Higham Ferrers
Applicant: Irthlingborough Directors Pension Fund - Mr Langley

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, 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 20 March 2021



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

From the **CHAIRMAN...**

We are here! The final report from me as Chairman of East Northamptonshire Council. I am saddened to be writing this, the last report from any Chairman of East Northamptonshire as we move towards a new era and a new Council. It has been the most unusual year for everyone, this pandemic has altered the way everyone has been working. We had planned to celebrate the final year of ENC in style but alas, it was not to be. Instead we should congratulate ourselves on the way we have got through this pandemic.

WORDS BY CLLR HELEN HOWELL, CHAIRMAN OF EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

As we start to relax the restrictions and get out of lockdown we must not forget the support that we have shown for each other. The one good thing to come from this dreadful situation is the community spirit and selflessness shown by so many.

I was delighted to be able to congratulate the recipients of my Chairman's Champions awards this week, some via Zoom and some on the phone.

And the winners are: Cafe@25, Irthlingborough and The Woodpecker, Raunds in the Business/Organisation category. Rob Giddings, Anne Gilbert, Linda Gretto, Mike Herring, Camilla Sherwin and Charles Tomalin in the Community Organiser category. Colin Godfrey in the Good Neighbour category. Cathryn Brightwell, Tarot Crick, Richard Lattimore, Florence Muzvaba, Cheryl Tompkins, Joanne Vissian and John Wooding in the Helping in the Community category. 1st Raunds Scout Group, East Northants First Responders, Raunds and Thrapston Area Volunteers and Support@ Titchmarsh in the Volunteer Group category.

Damian Stiles and Katie Sorrell in the Individual Volunteer category. Lily and Maisie Howe in the Young Person category.

I was truly inspired by their commitment to this community, its environment, and the ways they have provided support, mentoring and companionship throughout the pandemic and before.

Thank you to all those who made the nominations. For more information on the awards and winners, please visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/ENChampions

So it is goodbye from me and ENC, it has been an honour and a pleasure.



Cllr Helen Howell

FIRST PHARMACIES ADMINISTERING COVID-19 VACCINE IN COUNTY

The Northamptonshire Covid-19 vaccination programme is accelerating further as the first pharmacy sites in the county have started administering the vaccine.

The two dedicated sites mean the vaccine can be administered to hundreds more patients each day and bring further choice to patients about where they can be vaccinated.

Chris Pallot, Director of Northamptonshire's Covid-19

Vaccination Programme said: "I am delighted our first pharmacy sites are now live as they provide yet another weapon in our arsenal in the fight against coronavirus. The pharmacy sites complement the existing vaccination sites and offer further choice to patients.

"Once you become eligible for a vaccine you will be invited by your GP practice or via a letter from the national booking centre. The letter will enable patients to book an appointment directly at one of the pharmacy sites or the vaccination centre at Moulton

Park. Patients who would prefer to be vaccinated at their local GP site should wait to be contacted by their local GP practice."

Anne-Marie King, Chief Officer, Northamptonshire Local Pharmaceutical Committee said: "The NHS coronavirus vaccination programme is the largest vaccination programme in the history of the NHS, and I am delighted our local pharmacy teams are now able to join the effort to bring the vaccine to as many eligible people as quickly as possible.

"Pharmacy teams have been working incredibly hard throughout the pandemic and,

as we accelerate the vaccination programme, they are playing a vital role in delivering the life-saving jabs to those in their communities."

Mimi Lau, Superintendent Pharmacist for Mr Pickfords Pharmacy, operating the site at 3 Spencer Court, Corby said: "We are thrilled to open our second Covid-19 vaccination centre in Corby following the successful opening of our Leicester site last month. Our aim is to vaccinate as many eligible people as possible following the JCVI priority cohort list and to engage with communities with lower vaccine uptake levels.

"We believe we can do this by offering a service which is accessible, efficient and adheres to social distancing requirements. The vaccine is

the best way of returning to normality, so I would encourage people to get vaccinated when it's their turn to do so."

Krina Patel on behalf of Touchwood Pharmacy said: "We at Touchwood Pharmacy are delighted to have been given this opportunity to help out the local community during these difficult times. It has allowed members of the community to come together to volunteer and help make a difference.

"We endeavour to get as many people vaccinated as we can, we have just completed our first weekend open and I'm happy to say it all went smoothly. It's a great feeling to know that our team are making a difference during this pandemic."



Pictured (L to R) outside the site at 3 Spencer Court, Corby are Mohammed Salloo – Head of Pharmacy Retail, Mr Pickfords; Henry King – Pharmacist Clinical Lead, Mr Pickfords and Mimi Lau – Superintendent Pharmacist, Mr Pickfords

The pharmacy sites are located at:

- Northampton & District Indoor Bowling Association (Touchwood Pharmacy), The Recreation Ground, Northampton NN2 8DH
- 3 Spencer Court (Mr Pickfords), Corby NN17 1NU

Council receives £176,000 to help leisure facilities recover

East Northamptonshire Council (ENC) has been successful in an application to Sport England's National Leisure Recovery Fund and has been awarded funds to support the Council's leisure partner, Freedom Leisure.

The grant of £176,000 will be used by ENC as part of its continued support to Freedom Leisure and the recovery of leisure services in East Northants which have been impacted greatly by the coronavirus pandemic.

This will enable ENC's leisure services to return to a position of sustainable operation in the medium term and will allow Freedom

Leisure to be able to get back to providing a full range of activities and programmes as soon as restrictions are lifted, contributing to the health and wellbeing of residents in East Northants and supporting engagement in physical activity.

Cllr Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council said: "As a Council, we have a duty and responsibility to support our leisure services through what has been a very difficult year and ensure residents can use all our facilities as soon as restrictions

are lifted.

"This money will mean that our leisure centres are able to reopen promptly and safely, meaning residents of East Northamptonshire can be assured that they will be able to once again visit an ENC owned gym or go for a much longed for swim in one of our pools."

ENC also received £1,542 as part of a monitoring and evaluation grant, which will help build a richer and stronger insight into how the leisure sector is performing as it recovers from the impact of the pandemic.

To find out more about ENC owned leisure facilities, visit www.freedom-leisure.co.uk



APRIL

Sat 17 Norwich
Sun 18 Great Yarmouth
Tue 20 Warwick
Thu 22 Banbury Market
Sun 25 Skegness

MAY

Sat 1 Lincoln
Mon 3 Sheringham
Wed 5 Bury St Edmunds Market day
Sat 8 Hunstanton
Mon 10 Derbyshire & The Peak District
Tue 11 Mystery Tour—Full day
Thu 13 Constable Country
Fri 14 Stamford Market & Grantham
Sat 15 Clacton
Tue 18 Springfields or Spalding
Wed 19 Wye Valley River Cruise with Lunch
Thu 20 Downton Abbey Country & river cruise
Fri 21 Savill Gardens
Sat 22 Biggin Hill Museum & Heritage Hanger
Sun 23 Camden Market
Mon 24 Kentish Lady River Cruise & Lunch
Sat 29 Waterperry Gardens
Sun 30 Brighton
Mon 31 Bakewell Bank Holiday Market
Mon 31 London Museums or Free Time
Mon 31 Tower of London

JUNE

Tue 1 Melton Mowbray
Tue 1 Trentham Estate & The Monkey Forest
Wed 2 Family Seaside Mystery
Thu 3 Cotswold Farm Park - Adam Hensons
Thu 3 Fakenham & Sheringham
Fri 4 Concorde at Aerospace Bristol
Sat 5 Skegness
Sun 6 Bekonscot Model Village & Railway
Wed 9 Haworth & Keighley Worth Valley Railway
Fri 11 Horse Sanctuary & Norwich
Sat 12 Hunstanton
Sun 13 Oxford or Oxford Castle

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WEAVING HISTORY WITH MYSTERY IN THE SCOTTISH BORDERS
Departs 7th June, 5 days, £529 per person

New Lanark is an exceptional example of a purpose-built 18th century mill village, set in a picturesque Scottish landscape near the Falls of Clyde, where in the early years of the 19th century, the Utopian idealist Robert Owen (1771-1858) inspired a model industrial community based on textile production and where he formulated his Utopian vision of a society without crime, poverty, and misery. Includes guided tour of Drumlanrig Castle & Country Estate, and many more attractions.

BOURNEMOUTH AND BEYOND
Departs: 14th June 2021
5 Days, £419 per person

Known as the 'coast with the most', there are acres of space to enjoy outdoor pursuits or mess about on the water. Walk, run or cycle on sandy beaches, through Victorian gardens or along our majestic clifftops. Panoramic sea views and picture-perfect sunsets. Bournemouth is a prosperous town with a wealth of accommodation facilities, visitor attractions, bars and restaurants. Holiday includes entertainment and Dorset river cruise.

HISTORIC KENT
Departs: 20th June 2021,
5 Days, £465 per person

Chatham located within the Medway was developed around Chatham Dockyard and several Army barracks, together with 19th-century forts which provided a defensive shield for the dockyard. It was established as a Royal Dockyard by Queen Elizabeth I in 1568. Hundreds of vessels were launched there, including HMS Victory. After World War I many submarines were also built in Chatham Dockyard. Holiday includes Entrance to Chatham Docks, Hever Castle and the Kent & East Sussex Railway.

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Nene Valley News > Recipes

Enjoy a taste of British asparagus! British spears should start appearing on supermarket shelves, at greengrocers, markets and by farm gates around 23rd April. There will be plenty of opportunities to get your spears fresh from the local grower or farm shop. Tradition dictates that the season must end on midsummer's day (21st June), so that's just eight short weeks to be eating lots of British asparagus.



British asparagus & garlic prawn spaghetti

Here we have some brand new recipes which will help you make the most of this seasonal star.

> BRITISH ASPARAGUS & GARLIC PRAWN SPAGHETTI

Serves: 2
Preparation time: 5 minutes
Cooking time: 10 minutes

You'll need

250g spaghetti
250g British asparagus
1+1 tbsp butter
1+1 tbsp olive oil
3 cloves garlic, crushed
200g raw prawns
¼ tsp Italian seasoning
Sea salt & black pepper
60ml vegetable stock
1 tsp sriracha
Juice of ½ a lemon
½ tsp crushed chilli flakes (optional)

What to do

Put the spaghetti on to boil in a large pan of salted boiling water. Trim the asparagus and cut each spear into three.

Heat 1 tbsp butter and 1 tbsp oil in a frying pan and add the garlic and fry for a minute and then add the asparagus. Tossing in the pan for a couple of minutes. Remove the asparagus and set aside.

In the same pan add another 1 tbsp butter and 1 tbsp oil and add the prawns. Cook for a minute each side until turning pink. Then add the Italian seasoning, salt & pepper, stock, sriracha, lemon juice and chilli flakes, if you are

using them and allow the pan to bubble. Stir the asparagus back in.

Drain the spaghetti, reserving some of the cooking water and toss it through the mixture in the pan, adding some of the cooking water if you feel it needs to be a bit looser. Serve immediately.

> BRITISH ASPARAGUS RISOTTO WITH PAN FRIED SCALLOPS

Serves: 2
Preparation time: 10 minutes
Cooking time: 40 minutes

You'll need

250g British asparagus spears, trimmed and cut into thirds
30g butter
2 echalion shallots, chopped finely
1 garlic clove, crushed
200g arborio rice
60ml white wine
500ml hot fish or vegetable stock
A further 20g butter
200g scallops, dried on kitchen paper and seasoned
Finely grated rind of a lemon
2 tbsp chopped chives
Sea salt and black pepper
50g Parmesan cheese

What to do

To start, bring a pan of water to boil and briefly blanch the asparagus. Drain the asparagus and refresh in cold water, set to one side.

Melt the butter in a large pan. Add the chopped echalion and garlic and cook gently until soft,



British asparagus risotto with pan fried scallops

for about five minutes.

Add the rice and allow to cook, stirring for a minute or so, then pour in the wine and allow to bubble.

Add a ladleful of hot stock and stir until absorbed, keep going until all the stock is incorporated.

When the risotto is almost ready, add the asparagus and give it a stir. Put a lid on, turn the heat off and let it rest.

Heat the butter in a frying pan and when foaming, put the scallops in the pan and allow to cook for a couple of minutes until they are nicely browned. Turn them over and cook on the other side.

Meanwhile add the lemon zest, chopped chives and

seasoning to the risotto.

Serve the risotto in wide bowls with the scallops on top and Parmesan on the side, to sprinkle.

> GINGER MISO GRILLED BRITISH ASPARAGUS

Serves: 4 as a side
Preparation time: 5 minutes
Cooking time: 5 minutes

You'll need

500g British asparagus
30g white miso
45ml rice wine vinegar
15ml honey
2 tsp grated ginger
Sea salt & black pepper
Lime wedges
1 tbsp toasted sesame seeds



Ginger miso grilled British asparagus

4 spring onions finely sliced on the diagonal

Sea salt & black pepper
50ml vegetable oil

What to do

Wash and trim the asparagus and lay it on a baking sheet. Preheat the grill to high.

In a small bowl, mix the miso, vinegar, honey, ginger and seasoning and drizzle it over the asparagus, tossing with your hands to make sure the spears are well coated.

Place the asparagus under the grill for around 5 minutes, turning it a couple of times until it is slightly charred.

Transfer to a serving plate, add the lime wedges and sprinkle with sesame seeds and spring onion slices.

> BRITISH ASPARAGUS & HARISSA PANCAKES WITH TOMATOES & OLIVES

Serves: 2
Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 30 minutes

You'll need

250g British asparagus
A bunch of spring onions
135g plain flour
60g gram flour
Salt
1 egg
325ml water
2 tbsp harissa (we like Belazu)
2 tbsp coriander leaves, chopped
12 cherry tomatoes
12 black olives
100g feta, crumbled
Small handful mint, chopped
1 tbsp olive oil

What to do

Wash and trim the asparagus and spring onions. Cut the tips off the asparagus and leave to one side and finely slice the asparagus stems and the white part of the spring onions.

Mix the flour, gram flour and half a teaspoon of salt in a large bowl. In a separate bowl lightly whisk the egg, water, harissa and coriander. Make a well in the dry ingredients and slowly pour in the wet ingredients. Whisk until smooth and then stir in the finely chopped asparagus and spring onions.

Chop the cherry tomatoes into halves or quarters and combine in a small bowl with the olives, feta and mint.

Put a frying pan on a medium heat and add the olive oil. Throw in the asparagus tops and sauté in the olive oil until just tender. Season and add them to the bowl with the tomatoes, olives and feta.

Turn the oven on low.

Pour a tablespoon of vegetable oil into the frying pan and swirl it around. Pour a quarter of the pancake batter into the pan and swirl it to cover the base. Cook for a couple of minutes on one side and then flip and cook the other side. Put the pancake in the warm oven and repeat so that you have four pancakes.

Put a couple of pancakes on each plate, top with the asparagus tips, tomatoes, olives and feta and serve immediately.

Recipes and images courtesy of: www.britishasparagus.com



British asparagus & harissa pancakes

Oundle Festival presents **Roger Morgan-Grenville: Liquid Gold** – Bees and the Pursuit of Midlife Honey

Tuesday 13th April, 8pm–9pm, Venue: Zoom webinar, Tickets £6.
Please register online at www.oundlelitfest.org.uk



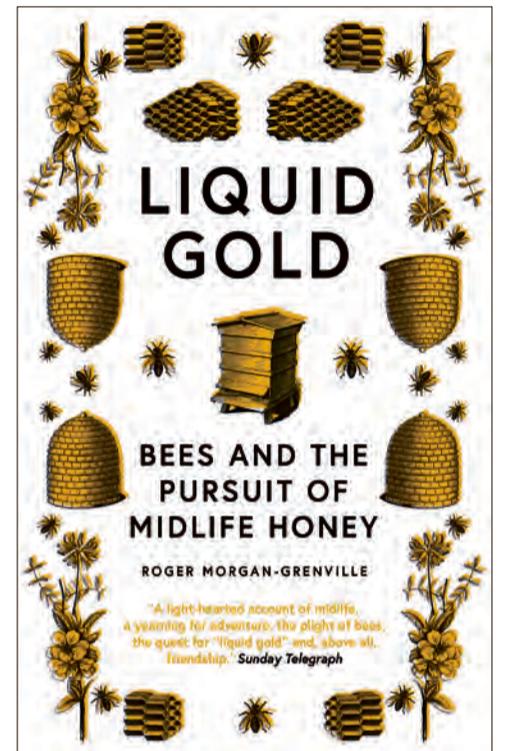
After a chance meeting in the pub, Roger Morgan-Grenville and his friend Duncan decide to take up beekeeping. Their enthusiasm matched only by their ignorance; they are pitched into an arcane world of unexpected challenges.

Coping with many setbacks along the way – stings are not even the half of it – they manage to create a colony of beehives, finishing two years later with more honey than anyone knows what to do with. By standing back from their normal lives and working with the cycle of the seasons, they emerge with a new-found understanding of nature and a respect for the honeybee and the threats it faces.

Wryly humorous and surprisingly moving, *Liquid Gold* is the story of a friendship between two unlikely men at very different stages of their lives. It's the story of colourful characters – such as Viktor, the Ukrainian bee farmer based in Oxfordshire, who has no less than 800 colonies over 100 square miles – as well as the bees themselves (did you know for instance, that the German, or North European bee is viewed as efficient and aggressive; the Italian bee is polite but idle and the Carniolan, or Slovenian bee is gentle and productive, but is inclined to swarm?)

'One jar of honey is the result of the combined efforts of over 20,000 bees over a period of time, and they will cumulatively fly 50,000 miles and visit two million flowers in order to produce it...'

'Beekeeping builds from lark to revelation in this carefully observed story of midlife friendship. Filled with humour and surprising insight, *Liquid*



Gold is as richly rewarding as its namesake. Highly recommended.' - Thor Hanson, author of *Buzz: The Nature and Necessity of Bees*

Roger Morgan-Grenville was a soldier in the Royal Green Jackets from 1978 to 1986. After leaving the army he ran a small company developing kitchenware. In 2007, he helped to set up the charity Help for Heroes. This is his fourth book.

BBC commissions new lifestyle and home improvement series

With all of us spending more time at home than ever before, what better time to have a nationwide spring clean? Sort Your Life Out, a new BBC One series hosted by Stacey Solomon, will take six families across the UK on a week-long mission to completely declutter their homes, transforming them in the process by upcycling and repurposing what they already have.

Stacey Solomon's 4 million strong social media following skyrocketed when she started sharing her handy organisation and upcycling hacks. As someone who knows what it's like to take care of a busy household, she wants to help families with hints and tips that are both attainable and environmentally friendly.

Solomon will be joined by a crack team of expert friends, who love nothing

more than a supersize sort out. Together they'll makeover Britain's cluttered homes by first stripping them bare, then laying all their possessions out in a giant warehouse resembling an art installation of their entire lives, before asking the families to let go of thousands of their possessions. Emotions will run high as the families must decide what to keep and what to let go of. The items that the families part with will be recycled, donated or sold.

Once sorted, Solomon and her team will beautifully reorganise their home by cleaning, upcycling and putting systems in place for the possessions they decide to keep. Each of the team has their own unique cleaning quirks and tidying tips that viewers will be able to take away and implement in their own homes.

Stacey Solomon said:

"There's always that one room or cupboard I can't face sorting out at home, but once I've done it there's nothing more satisfying. One cupboard at a time, we'll be helping families declutter their homes and get organised in a way that works for them.

"I'll be sharing my ultimate tidying and upcycling tips, from Lazy Susans to tension rods, there'll be lots of great ideas to give viewers the confidence to finally tackle that cupboard!"

Emily Smith, Commissioning Editor, said: "We're so excited for this series with Stacey and her team. It's amazing what they can do to turn homes around without having to spend loads. As well as all the useful and inspiring ideas, it's ultimately a series about families and modern life which we can all relate to."

Nene Valley News - Events

> EXPERT PLUMBERS EVENT

Expert Plumbers host an event with professional plumbers, heating engineers, installers, technicians and specifiers. Shows the latest environmentally friendly products and installation techniques for the community. The event also features a Q&A section. This is the perfect opportunity not only to stay in touch with the latest industry news and upcoming trends but also to see what products are good for our planet.

Contact: Paul Walker

Email: walkerpaul7847@gmail.com

<https://expert-plumbers.co.uk/>

> CHURCH EVENTS

- Whitefriars Church, Rushden, is making an Online church service available on YouTube each week. In addition, an online 'Zoom refreshments' (structured discussions etc) takes place at 11.30am each Sunday morning, for as long as the church isn't meeting in person. Sara Owst is the contact for these, at office@whitefriarschurch.org.uk
- In addition, a walk-through Easter Experience will be taking place in Whitefriars Primary School

(Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 8HX) and its grounds on the morning of Easter Sunday 4th April, then a Holy Communion service later on the same day. Sara Owst is the contact for these, at office@whitefriarschurch.org.uk

- Instead of the usual weekly Lent Lunches, the Rushden and Higham Ferrers Council of Churches is holding a weekly half-hour of prayer on Zoom at 1pm on Wednesdays during Lent, led by a different church leader each week. These include ones on 24th and 31st March. There will also be ones at 1pm on Maundy Thursday (1st April) and Good Friday (2nd April). The Zoom link is available from Andrew Presland at andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com
- Peterborough Diocesan Evangelical Fellowship (Church of England) is continuing with its Lent Bible School: God, sex and human flourishing: open to all and free on Zoom, with the final talk and questions taking place 7.30pm-8.30pm on Wednesday 24th March, with Rev Nick Alexander of Moulton, talking about diversity and disagreement. Details are available at <https://www.pdf.co.uk/events>

To submit your event please contact us via our website www.nenevalleynews.co.uk or call 01522 692542. Please supply in the following format: Date, event, place, time, admission fee (if applicable), contact information, 15 word description.

Charity awards over £7,000 to support older and vulnerable people in winter

Northamptonshire Community Foundation is delighted to have raised just over £7,000 thanks to its generous network of donors and supporters for its annual Winter Well-being appeal.

The appeal aims to support older and vulnerable people in Northamptonshire over the winter months. One in 10 households in the county live in fuel poverty, spending more than 10% of their income on fuel and often have to choose between eating or heating their homes.

Funds have been awarded to several local community groups and charities to support their older and vulnerable clients in staying warm, well and fed this winter. These groups have been working tirelessly throughout the ongoing public health crisis providing vital, often life changing support.

Power of the Mind Networks received funding to run a series of online Ubuntu

Afro Dance exercise for the older BAME community who are currently shielding, helping to reduce social isolation whilst boosting their physical and mental well-being.

Daventry New Street Day Centre received a grant to provide a socially distanced winter lunch club in their café. They adapted their project due to the most recent lockdown and have been delivering wellness packs and lunches twice a week to older and vulnerable people's homes.

Serve Rushden received funding to run their Covid-19 Emergency Community Support initiative, providing essential groceries, prescriptions and befriending telephone calls.

Jess Slater, of Serve Rushden, said: "We are delighted that the Foundation has chosen Serve to support people at home to keep healthy and well during the winter. The pandemic has highlighted the need to keep people connected and supported at home as much as we possibly can by providing access to hot meals, heating and healthy food."

Since the launch of the Winter appeal in 2010, Northamptonshire Community Foundation has funded 62 projects on behalf of its donors, awarding a total of £219,832 across the county.

Many people choose to donate their winter fuel allowance to the appeal,



Daventry New Street Day Centre

including Robert and Joanna Tomkinson, who said: "My wife and I donate our winter fuel allowance each year to the winter appeal so that those in difficulties from the winter cold and wet may benefit and thus hopefully prevent related problems."

Victoria Miles DL, CEO of Northamptonshire Community Foundation said: "We are grateful for the generosity shown year on year to help support our Winter

Well-being appeal, so many people give by donating their own annual fuel allowance to make a difference to those who need more help during the winter months."

To learn more about the work of Northamptonshire Community Foundation, please visit: www.ncf.uk.com

CLUB BOWLED OVER BY 'GRAND' DONATION

A Northamptonshire village cricket club will be able to start planning vital improvements, thanks to a £1,000 donation from a regional housebuilder.

Loddington and Mawsley Cricket Club is receiving the funding from Persimmon's Community Champions scheme, which was set up to support local good causes.

Claire Dearsley, sales director for Persimmon Homes Midlands, said: "Village sports teams are an important part of the fabric of their community, bringing people together and providing a focus for local life. We understand how hard it is for clubs to fundraise at this time, so we are pleased to be able to help Loddington and Mawsley Cricket Club fund their ground improvements."

The club, just a few miles outside Kettering, is focused on providing a safe and playable surface for the community when cricket can restart. Over the past two seasons their coaching nets have become too worn out for use, with the frame no longer fitting properly and weeds growing through the surface.

Persimmon's donation will help towards the club's plans to improve the area, ensuring children's games and daily coaching can take place safely.

Claire Dearsley added: "Persimmon Midlands makes two donations of up to £1,000 every month. We look forward to receiving many more Community Champions applications from groups who are making a real difference to the lives of local people."



The online application form can be found at www.persimmonhomes.com/charity

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Help available after a bereavement

The Bereavement Journey is currently available nationwide, online via Zoom, for anyone struggling following a bereavement whether recently or in the distant past.

The six-session course offers a forum to work through feelings, when lockdown stops us meeting up with others. In fact, some people find it easier to talk to those they are not

actually in a room with, and who they may never meet.

"I have enjoyed the Bereavement Journey course, if that is the right word to use. I found the whole experience helpful," said Mr M of Oundle, after attending the last online course. He found there was laughter as well as tears.

Written and presented by Jane Oundjian, a qualified and experienced bereavement counsellor, the material effectively helps people process the pain of the grief they are going through. Running over six Tuesday evenings, it is not a faith-based course, and is suitable for people of any faith or of none.



Participants at the in-person Bereavement Journey, Oundle Baptist Church, 2020 – before the national lockdown caused the doors to be closed

Bereavement Journey online: Course 1 – 20th April-25th May, Tuesdays 7.30pm-9.30pm. Course 2 – 15th June-20th July, Tuesdays 7.30pm-9.30pm. Cost £20. For more info and to book the online course go to www.htb.org/thebereavementjourney

PUPILS ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOL MEALS WILL GET SUPPORT IN EASTER HOLIDAYS

Northamptonshire pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals will receive support during the Easter holidays.

As during the Christmas holidays and February half term some of the funding that has been received from the government's Covid Winter Grant Scheme will be used to offer help.

In Northamptonshire some of the grant is being used to provide shopping vouchers for families with children who are eligible for Free School Meals with vouchers being distributed to the families by their schools.

While Northamptonshire County Council has so far distributed this funding for the vouchers, after 1st April, the two new unitary authorities have pledged that they will

continue to offer support.

Cllr Matt Golby, Leader of the County Council Cabinet, said: "I'm delighted that we're able to continue this support for the families and pupils who are in most need of our help.

"I'm very pleased that we have been allocated this money from the government as it will help make sure that we can continue to do everything we can to support people in the county through this pandemic."

Cllr Russell Roberts, Leader of the North Northamptonshire Shadow Authority, said: "This is exactly the sort of scheme which

makes a massive difference to a child's life and I'm proud that North Northamptonshire Council is committed to continuing to use some of the Covid Winter Grant to support pupils in receipt of free school meals during the Easter Holidays."

Cllr Ian McCord, Leader of the West Northamptonshire Shadow Authority, said:

"I'm delighted that West Northamptonshire Council is in a position to continue this support to our pupils who are most in need of help. It's essential that we do everything we can to help people get through this pandemic."

Nene Valley news

CLASSIFIEDS

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14

THE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH UE19 (PART) – PARISH OF IRTHLINGBOROUGH)

(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Northamptonshire County Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which is to prohibit pedestrians along that length of Public Footpath UE19 (Part) in the Parish of Irthlingborough as specified below. Private access to land or premises adjacent to the said length of footpath are unaffected.

RIGHT OF WAY TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: The existing route to be closed begins at point A at National Grid Reference ("NGR") SP9372 7039. The route travels generally north east for approximately 363 metres to point B at NGR SP9404 7048. The route is shown by a solid black line between points A – B.

REASONS FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for pipe works.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The Order will come into effect on 12th April 2021 and will continue in force for a period of six months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for this Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such extent as is indicated by the display of notices.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: The alternative route starts at point A at NGR SP9372 7039. The route travels generally south west for approximately 912 metres to point C at NGR SP9357 6982. The route then heads along the highway footway Wellingborough Road for approximately 697 metres to point C at NGR SP9411 7024. The route then heads north along the highway footway of Victoria Street and Windmill Road for approximately 328 metres to point B at NGR SP9404 7048. The route is shown by a broken black line between points A – C – D – B.

Dated this 20th day of March 2021

DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES
 Executive Director LGSS Law Ltd
 PKG/ROW/416

If you require any further information please contact Rowan Lowndes on 07879 339 325.

WELLINGBOROUGH FLY-TIPPER ORDERED TO PAY £1,500 FINE

A man from Wellingborough has been ordered to pay £1,501 in fines and costs for fly-tipping in East Northamptonshire.

In October 2018, waste officers from East Northamptonshire Council recovered evidence from fly-tipped waste consisting of packaging for tiles, old tiles, off-cuts of piping and a light fixture at Denford Ash Road, Denford and two other locations.

Investigations by the team lead to a Mr Baily of P.F.B. Services in Wellingborough who admitted depositing the waste in question.

Mr Baily attended Wellingborough Magistrates Court on 16th February 2021 and pleaded guilty to fly-tipping at three different locations. Mr Baily advised the Court that he was trying to make some quick money and was working with a young man to collect

waste material from houses.

The magistrate accepted Mr Baily's plea and ordered him to pay a total of £1,501 in fines and costs.

Cllr Steven North, Leader of East Northamptonshire Council said: "Fly-tipping is irresponsible and has a hugely negative impact on our beautiful district. The message is simple, dispose of rubbish legally or run the risk of a hefty fine.

"As this case shows, fly-tipping can cost individuals hundreds of pounds in charges and legal fees, not to mention the cost to the council tax payers to clear the rubbish, so I would urge everyone to think before disposing of their waste on public land."



You can report any fly-tipping in East Northants online at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/flytipping or by calling 01832 742026.

To dispose of unwanted waste responsibly, please visit one of Northamptonshire County Council's Household Waste Recycling Centres or visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/bulkywaste to find out about ENC's bulky waste collection service.



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