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TREES FROM 'TREE OF TREES' GIFTED TO NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PAGE 12

# LIGHTS AND SMILES

Many people visited Rushden Town Council's Christmas Lights Switch-on event in the High Street.



Luckily the weather stayed dry and mild as the community came together for a day of festive fun with local businesses, fun fair and an array of entertainment, both on and off the stage.

**TREEWILDER** 

PAGE 04

Santa and his real Reindeer proved as popular as ever and the Snow Lion and Bubble





Lady were a fantastic

addition to the day.

Winkle switched on the impressive Christmas light displays. A spokesperson for said: "The event was very well attended and a fantastic day was had by all. Thank you to all who came. We lit up Rushden.



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### Oundle Golf Club's oldest member celebrates her 100th birthday!

On Tuesday 22nd November, Oundle Golf Club's oldest member celebrated her 100th birthday. Cicely Grace Robinson has been a member at the club for 50 years, and she continued to play up to the age of 94.

Debbie Verdino, Oundle's Women's Captain, presented Cicely with a card and presents from Women members, while Club President Richard Cole presented her with a bouquet of flowers. They then cut her birthday cake while members sang Happy Birthday and gave three cheers.

Following the celebration, the women's team watched in wonder as she drove off on the first tee to mark the occasion. Cicely thanked everybody for their good wishes and said how much she missed them all.



Debbie Verdino, Oundle's Women's Captain, with Cicely Robinson

## WILDLIFE NEWS

It is not at all difficult to keep a record of arrival dates of birds coming into 'our patch', whether that is a small back garden or our regular walk. All we need is to remember to make a note of it. But it is impossible to carry out a similar catch at the end of the season, to provide "board and lodging" for the "other half" of the year. There is no set time or day for the birds to be out of the premises. The cuckoo shows the problem of trying to compare travelling times: the wellknown call tell us when they have arrived, but how do we tell when any particular sighting will be the last for the rest of the year?

The easy way, of course, is to look up the answer in our 'bird book' but it is not always guite as simple as that, especially when the visitor is not often seen in our garden or field. For example, the wagtails are a family of birds which are not by any means rare but are not commonly seen on an afternoon stroll.

### WORDS BY **ROY BURRELL**

.....

WORDS BY

.....

**JAN PEARSON** 

They could be described as "dainty", with slender bodies and legs, often but not always found near water. In our countryside there are three species -- pied, grey and yellow (plus quite a few variants grouped together under the umbrella 'white'), but are they summer visitors? There is some uncertainty whether they do travel large enough distances to earn the label "migrant", but the shadow of a small but lively bird passing through some small plants gave the game away. The initial sighting was not very clear, but several more glimpses showed that it was not all the bright yellow expected; the back was actually a gentle grey while the underparts remained vellow (to confuse watchers?), and "a picture paints a thousand words", says the old poem. In this case the puzzle remained – was this a bird which 'got left behind' or just a family changing home? It has not been seen again in that spot, so let's hope it found either its family, or at least a food supply.

### GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

Have you ever read Dickens' A Christmas Carol - or at least seen the film? Those with money had wonderful Christmases: lots of food and drink and making merry. However, for much of the population, many meals were the same as they had been for the other 364 days of the yearmeagre, to say the least. Sadly, those times are being reflected this year for many.

At the beginning of the 19th century, Christmas was hardly celebrated – certainly not in the way that it is today. Queen Victoria's husband, Prince Albert, brought the idea of a Christmas tree over from Germany and so that fashion grew with the tree being decorated with nuts, fruits and homemade sweets. Gifts had traditionally been given at New Year, but the Victorians were responsible for moving that idea to Christmas. These were usually homemade and could be embroidered picture frames, keepsake boxes or a doll that had been made from local wood.

However, Christmas Day was often the one day - or part thereof - that many people did not have to work. Therefore, do not be surprised if you find a Christmas Day wedding or baptism. Also, some

churches married people for free on public holidays. So, this Christmas, take a moment to think back to days gone by. How might your ancestors have celebrated Christmas? Would they have gone to

Church? Probably. Would they have exchanged presents? They may have. Would they have eaten well? Not always the case.

Although I mentioned last time that I visit the Oundle Library on the first Wednesday of each month – and have been doing so for about 8 years -I have decided that a quarterly visit would be more beneficial. With Christmas and New Year happening very soon. I am sure that people are busy with other commitments - enjoy those parties and family gatherings! Therefore, the next time that you see me in the Library will be towards the end of February at a more convenient time for folk, when I will be able to spend more than just an hour there.

Wishing you and yours well over Christmas and New Year

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

# **Readers'** letters

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to congratulate Rutland Sinfonia on another wonderful concert at St Peter's Church, Oundle.

Their four performances per year are a rare treat in the region, eagerly anticipated by sell-out audiences. They are a group of accomplished amateur classical musicians from the area who invariably perform to a professional standard, with up to 70 on stage for each concert.

The latest programme included three works: Overture to 'Bishop Rock' by Doreen Carwithen written in 1952; Piano Concerto #3 by Beethoven and Vaughan Williams' Symphony #2, 'A London Symphony'

The Sinfonia typically feature a work by a lesserknown composer in the

programme and this time it was Doreen Carwithen, an English composer who began composing at the tender age of 16 and wrote over 30 film scores. She has come to prominence more recently and featured in the Last Night of the Proms in September.

The performance of Beethoven's Piano Concerto #3 was perhaps the highlight of the evening, starring Dr Robert Markham, the Sinfonia's new musical patron for 2022/23

Finally, and in recognition of Vaughan Williams' 150th anniversary this year, we heard his 'London Symphony' which was first performed in 1914 and dedicated to George Butterworth.

It was such a well balanced programme and throughout the performances the

Handles

dedication of the musicians their leader Katherine Collison and Music Director Paul Hilliam shines through, They clearly have great collaborative chemistry. playing with passion and joy, and we are so lucky to have them on our doorstep.

Surely classical music is the genre that invariably rewards the audience most in a live format?

We should cherish the opportunity to see Rutland Sinfonia and support them throughout their season.

The next concert is at Oakham School Chapel on 11th March with a programme of Stage and Screen favourites - not to be missed!

> Yours sincerely Colin Pulley Stamford

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## STAY SAFE WHEN YOU'RE DUT CELEBRATING **THIS CHRISTMAS**

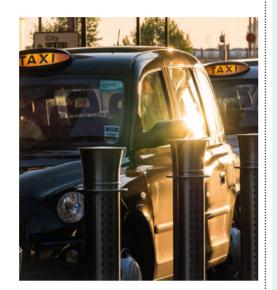
Ahead of the start of the Christmas party season, residents across North Northamptonshire are being asked to remember some golden rules when planning a trip or night out.

If you are arranging an evening out this Christmas, make sure that you plan well in advance how you are getting home by using licensed taxis.

All taxis that are registered with the local council must display a licence plate (usually on the front and rear of the vehicle) which has a number, along with a smaller licence in the front windscreen. Always check this before getting in a taxi to make sure that your driver has followed the correct and legal processes. Here are a few golden rules when using

taxis this Christmas:

- Plan how you're going to get home from your night out - arrange a lift or book a taxi in your name. And leave the taxi booking details with a friend
- Always keep the number of a reliable firm with you
- When you make a booking, ask if you can pay by card. It is worth agreeing the fare in advance, so you can make sure you have the correct cash to pay if necessary



- Avoid taxis that tout for business and are unlicensed
- When the taxi arrives, check it is the one you booked by asking for the name in which it was booked. If in doubt, don't get in
- Always sit behind the driver in the back seat
- If you feel uneasy, ask to be let out • Stick with your friends and choose a meeting point for if you get separated
- Never accept a lift from a stranger

### Household Support Fund set to help low wage workers manage cost of living

North Northamptonshire Council is committed to supporting households with difficulty managing food and heating costs.

An estimated 4,000 households of North Northamptonshire residents who are working, but receiving a low wage, will now be able to apply for financial relief.

The funding, part of the Household Support Fund phase 3, provided by the Department of Work and Pensions, has been allocated to help working North Northants residents who were not eligible for the Cost of Living benefit.

The payments have been earmarked for employed adults (aged 18 or over) on an income of £300 a week or less.

Applicants will need to fill in a simple online form, upload payslips and proof of identity. ideally using a computer, and

must have a bank account. Once approved they will receive £125 directly into their nominated account with a further £125 credited to the same account 60 days later. No further application

will be needed for the second payment.

Those who do not have access to a computer can visit a North Northamptonshire library where they are available for free public use.

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council said: "For the third Household Support Fund we wanted to help our many hard-working North Northamptonshire residents who are employed but receiving a low wage.

"It's important that these, who haven't been eligible for previous Household Support

Funds or other support, such as the Cost of Living benefit, don't miss out on vital help with rising bills."

As well as offering support to residents who are working, but receiving a low wage, the Household Support Fund phase 3 is also helping families with children on free school meals with vouchers covering the Christmas holidays.

Additionally the fund is also being used by the council to work with community groups to identify where best to target funds which would benefit up to a further 1,750 families. This assistance will either be in the form of direct payments. payments to charities, or assistance to foodbanks.

Cllr Smithers added: "We are delighted that this funding will also enable us to support our community groups, who are so important in helping us access those in need, including assistance to foodbanks and warm spaces.

To find out more and to apply online please go to: www.northnorthants.gov.uk/hsf3

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Wed 22	Seasonal Mystery Trip					
Thu 23	Ely					
Sun 26	Orchids at Kew Gardens					
Tue 28	Chippenham Park Snowdrops					

### MARCH

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- Thu 9 Seasonal Mystery Trip National Railway Museum or York
- Sat 11 Sat 11 York's Chocolate Story
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# TAŪRUS

### JANUARY

### 23rd-27th JANUARY 2023 -WINTER MYSTERY

Half board, includes Excursions £449pp. 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

### 13th-17th FEBRUARY 2023 - VALENTINES

Eartop Edition Hotel, Induay, Hain Board Includes Exclusions, E379pp. Enjoy a special break away at Valentines in Torquay which is one of the UK's top holiday destinations. With its iconic palm trees, busy harbour and international marina this will be a holiday to remember.

### APRIL

### 10th-14th APRIL 2023 -**KELPIES, LOCHS & GLENS -**

KELPIES, LOCHS & GLENS -ALL INCLUSIVE The Winnock Hotel, Drymen, All Inclusive, £499pp. Drymen is an attractive village located in the beautiful Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park. The park consists of 40 mountains ranging from 2500ft to over 3000ft, 22 lochs, 50 rivers and two forest parks, The Argyll Forest Park and the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park. The Campsie Fells hills are to the west of Drymen. The lovely village boasts spectacular views of Dumgoyne to the east and is just a short way from Loch Lomond to the west. Excursions include Kelpies with guided tour, Edinburgh, Aberfoyle Sheep Dog Display, Cruise on Loch Katrine with afternoon tea, and the Balmaha to Luss Cruise (one way) Inveraray.

For late availability for our Christmas holiday at The Park Royal Hotel Warrington call us today

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### > 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.

Our singing reindeer are back and Santa will be in his grotto again this year awaiting your visit. 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





# Step into the woods at Treewilder

If you are thinking of a festive walk in the outdoors this year, why not visit the free art exhibition at Barnwell Country Park? Artwork from seven international artists has been installed in outdoor locations around the park site as well as some more sculpture and video works in the visitor centre and café.

The park is open all year round with the visitor centre closed on 24th, 25th, 26th and 31st December plus 1st and 2nd

January. The exhibition is called Treewilder, suggestive of both the words 'bewilder'

and 'rewilding', and invites

audiences to take a step into the woods and the world of contemporary art. The project was commissioned

by Fermynwoods Contemporary Art, guest curated by London based curator Angela Kingston, and features prints,

sculptures and video work by Denise de Cordova Delaine Le Bas, Kim L Pace, Jennet Thomas, Danny Treacy, and Johannes Zits. Some work previously featured in the Royal Academy Summer Show, with other work being made especially for Barnwell.

Exhibition runs until 28th February 2023. Barnwell Country Park, Barnwell Road, Oundle PE8 5PB. For more information visit www.fermynwoods.org/ treewilder, or call in at the park.



### ( fermynwoods

TREEWILDER

A free contemporary art exhibition at Barnwell Country Park

5 November 2022 til 28 February 2023

Barnwell Country Park, Barnwell Road. Oundle, PE8 5PB

www.fermynwoods.org/treewilder



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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:

### >KINGS CLIFFE

Convert former school to four town houses, conversion of horsa to ancillary annexe accommodation, along with associated landscaping, parking and access, first floor extension to NE wing and changes to fenestration at Kings Cliffe Primary School Park Street Kings Cliffe PE8 6XN (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) LBRegs) (Info NE/22/01431/FUL and NE/22/01432/LBC (3 January 2023)

### >EASTON ON THE HILL

Demolition of rear UPVC conservatory and outbuildings and construction of new single storey extension, the replacement of lean to roof and replacement of UPVC vestibule roof at 38 Church Street Easton On The PE9 3LL (Info) (LB/ CA) (Info) NE/22/01418/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >THRAPSTON

Provision of solar/PV panels to the roof of the constructed care home at Land Off Huntingdon And Market Road Thrapston (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01412/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >HIGHAM FERRERS

Change of use of residential flat to commercial, first floor extensions,

external alterations and signage at 3 College Street Higham Ferrers NN10 8DX (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01419/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >RUSHDEN

Change of use of upper floor to C3 residential accommodation comprising 2 x 1 bed apartments and 2 x 2 bed apartments, with new front door and rear amenity space. at First Floor 95 High Street Rushden (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01328/ FUL (3 January 2023)

### >THRAPSTON

Demolition of single storey lean to structure, and erection of two storey side extension, for use as display area. Change of use of existing light industrial/storage building (B1) to research and development facility with storage, training and educational area, test kitchen and on site cafe with retail sales and display of catering equipment at 12 Cottingham Way Thrapston NN14 4PL (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01390/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >FINESHADE

Erection of two storey side extension and detached garage building with office above at 4 Top Lodge Fineshade NN17 3BB (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/22/01434/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >EASTON ON THE HILL

Installation of secondary glazing to all windows at 26 Church Street

Easton On The Hill PE9 3LL (LB/CA) (Info) (LBRegs) (Info) NE/22/01441/ LBC (1 January 2023)

#### >RUSHDEN

Four semi-detached dwellings with parking, conversion of existing outbuilding into carport and new vehicular access, following demolition of the existing residential dwelling at 23 High Street South Rushden NN10 0QU (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01440/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >WOODFORD

Change of use of ground floor room from commercial to residential annexe. Prior use history and annotated plans are provided at 57 High Street Woodford NN14 4HE (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01378/ FUL (3 January 2023)

#### >NASSINGTON

First floor rear extension at 38B Church Street Nassington PE8 6QG (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01442/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >RUSHDEN

Installation of one new CCTV camera at 75-79 High Street Rushden NN10 ONZ (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01445/FUL (3 January 2023)

#### >RUSHDEN

Demolition of existing public house (class C4) and erection of three-storey building to a mixed-use consisting of 2 retail (class E), 2 offices (class E) and 10 two-bedroom apartments with associated access, car parking, refuse storage & landscaping at 105 High Street Rushden NN10 ONZ (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/22/00909/FUL (3 January 2023)

### >HIGHAM FERRERS

1 x Projecting (Blade style) sign; 1 x Fascia sign; 1 x Recessed sign at 3 College Street Higham Ferrers NN10 8DX (LB/CA) (Info) NE/22/01420/ ADV (3 January 2023)

The reason for applications being advertised is as follows: Part3 - Town and Country **Planning (General Development** Procedure) Order 2015. Part16 - Town and Country **Planning (General Development** Procedure) Order 2015. Info - Non-statutory - included for information only. LB/CA - Planning (Listed **Buildings and Conservation** Areas Act 1990. LBRegs - Planning (Listed **Buildings and Conservation** Areas) Regulations 1990.

Rob Harbour, Assistant Director Growth And Regeneration

### Dated 10 December 2022

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

### NEW OFSTED RATING FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE AS IMPROVEMENTS HIGHLIGHTED

Significant improvements continue to be made to children's services in North Northamptonshire according to a report published by Ofsted.

In a letter to North Northamptonshire Council, Ofsted highlighted the good work of Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) and rated children's services as 'Requires Improvement to be Good' lifting it out of the 'Inadequate' category it had been rated since 2019.

After a number of monitoring visits, October this year saw the first full inspection of children's services by Ofsted since the unitary authorities came into being in April 2021. In the report, Ofsted noted that inspectors recognised: 'Children in need of help and protection in North Northamptonshire receive much better support than they did at the time of the inspection in 2019.'

It continued: 'Early help support has been strengthened, children at risk of harm are identified and timely protective action is taken.'

Ofsted acknowledged that help was now at hand for children and families who were just beginning to have problems, making sure that these small problems did not grow.

Inspectors also highlighted that when children were at risk of very serious harm, social workers acted quickly to make sure they were as safe as possible and social workers completed assessments so that they could plan the best ways to help children and families.

Social workers were also praised for finding the right families for most children who cannot live with their own families, and that they are well cared for.

Senior leaders who have worked hard to improve services for children and families since the previous inspection of Northamptonshire in 2019 were also commended. However, although services have got much better, Ofsted recognised that there was still more to do.

Cllr Scott Edwards, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Member for Children, Families, Education and Skills, said: "I'm delighted that children's services continue to be on an upwards trajectory and that Ofsted have recognised the substantial improvements that have been made by lifting children's services out of the inadequate category.

"Improving life chances for every child is a key priority for us and we're all absolutely committed to making sure that we continue on this journey. Progress has been made in some challenging areas and I'm confident that we have the right leaders and staff in place to continue to progress."

**Consultation deadlines will** 

differ for each application.

You can see details of these

applications at www.east-

northamptonshire.gov.uk/

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planningapplications.

The predecessor authority, Northamptonshire County Council delegated its children's social care statutory functions and transferred the provision of children's social care services to Northamptonshire Children's Trust (NCT) on 1st November 2020.

The trust now delivers children's social care and targeted early help services on behalf of North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire councils.

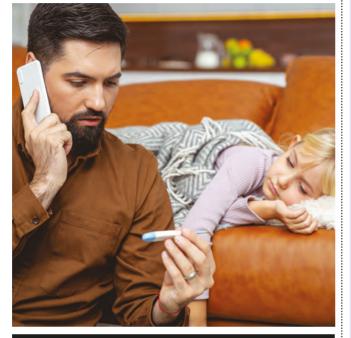
The letter to North Northamptonshire Council is now available to view in full on the Ofsted website.

# Health advice and support whenever and wherever you need it

Did you know that if you or your family need urgent healthcare you can get help and support whenever you need it?

NHS 111 is free to use and available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and because it's available online, you can leave your child to rest while you get the advice and reassurance vou need. If needed, a healthcare professional will call you straight back.

And the best part is, if your family does need to see a health professional, NHS 111 will offer you a timeslot\* at the local health service which is best placed to treat them – that could be an Urgent Treatment Centre, a General Practice, pharmacy or emergency dentist - saving you time and the stress of hanging around waiting areas. All you need to do is answer a few questions. The easiest way to use NHS 111 is by logging onto 111.nhs.uk



\* A timeslot is an allocated time for you to arrive at a service and does not mean you will be seen at that time

## YOUR HEALTH - YOUR FEET

### WORDS BY **CLAIRE SHORT**

I spend a large proportion of my week explaining to people that osteopaths don't just treat backs. In fact, I regularly find myself singing "Heads, shoulders, knees and toes; knees and toes" to complete strangers.

Podiatrists and Foot Healthcare Practitioners don't have that problem. Everyone knows that they treat feet. Easy! Our podiatrist, Ann Exton,

is away for a while, so lo Fowler, our Foot Healthcare Practitioner, gave me some tips on what you can do at home to look after your feet. Top foot tips from Jo:

- Clean under vour nails ves it does make a difference!
- Dry between your toes - moisture between the toes can be a potential cause of yucky fungal infections. • Sore lumps might be corns
- or a verruca. Verrucas are

Claire Short is a Registered Osteopath, and runs The Ashgrove Clinic in Higham Ferrers.



people have biomechanical

changes at the back of their

foot, some in the front, and

sure you use very professional

disappointing. My own theory

is that if you've got sore feet

sites to get your info.

Neither |o nor Rachel

lawnmowers, which was

had any comments on

easier to treat in the early stages, so stop looking at that lump and poking it! Get it diagnosed and treated.

- some in the middle. The shape In-growing toenails of inserts and the sort of rehab don't cut vour will be different for each. If you're using Google, make
- nails curved or too short. • If you're prone to dry skin apply moisturiser to your feet, but not between your toes. l also asked Higham's gait

analysis and rehab specialist, Rachel Hill, for some words of wisdom. She says that most people she sees use Google to

you can't push the lawnmower, mis-diagnose themselves with so maybe you're better off flat feet. The reality is that some keeping the sore feet!

Send your questions to claire@ashgrovehealth.co.uk or Tweet to @AshgroveClinic



### WHEN YOU OR YOUR FAMILY NEED THE NHS CONTACT 111

Free and open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year – either by calling 111 or visiting 111.NHS.UK





### Nene Valley News - Events

### > SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER Countryside Walk: walking wisely through Riseley

A pre-Christmas walk of about four miles on some of Riseley's many public footpaths. Meet outside the Londis Store in the centre of Riseley (91 High Street, MK44 1DD) - in time to leave at 10.30am. Please contact Andrew Presland at and rew. presland. harborough 58@ gmail.com or 01933 316927 for more details. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden, and open to all.

### > SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 7PM

**Carol service at Whitefriars Primary School** Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome

### > SUNDAY 11TH DECEMBER, 3PM **Yarwell and Nassington Britannia Band Christmas Concert**

Nassington Church. Some great Christmas music and some carols to sing along to. And if that is not enough then there will also be mince pies and a cup of tea. There is no charge for the concert but there will be an opportunity to donate to local charities. This year the charities will have been chosen by the children at Nassington School. If you went to the Spring concert you will have enjoyed the playing and witnessed the infectious enthusiasm of the young players from Elton School. Well they are coming back again to take part in this Christmas concert. So enjoy your Sunday lunch first and then come and enjoy the music of both bands. It is definitely a family event so please bring your children, grandchildren, parents and grandparents. They will all have a special, festive time.

### > SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER, 10.15AM **Christingle Service at Whitefriars Primary** School

Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome

> WEDNESDAY 21ST DECEMBER Film: The Family Stone (Ages 13+)

It is nearly that time of year

Theatres and Castle Theatre, Wellingborough bring you

another stunning, magical

pantomime and this year it will be the classic, good

vs evil tale of Jack and The

This enchanting and fun

for all the family pantomime

has a stellar cast including

Matt Monfort as Jack Trott,

Elizabeth Armstrong as lill.

Beanstalk.

again when Parkwood

Saxon Hall, Raunds, Refreshments served from 1pm. Film starts at 1.30pm. Ring 01933 622087 between 10am-2pm to reserve your seat. £1 entry (Includes tea/coffee and cake) Film Overview: A traditionalist and uptight businesswoman goes with her boyfriend to his quirky and outgoing family's yearly Christmas bash and realises that she is terribly out of place in such an environment. Film Genre: Christmas Romantic Comedy

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#### > SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER 4 30PM **Nativity Service at Whitefriars Primary** School

Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome.

### > SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER, 10.15AM **Christmas Day Service at Whitefriars Primary School**

Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome

### > SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER, 8.30AM TO **10AM**

### Christmas Day breakfast (free!)

At the College Street Centre, Irthlingborough NN9 5TU. Everyone welcome. Free hot food and drinks, friendly company. Please ring 07722 843821 for more information.

### Other events in the Rushden area:

Warm spaces in Rushden and Higham Ferrers: all are welcome

- In Rushden:
- Mondays: Salvation Army, 10am-2pm
- Tuesdays: St Mary's Church, 10am-2pm • Wednesdays: the Wesleyan Church, High
- Street, 10am-2pm
- Thursdays: St Mary's Church, 12 noon-4pm. • Fridays: Rushden Town Council (Rushden
- Hall), 1.30pm-3.30pm

#### **In Higham Ferrers:**

- Tuesdays: Hope Methodist Church, 1pm-3pm
- Thursdays: St Mary's Church, 10am-2pm

# MARTIN EDWARDS: **BLACKSTONE FELL**

Tuesday 13th December at 7.45pm-8.45pm. The Glapthorn Room, Fletton House, Glapthorn Road, Oundle PE8 4/A.

Rachel Savernake investigates bizarre crimes and a baffling locked-room puzzle in this Gothic mystery from the winner of the Diamond Dagger. This is the third book in the Rachel Savernake Golden Age Mystery series.

Yorkshire, 1606. A man vanishes from a locked gatehouse in a remote village. 300 years later, it happens again.

Autumn 1930. Journalist Nell Fagan knows there's only one person who can get to the bottom of this mystery: Rachael Savernake, But someone wants Nell dead, and soon, while investigating a series of recent deaths at Blackstone Sanatorium, she's missing entirely.

Looking for answers, Rachel travels to lonely Blackstone Fell, with its eerie moor, deadly waters and sinister tower.

With help from Jacob Flint - who's determined to expose a fraudulent medium at a séance -Rachel will risk her life to bring an end to the disappearances...

A dazzling mystery peopled by clerics and medics and embellished with science and superstition, Blackstone Fell explores the shadowy borderlands between spiritual and scientific; between sanity and madness; and

Tickets £8 (£6), available from the Oundle Box Office, Queen Victoria Hall, West Street, Oundle PE8 4EJ

MARTIN EDWARDS

Phoneline open: 10am-2pm Mon to Fri: 01832 279086 Online at https://oundlelitfest.org.uk/events/ Enquiries contact oundlelitfestival@hotmail.co.uk



Martin Edwards

between virtue and deadly

'A pitch-perfect blend of Golden Age charm and sinister modern suspense.' Lee Child Martin Edwards has been the editor of 38 anthologies and has written many contemporary whodunits, including The Coffin Trail, which was shortlisted for the Theakston's Prize

for best crime novel of the year. He has won the Edgar, Agatha, H.R.F. Keating, Macavity, Poirot and Dagger awards as well.

Martin is President of the Detection Club, a former Chair of the Crime Writers' Association and consultant to the British Library's bestselling crime classics series. In 2020 he was awarded the Diamond Dagger for his outstanding contribution to crime fiction



Wednesday 21st December 2022

Refreshments served from 1:00pm Film starts at 1:30pm No under 18's permitted without an adult

f @RaundsCouncil 🖸 @RaundsTC 🞯 raundstowncouncil



£1 entry (includes tea/coffee & cake)

Ring 01933 622087 between An 10:00 am - 2pm to reserve vour seat.

Adam Borzone as Dame Trott, Sarafina Doussay as Fairy Fuschia, Will Frazer as Silly Simon and finally of course there is Daisy the Cow, "Oh ves there is!".

CLIMB UP THE BEANSTALK AND

JOIN CASTLE THEATRE FOR SOME

**FEE FI FO FUN FOR EVERYONE!** 

Welcome to the world of fairy tales, where our poor hero lack and his dotty Mum Dame Trott are tricked into selling their beloved cow Daisy for a useless bag of beans.

Laugh at Silly Simon, boo and hiss the wicked

Fleshcreep and cheer on our clouds

The show will run at Castle Theatre until Saturday 31st December 2022. Tickets are

available from the Box Office on 01933 270007 or online castletheatre.co.uk

hero Jack as he tries to rescue his sweetheart lill from the nasty giant's castle in the

Jack and the Beanstalk is a fun-filled pantomime for all the family and the perfect Christmas outing, Book now to avoid disappointment and we look forward to seeing you all there.

A giant of a family pantomime!

### We all need a bit of help sometimes...

We are living through some of the most challenging times that many of us will have experienced. The constant cycle of negative news and the current cost of living crisis have seen us experience many months of uncertainty, loss and isolation and this can have an impact on our mental health. In addition, there are many other factors that can cause stress, depression or anxiety in our lives and sometimes, we might just need a bit of help.

NHFT Talking Therapies helps adults of all ages who may be having difficulties experiencing common problems such as low mood, stress, anxiety and depression. NHFT Talking Therapies can help individuals to identify, understand and

manage their problems or difficulties and NHFT therapists will support individuals through this process, giving them the skills to help them to help themselves. These therapies are provided in a range of methods to suit individuals, by phone. through video link, face to face, or through some of our newer online tools and programmes, which can be accessed whenever and wherever works best for you.

Free, weekly webinars on "sleep", "low mood", "worry" and "practicing mindfulness" are also offered

If you need a little bit of help, visit winter. support where you can learn more and sign up to any of these free programmes.

### CROYLAND CAR MEGASTORE **ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP** WITH CAMPERKING

### Northamptonshire based Croyland Car Megastore has announced its latest business partnership with CamperKing.

The Rushden based dealership has been appointed as the exclusive approved dealer for CamperKing in Northamptonshire and will sell new campervan models, which Croyland customers can customise selecting from a range of bespoke fixtures, fittings, fabrics and finishes.

Crovland Car Megastore General Manager. Mark Swindells, said: "We are delighted to announce our partnership with CamperKing, it is an exciting development for the business.

"We have seen a rise in the number of Croyland customers choosing campervans and motorhomes as staycations soared in popularity. Our team will be able to advise customers on models and options allowing them to tailor the campervan to their own specification."

The announcement sees Croyland continue to expand its range of motorhomes and campervan options for customers and the business is already an approved Swift Motorhome dealer.

Croyland has already taken delivery of its first





collection of CamperKing conversions and will stock vehicles from the five-campervan model range with the option of customers choosing to specify and personalise their own CamperKing campervan.

Steve Hayward, CamperKing's Dealer Network Manager, said: "It's great to be able to announce Croyland Car Megastore as one of our dealers. Their position as one of the best-known automotive sales businesses in the East Midlands will ensure our campervans will be accessible to an even larger audience, and that the full range of choice and specification is on offer to all their customers. We're delighted to have them on board."

CamperKing is the UK's largest Volkswagen based campervan manufacturer in the UK.





THE

CENTRE

01933 229135 www.thegaragedoorcentre.co.uk

### Help is at hand to reduce energy bills and cut carbon

Government grants are now available for those in North Northamptonshire who are eligible and want to make home improvements to reduce their energy bills and cut carbon emissions.

Sustainable Warmth is a government grant scheme designed to fund energy-efficiency upgrades for residents who are most likely to be impacted by the high cost of rising bills.

The grants managed by our partner organisation EON can be used for energy saving technology and upgrades fitted by approved installers

- Upgrades available include:
- insulation and ventilation upgrades
- an upgrade to a low carbon heating system (the new heating system cannot include a gas or oil boiler)
- heating controls

10

- solar panels (that generate free electricity)
- energy-efficient lighting

Grants are available for those who own their own homes and for landlords of privately rented properties.

Eligibility for the grants is determined by a number of factors including household income and the energy-efficiency rating of the property.

Cllr Matt Binley, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Member for Housing.



Communities and Levelling Up, said: "I welcome this scheme in North Northamptonshire as the grants can help assist eligible households to make home improvements which will make properties more energy-efficient and sustainable going forward.

"Not only will these grants reduce energy bills but they will also lower carbon emissions too. which will contribute towards our environmental aoals.

### More details about the scheme, which runs until 28th December 2022, including eligibility and how to apply, are on the council's website.

### **Prizes up for grabs during** World Cup 2022 in North Northamptonshire Libraries

World Cup fever has taken hold in North Northamptonshire Council Libraries with scores of activities on hand for football fans young and old.

Supporters have been invited to take part in the 'design your own football kit' competition with a grand prize up for grabs for the overall winner.

Additionally, the first three entries at each library received an official Panini sticker booklet and stickers.

Each library has a station filled with football related fun including colouring resources, books and posters.

There is also a Qatar 2022 wall chart so that enthusiasts can keep up to date with the World Cup tournament scores and fixtures.

Cllr Helen Howell, the Council's Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, said: "I'm delighted that sports fans young and old will be able to take part in the football fun we have on offer.

"I would encourage as many people to come along to their local library to see what's on offer and, who knows, they may even be in with a

The stations will be available in local North Northants and community libraries from now until 24th December 2022. Details of the grand prize are available in libraries.



shout of scoring the grand prize!

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "We're all hoping that we'll all have a football fiesta in store over the coming weeks and I'm pleased that we've been able to offer some activities for enthusiasts across the North Northants area.



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### CHRISTMAS IS NOT **JUST FOR DOGS!** .....

### Huge numbers of our four-legged friends (plus one tortoise) had a very special opportunity this year to meet "Santa Paws" at The Ashgrove Clinic in Higham Ferrers.

The Ashgrove Clinic, known as a centre of excellence for pain, aesthetics and laser treatments, reinvented itself as Santa's grotto for the day. The canine visitors all seemed very pleased with the event (especially the bags of delicious treats provided by Bertie's Pet Shop in Higham). Tortellini the tortoise was less bouncy, but seemed to be happy with her own special goody bag of mealworms!

Brooke Robinson, lead osteopath at the clinic, said there was a wonderful Christmassy atmosphere, with gueues of dogs waiting for their chance to get a photo of themselves with Santa



Higham Ferrers



The day raised over £550 for the Medical Detection Dogs charity. Brooke says that almost all of the practitioners in the clinic are dog owners, so the charity combines two of the clinic's passions: medical diagnosis and our canine friends.

www.medicaldetectiondogs.org.uk www.ashgrovehealth.co.uk

Higham Ferrers Town Council

m Hall Market Square, NN10 88T

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armers Mar	ket - Sat	urday 28th January,	9am - 1pm - Market	Square
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# Nene Valley > **CLASSIFIEDS**

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

### **Family** NOTICES

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Nene Valley News can help you make those important family announcements. For help and information to place your notice please call 01522 692542 or visit www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

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NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14 (LAWSON STREET, RAUNDS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2022

(TEMPOKARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2022 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Lawson Street, Raunds as set out below. LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Lawson Street, Raunds from outside number 15. REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during a new water concertion.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 19th December 2022 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. 19th December 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 three days. ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Clare Street, Hollington Street and Hill Street.

lf you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:-22/23 – N395 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T22/713

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 - SECTION 14

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (GLAPTHORN ROAD, COTTERSTOCK & COTTERSTOCK ROAD, GLAPTHORN) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2022 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along those lengths of Glapthorn Road, Cotterstock and Cotterstock Road, Glapthorn as set

out below. LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Glapthorn Road, Cotterstock and Cotterstock Road, Glapthorn from Oundle Road to vick Road.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during

carriageway repairs. **PERIOD OF CLOSURE:** The proposed Order will come into effect on 10th December 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 neral Directions 2016

EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted up to er 2022

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Southwick Road, Oundle Road, Glapthorn Road, Cotterstock Road and Oundle Road. If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:-22/23 – N418 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T22/741

Dated this 10th day of December 2022

DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES Executive Director, Pathfinder Legal Services Ltd



# **Trees from 'Tree of Trees'** gifted to North Northamptonshire

Two trees that were included in the Queen's Green Canopy 'Tree of Trees' have been gifted to Chichele College in Higham Ferrers and the Green Patch in Kettering.

The trees, two of 350 that formed a sculpture outside Buckingham Palace during the Platinum Jubilee celebrations, were gifted as a 'thank you' for all the valuable and tireless work that volunteers and individuals undertake for the benefit of their communities.

Vice Lord-Lieutenant. Morcea Walker, presented one of the trees to volunteers at the Green Patch on 10th November, before she was joined by the Queen's Green Canopy Chairman for Northamptonshire, Paul Parsons to present the second to Chichele College on 12th November.

The tree gifted to Chichele College will join existing fruit trees and further add to the history of the site, whilst the

Green Patch's tree has been replanted on the 2.5-acre site by the River Ise.

Cllr Harriet Pentland, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Member for Climate and Green Environment, said: "This is such wonderful news. I am sure many of us will have seen the 'Tree of Trees' outside Buckingham Palace during the lubilee celebrations and what an honour that two of the trees have now been re-planted in North Northants.

"The Queen's Green Canopy scheme continues until the end of March 2023, so there is still plenty of time for you to plant your own memorial to Her Majesty the Queen and I would encourage community groups and individuals to do so. As well as being a legacy, the benefits of planting trees are enormous

and will make a difference for generations to come.

The Lord-Lieutenant, James Saunders Watson, said: "I am delighted that Chichele College and the Green Patch have been selected to receive a Tree from the 'Tree of Trees', which form part of the legacy of the celebration of Her Late Majesty's Platinum Jubilee."

The Queen's Green Canopy scheme is currently running until the end of March 2023 and residents are being encouraged to plant a tree as a lasting legacy to Her Majesty the Queen. Any trees that are planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy can be added to the official map which documents all the trees that have been planted since the start of planting season in October 2021



Vice Lord-Lieutenant Morcea Walker



Visit our

website

**Chichele College planting** 



**Green Patch planting** 



Celebrating HM The Queen's Jubil



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# Abbott House Care Home

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