

Nene Valley

news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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news story or event at
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NEWS IN BRIEF

#ITSOKAY TOTALK

The Mill Birth and Wellbeing Centre at Duddington has become the latest venue – and the first in the area – to host Andy's Man Club.

This weekly group is designed to bring men together, to get them talking, and to help attendees weather the storms in life.

On average one man every two hours takes his life in the UK. It is said that a contributing factor is that men don't often talk about how they are feeling. That is why Andy's Man Club was formed: to help break down these stigmas and support men.

The sessions are free to attend, and you just turn up and talk as much or as little as you want. The sessions are peer-to-peer, which is one of the reasons it has proved so popular, with more than 1,700 men now attending the groups weekly across the UK.

The group at The Mill Birth and Wellbeing Centre will launch on Monday 7th March.

If you want to find out any other ways to get involved, please contact via enquiries@themillwellbeing.co.uk.

CELEBRATE THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE THIS SUMMER

Communities across North Northamptonshire are being encouraged to get involved in a bank holiday bonanza of special events for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee this summer.

Plans are under way to organise a packed weekend of activities across North Northamptonshire from 2nd to 5th June, including official beacon-lighting ceremonies on Bank Holiday Thursday, a countywide Jubilee Pageant through Northampton on the Saturday and a Big Lunch in the area on the Sunday.

Cllr Helen Howell, North Northamptonshire Council's Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, said: "We're delighted to be working with the Lord-Lieutenant, local town and parish councils, as well as community groups and

volunteer organisations to celebrate such a momentous occasion.

"Teams are working hard to put together our plans for celebrating the Platinum Jubilee across North Northamptonshire, so please do keep an eye out for further announcements in the coming weeks."

Towns, parishes and communities countywide are being encouraged to get involved in this year's Jubilee celebrations, from lighting beacons and hosting street parties and big lunches to planting commemorative trees in their neighbourhoods.

Local community and

voluntary groups can also apply for a series of grants to help fund arts and sports projects commemorating the Jubilee, including Arts Council England's Let's Create Jubilee Fund and Sport England's Platinum Jubilee Activity Fund.

In addition, initiatives including The Queen's Green Canopy tree planting project will create a lasting reminder of The Queen's Jubilee.

Her Majesty the Queen was proclaimed monarch following the death of her father George VI on 6th February 1952, with Her Majesty going on to become our nation's longest-serving monarch.



To find out more about the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in North Northamptonshire, visit www.northnorthants.gov.uk/jubilee. Further information will be added over the coming weeks and months.

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WILDLIFE NEWS

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

Gazumping is a word used to expose the practice of putting up money to buy a house after an agreement has already been reached, cutting out the original buyer (don't expect to find details in this column!).

Similar unwanted cheating will by now be happening in our fields and gardens. Properties can be just as fiercely contested 'out there', without providing the necessary replacements.

The motto here, as in our everyday shopping, is to "get your retaliation in first", and any attractive nesting site will be challenged, sometimes by the size of the contestants – giving them a physical and muscular advantage – or by the quality and force of, say, its vocal cords (like growls or birds' songs).

Blackbirds seem to be starting earlier than usual, and already robins can be seen actively viewing selected properties, while other species are literally showing their "true colours" in an attempt to impress potential mates.

These examples have a head start, but it will not be long before others further south, in Africa for

example, are building themselves up for the journey of hundreds, more likely thousands, of miles for their summer break, with the prospect of this really being a "working holiday".

Birds, of course, are not the only home-makers. Many insects, mammals and other animals are looking for their own versions of "a house in the country". Many will not be thinking of the toil of actually building their quiet spots; insects may have spent at least part of the time in massive colonies, but that is a risky procedure if we are treated to a severe winter and they must wake up every day to use their energy to start their hunting.

Many species, having gathered in their large masses, will be losing the outer layers to die as insulation, and the survivors will provide that protection instead. It sounds gruesome, but there can be casualties even when the colony finds cover in wall crevices, warm bricks or other spaces protected from wind or wet.

Risky maybe, but if humans do not spoil the picture it will continue for centuries yet.

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Have you had a look at the 1921 census yet? It is only available from Find My Past and sadly costs extra to view – even if you have a subscription.

I have been slightly circumspect with regards to viewing these documents; I have checked just those for my grandparents and great grandparents. Luckily, one set of grandparents were with my great grandparents, which saved some money, and then I found a great grandmother visiting her sister and my great, great grandparents.

My Gran always said that she met her first husband whilst she was working as a Nanny for the Stephensons, the father being the Managing Director of Woolworths. Well, I found my Gran on the 1921 census, which also shows the rest of the family, including three daughters. Gran always said that the Stephensons had a boat named the "Velsheda", named after these three daughters. The 1921 census has revealed that these were in fact their middle names, rather than their first:

Margaret Velma = VEL

Joan Sheila = SHE

Lilian Daphne = DA

Oh yes – no sign of Gran's first husband, so it must have been a quick liaison as they wed in October 1923, my uncle being born a month later...

Back to the census: did you know that there was a date change of when it was to be taken? Apart from the one taken in 1841, all other censuses since had occurred in the March/April every 10 years. The one for 1921 was planned to take place on 24th April but strike action was threatened. The Miners' Federation were protesting against a reduction in pay and hoped to be joined by railwaymen and transport workers. The strike, planned to start on 15th April, would have severely damaged transport links and given an incorrect image presented in the returns. As it was, no general strike took place, but by then the date of the census had been moved – to 19th June.

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Who we are



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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

APRIL 2022

Tue 5 Black Country Museum
Tue 5 Dudley Zoo
Thu 7 Fakenham & Sheringham
Sat 9 Skipton, Embsay & Bolton Abbey RW
Wed 13 Paradise Wildlife Park
Thu 14 London Museums
Thu 14 Postal Museum
Fri 15 Anderton Boat Lift
Sat 16 Norwich or Wellesbourne Market
Mon 18 Great Yarmouth
Tue 19 Warwick
Thu 21 Banbury Market
Sat 23 Belvoir Castle & Gardens
Sun 24 Skegness
Wed 27 Audley End House & Gardens
Thu 28 Southwold & Suffolk Tour
Sat 30 Oxford or Oxford Castle

MAY 2022

Sun 1 Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair
Mon 2 Llandudno Victorian Extravaganza
Mon 2 Bakewell Bank Holiday Market
Wed 4 Bury St Edmunds Market day
Sat 7 Lincoln
Sat 7 Malvern Spring Show
Mon 9 Derbyshire & Peak District
Wed 11 Lion King or Only Fools & Horses
Fri 13 Stamford Market & Grantham
Sat 14 Hunstanton
Sat 14 Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

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TAURUS
Holidays

APRIL

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MAY

12th-16th - THE WONDERS OF THE PEAK

Menzies Mickleover Court Hotel, Derby. Half Board, includes excursions £469pp. A world of contrasting natural beauty, with moors and dales, rivers, springs and caverns are at the heart of it all. From the high, moorland plateaus in the north, to the steep-sided, deep dales and rolling green hills in the south of the area. The Peak District and Derbyshire area is known and loved by many for its breath-taking views, bustling market towns and pretty villages, historic houses, famous attractions and hundreds of traditional events, such as the unique Derbyshire custom of Well Dressing. This holiday includes entrance to Chatsworth House & Gardens and to Crich Tramway Museum.

22nd-28th - FILL YOUR HEART WITH IRELAND

Main Hotel Manor House Country Hotel, Enniskillen. Half Board, includes excursions £749pp. The allure of the magnificent lakes of county Fermanagh lies in their wealth of untouched natural beauty and 70km of crystal-clear waters. This idyllic south-west region of Northern Ireland is surely one of Europe's best kept secrets. Lough Erne makes its way from each end of county Fermanagh in style, running into a huge island studded lake where the ancient town of Enniskillen stands, Enniskillen is known as the island town. The town itself is built on an island at the narrowing of the Lough. You have to cross a bridge to get into the city and then you see a beautiful castle right on the lake. Excursions include the Ulster American Folk Park and Belleek Pottery.

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Rushden school recognised for its commitment to remembrance

Members of the Royal British Legion in Rushden visited the town's Newton Road School to present the children with the Poppy Cup to mark their efforts in raising money during last November's Poppy Appeal.

The cup is awarded to schools that have held events connected with remembrance during the previous 12 months, including holding services, taking part in projects related to the World Wars or producing artwork or exhibitions related to the theme.

The judges heard how children from Newton Road School had taken part in The Snow Goose project, collaborating with actors and artists from Fabula Arts in an incredibly powerful project that engaged children in the theme of remembrance. The project was a resounding success and the school ended up taking around 80 children to St Mary's Church to watch the performance, where they were thrilled to see that the school's motivational messages had

been sewn into a sail and displayed at the church.

Assistant Principal Richard Bosworth said: "We're very proud to have won the Poppy Cup because remembrance is very much in evidence in the school. The sail from The Snow Goose now has pride of place in our foyer alongside a variety of activities the children have undertaken."

"When we took a group of children to the war memorial in November, we were proud to see how they conducted themselves, carefully placing the wreath and then bowing their heads in respect for the fallen."

"In school, on 11th November, every child, even the very youngest, took part in a two-minute silence, while children from Years 5 and 6 took responsibility for selling poppies and other merchandise linked to



Remembrance Day and the Royal British Legion.

"It's vitally important that those who made the ultimate sacrifice are not

forgotten and we are proud to have seen the school's efforts in that recognised."

The Poppy Cup was presented by a delegation from the Royal British

Legion, which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2021. They were joined at the presentation by the Mayor of Rushden, Cllr Melanie Coleman.

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Did you know that if you need urgent care you can get help and support whenever you need it – even if you're not at home?

If you have an urgent but not-life-threatening medical need, make sure you visit NHS 111 online first. NHS 111 online will help you right away and if needed, a healthcare professional will call you.

NHS 111 online can tell you where to get help for your symptoms, making it easier to get treatment in the right place.

If you need to see a health professional, NHS 111 will offer you a timeslot at the local health service which is best placed to treat you - that



could be an Urgent Treatment Centre, a General Practice, pharmacy or emergency dentist, saving you time on the phone or in waiting areas, and allowing you to get back to the things you enjoy as quickly as possible. All you need to do is answer a few questions.

The easiest way to use NHS 111 is by visiting 111.nhs.uk. If it's life-threatening you should always call 999.

Your Health – **Extreme Gardening**

Forget about extreme sports injuries. The grass is just starting to grow and that means the weeds are coming up too. Which means...

**WORDS BY
CLAIRE SHORT**

It's time for extreme gardening!

Bring on the:

- Knee pain
- Back pain
- Hip problems
- And lots of broken gloves from grubbing around trying to pull out the weeds.

As we've agreed in the past, gardening is not the slow, ponderous activity non-gardeners think it is. And trying to find a comfortable position to pull out weeds is nigh on impossible.

A few tips I've gathered from talking to gardening patients over the years:

- Don't stay in the classic "weeding stretch" for too long – move closer to the next patch of weeds.
- Take breaks – stand back and admire your work, or go and prune something after 20 mins.
- If kneeling hurts, get something really squashy to kneel on.
- Sit on a skateboard so you can

move around.

- Ask for help. We're all terrible at this, but remember that someone else might enjoy helping you.

I have to admit that I love the skateboard idea. A patient in London told me this was what he does. I guess the risk is that you'll fall off, so weigh up the risks before you try it. I don't want you to roll down a hill on your skateboard and not be seen again as the weeds will really take over if that happens.

Remember that you probably won't feel any aches and pains until the next day. Taking breaks will reduce the aches, so stand up and wriggle now and then.

As for me, I had a go at mowing grass with a slightly larger beast this week and can assure you that mowing grass on a tractor is no more fun than using that awful lawn mower. Except that it starts easily with a key rather than with a stupid piece of string.

Have a happy, weed-free week!
Claire

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

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K Greenwood





**North
Northamptonshire
Council**

Notice of planning APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

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

>FOTHERINGHAY

Works to allow for conversion of existing barn including changes to fenestration and internal alterations, addition of an independent oak framed gazebo and outdoor swimming pool at Garden Farm House Main Street Fotheringhay PE8 5HZ (LBRegs) (Info) NE/22/00055/LBC (15 March 2022)

>DEENE

Reserved matters: access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale relating to the erection of 197 no dwellings. Parcels 19 & 20, Zone 3, Key Phase 4; pursuant to application 19/01219/OUT: Application for outline planning permission with all matters reserved except for means of access in relation to the highway access from the A43 and means of access and landscaping in respect of the causeway crossing from Zone 1, for the development of a mixed use urban extension to include: residential development of up to 3,500 dwellings (C3), up to 1,000m2 of A1-A5, D1 and D2 uses within two local centres, up to 1,000m2 of D1/D2 (community building/changing rooms uses), two primary schools (D1), a 0.5 hectare reserve site in Zone 3 for flexible land use (education or informal open space), green infrastructure including formal and informal open space, wildlife corridors, landscaping, allotments/orchards and play areas, primary street and pedestrian and cycle network including diversions to existing PROWs, connections to the surrounding highway, sustainable urban drainage network, utilities and transport infrastructure and any necessary groundworks and demolition, and extension to Local Wildlife Sites at Priors

Hall Site Kirby Lane Deene NN17 3EJ (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/22/00084/REM (15 March 2022)

>OUNDE

Single storey rear extension, changes to fenestration and larger rear terrace at 3 Benefield Court Benefield Road Oundle PE8 4DD (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/21/01801/FUL (15 March 2022)

>OUNDE

Installation of individual built-up 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 (LB/CA) (Info) (LBRegs) (Info) NE/21/01819/LBC (15 March 2022)

>EASTON ON THE HILL

One and a half storey side extension, replacing the existing stone store; single storey rear extension; changes to fenestration including replacement windows and doors; repairs to the roof with some areas replaced with new tiling; replacement and relocation of existing garage; relocation of part of the boundary wall at 30 West Street Easton On The Hill PE9 3LS (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00020/FUL (15 March 2022)

>BRIGSTOCK

Conversion of Mill building to 7 bedroom B_B accommodation; removal of existing rear extension and canopy to be replaced by two storey rear extension; changes to fenestration and erection of detached bin and bike store at Wallis Mill Old Dry Lane Brigstock NN14 3HY (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00070/FUL (15 March 2022)

>BRIGSTOCK

Conversion of Mill building to 7 bedroom B_B accommodation; removal of existing rear extension and canopy to be replaced

by two storey rear extension; changes to fenestration and erection of detached bin and bike store; internal and external alterations as per Heritage Statement at Wallis Mill Old Dry Lane Brigstock NN14 3HY (LBRegs) (Info) NE/22/00071/LBC (15 March 2022)

>THRAPSTON

Single storey extension to the existing library at Thrapston Library 15 High Street Thrapston NN14 4JJ (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/22/00043/FUL (15 March 2022)

>FOTHERINGHAY

Addition of an independent oak framed gazebo and outdoor swimming pool; part conversion of existing barn with changes to fenestration at Garden Farm House Main Street Fotheringhay PE8 5HZ (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00054/FUL (15 March 2022)

>TWYWELL

Variation of conditions 2 and 10 pursuant to 19/01901/FUL - Demolition of the existing stable and store buildings and construction of three new dwellings and associated landscaping work (resubmission of 19/01119/FUL) at Land Rear Of 57 High Street Twywell (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00094/VAR (15 March 2022)

>KINGS CLIFFE

New two and a half storey dwelling at 34 Wood Road Kings Cliffe PE8 6XF (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00095/FUL (15 March 2022)

>BARNWELL

Demolition of previous shed / patio area replaced with combined shed/office/patio with pergola, folding aluminium doors and green sedum roof (retrospective) at 30 Main Street Barnwell PE8 5PX (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00079/FUL (15 March 2022)

>COLLYWESTON

Conversion of existing garage/annexe to games/gym room with storage space overhead, and external alteration to add more glass 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 (Revised submission to NE/21/01706/LBC) at 108 Main Road Collyweston PE9 3PN (LBRegs) (Info) NE/22/00130/LBC (15 March 2022)

>OUNDE

Single storey extension to existing care home, to create eight additional bedrooms and associated communal and parking facilities at Abbott House New Residential Care Home Glapthorn Road Oundle PE8 4JA (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00101/FUL (15 March 2022)

>OUNDE

Proposed single bedroom bungalow in garden of existing dwelling at 110 South

Road Oundle PE8 4BP (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/00123/FUL (15 March 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 19 February 2022



Consultation deadlines will differ for each application. You can see details of these applications at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/planningapplications. For details of how we treat your data, please see our Privacy Statement: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/privacynotices

FUTURE OF KERBSIDE GARDEN WASTE COLLECTIONS TO BE DISCUSSED BY EXECUTIVE

People in North Northamptonshire will be asked their views on the future collection of garden waste from their homes, if a report before the council's Executive is approved next week.

Following local government reorganisation last year, the new unitary council has inherited different approaches to the fortnightly kerbside garden waste collections from its predecessor authorities.

In Corby and Kettering, the service is provided year-round at no extra charge, whilst in Wellingborough, it operates between March and November with no additional cost for residents.

In East Northamptonshire, the year-round scheme has a £55 annual subscription fee.

North Northamptonshire Council now wants to harmonise waste collection across the area, so all residents receive the same service.

If agreed by the Executive, a consultation would start in March with the results reported back to a meeting of the Executive in July. The new service would begin by Autumn this year.

Cllr Graham Lawman, the Council's Executive member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "Now that we are one council across the North Northants area, we need to ensure there is a consistent service and whether there should be a charge across North Northamptonshire or not, for all our residents and we are now working to make this happen.

"It's important that we ask people for their views on this as it affects the majority of households in our area and certainly everyone who has a garden."

To implement a harmonised kerbside garden waste service, the Executive has several key options and considerations which will need to be

explored as part of the consultation exercise:

- To determine which months of the year a kerbside collection service would operate.
- To establish whether a universal garden waste service would be provided to all residents without an additional charge.
- To establish whether a subscription-based garden waste service would be provided to residents who wish to subscribe to the service and pay a subscription charge.
- And, if a subscription charge were to be levied, the level of this charge.

Subject to Executive approval, more details of how people can take part in the consultation will be made available soon.

INTERNATIONAL WAENDEL WALK SET TO RETURN 13TH-15TH MAY

The International Waendel Walk will be hosted by North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) in Wellingborough and the surrounding area from Friday 13th to Sunday 15th May, following a two-year break – and registration for walkers is now open.

The three-day walking event will begin with a 5km and 10km Friendship Walk on the Friday evening, starting from the Castle Theatre, before participants can take part in walks ranging from 5km through to 42km on the Saturday and Sunday with routes covering Wellingborough and the surrounding North Northants countryside.

North Northants and, particularly, Wellingborough is the only place in England to host the IML Walking Association, which in previous years has attracted people from across the country and globe, reaching as far as Australia and America. The last event in 2019 saw 6,500 walkers take part across the

weekend and the team are hoping to match (or exceed) this figure in 2022.

North Northamptonshire Council, who are running the event, are encouraging as many people as possible to get involved and sign up to take part. Whether it's a family walk, a personal challenge, or to raise money for a charity close to your heart, the International Waendel Walk will have something for you.

Cllr Helen Howell, NNC's Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, said: "It is excellent that the International Waendel Walk is being hosted by North Northamptonshire Council after a two-year break.

"We cannot wait to welcome walkers from across the country and further afield to Wellingborough and would encourage everyone to sign up to take part. It is great to have this event taking place in North Northants and there really will

be something for everyone – from the 5km Friendship Walk on the Friday through to the longer distances on Saturday and Sunday."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of NNC, added: "We are extremely proud to host this event. The International Waendel Walk really puts North Northants, and Wellingborough, on the world stage.

"But we couldn't do it without the help of our partner organisations and volunteers who help each year to deliver a fantastic event."

The weekend begins with live music and activities on the Friday evening in the grounds of the Castle Theatre, prior to the start of the Friendship Walk.

Across Saturday and Sunday, the live music continues along with sports, fun activities for all the family and entertainment at the Castle Theatre – the start and finish point of all walks.

To find out more and register to take part, please visit www.northnorthants.gov.uk/WaendelWalk and follow the links.

NEW IMPROVEMENT BOARD ROLE WILL OVERSEE PROGRESS OF COUNTY'S CHILDREN'S SERVICES

In 2019 the Department for Education (DfE) appointed a Commissioner to oversee improvements to Children's Services at Northamptonshire whilst they prepared to transfer to an independent trust in 2020.

Last year, the Commissioner advised the Minister for Children and Families that he felt that sufficient progress had been demonstrated by the new Northamptonshire Children's Trust and that the role of commissioner was no longer required.

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council, said: "I welcome reports of positive improvement in the services provided by Northamptonshire's Children's services.

"However, I am firmly of the view that independent oversight is still required, reflecting both the

importance of the service and the early position of the Trust's improvement journey.

"This is why we have worked with the government and insisted that there was a continuation of this oversight role so that Northamptonshire is in the best position possible to give our children and young people the best life chances in the future. I would like to welcome Jenny Coles who has been appointed by the DfE to the post of Independent Improvement Board chair."

Following the concerns raised by North Northamptonshire Council, the DfE has established a new role to oversee improvement

in Children's Services in Northamptonshire.

The Minister for Children and Families has appointed Jenny Coles MBE to the post of Independent Improvement Board chair, which will report on progress and provide assurance to Government.

Cllr Scott Edwards, the council's Executive member for Children, Families, Education and Skills, said: "It is pleasing to see that progress has been made but as there's still work to do. I welcome the new role of an independent improvement board chair to continue oversight of positive change. As such, I welcome Jenny Coles to this role."

Stunning lakeside wedding venue

Berryfields Wedding Venue is possibly the best kept secret in East Northamptonshire. If you are planning your wedding and looking for a blank canvas to style your day, then Berryfields could be perfect for you. The owners have created a beautiful lakeside venue

with bespoke shepherd hut accommodation.

This secluded wedding venue is hidden away in the charming village of Yarwell, located just 20 minutes from the centre of Peterborough and only a couple of minutes from the A1. The venue is made up of 21 acres of countryside overlooking

a private lake with its own resident swans and is a wonderful place to relax and celebrate with family and friends. Accessed by a private lane, Berryfields is the perfect setting to plan your big day, be it a stunning marquee or tipi wedding – you are free to style it your way.

The 1.5-acre wedding field offers ample room and a stunning backdrop to create some amazing memories individual to you. There are no hidden costs, and you are free to use your own choice of suppliers. The team at Berryfields firmly believes you should be able to have exactly what you wish for on your big day.

Open for weddings from March through to October to include up to 5-day hire to enable plenty of time for set up. There is plenty of space for parking and onsite camping facilities.



If you would like more information or to arrange a visit, contact berryfieldsevents@gmail.com or call 01780 784828.

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MAYOR'S AWARDS 2021-2022

Rushden Town Council is seeking nominations for the Mayor's Awards for Services to the Community for the year 2021/2022. The Mayor's Award is given to an individual for their work and commitment within the community of Rushden over a number of years. (Group nominations will not be eligible for an award.)

Please submit the name and address of nominees, together with details of the reason for their nomination, to the Town Clerk at Rushden Town Council, Rushden Hall, Hall Park, Rushden, Northants, NN10 9NG, or e-mail the Town Clerk at info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk. All nominations should be received by **Monday 28th March 2022**.

Welcome Back to Music

Saturday 5th March 2022,
11am-11pm at Saxon Hall,
Thorpe Street, Raunds.

With support from NNC's
Welcome Back Fund, Raunds
Town Council presents
Welcome Back to Music.

Performances from: The
Face, Alison Lane, Atomics,
Raunds Temperance Band,
Raunds Ukulele Orchestra,
Different Direction Choir,
Raunds Community Choir,
Local Schools.



For more information and to pre-order your FREE Tickets
go to www.raunds-tc.gov.uk or call 01933 622087

More men wanted

Northampton Male Voice Choir (NMVC), well known for working tirelessly to raise money for good causes, is looking to recruit more men.

The choir is holding a series of Open Evenings at various Northamptonshire locations, beginning on 22nd February in the Old Northamptonians RFC Clubhouse, Billing Rd, Northampton NN1 5RX.

NMVC Chairman, Mark York said: "All men, from curious novice to seasoned chorister, are welcome to come along to these Open Evenings and find

out what NMVC is about. This will be a great opportunity to meet choir members and our Music Team, enjoy a free beer and discover what joining the choir could mean for you."

Anyone interested or needing more information is invited to contact Marc Bentley on 07999 942 390 or marc.bentley23@gmail.com

NMVC website: <https://www.nmvc.co.uk>
NMVC YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWCKnjss8p1LrO1NonSf0KQ>
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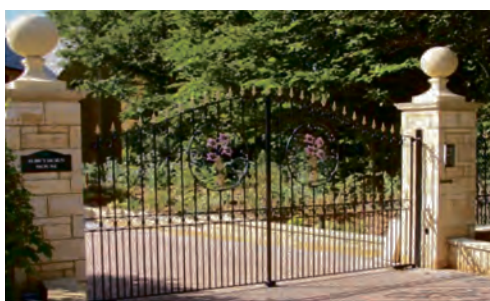
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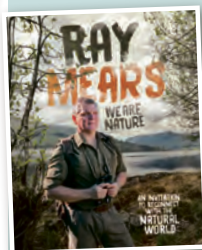
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Nene Valley News - Events

- **Sunday 20th February, 10.15am:** Whitefriars Church Morning Worship at Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. No need to book, but face masks required.
- **Sparklers – every Friday (term time), 9am to 11am:** At The Bridge, behind the car park of Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All children under five and their parents/carers are welcome to join us for stories, crafts, sensory play and activities. Hot drinks and snacks available during the morning. £1 per family. Little Sparks - a group for new parents and babies to meet together to chat and share their experiences: every Friday (term-time) 1.30pm - 3pm in The Bridge, behind the car park of Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. Details from Emma Croxon at emma@whitefriarschurch.org.uk or 07957 080074. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden and open to all.
- **Thursday 24th February, 7.30pm:** Ray Mears – We Are Nature.

Thought by many to be 'the father of British bushcraft', Ray is bringing his 2022 tour to Wellingborough's Castle Theatre. This show,



which is an invitation to reconnect with the natural world, will see Ray take the audience on a journey that will explain how to get the most out of our surroundings by developing and more fully

natural senses of sight, sound, smell and taste, at the same time as raising awareness of the vast richness of the natural world.

By utilising both demonstration and audience participation, Ray will share knowledge that has, until now, only been accessible to students on his Woodlore courses – many of whom have described them as 'life-changing' and 'as though the blinkers of modern life have been removed', enabling them to experience the natural world in all its beauty for the very first time.

In a relaxed, accessible style, Ray will entertain audiences with a fascinating, inspirational, and educational show. He will teach them to understand what it means to see with their ears and to hear with their eyes. He will discuss the methods and equipment he uses when tracking rare wildlife for television. He will also talk about the future, taking the audience on a fascinating exploration of the advanced technology of night vision and its future benefits – is it truly possible to see in the dark?

With input from Rural Wildlife Crime specialists, Ray will highlight ways that we can all use these extraordinary skills to help protect the wildlife we cherish. Increased sensory awareness can do more than just improve our connection to the natural world, it can also raise our situational awareness and help to keep us safe.

Tickets are priced £26.50 (Under 16s £19) with a Family Ticket costing £86 for 4. Book by calling 01933 270 007 or visiting www.castletheatre.co.uk, and come along and celebrate the importance of the wilderness!

- **Sunday 27th February, 10.15am:** Whitefriars Church Morning Worship with Holy Communion at Whitefriars Primary School. Face masks required.
- **Saturday 5th March, 2.30-3.30pm:** Jenny Pearson: The Incredible Record Smashers. The Great Hall, Oundle School PE8 4GH. Tickets £6. £1 off early bird tickets bought before the 26th February. Could you be an Incredible Record Smasher?

Jenny's live event will look at some of the world's most wondrous and wacky records including enormous animals, unbelievable humans and some incredible watermelons. You can join in with the ridiculous record quiz and there may be an opportunity for you to have a go at a record yourself.

Listen to Jenny read a passage from her book, The Incredible Record Smashers, and discuss its themes, such as the importance of friendship and what makes us happy.



Suitable for children aged 6-11.

- **Sunday 6th March, 9.30am:** Higham Ferrers Footpath Group. Saffron Road Car Park for car sharing. Free. Contact Cindy 07552 993777. Six-mile walk around Harrold Country Park via Great Wood.
- **Friday 18th March, 7.30pm:** Rushden & District History Society – Paul Needle on The Birth of Broadcasting. Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. Admission: Members £1.50, non-members £2.50. Tel 01536 238320 for more information.
- **Friday 18th March, 7.45pm:** John Wright – A Spotter's Guide to Countryside Mysteries. The Glaphorn Room, Oundle. Tickets £8 (£6), £1 off early bird tickets bought before 11th March.

John Wright is a passionate natural historian and the author of the River Cottage Handbooks on Mushrooms, Edible Seashore, Hedgerow and Booze. As well as writing for national publications, he often appears on the River Cottage series for Channel 4.

All tickets available from the Oundle Box Office, 10am-1pm Mon-Fri. Tel: 01832 279086 or visit oundlelifet.org.uk/events

- **Sunday 20th March, 9.35am:** Higham Ferrers Footpath Group. Saffron Road Car park for car sharing. Free. Contact Donna 07841 048026. An 8.75 mile walk – Avenue Road, Worley's Wood, Knotting.



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.

PROJECTS SUITABLE FOR 'LEVELLING UP FUND' URGED TO COME FORWARD

North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) has launched an online survey designed to identify any plans in the area that could access the Government's Levelling Up Fund.

Any bid submitted to the Levelling Up Fund can be for a single project, or a package of related projects, up to a value of £20m.

NNC are currently identifying potential projects which could be put forward through various steps, including an online survey, to gather information about projects the council may have been previously unaware of.

Projects must be capital schemes (i.e. involve spend on a physical asset), and delivered by the end of March 2024 to support economic prosperity by investing in infrastructure.

The online survey is now open and includes questions on the description and

purpose of the project, priority themes, and how it would align with local and national policy and priorities, amongst other key questions.

Cllr David Brackenbury, NNC's Executive Member for Growth & Regeneration, said: "The Levelling Up Fund looks at projects across three key investment themes: transport, regeneration and town centre and cultural, and we are looking for projects that come under any of these themes.

"It could be a smaller project, which could be put forward by NNC as part of a group of themed projects, or a large-scale project that will help to transform the local area and North Northants."

Cllr Graham Lawman, NNC's Executive Member for Highways, Travel & Assets, said: "This funding

is designed to support economic prosperity and our net zero carbon ambitions through investing in infrastructure, so it is vital that we seek every opportunity to take advantage of it.

"To that end, we are starting to put together a list of potential projects that could be submitted, but we also want to hear from Town and Parish councils, businesses and other organisations about suggestions and projects across North Northamptonshire that might be important to them.

"We want to give every part of the district the opportunity to contribute, so, if you currently have a project in the pipeline, just an idea or an issue that needs resolving, please come forward and complete the online survey."

The survey is online now and can be accessed via NNC's Citizen Space and will close on 20th February.

Well Northants Programme under way to address health inequalities in Northamptonshire

Public Health Northamptonshire welcomes the Government's commitment to set out its strategy to tackle the core drivers of health inequalities this year through a Health Disparities white paper.

This intention, along with those in the Government's Levelling Up White Paper, fit well with a recently launched project within both unitary authorities.

The Well Northants Programme has been put in place to work with communities in Northamptonshire who are most at risk of health inequalities – to understand their needs, map existing support, and identify community health and wellbeing needs.

Six Community Development Workers have been recruited and are already working either embedded in communities in Corby, Kettering, Wellingborough and Northampton, or with inclusion health groups.

Empowering communities is central to this programme, which is why a participatory budgeting model, directly involving communities in making decisions about how to spend public money, is being used. The Community Development Workers will have access to a pot of money to issue grants which will be used to put in place interventions to address local need, designed in partnership with those communities.

Lucy Wightman, Director of Public Health Northamptonshire, says: "This programme is key to addressing health inequalities. It gives power back to local communities, involving their populations in discussions and solutions around public health and wellbeing.

"By empowering these communities they can become more connected, more resilient and involved in improving their health and wellbeing.

"There is strong evidence that this community assets based approach can address inequalities and will support the Levelling Up agenda [...] West Northamptonshire Council's Anti-Poverty Strategy and North Northamptonshire Council's focus on Levelling Up mean both councils have a strong commitment to the Well Northants project.

"This is an exciting programme that presents an opportunity to engage with our most vulnerable residents, to empower local communities to take action to improve their wellbeing. It presents both Unitary Councils with opportunities to learn about a new way of working with communities which then has the potential to be expanded to other areas in Northamptonshire."

The first phase of the programme is about engaging with local communities and key stakeholders – to develop local action plans, with grants to be used to fund projects.

SPRING 2022 HIGHLIGHTS

For full listings, visit castletheatre.co.uk



Wed 23 Feb, 6pm & 8.30pm



Thu 24 Feb, 7.30pm



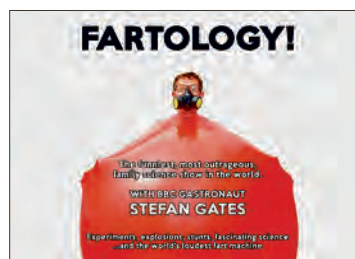
Fri 25 Feb, 7.30pm



Tue 8 Mar, 7.30pm



Wed 9 Mar, 7.30pm



Thu 10 Mar, 7pm



Sat 12 Mar, 7.30pm



Thu 31 Mar - Fri 1 Apr, 7.30pm



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'No Smoking' rule for Country Parks play areas

Country Parks across North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Councils have committed to play areas becoming smoke-free zones.

Signage is now up in Country Park play areas in both unitary authorities banning smoking in a bid to stop youngsters from picking up the habit. A concerned member of the public flagged the issue after witnessing smoking around her children.

The proposal for the signage was put forward by Public Health Northamptonshire and backed by both North and West Northamptonshire Country Parks. It takes action in a practical way to reduce the exposure to, and visibility of, smoking.

Sadly smoking remains the leading cause of death and ill health in the United Kingdom, and every day more than 200 people die from a smoking related condition in England alone. Smoking places an enormous strain on our health service, social care system, and economy.

Every day in England 280 children start smoking, and two-thirds of these children will go on to become daily smokers.

There are approximately 96,000 smokers in our county. Every year in Northamptonshire smoking is responsible for more than 7,000 hospital admissions, 300,000 GP appointments, 30 house fires, and over 1,000 deaths.

Councillor Helen Harrison, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing for North Northamptonshire Council says: "Our Country Parks play an important role in helping our residents explore the great outdoors with friends and family, and thousands flock to enjoy these areas every

year, myself included. Despite our Country Parks being the epitome of a healthy and active lifestyle, exposure to second-hand smoke whilst enjoying these areas is sadly not uncommon, even in children's play areas."

Councillor Matt Golby, Portfolio Holder for Adult Care, Wellbeing and Health Integration for West Northamptonshire Council concludes: "It is really important to make smoking less visible to our younger residents. Implementing a no-smoking rule in all of our Country Parks children's play areas ensures that these environments remain a safe and fun place for adults and children alike."

Those who are looking to quit smoking can self-refer to Northamptonshire's Stop Smoking services which offer:

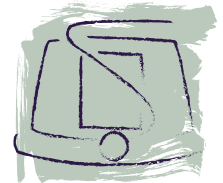
- 12 weeks of specialist support to help you stop smoking
- Bi-weekly telephone consultation with a Stop Smoking Advisor
- Tips and advice on how to quit
- A free course of nicotine replacement therapy
- A free e-cigarette starter kit and ample supply of e-liquid
- Products sent directly to your door at no cost

For more information visit www.northnorthants.gov.uk/stopsmoking or call 0300 126 5700

Or follow @smokefreeNN1 on Twitter and Facebook

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (WELLINGBOROUGH ROAD, IRLTHINGBOROUGH) (TEMPORARY 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from exceeding 30 mph along that length of Wellingborough Road, Irlthlingborough as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Wellingborough Road, Irlthlingborough from the cemetery to Presland Way roundabout.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during s.278 works for a development.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 20th February 2022 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted for four months.

If you require any further information please contact Gary Thorp ref:- 21/22 – N474 on 01604 651072. PKG/T22/098

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Executive Director, Pathfinder Legal Services Ltd

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Hunt, Nicola**
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For help and information to place your notice please
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Robots and AI to inspire the construction workforce and innovators of tomorrow

Moulton College is bringing together local students, businesses, innovators and construction leaders to celebrate and showcase the technology shaping the construction sector's future at an exhibition on Thursday 3rd March.

Designed to inspire tomorrow's innovators and construction professionals, Moulton College is hosting its Construction Future Skills Exhibition from 10.30am-4pm.



The event is an unmissable opportunity for students, educators and construction employers in the area to network and view the latest technology in action, from high-tech robotics to AR and VR, drones, exoskeletons, remote plant operations, green technologies, power tools and remote-control carriers.

The College's own construction students, as well as pupils from local universities, colleges and schools will learn about the skillsets needed to develop their own career in different roles, while employers have a unique chance to attract their future workforce and meet with other expert construction professionals.

High-profile attendees include leading contractor chief executives, technology innovators and government, who will also meet to discuss some of the hottest topics affecting the industry.

Corrie Harris, Principal and Chief Executive at Moulton College says:

"Our goal is to help as many young people as possible to enter the construction industry, and ensure they get the skills they need for a long and successful career.

"By providing direction on skills training and showcasing some of the best and most innovative construction technologies out there, we hope to prepare and inspire the next generation to build the future.



"That's why we're inviting industry specialists, employers, educators, our own students and students from other local schools, colleges, and universities to come together to join us for a rare opportunity to meet industry decision makers and employers for excellent networking and learning opportunities."

Among confirmed exhibitors are chief executives from major contractors Stepnell

and Kier Group, Flannery Plant's plant simulator, Winvic's Health and Safety training VR, Tenstar Simulation's professional machine education simulator, digital construction solution Oculo, and geo-spatial technology specialists Ridge. The Construction Minister is invited, while Constructing Excellence (CE) Midlands and the National Federation of Builders (NFB) are event partners.

If you'd like to register to attend the event, please contact Sue Titmuss, Marketing Manager at Moulton College at: susan.titmuss@moulton.ac.uk <https://www.moulton.ac.uk/>



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- WEEE Waste
- Reliable & Friendly Staff
- Single Bulky Items
- Full house clearances
- Residential & Commercial Services

OUR SERVICES:

- Declutter Service
- Property Clearance
- Garden Clearance
- Loft Clearance
- Office Clearance
- Sharps Removal
- Window Cleaning
- Extreme Cleaning
- Biohazard Cleaning
- End of Tenancy Cleaning
- Decontamination Cleaning
- COVID-19 Fogging
- Carpet Cleaning
- Void Property Cleaning
- Wheelie Bin Cleaning
- Hazardous Waste Removal
- WEEE Electrical Waste
- Graffiti Removal
- Skip & Grab Hire
- Confidential Shredding
- Jet Washing Service
- Touch Point Cleaning



BIN CLEANING from £3.50