

Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Cases on the rise

Northamptonshire Resilience Forum reports that while data up to 2nd July shows all district and borough area infection rates per 100,000 population continue to be 'significantly lower' than the national average, cases are on the rise.

The county's infection rate is now 42.5 per 100,000 as a rolling weekly average. This is lower than the national average of 138.4 – however, this is due to a sharp increase in the national case rate being driven by the more contagious Delta variant. Locally the highest rates are showing in the East Northants area (76.2), South Northants area (65.6) and Northampton area (41.9).

Lucy Wightman, Joint Director of Public Health – North and West Northamptonshire Councils says: "There are an increasing number of tools in our locker which can help us to reduce this spread. Firstly, the vaccination [...] Secondly, regular testing can pick up infections in those without symptoms and cut transmission. Finally, it cannot be underestimated the value of good hand hygiene, so keep washing your hands [...] Keep sanitiser with you so you can kill germs whilst out and about, and wash your hands thoroughly when you return home."

New audio tour of the Treasures of Higham Ferrers

An exciting new audio described walking tour has been launched that provides a fascinating glimpse into the history and main treasures of the beautiful medieval town of Higham Ferrers.

The tour is available for mobile phones by downloading the Higham Ferrers Audio Tour from Google Play or the Apple App Store. As you listen you will be skilfully guided on your walk around the town by three local narrators.

The audio tour app has been funded by private donation and the Heritage Lottery Fund as part of the Town Charter Project between the Town Council and Higham Ferrers Tourism, Business and Community Partnership. The project, alongside the valuable charter conservation work, seeks to raise awareness of the town's history and the role the charters have played within this.

The tour gives a fresh insight and new way for local residents and visitors to enjoy and appreciate the treasures of the town.

The tour begins in the Market Square with its 14th-century Market Cross and important town buildings, including the Town Hall. Moving to St Mary's churchyard you will hear of the church, which began construction in 1220, and its later additions, the spire and west porch. The Bede House and Chantry Chapel sit within the churchyard and the tour has a dedicated section to both of these intriguing buildings and their functions both past and present. Leaving the

churchyard, the tour continues to the site of the former Higham Castle which had fallen into ruins by the late 15th-century. This was finally demolished in 1523 when Henry VIII granted permission for "as moche stone and lead" to be taken to build the new Tudor Wing at his castle in Kimbolton. The Dovecote remains along with fishponds and a warren.

The tour proceeds to Chichele College, founded with the Bede House in 1421 and the more recently created medieval style gardens. The notable historic buildings of Pear Tree Cottage and Ivy House mark your return to the Market Square.



Fancy learning more of the rich history of the town? Simply download the app, visit the Market Square and let the audio described walk begin. The tour lasts approximately 1 hour.

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WILDLIFE NEWS

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

At this time of the year, call it 'high summer' whatever the weather throws our way, the plants and animals in our hedges, fields and gardens are going through the busiest and most important part of their lives.

Look at the displays of flowering plants, trying to ensure that there will be another generation for us to enjoy next year; if they are very successful we may find ourselves changing our attitude and calling them 'weeds'! The same will to survive is also present in the animal kingdom, but the signs are different; there is less opportunity or need for bright, eye-catching colours, so fewer colours show up. But lack of colour is no handicap to the animals concerned, and they have found other "lover-catchers".

Some garden visitors are often, in our eyes, not what we would like to see, and the creatures become "pests". One very successful example over the past 150 years is the non-native grey squirrel. Most people are aware that there are two different kinds (colours) – red and grey (the grey variety can

occasionally show patches of the red colour, so do not jump to conclusions!).

After the grey was introduced from overseas it rather liked what our countryside had to offer, and its growth was rapid. It was soon by far the most common and any long-tailed furry animal jumping around in the trees can fairly safely be identified as 'grey'.

Some conservation groups are starting to reverse losses, to give some help to the struggling reds.

It would have been hard enough to make certain that there was sufficient food to supply all the waiting mouths (and this species is not just a harmless hunter; if necessary it will take to a non-vegetarian menu, including eggs and baby birds).

Another danger was a disease which the red variety can catch without affecting the greys. And the 'last straw' was probably the increased pressure on garden bird foods, so that even we humans are being affected. Helping struggling animals is never without its own problems.

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Last time I mentioned some updated websites that could help you in your search for your ancestors. Here are some more for you:

- Commonwealth War Graves Commission (www.cwgc.org) – For ancestors who died in either of the two world wars, the record of their grave or memorial should be here. Also includes some citizens as well as the Armed Forces.
- UKBMD (<https://www.ukbmd.org.uk/>) – This website provides links to websites that offer online transcriptions of UK births, marriages, deaths and censuses.
- Cyndi's List (www.cyndislist.com) – A comprehensive, categorised and cross-referenced list of links that point you to genealogical research sites online.
- Federation of Family History Societies (www.ffhs.org.uk) – The door to family history societies in England and Wales.
- Proceedings of the Old Bailey (www.oldbaileyonline.org) – An invaluable resource if you have criminal ancestors who were taken to court at the Old Bailey.

- The London Gazette (www.london-gazette.co.uk) – If your ancestor was made a bankrupt or received a medal they may have been mentioned here. Always worth popping a surname in the search box to see what comes up. You can view the articles without actually buying a copy.
- The Early British Censuses (ebc.byu.edu) – There are various disparate censuses that took place before 1841. It currently covers large portions of Kent and greater London but more will be added over time.

It is also worth popping a surname into sales websites such as eBay. I did this a few years ago with my family name of Milsted and, apart from getting hits for the village of Milsted in Kent, I also found an indenture dated 1825.

Don't forget – if you do not have a computer at home, you can always contact Oundle Library to book a space on one of theirs.

Genealogy Specialists, Tracing Our Past, Discovering Our Genes (TOP DOG)
www.genealogy-specialists.com

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M&S and Stanwick Lakes: a new partnership for 2021

Marks & Spencer chooses a different charity to support every year and this year Rushden Lakes M&S has chosen Rockingham Forest Trust at Stanwick Lakes. Stanwick Lakes is a beautiful 750-acre countryside attraction and nature reserve located barely three miles down the valley from the M&S store.

During this partnership M&S will raise money through donation boxes at every till throughout the store as well as their staff volunteering at the unique site for various events

and practical conservation days throughout the year, to help maintain the flora, fauna and community facilities.

For their part, the team at Stanwick Lakes, to say thank

you, will also be volunteering at Rushden Lakes M&S during the Christmas months, and at small fundraising events.

RFT Director, Alyson Allfree said: "We are so grateful for the support from M&S in what has been a particularly challenging twelve months, and we are really looking forward to working with them."

Anna Higgins, Deputy Regional Fire, Health and Safety Officer from M&S Rushden Lakes said: "It is great to partner with a charity that's so local to us and which runs a facility that is so valued by our customers and staff. Our team gets a real buzz from their involvement."

All funds donated will directly go into looking after Stanwick Lakes for both people and wildlife.



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North Northamptonshire Council

NOTICE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

Notice is given that the following applications have been received by North Northants Council – Thrapston Office together with the last date for making representations:

> OUNDLE
Reserved matters: siting, scale, appearance and landscaping of 126 dwellings pursuant to 19/01327/OUT - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 130 dwellings with public open space, landscaping, sustainable drainage (SuDS) and vehicular access points from Cotterstock Road and St Peters Road. (All matters reserved except for site access) (condition 1) at OP0038 TL0389 Cotterstock Road Oundle (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/21/00966/REM (3 August 2021)

> OUNDLE
To replace the front door and frame at 92 West Street Oundle PE8 4EF (LB/CA) (Info) 20/01704/FUL(LBRegs) (Info) 20/01705/LBC (3 August 2021)

> DEENETHORPE
Proposed two storey extension to provide kitchen and boot room at ground floor level and en-suite/dressing room at first floor level with balcony to south east elevation and some changes to fenestration. Resubmission of approved application 18/00169/FUL. at 19 Deenethorpe NN17 3EP (Info) (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/00856/FUL (3 August 2021)

> WOODNEWTON
Erection of a dwellinghouse following the demolition of existing structure at 31 Main

Street Woodnewton PE8 5EB (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00970/FUL (3 August 2021)

> EASTON ON THE HILL
Relocation of a low level front garden wall in order to create a wider driveway and installation of new replacement vehicular gates with a small pedestrian gate at 21 Church Street Easton On The Hill PE9 3LL (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00996/FUL (3 August 2021)

> OUNDLE
Single storey side extension and internal alterations to dwelling at 39 North Street Oundle PE8 4AL (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/00973/LBC (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00972/FUL (3 August 2021)

> THRAPSTON
Installation of a jack leg portakabin (temporary permission for 5 years) at Thrapston Baptist Church St Pauls Gardens Thrapston (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/00946/FUL (3 August 2021)

> HIGHAM FERRERS
Single storey and two-storey rear extensions at 40 College Street Higham Ferrers NN10 8DZ (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00939/FUL (3 August 2021)

> HIGHAM FERRERS
Variation of conditions pursuant to application number: 17/01941/FUL: Change of use to B1, B2 and A3. Central distribution centre for Bewicked Coffee, food storage, basic food prep will take up 66% of the floor space. Small coffee shop to front taking up

34% of the floor space. Condition 4 - air conditioning units and external condensers Condition 8 - Plans at 20 High Street Higham Ferrers NN10 8BL (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00954/VAR (3 August 2021)

> GREAT ADDINGTON
Porch to front/side of the existing dwelling at 2 Ringstead Road Great Addington NN14 4BW (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00983/FUL (3 August 2021)

> DUDDINGTON
Extension of existing barn to allow for conversion to new dwelling at Barns North Of Home Farm High Street Duddington (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/00988/FUL (3 August 2021)

> WOODFORD
Proposed construction of two holiday lets and associated works at Glebe Farm Addington Road Woodford NN14 4ES (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/21/00940/FUL (3 August 2021)

> BRIGSTOCK
Remove section of bridge wall to form entrance for off-road parking; Sympathetically reinstate the splay raising the materials cut out from the wall section at 6 Bridge Street Brigstock NN14 3ET (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/00978/LBC (3 August 2021)

The reason for applications being advertised is as follows:
Part3 - Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 2015.

Part16 - Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 2015.

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.

Rob Harbour, Assistant Director Growth And Regeneration Dated 10 July 2021

Consultation deadlines will differ for each application.

You can see details of these applications at www.east.gov.uk/planningapplications.

For details of how we treat your data, please see our Privacy Statement: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/privacynotices

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

LOCAL SITE MANAGER NAMED BEST IN THE COUNTRY FOR QUALITY

A Northamptonshire Site Manager from David Wilson Homes has won a top national award for the quality of the homes they are building.

Gary Du Pille (61), based at The Nurseries in Thrapston, has won this prestigious award for his work onsite, marking him down as the best in the UK.

Known as the "Oscars of the housebuilding industry", the National House Building Council (NHBC) Pride in the Job Quality Awards recognise the finest Site Managers from around the country.

Gary, originally from London, picked up his third Pride in the Job Quality Award. He has worked for David Wilson Homes for over 10 years now, and is thriving as a Senior Site Manager.

Gary said: "I'm over the moon to hear that I have won another Pride in the Job award! Every award is a great reward, and I do not intend on stopping there. I have been in the industry for 44 years now, with 10 years as a Site Manager, and I still love it.

"The award is really fantastic. I must thank both the team I work with for their great efforts, and the wonderful Thrapston community. I must in particular thank Assistant Site Managers Andy Trainer and David Holden, labourer Steve White, and my forklift driver Ian Arthurs."



Gary Du Pille, Senior Site Manager at The Nurseries



JULY
Sun 11 Great Yarmouth - Wheels Festival
Tue 13 Bicester Shopping Village
Sat 17 Skegness
Sun 18 Sheringham
Mon 19 Bakewell Market
Wed 21 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Oakham
Sun 25 Whitby
Mon 26 Lake District - Keswick & Windermere
Tue 27 Kensington Palace & Knightsbridge
Thu 29 Shropshire & Little Switzerland
Fri 30 Postal Museum London or London Zoo
Sat 31 Southend on Sea

AUGUST
Sun 1 Weymouth
Tue 3 Black Country Museum or Dudley Zoo
Thu 5 Liverpool - Ferry Cross the Mersey
Thu 5 Southwold
Fri 6 Chester or Chester Zoo
Sun 8 Skegness - Carnival Parade
Sun 8 Sheringham
Mon 9 Chesterfield Market Day
Tue 10 Cromer
Wed 11 Sudeley Castle & Gardens
Thu 12 Windsor Castle or Windsor
Fri 13 Butterfly Farm & Stratford Upon Avon
Sat 14 Broadstairs or Margate
Sun 15 Eastbourne
Mon 16 Norfolk Broads Wroxham & Horning
Wed 18 London Museums or London Free Time
Wed 18 Sealife Centre London Aquarium
Thu 19 Wye Valley River Cruise with Lunch
Fri 20 Canterbury or Whitstable
Sat 21 Hunstanton
Sun 22 Great Yarmouth
Tue 24 Beth Chatto Gardens
Wed 25 Leamington Spa & Guide Dogs
Fri 27 Clacton Airshow
Mon 30 Weston Super Mare
Mon 30 Skegness

SEPTEMBER
Sun 5 Skegness
Tue 7 Springfields or Spalding
Thu 9 Kew Palace & Gardens
Sat 11 Ludlow or Ludlow Food Festival

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EDINBURGH
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Drymen is located in the beautiful Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. The park consists of 40 mountains ranging from 2500ft to over 3000ft, 22 lochs, 50 rivers and two forest parks, The Argyll Forest Park and the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park. The Campsie Fells hills to the west are range of volcanic hills which hosts a variety of farmland, open moors, steep-flanked glens, attractive woodland and sparkling burns.

SEVERN STEAM & CRUISE
Departs: 15th August, 5 Days,
£469 per person

Worcestershire is a county of contrasts with charming villages, bustling towns and the magnificent city of Worcester, the cathedral is one the oldest and finest in the country and final resting place of King John. Rolling landscape, open hills and breath taking views await you. Cattle graze in the shadows of Iron Age hill forts, medieval settlement remains or on the former battlefields of the English Civil War. Tour includes rail journey and boat trip.

SUFFOLK'S TRANQUIL VILLAGES & COAST
Departs: 22nd August 2021, 5 Days,
£439 per person

Roman Britain is rich in history. It has many unique Roman sites and ruins, and the English Civil War made significant marks on the town. But it's not all about the past, 21st Century Colchester is a thriving, modern town with first class visitor attractions, including Colchester Zoo and Colchester Castle. With picturesque villages and only minutes away from the coast, the Colchester area is the perfect destination.

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Midnight Train to Georgia: A celebration of Gladys Knight



Born in Georgia in 1944, Gladys Knight began singing with her siblings at the age of 8. The group opened for many R&B legends in the 1950s before heading to Motown. There began the legend that became Gladys Knight & The Pips.

Capturing the essence of the multi award-winning singer, Hayley-Ria Christian portrays Gladys Knight in this special stage production which comes to Castle Theatre, Wellingborough in September. Featuring the hit songs 'Baby Don't Change Your Mind', 'Help Me Make It Through the Night', 'The Way We Were/Try To Remember', 'Part Time Love', 'Licence To Kill' and her signature tune, 'Midnight Train To Georgia' this show is not to be missed.

Midnight Train to Georgia is definitely not a tribute, but a faithful portrayal, and pays homage to the Empress of Soul... the one and only Ms Gladys Knight. Tickets are available now from the Castle Theatre box office.



Saturday 11th September, 7.30pm
Castle Theatre, Castle Way,
Wellingborough NN8 1XA
www.parkwoodtheatres.co.uk/castle-theatre
Box office: 01933 270 007
Prices: from £24

CONNECTING TO THE LANDSCAPE

This summer, Fermynwoods Contemporary Art continues to bring art to new and unexpected places. With venues indoors, outdoors and online, audiences don't always need to enter a gallery to find a world enhanced by art.

Fermynwoods' exhibitions at four locations across Northamptonshire (in the gardens and buildings of stately homes, Deene Park and Rockingham Castle, the vibrant setting of East Carlton Countryside Park, and peaceful Fineshade Wood) explore the rich history of our area and how we as humans are connected to the landscape – something of increased importance to many over the last year. You'll find sculpture, film, unexpected tales and perhaps a ghost or two.

Exhibitions at East Carlton Countryside Park and Fineshade Wood are free to experience during normal opening hours, while exhibitions at Deene Park and Rockingham Castle are subject to those sites' admission costs.

For those shielding or simply wishing to experience art from home, Fermynwoods' online programme includes unique, immersive online artworks by Sarah Gillett which mimic and build on the Rockingham Castle grounds, a new series of podcasts of original sound art, audio essays and artist discussions, and much more.

Find out more at fermywoods.org

NMVC LITE shines bright again



After a 15-month hiatus due to Covid restrictions and the disappointment of numerous cancelled concerts, a small group of Northampton Male Voice Choir choristers, 'NMVC LITE', performed live on stage for the first time since competing in the Milton Keynes Festival of the Arts on 13th March 2020.

On Saturday 26th June NMVC LITE, a mainly a cappella group, were guest performers at a sellout concert at Kettering's United Reform Church. The concert, A Night with The Tenor & Guests, had been organised by local professional singer and

musician, Joshua Daniels ('The Tenor'), in aid of the North Northamptonshire Music Festival which will be held for the first time ever in June 2022.

Conducted by NMVC's Musical Director, Stephen Bell, NMVC LITE sang three memorable songs from West Side Story, a trio of salty sea shanties, the '60s hit ballad 'A Portrait Of My Love' plus two other popular songs, 'The Rose' and 'You'll Never Walk Alone', which they performed

together with Joshua.

In addition to NMVC LITE, Joshua's other guests were local singers Vicki Becks, Katie-Rose Parker and Jonathan Reynolds.

NMVC LITE's next concert is on Saturday 24th July, when they will appear as guests at the One Voice concert to be held at Northampton's Deco Theatre in aid of the Northamptonshire Community Foundation's Coronavirus Response and Recovery Fund. Keep up to date with NMVC online.

NMVC website: www.nmvc.co.uk

NMVC YouTube Channel: www.youtube.com/channel/UCWCKnjss8p1Lr01NonSf0KQ

Follow NMVC on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

Nene Valley News - EVENTS

Whitefriars Church, Rushden, Countryside Walk – Sunday 11th July, 10.30am

Three to four miles near Chelveston former airfield and Yelden. Please contact Andrew Presland at andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com or 01933 316927 for more details or if you wish to book a place. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden.

Together in Prayer & Praise – Sunday 18th July, 8pm

A 40-minute online prayer meeting for Rushden and Higham Ferrers at 8pm on. All are welcome. Please contact 01933 316927 or andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

Little Sparks, for families with children under 18 months – Thursdays 10-11.30am (school term time only)

Bridge Community Office at Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. Booking is through www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/154255176385 or by contacting Emma Croxon at emma@whitefriarschurch.org.uk or 07957 080074. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden. Free admission.

Lockdown Babies – Fridays 1.30pm to 3pm (school term time only)

A safe and friendly space to meet other new parents each week. At the Bridge Community Office at Whitefriars Primary School, Rushden. Booking: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/154265950611 or by contacting Emma Croxon at emma@whitefriarschurch.org.uk or 07957 080074. Organised by Whitefriars Church.

Get OWT (out with toddlers) – Every Friday 9.30am to 10.30am

Hall Park, Rushden near the play area. No booking needed: parents/carers and toddlers are welcome to just come along and collect an activity pack. Details from Emma Croxon at emma@whitefriarschurch.org.uk or 07957 080074.

Whitefriars Church Morning Worship – Every Sunday, 10.30am

At Whitefriars Primary School, Rushden. Due to Covid rules, places need booking by 9am on Friday mornings. Email office@whitefriarschurch.org.uk. All welcome.

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group – Sunday 18th July, 10am

Meet at Summer Leys car park NN29 7PT. Free. Please book onto this walk with your details for track and trace. Contact Marion Darnell on 01933 386839 or email marion.darnell@ntlworld.com

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group – Sunday 1st August, 10am

Meet at Community Centre, Pioneer Avenue, Burton Latimer. Please book onto this walk with your details for track and trace. Contact Marion Darnell on 07952 350540 or email marion.darnell@ntlworld.com

Newton Bromswold Village Fete – Saturday 21st August, 2pm

St Peter's Church, Newton Bromswold. Rushden Mission Band, variety of stalls, Afternoon Teas, children's fancy dress. Contact Helen Lines 01933 315864 or email at helen.lines@me.com

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.

Nene Valley news CLASSIFIEDS

Deadlines for all classifications: 5pm Monday prior to issue date. A complete version of our Terms and Conditions can be found online at www.nenevalleynews.co.uk. Pay by credit/debit card or cheque. All major credit/debit cards accepted. For help and information please call 01522 692542 or visit www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL
(LIME STREET, IRTHLINGBOROUGH)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2021

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

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Lime Street, Irthlingborough from Malthouse Close to Lime Terrace.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during relaying of pipe.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 16th August 2021 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 until 18th August 2021.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Manor Drive and Station Road.

Dated this 10th day of July 2021
DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES
Executive Director LGSS Law Ltd
PKG/T21/176

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp ref:- 20/21 – N052 on 01604 651072.

Family NOTICES

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



**Walker, Aaron/
Hunt, Nicola**
Married on April 2 2014,
at St Andrews Church.
The couple had their
honeymoon in Paris.



On April 1 2014, Mr Chamber, aged 88, passed away peacefully surrounded by loved ones. Sadly missed by Jan, Sally and Alan. To take place at All Saints Church, Rushden, Monday April 7 at 11.00am.

Happy 1st birthday
Chloe Booth have a wonderful day.
Love from Mummy, Daddy, Nanna & Grandad xxx

For help and information to place your notice please call 01522 692542 or visit www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

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COUNCIL'S REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE SCOOPS NATIONAL AWARD

The refuse and recycling team which covers Corby and Kettering has been recognised for its commitment to improving services.

The Corby-Kettering Shared Service (Borough Council) team was successful in the Best Performer in Refuse Collection category at the Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Performance Networks Awards, held online on 8th June.

The awards, which show the commitment of teams to continually improve service and performance levels, are based on operational data, which is assessed against a range of indicators, including cost, quality, workforce development and value-for-money. The data is independently verified for accuracy and integrity following an initial assessment.

Cllr Graham Lawman, Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "I'm absolutely delighted for the team – they are very much the worthy recipients of this award, which goes to show how hard they have worked. A big thank you to them for their work.

"And this is great news for our residents too – I know how much people value a reliable collection service and this goes to show that our staff are prepared

to put in that extra effort to deliver a quality service.

"I'm also delighted that as a new council, one of our services has been recognised at a national level. This tremendous accolade sets the bar high for the quality of services that we want to provide for residents."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council said: "What great news this is for the team and for them to keep building on an outstanding track record of service delivery. Many congratulations."

Over the past 10 years the team has been identified as a finalist in the best performer category for nine consecutive years, while, in four of those years, they also made the shortlist as most improved performer. The team have been winners of the best performer category five times, with four of those awards in the past four years.

The awards are designed to recognise frontline services, delivered to local communities, by local councils. APSE is a not for profit unincorporated association working with over 300 councils throughout the UK.



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