

Nene Valley NEWS

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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NEWS IN BRIEF

LIFELINE FOR ROUGH SLEEPERS

Extra support will be on offer for rough sleepers in the North Northants area thanks to the expansion of a dedicated team.

North Northamptonshire Council's Rough Sleeping Team aims to successfully support people sleeping on the streets and help them into suitable accommodation – particularly with winter fast approaching.

Accommodation alone is not the answer however. Full support is needed to reduce the number rough sleeping and the team works closely with health, voluntary and community sector partners to identify and support rough sleepers who often have very complex needs.

The council has also set up a dedicated email and telephone number so services can be made aware of rough sleepers. If you see anyone rough sleeping, email roughsleepingteam@northnorthants.gov.uk or call 01536 464 630.

People are asked to provide as much detail as they can in terms of date, time, location and description, to help the team locate them as quickly as possible.

POIGNANT MONUMENT UNVEILED IN VILLAGE GARDENS

Working in partnership with Moulton Parish Council, the Moulton College stonemasonry department has designed and crafted a monument symbolising the sacrifices of war, and hope for the future. The monument is now on display in the village public gardens after being installed by local masonry contractor, Underwood and Weston.

The monument, which is 2m high, and sculpted from eight pieces of Ancaster hard white stone features the symbolic poppy and dove, representing new life and peace. The words 'Forever in our hearts', chosen by Moulton Parish Council, have been carved across the front.

The project, initiated by Moulton College as part of its 100-year anniversary celebrations, hopes to bring together members of the local community by providing a place for reflection.

Cllr David Aarons, Chair of Moulton Parish Council said: "It

was a joy to work with Moulton College on this project, and be actively involved in the plans for the design and installation of this monument. The sculpted piece is so intricately detailed, and is a beautiful reminder to the local community and beyond of our ability to overcome adversity. What a wonderful legacy for Moulton College to leave behind in the village, 100 years on from when the College first opened its doors."

The artist responsible for producing the monument is stonemasonry lecturer, Mark McDonnell. Mark, who has won numerous accolades in

stonemasonry, worked with the Parish Council throughout the project.

Mark said: "Rather than the monument being identified as a war memorial, the intention was for it to be a symbol of the future and hope, recognising loss but new life too. My own grandfather was lost during the Battle of the Somme in World War 1, so the project had particular significance to me."

During the planning stages, discussions considered the design of the monument, to ensure it sat well within the gardens and aesthetic of the surrounding village.



Lord-Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, James Saunders Watson (left) with Cllr David Aarons, Chair of Moulton Parish Council

"Ancaster stone is a creamy hue and its colour and texture fits well with the stone of surrounding properties in Moulton. The lettering is raised to improve its visibility from across the gardens, and the surrounding stone

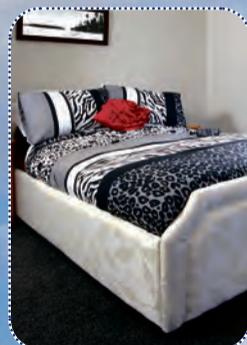
mottled to help emphasise this relief.

"I thoroughly enjoyed working on this piece for our centenary and it's a poignant tribute to those who have lost their lives, not only during wartimes but more recently too."

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WILDLIFE NEWS

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

Winter is back with us (the Met Office has told us!) so our weather has again showed just how powerful it is.

During the year we've had days of high temperatures countered by heavy, often torrential rain causing destructive flooding. Such events tend to be fairly localised, with opposite effects being recorded only a few miles apart. The rather unexpected sight of blizzard snowfall in November was spread over much of the country (though worse in Scotland) while the destructive little storm (christened a 'tornado' by the press) followed a narrow

path from somewhere down in the south until it blew itself out off Lincolnshire, leaving a trail of damage. But the whole countryside is open to attack, adding to any other problems affecting plant growth.

Animals generally have some protection on the hunt for food (the main consideration during winter) from underground roots or by being small and sleek enough to avoid being affected by the wind, however strong. There are exceptions: night cameras show small insects still flying, though that may change in the next week or two.

Warm-blooded animals have to protect themselves not just with sufficient food, but also by ensuring they are well-insulated

by finding a sheltered nesting place or by growing a matt of short hairs next to their skin.

Creatures in watery surroundings use different tactics. Many have laid eggs before the air is cold enough to freeze the water, while others use an unexpected property of water: when the temperature drops to just above freezing it starts to cool from the top down and the ice forms a layer at the top while the water below gains solid protection (end of this week's science lesson!).

Our wildlife always needs help in this season, even if simply not disturbing the plants and animals – this is just as much a part of their life-cycles as we saw during the warmer months.

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Do you make a note of your source documents when you find someone back in the mists of time? It is so easy to become caught up in the moment, following a trail and then suddenly, you cannot remember where you started. There is nothing worse than wanting to verify or explore some information further when you cannot for the life of you remember where you found it!

So... how do you keep your family history records? Scraps of paper littering the dining room table? Notebooks? Ring binders for each branch of the family? Shoeboxes? It may be that you prefer to keep all of your records on your computer/laptop/tablet etc.

I was helping someone with their tree recently and they are very organised already, putting documents such as copies of censuses etc in plastic sleeves and having a folder for each person. The next stage will be drawing out trees. Rather than

have a great big tree on lining paper that you could wrap round a room, you might find it easier to have a cluster of small trees with a key person on each one as the starting point.

I have a ring binder for each surname in my family. Yes, there are rather a lot, especially as each marriage introduces another branch that needs a file. However, I do know where to find information if I need to check something out. But what do you keep in it? I have key photographs in mine but then I also have boxes with labelled photos – where I know who they are! One of the things that I regret most is that I never discovered who they all were – most of them I know, but not all. Sadly, my father died this year and so I have no-one else to ask. So, make sure that you do ask, especially if you are having those family gatherings over Christmas – before the chance to do so disappears!

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



MOULTON COLLEGE GRADED 'GOOD' BY OFSTED

At the start of November, nine inspectors visited Moulton College in Northamptonshire, to measure key indicators including the Quality of Education, Leadership and Management, Personal Development and Behaviours and Attitudes. The final report, released by Ofsted at the end of the week long inspection, concluded by confirming the college's new status as 'Good'.

Corrie Harris, Principal and CEO at Moulton College said: "We are absolutely delighted with this result, and all credit goes to our staff and students for this achievement.

"We have made significant changes at the college during the last couple of years and we have gone from strength to strength. It is wonderful that Moulton College has finally received the recognition it deserves, following a challenging few years."

This latest rating stands the college in good stead to move forward with its investment plans and

application to reinstate apprenticeships – something the college has been keen to do for a long time. Moulton's Principal is determined that the hard work should continue, with the college keen to achieve an Outstanding rating at the next inspection in five years' time.

Moulton College is this year celebrating its 100th birthday, so the news comes at a poignant time in the college's history.

Corrie Harris added: "It has been a fantastic centenary year, celebrating 100 years of teaching and culminating in a great Ofsted result. We are exceptionally proud of our students and their achievements. It really is a great time to be at Moulton College."

The full report can be viewed at www.gov.uk

For more information about Moulton College visit www.moulton.ac.uk

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You can also subscribe to Nene Valley News for £1.50 per issue.

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 8th January
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 29th December

Publication date: Saturday 22nd January
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 12th January

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NORTH NORTHANTS GROUNDS MAINTENANCE TEAM GAINS **GREEN GLORY**

North Northamptonshire Council has won an International Green Apple Environment Award in the national campaign to find the greenest individuals, companies, councils and communities.

The authority competed against more than 800 other nominations in the Green Apple Awards for Environmental Best Practice with the project, "Pardon the Weeds, We are Feeding the Bees".

They were presented with their trophy and certificate at a glittering presentation ceremony hosted by Liz Kendall MP and sponsored by whatimpact.com and greenpixie.com at the Royal Horseguards Hotel, London.

As a result of this Green Apple Award success, they have been invited to have their winning paper published in The Green Book, the leading international work of reference on environmental best practice, so that others around the world can follow their example and learn from their achievement.

They could also progress to represent their country in the Green World Awards 2022 and have 100 trees planted in their name as part of the United Nations Billion Trees initiative.

Cllr Graham Lawman, the council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "Well done to the team for all their hard work in delivering this campaign which has allowed wildlife to flourish on a number of our grass verges. This is a great achievement for them and I'm delighted that they and the project have received international recognition."

Cllr Harriet Pentland, Executive Member for Climate and the Green Environment, said: "Protecting natural habitats and encouraging biodiversity is key to looking after our beautiful green environment and innovative schemes like this make a huge difference. Not only is the project wildlife-friendly but seeing so many beautiful flowers by the roadside is

a stunning sight – congratulations to all involved!"

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "Protecting the natural environment is a key priority for the council and this project demonstrates how a simple idea can have far-reaching effects."

The Green Apple Awards began in 1994 and have become established as the country's major recognition for environmental endeavours among companies, councils, communities and countries.

The awards are organised by The Green Organisation – an international, independent, non-political, non-profit environment group dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice.

The Green Apple Awards are supported by the Environment Agency, the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management, REHIS and other independent bodies.

POPPY APPEAL 2021 THRAPSTON UPDATE

As a branch, Thrapston had stalls on Coronation Gardens for two Saturdays of the appeal and in the High Street during November's Farmers' Market.

As ever their stalwart branch Life Member, Mr Ray Jefferies kicked off the collection proceedings at Thrapston Co-op on the first Saturday morning, for which they were very grateful to Ray, for this year and the many years past.

Ray was relieved at lunchtime by the new branch president, Mr Peter Read. Over the next two weeks branch members were able to collect at the Co-op on a variety of occasions. Thanks go to Thrapston Co-op management and staff – the coffees were really appreciated.

Other brave members donned hats, gloves and waterproofs to collect in the High Street and on Coronation Gardens at all times of the week and all weathers.

The branch, the Poppy Appeal and the veterans these funds support are immensely grateful for all the efforts that are made for the Poppy Appeal. For most, the Poppy Appeal is two weeks of concentrated effort, for two people the Poppy Appeal is an all year round event.

Counting Poppy stock, ordering wreaths, badges and all the other stock can take up huge amounts of time, and personal

space at home grows less and less as more stock arrives ahead of the Poppy Appeal. Then there's filling the boxes, labelling the tubs, that are all still called "tins" and the distribution of wreaths followed by the distribution of all the boxes and tubs to businesses, schools and clubs in the town. Then the restocking of the busy locations.

After Remembrance Sunday the operation goes into reverse when boxes and tubs come back in and have to be sorted. The large outer boxes get "retired" if they have suffered too badly from the weather, and then the counting begins.

Every year as a branch Thrapston are amazed by the generosity of the public in Thrapston and District. As of 26/11 the Poppy Appeal Organisers had banked £8,000 and the counting was still going on.

Mrs Sheila Cowell and Mrs Judith Warren, the branch PAO's are both amazing. A huge 'Thank You' to both of them for all their efforts and a grateful 'Thank You' to everyone who assisted with the Poppy Appeal in October and November 2021.

If anyone is interested in assisting with the Poppy Appeal, please contact Poppy Appeal organiser, Mrs Sheila Cowell on 01832 730418.



It's never too early! Wilson Bear wants you to know (because of print deadlines) about his special post-Christmas offer.



PURPLE MONDAY 20% off Wills in February.*

Make this the year you make a Will or update your current Will.

Making a Will need not be as daunting as you might think and could prove crucial to those you leave behind. A professionally-drafted Will ensures that your wishes are carried out regarding your assets, guardianship of your children and any specific gifts you wish to make. It can also help to reduce your dependants' liability for Inheritance Tax.

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*Appointments must be booked on Monday 7 February 2022 for an appointment within 28 days. Other terms apply – see wilsonbrowne.co.uk/terms or call for details.

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JANUARY 2022

- Sat 8 Boundary Mills Grantham
- Wed 19 Seasonal Mystery Trip
- Thu 27 Royal Courts of Justice

FEBRUARY 2022

- Sat 5 Warwick & Leamington Spa
- Tue 8 Batsford Arboretum Snowdrops
- Wed 9 St Albans Market Day
- Thu 17 London Museums or Free Time
- Fri 18 Aylesbury Market Day
- Tue 22 Melton Mowbray
- Wed 23 Seasonal Mystery Trip
- Thu 24 Ely
- Sun 27 Orchids at Kew Gardens

MARCH 2022

- Thu 3 Cotswold Tour - New route
- Tue 8 Springfields or Spalding
- Thu 10 Seasonal Mystery Trip
- Sat 12 National Railway Museum or York
- Sat 12 Jorvik Viking Centre, York
- Tue 15 Derbyshire & Peak District
- Fri 18 Gloucester or Gloucester Cathedral
- Thu 24 Canterbury or Whitstable
- Fri 25 Ideal Home Show
- Fri 25 Stratford Upon Avon
- Sun 27 Mothers Day Lunch & Bridgnorth
- Tue 29 Barnsdale Gardens & Cream Tea

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JANUARY

24th-28th - WINTER MYSTERY
5 days with included excursions & half board £419pp
Our 'Mystery Tour' is very popular, so early booking is essential to avoid disappointment. These tours represent excellent value for money and accommodation will be of a very high standard.

FEBRUARY

7th-11th - TASTE OF CORNWALL
Fistral Beach Hotel, Newquay, included excursions & half board £409pp
Newquay has some of Cornwall's finest beaches and a laid-back charm for everyone to enjoy. With cream teas, local cider and excursions to local attractions including the Eden Project this is a trip to remember.

APRIL

1st-5th - VICTORIAN STEAM BREAK
At Winnock Hotel Dryman. All inclusive includes excursions £499pp
This attractive village is located in the beautiful Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park, consisting of mountain ranges, lochs, rivers and The Argyll Forest Park and the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park.

16th-22nd - SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS
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Spotlight on > CHRISTMAS

> CHRISTMAS AT BOSWORTH'S GARDEN CENTRE

Now is a great time to come down and see us at Bosworth's Garden Centre, where it has been transformed into a magical Christmas wonderland.



Bosworth's Garden Centre

Our singing reindeer are back and we have an all new grotto for Santa this year.

We are also stockists for the hugely popular Lemax villages.

There are gifts for everyone in our giftware department, with cards and wrapping too. And it wouldn't be Christmas without some festive foods.

Our real trees can be ordered online at www.bosworthsonline.co.uk or are available instore for collection

or local delivery.

Make this a Christmas to remember with Bosworth's Garden Centre.

> SLEEPING BEAUTY SAT 4TH DECEMBER 2021 - SUN 2ND JANUARY 2022

Awaken to a world of wonders this Christmas and visit Castle Theatre Wellingborough for their fun-filled family pantomime, Sleeping Beauty! Full of panto' hilarity, songs,

dances and even a fiery dragon, you won't want to miss Sleeping Beauty which runs from Saturday 4th December 2021 – Sunday 2nd January 2022.

Cursed by the jealous Wicked Queen on her 18th birthday, the beautiful Princess falls into a deep sleep that can only be ended with a kiss from her betrothed.

Prince Charming, our hero, needs all the help he can get

from the good fairies to help him escape the Queen's evil clutches, wake the Princess and live happily ever after. Will true love win the day?

Produced and directed in-house at Castle Theatre, Sleeping Beauty stars eight talented actors and a team of professional dancers. Following the success of Aladdin in 2019, this production promises to be a festive treat for the whole family!

Get ready to experience the pantomime of your dreams! Tickets for Sleeping Beauty range from £10 – £24; book your tickets by calling the Box Office on 01933 270 007 or online at www.castletheatre.co.uk



JOIN HIGHAM FERRERS FOOTPATH GROUP FOR TWO WINTER WALKS

Sunday 2nd January, 9.35am Higham Ferrers Footpath Group

Saffron Road car park Higham Ferrers for car sharing. Admission Fee: Free.
Contact information: 07754 810902.
4 or 5.3 mile walk from Wellingborough.

Sunday 16th January, 9.35am Higham Ferrers Footpath Group

Place: Saffron Road car park Higham Ferrers for car sharing. Admission Fee: Free.
Contact information: 01933 622895.
6 mile walk from Felmersham.



THERE'S PLENTY OF SEASONAL FUN TO BE HAD AT STANWICK LAKES THIS CHRISTMAS

Magical Winter Solstice Lantern Walk

On Tuesday 21st December join Stanwick Lakes on the shortest day of the year for a magical walk around Solstice Lake and carols in the outdoor theatre with 'Big About Singing' Choir and Raunds Temperance Band. The walk itself will start at 6pm until 8pm, however festive food and refreshments will be available to purchase from their outdoor kiosks before walk starts (from 5.30pm) and after the walk

finishes (not included in ticket price). Tickets are £4 for a child (12 and under) and £4.50 for an adult, and can be bought from the Stanwick Lakes website.

For more information and for booking please visit www.stanwicklakes.org.uk/whats-on/magical-winter-solstice-lantern-walk/

Nature's Winter Wonder Trail

Learn about the beautiful winter wildlife at Stanwick Lakes with their Nature's Winter Wonder

Trail! From 29th November – Early Jan 2022 families can explore the great outdoors with the whimsical seasonal themed trail at Stanwick Lakes, as part of their Natureworks and Heritage Projects. Complete the trail and activities to win a Christmas Present Prize. £3 per trail leaflet (one Christmas present prize per leaflet sold). Booking is not required, just purchase the activity leaflet from The Snack Shack (during the week) or Visitor Centre Reception (on weekends) 10am-3pm daily.



Christmas at Bosworth's Garden Centre

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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:

> COTTERSTOCK

Replacement of existing conservatory at Little Beeches Glaphorn Road Cotterstock PE8 5HD (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01707/FUL (4 January 2022)

> LITTLE ADDINGTON

Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) to allow for alterations and extensions into the loft space of plot 1 pursuant to 16/02305/FUL "Residential development of 11 No dwellings, consisting of seven affordable units, four market units and associated infrastructure including new highway access" at Land Adjacent Meadowview OP1990 SP9673 Woodford Road Little Addington (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/21/01693/VAR (4 January 2022)

> TANSOR

Proposed single storey oak framed detached garage at the rear of dwelling. At The Hovel Tansor Grange Barns Tansor Wold Road Tansor PE8 6UY (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/21/01656/FUL (4 January 2022)

> OUNDLE

Repair, maintenance and partial replacement of existing timber windows on the first and second floor of the front elevation (Re-submission of EN/21/00820/LBC) at 13 Market Place Oundle PE8

4BA (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/01670/LBC (4 January 2022)

> ALDWINCLE

Permanent siting of mobile classroom on site for use as Pre-School by children aged 2-4. At Aldwinckle Pre School Main Street Aldwinckle NN14 3EL (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01708/FUL (4 January 2022)

> OUNDLE

Internal and external alteration works to dwellings, including widening gated entrance, new FG and FF French doors, balustrade, side entrance canopy, alterations to flat roof parapet, rendering of walls at Lorne Cottage And Lorne House 38 Market Place Oundle PE8 4AJ (LBRegs) (Info) (LB/CA) NE/21/01672/LBC and NE/21/01671/FUL (4 January 2022)

> OUNDLE

Fascias 1, 2 and 3 are individual stainless steel letters, powder coated black; Protruding sign – existing black steel brackets – panel to be double sided metal powder coated black. At The Old Town Hall Market Place Oundle PE8 4BA (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01582/ADV (4 November 2022)

> BRIGSTOCK

Replacement of all windows (bar sliding patio door) and conservatory with 'regency 9'; Conservatory sliding aluminium patio door with like for like (aluminium/white); Replacement of front and back doors with 'scotdoors'; Replacement of like for like front four window sills

(retrospective); Replacement of like for like gateposts and gate (retrospective). At 18 Hall Hill Brigstock NN14 3EZ (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01685/FUL (4 January 2022)

> WOODNEWTON

Proposed works to main house; conversion of garage/barn to include accommodation; small extension to rear of garage joining main living accommodation to garage/barn and the replacement of all external doors. At 21 Main Street Woodnewton PE8 5EB (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/01625/LBC and (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01624/FUL (4 January 2022)

> COLLYWESTON

Conversion of existing Garage/Annexe to games/gym room and external alterations to add more glass and solar panels; construction of an oak 3 bay garage with workshop and solar panels; installation of new solid gate for the driveway; relocation of the stone wall in between the garage and main house to the other end of the existing garage and addition of a swimming pool to replace existing hot tub. At 108 Main Road Collyweston PE9 3PN (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/01706/LBC (4 January 2022)

> RUSHDEN

Change of use of building (from E to C3), creation of 4 No 1-bedroom units, replacement of existing windows with heritage windows and replacement of shop window with 2 windows at 15-17 Church Street Rushden NN10 9YU (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01675/FUL (4 January 2022)

> NASSINGTON

Remove existing detached store and garage building and construct new outbuilding with car parking, storage and roof space. At 38A Church Street Nassington PE8 6QQ (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01663/FUL (4 January 2022)

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 11 December 2021

Consultation deadlines will differ for each application. You can see details of these applications at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planningapplications.

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

COMMUNITY GRANTS NOW AVAILABLE TO HELP TRANSFORM LIVES IN NORTH NORTHANTS

Voluntary and community groups are being encouraged to apply for small grants to help improve the lives of local residents.

The funding of up to £5,000 is being made available by North Northamptonshire Council up to 31st January.

There are two funding rounds during December and January:

- Grants up to **£2,500** – with monthly deadlines for applications of **31st December 2021 and 31st January 2022**
- Grants of between **£2,500 and £5,000** – with

monthly deadlines of **20th December 2021 and 31st January 2022**

The scheme is open to community and voluntary sector organisations, registered charities and not-for-profit organisations, with priority given to projects that support the council's key priorities and the strategic aims.

The council's six key priorities are:

- **Active, fulfilled lives** – helping people live healthier, more active, independent and fulfilled lives.

- **Better, brighter futures**

– caring for young people, providing them with a high-quality education and opportunities to help them flourish.

- **Safe and thriving places**

– enable a thriving and successful economy that shapes great places to live, learn, work and visit.

- **Green, sustainable environment**

– taking a lead on improving the green environment, making the area more sustainable for generations to come.

- **Connected communities**

– ensuring our communities

are connected with one another so they are able to shape their lives and areas where they live.

- **Modern public services**

– providing efficient, effective and affordable services that make a real difference to all our local communities
 Applications could be to support a local street party to celebrate the Platinum Jubilee, helping to encourage wildlife in a local pocket park or sports and play equipment for a community group. Any groups that want to find out more about what is available

and criteria needed to apply can do so on the council's website.

Alternatively, email communityfunding@northnorthants.gov.uk to request an application form.

Cllr Andy Mercer, the council's Executive Member for Housing and Communities, said: "I would urge community and voluntary groups to get in contact and apply for these small grants as they can make a big difference to people's lives.

"We are proud to work closely with the voluntary

sector organisations and groups, who make a massive difference in their areas and are essential for community cohesion.

"We are extremely grateful for all of the work they do and are committed to providing the appropriate funding, where we can, to ensure they can continue to carry out their good work."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council said: "As a council we are committed to building strong sustainable communities and these grants will make a huge difference in making that happen."

Coming soon - Lasers in Higham!

If you've been through Higham Ferrers recently you might have noticed a newcomer to the Market Square. But you might not know what that newcomer has in store for you if you're in pain.



For 16 years Higham has been home to a team of pain-relieving specialists who have treated national and international athletes, TV celebrities plus thousands of local athletes, dog walkers, gardeners, office workers and children.

Already well known for their osteopaths, physiotherapists, sports injuries and rehab team, The Ashgrove Clinic is bringing laser, shockwave and disc decompression machines to the town in a bid to get more people in the region out of pain.

Rhodri Griffiths, one of the osteopaths, says: "Between us we treat the whole body, top to toe: headaches, shoulder pains, arthritic knees, foot pains... Having laser, shockwave and disc decompression for more complicated problems will help us get more people back to their normal activities."

Sports injury expert, Jay Sheridan, adds that there are very few laser machines for pain in the area, so this could help a lot of athletes get back to competing.

The osteopaths, physios and sports injuries rehab team have all moved to the new building already, along with the hypnotherapist, acupuncturist and Primitive Reflexes expert. And the new machines are due to arrive in January.

In the meantime the team will be using their hands and exercise expertise to fix you. You'll get their usual top quality service: face-to-face appointments, an individually-tailored treatment (not just a sheet of exercises), evening appointments to fit with your many commitments and a warm smile when you arrive.

For fun we asked the team what patients

will like about the new building. Here are their answers:

- It's near to Higham's coffee shops!
- You can hear the church bells while you're being treated
- The reception team will entertain you with their constant running up and down the stairs as their desk doesn't fit in the waiting room
- The building is beautiful and holds a lot of stories
- The team are Covid safe and adhere to the government guidelines
- Parking will be easy from 1st Jan when Ashgrove gets 12 parking spaces near the library.

And finally...

...The door handle on the front door is guaranteed to make you smile! It's huge and

very quirky. If you turn it 90 degrees it opens. If you turn it any further it locks the door!

Of course, the most important thing is that the Ashgrove team are experts in their field and get excited about each patient's improvements. Whether your improvement enables you to run a marathon or plant tulips – you know you're in good hands in Higham.

The team specialise in fixing sports injuries, back pain, neck pain, phobias, ADHD, pain from arthritic joints, sprains, and sciatica. In addition, the clinic is recognised as offering one of the UK's top frozen shoulder treatments.

Parking – from 1st January the clinic will provide off street parking near the library.

Jo Jones, whose Rushden Osteopathic Clinic joined The Ashgrove Clinic three years ago, says: "So many people put up with pain, stiffness and the inability to do activities that they love, when they really don't need to. A simple and cost-effective course of treatment can easily sort most issues out. We're all very proud of the reputation our two clinics have earned for excellence in care."

Osteopath Oliver Eaton added with a big warm smile: "Our aim is always to get you out of pain and back to your normal life, or better!"



Oliver Eaton (osteopath)



Rhodri Griffiths (osteopath)



Jo Jones (osteopath)

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Ashgrove
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K Greenwood



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO... A NORTH NORTHANTS TOWN NEAR YOU!

A mysterious figure thought to be Santa Claus himself has been visiting towns across the North Northants area and is encouraging people to return to our high streets in the run-up to Christmas.

North Northamptonshire Council's Hi Street! campaign has focussed on showcasing what the towns in the area have on offer with what appears to be the big man himself taking part in a social media campaign on Facebook and Twitter.

Central to the project is a video which has been created with local businesses, showing the enigmatic individual making Christmas plans in our High Streets – a place he endorses as a source of all things festive.

The initiative forms part of the wider Welcome Back Fund programme which has harnessed government funding to boost town centres as the local economy recovers from the effects of the Covid pandemic.

Hi Street! is promoting what our towns have to offer including shopping, culture, food and drink, business, leisure, and health and

personal care services.

Cllr David Brackenbury, the council's Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration, said: "I'm delighted to see things becoming more normal again on our High

Streets and seeing people rediscover just what's on offer on their doorstep.

"Our area is full of talented people coming up with creative entrepreneurial ideas so it will be great to be able to give them a boost."

Councillor Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council said:

"It's wonderful to see our town centres getting busier again in the lead-up to Christmas.

"High Streets have been hit hard by the pandemic, particularly small independent businesses, and through this latest campaign we aim to showcase just what there is on offer here in North Northants.

"One of our key priorities as a council is invigorating the local economy and this campaign aims to do just that.

"Even better too that we have celebrity endorsement in the form of the big man himself!"



Nene Valley News – EVENTS

Saturday 11th December until Wednesday 22nd December

The 12 Days To Christmas

St Andrew's Church, Brigstock

A foliage and flower display by church flower arrangers and village groups. The arrangements will depict Christmas songs and carols. Saturdays 10am-4pm, Sundays 12noon-4pm, Weekdays 11am-3pm. Admission free. Refreshments, raffle and a quiz sheet to guess the song titles.

Sunday 12th December

'A Permissive Plod'

A countryside walk mainly on a permissive path near the edge of the former Chelveston airfield and Yelden. Meet at the entrance to the former runway, accessible from the Newton Bromwold to Chelveston road where the road bends sharply near the Chelston Rise estate (former US Air Force homes: postcode NN9 6AU) – in time to leave at 10.30am. Christmas refreshments will be provided. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden. Details from Andrew Presland on 01933 316927 or andrew.presland.harborough58@gmail.com

Sunday 12th December

Carol singing on the Boardwalk at Rushden Lakes

From 3pm. Everyone is invited. Organised by St Peter's Parish Church, Rushden. More details are available from Revd Rachel Hawkins. Tel: 01933 356398 or email revrach@hotmail.co.uk

Sunday 12th December, 6pm

Carol Service at Whitefriars Primary School

Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX

More details from office@whitefriarschurch.org.uk

Sunday 19th December, 6pm

Christmas Experience at Whitefriars Primary School

Rushden NN10 9HX

Friday 24th December

Christingle Service at Whitefriars Primary School

Saturday 25th December

Christmas Day Service (10.15am) with optional 11am Holy Communion

Whitefriars Primary School Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX.

Sunday 2nd January, 10.15am

Morning Worship at Whitefriars Primary School,

Friday 21st January, 7.30pm

**Rushden & District History Society
Ron Whittaker: The Rise and Fall of Footwear Manufacturing**

Whitefriars Primary School NN10 9HX

Members £1.50, non-members £2.50

Tel 01536 238320 for more information.

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.

OPEN EVENT

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DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE EVERYDAY?

People in North Northants are being invited to Make a Difference Everyday (MADE) – a new campaign to highlight the good work of adult support workers and attract people to a career in care.

North Northamptonshire Council adult social care leaders believe that many may already have the right skills for such a job – having played an informal role as support workers during the Covid pandemic.

As well as the satisfaction the job brings by making a real difference to people's lives, a career in care also has the benefits of flexible working arrangements, skills development and NHS and carers discount schemes.

Cllr Helen Harrison, the council's Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing, said: "During the pandemic, many people will have been surprised to discover they had skills and

abilities they never knew they had and found satisfaction in looking after others.

"If someone is patient, caring, compassionate and able to make connections with others, then they will have the right combination of skills to do the job.

"People don't need any experience either – that can be provided as they develop in the role. The main thing is for them to have the right temperament to make a difference."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "One of our priorities as a council is to ensure that everyone has access to better quality adult social care and key to this is supporting our workforce and the wider sector.

"Support workers make a massive difference to people's lives so I would encourage anyone out there who may have the necessary combination of skills to give it a try."

The role of adult care support workers is varied including looking after younger adults with learning disabilities, elderly people in care homes and residential settings as well as in day care centres.

This December, the council will be sharing inspirational stories of support workers and interesting statistics about the care sector while also linking people to the latest job vacancies where a difference can be made to someone's life.

People can find out more at www.northnorthants.gov.uk/made or look out for the #NNCMADE hashtag on Twitter.

Early in the New Year, recruitment drives will be held in town centres across the North Northants area giving people the chance to find out more about being a support worker and ask questions of those already working in care.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR HARD-WORKING COUNCIL TEAM

A North Northamptonshire Council team has been shortlisted in two categories at the prestigious Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) Performance Network Awards.

The Corby and Kettering shared services team have made the finals as Best Performers for Refuse Collection as well as in the Parks, Open Spaces and Horticultural Services category.

The APSE awards are based on performance data, which is assessed against a complex range of performance indicators, including cost, quality, workforce development and value-for-money. The data is independently verified for accuracy and integrity following an initial assessment.

The awards are designed to recognise frontline services, delivered to local communities by local councils. The results will be announced at a virtual ceremony.

Cllr Graham Lawman, Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "Nomination is recognition in itself and I am delighted for our team that we have again been nominated for an award. The team has worked extremely hard to deliver a high-quality service to the residents within the Corby and Kettering area.

"This is a first for the team with regard to grounds maintenance and with the new unitary authority formalised in April 2021, this is a great start too for things to come."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "I'm

delighted that our hard-working staff have received this national recognition for delivering excellent services for our residents. We are committed to keep improving our services and accolades such as this play an important role in ensuring the proper recognition is received for the team."

The awards show the commitment of the team to continually improve service and performance levels. Over the past 11 years the refuse team has been identified as a finalist for Best Performer 10 years running with four of those years also recognised as a Most Improved Performer finalist. The refuse team have also been winners of the Best Performer category five times, with four of them awarded in the last four consecutive years.



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PUBLIC NOTICES



BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL
PUBLIC NOTICE

BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL (40MPH SPEED LIMIT) (WYMINGTON LANE, RUSHDEN/WYMINGTON) ORDER 2021

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on 9th December 2021 Bedford Borough Council made the above Traffic Regulation Order, the effect of which is detailed below:-

Effect of the Order:

1. To reduce the speed limit from the National Speed Limit to 40mph on the following lengths of road:

A	Wymington Lane, Rushden
(i)	From a point approximately 150 metres west of the A6 Rushden Road to Wymington Lane, Wymington.
B	Wymington Lane, Wymington
(i)	From Wymington Lane, Rushden to a point approximately 358 metres east of the centre of Church Lane, Wymington.

Date of Operation: This Order will come into force on 13th December 2021 or as soon as practicable after this date. A copy of the Order may be examined during normal office hours at Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP. It can also be viewed on the Council's website at www.bedford.gov.uk/implementedtro.

High Court Challenge: Any person who desires to question the validity of this Order or any provision contained therein on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 or on the grounds that any requirement of that Act has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks of the date of this Notice, make application for that purpose to the High Court.

Dated 11th December 2021

Craig Austin, Director of Environment, Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP

Family NOTICES

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

Happy 1st birthday

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

Chloe Booth have a wonderful day.
 Love from Mummy, Daddy, Nanna & Granddad xxx

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

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MP'S LESSON IN HOW RUSHDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL HAS EVOLVED

Wellingborough MP Peter Bone paid a visit to Newton Road School in Rushden to see for himself the impressive improvements and developments that have taken place over the past five years.

Headteacher Kerry Mills was proud to show the MP round the school, which was rated 'Inadequate' by Ofsted back in 2017 but which has since focused its attention on creating an atmosphere that is warm,

friendly, inspiring and focused on excellent learning outcomes.

The MP saw the new Early Years provision and the results of investment in outdoor play and learning areas, as well as the new

library and IT suite. A tour of all classrooms gave Mr Bone the opportunity to see the environment in which the children work and how learning is delivered by the amazing and dedicated team of teachers and staff.

"We wanted him to see how much the school has improved since 2017," said Kerry.

"One of the key factors behind the success has been the fact that we became a part of the Nene Education Trust. This gave us the opportunity to change the name of the school and facilitate a completely fresh start.

"The school is such a positive and uplifting place to be. The smiles on the faces of our pupils and their positivity about the school are indicators of our hard work. The warm, nurturing and inclusive feel within the school is commented [on]

by many of our visitors, who come through our doors.

"Becoming a part of NET has allowed us to focus on the priority of improving outcomes for our pupils. With our fantastic team, we have developed a high-quality curriculum and clear set of teaching and learning principles. We live and breathe the culture of ensuring our children are given the opportunities to dream of a bright future, believe in themselves, and achieve their highest potential in school and throughout their life so that they can truly make a difference wherever they go.

"I think Peter Bone was impressed by what he saw, he said it had been a long time since he visited our

school but he seemed to appreciate how much it has grown and the development and improvement that has occurred. He also seemed to appreciate how inclusive the school was and how the school has a very special feel."

Newton Road School is part of the Nene Education Trust, a multi-academy trust in East Northants. NET's schools also include Windmill Primary in Raunds, Stanwick Primary, Raunds Park Infants, St Peter's CE Junior, Woodford CE Primary, Redwell Primary in Wellingborough and Manor School in Raunds.



For further information about the Nene Education Trust, visit <https://neneeducationtrust.org.uk/>



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