

Nene Valley NEWS

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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SURPRISE CHICK!

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LOCAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AWARDS OVER £2.5 MILLION IN GRANTS

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Northants Historic Churches Trust (NHCT) has vacancies

1) Trust Secretary and 2) 'Friends of NHCT' Secretary. The two were combined by the previous Secretary but could easily be separated if required.

The main task of the Trust Secretary is to attend two meetings (always in Northampton, in April and November) and take and distribute minutes. For further details of what the posts involve, please contact Eddie Byland (NHCT Treasurer) on 01536 790707 (preferred) or on byland@btinternet.com



New Vehicle Activated Speed Sign installed in Raunds

Thanks to valuable feedback received from residents, Raunds Town Council recognises that speeding remains a significant safety concern within the community, and is fully committed to supporting initiatives that encourage motorists to choose speeds that are both legal and safe.

The Town Council has now completed the installation of a new mobile Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VAS) on London Road, which has been identified by data provided by Northamptonshire Police Safer Roads Team as a particular hotspot for excessive speeding.

A London Road traffic survey conducted in 2022 found that during the course of one week, 62% of vehicles were travelling in excess of the 30mph limit, whilst 30% of vehicles were travelling in excess of 35mph, which is the threshold for Police enforcement action.

In addition to London Road, resident feedback and Police data has identified that Chelveston Road, Marshalls Road and Midland Road are also areas where speeding is particularly prevalent, and the mobile capabilities of the VAS sign mean that it can be easily redeployed to these locations at five weekly intervals in order to maintain its effectiveness.

The sign will present a green smiley face to motorists travelling within the 30mph speed limit, whilst reminding those exceeding the limit to slow down.

Ollie Curtis, Chairman of Raunds Town Council's Environment, Leisure and Recreation Committee, said: "The Council has listened carefully to the understandable concerns raised by the Raunds community around the problem of excess speeding.

"We already participate actively in the successful SpeedWatch initiative, which will be back on our streets in April, and the VAS sign is another valuable tool at our disposal to positively encourage improved driver behaviour and compliance with the speed limit.

"The Council is proud to play a leading role in championing schemes such as this, which will help to make the road environment safer for our residents and reduce the risk of serious collisions."



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MOST VULNERABLE IN NORTHAMPTONSHIRE INVITED TO BOOK COVID-19 SPRING JOBS

Thousands of the most vulnerable people in Northamptonshire are being invited to top up their protection from coronavirus and book a spring Covid-19 vaccination.

Eligible groups for spring Covid-19 jobs include residents in care homes for older people, people who are 75 and over and adults and children (aged 5 and over) with a weakened immune system.

Those living in care homes in Northamptonshire are being prioritised and are already starting to receive their vaccinations as roving teams work to ensure those most

vulnerable stay protected this spring.

Those eligible will be invited over the coming weeks via letters and text messages from the NHS and notifications on the NHS app, for those who use it. The spring vaccination offer will end on 30th June.

Those invited can now book appointments via the National Booking Service or NHS app and will be able to get their jabs from Monday 17th April.

More than 45 sites across Northamptonshire will be offering the Covid-19 spring vaccines in a bid to protect as many eligible people in the county as possible close to where they live. As well as GP practices and community pharmacies, this will include Northamptonshire's own mobile vaccination service which will be visiting neighbourhood venues, shopping centre car parks,

places of worship, local events, and other sites throughout the county for the duration of the spring campaign.

To be eligible, it is recommended that those invited should make sure their appointment takes place at least three months after their last dose.

Chris Pallot, Director of Northamptonshire's Covid-19 Vaccination Programme, said: "The offer of a spring vaccine is the best way to ensure those who need it most maintain a higher level of protection. Please do note that the offer of a spring jab is from Monday 17th April to the end of June and not beyond this point. It's therefore really important people come forward and stay safe this spring and enjoy your summer.

"We have ensured there are plenty of sites available offering vaccines across the county. I cannot stress enough how important it is that

everyone that's offered this dose gets their top-up jab as soon as they can.

"Covid-19 may not be at the forefront of our minds, but we must not get complacent. It can still be very dangerous and that's why we will continue to do everything we can to protect those at higher risk of serious illness from Covid-19 in Northamptonshire."

As well as everyone aged 75 and above and those living in care homes for older adults, anyone aged 5 or over who has a weakened immune system can also access a spring vaccine over the coming months. This includes pregnant women and those living with a wide range of long-term health conditions, with further information listed on the NHS website.

Anyone who believes they should be eligible for a vaccine but does not get invited can check online at www.nhs.uk/covidvaccine. Alternatively, you can self-declare via the

National Booking Service and then speak to a clinician on site.

While more than 1.8 million Covid-19 vaccinations have been delivered in Northamptonshire, there are thousands of people yet to come forward for a primary first or second dose.

Anyone aged 5 or over can still come forward for a first or second dose of the vaccine. This offer will also end on 30th June, following the latest Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advice. After this date the NHS offer of the vaccine will become more targeted to those at higher risk and will be offered seasonally.

Chris continues: "It's not too late to come forward – the offer of first and second doses is available until 30th June. We do not want anyone to miss out on the protection the vaccine offers against serious Covid-19 disease. No one wants to be poorly this spring. Please don't leave it too late."

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

When I was at school, I was bored by History lessons. This was probably because it was all about the various Kings and Queens, battles and invasions etc - nothing about real people and how they lived. If I could have studied Social History, I would have found it far more interesting! But back then education was a lot different to nowadays. Mind you, living in St Albans, I did manage to sometimes immerse myself in the day to day living of the Romans in Verulamium!

Having said that, by researching my family's history, it is amazing how much other history I have absorbed without even trying. My Grandad was a tank driver in the First World War. From that, I discovered that tanks were first used in 1916 at the Battle of the Somme. My 'Smith' family from Ashdon in Essex lived in one part of the village when another branch lived a mile away up the hill. There are two settlements for this village, created during the 1665

plague when those who were unaffected upped sticks and moved up the road away from infection.

Sometimes, it can be helpful to create a timeline of what was going on when your ancestors were living. Keep it simple but it could certainly help you to understand what might have been affecting their lives. Why did they move from the country to the towns? Some of my Essex family moved into London in the 1850s and 1860s. Why? That was when the London Underground was first being built and wages were higher for railway labouring than for being agricultural labourers.

So, even though learning about history might not have been that interesting at school, it can certainly add some colour to your ancestors' lives – even if you do end up learning about it by accident!

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Nene Valley News is produced by KM Media & Marketing, County House, 9 Checkpoint Court, Sadler Road, Lincoln LN6 3PW.

Copy dates for Nene Valley News

Publication date: Saturday 29th April
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 19th April

Publication date: Saturday 13th May
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 3rd May

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Funding injection to boost North Northamptonshire electric vehicle infrastructure

Infrastructure for the charging of electric vehicles in North Northamptonshire has been given a boost with £3.25million from Government.

The provisional funding includes £2,895,000 capital funds for purchasing and installation costs and a further £351,780 for planning and delivery.

Bringing more on-street charging points into operation is seen as one of the main ways of making the use of electric vehicles more appealing and the funding will focus on areas with no, or very limited, off-street parking.

Funding has been made available under the UK Government's Local Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) Fund and is dependent on suitable plans to be agreed by the Department for Transport.

The council plans to submit a detailed business case before the end of the year to secure

this funding. Work will include preparation of an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Strategy which will help to inform where the funding should be targeted.

Currently there are 128 publicly available electric vehicle charging points in places such as Corby, Higham Ferrers, Kettering, Rushden, Thrapston, and Wellingborough, but forecasts suggest that potentially more than 1,000 could be needed across these and other towns and in rural communities by 2030.

Cllr Graham Lawman, the council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets said: "I'm delighted that we've been allocated this provisional funding from Government which will greatly help to create

more charging points around our area.

"As a driver of an electric vehicle myself, I can appreciate the benefits [that] having an enhanced infrastructure would bring and I look forward to new proposals being brought forward."

Cllr Harriet Pentland, the council's Executive Member for Climate and the Green Environment, said: "Reducing carbon emissions is one of the key priorities for the council as we strive to be carbon neutral by 2030.

"Encouraging low-carbon forms of transport is so important to achieve this aim and there is also the added bonus of reducing pollution, which is beneficial for everyone."

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "This is a great boost to the North Northamptonshire area – as electric cars are the future of transport, bringing so many benefits."

Surprise chick!

The team at The Ashgrove Clinic in Higham Ferrers had the town in peregrine confusion on 1st April! While several thousand people were watching the livestream from the peregrines' nest, a toy chicken suddenly appeared!

Osteopath Steven Bruce,

whose idea it was to set up the livestream, said that they couldn't resist creating an April Fool's joke for viewers.

"Of course, it looks like we've climbed into the nesting area to put a toy chicken in with the peregrines, but as most people realised, it was

all done by green screen wizardry."

The chicken was filmed sitting on a green screen carpet, with a fan on it to create a bit of movement in the toy. The clip was then run over the top of the livestream. A video of how it was done will be up on the website.



If you've not seen the livestream yet, you can find it at www.ashgrovehealth.co.uk/falcons. Currently there are 4 eggs.





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20th and 21st May 2023







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Woodford Community and Sports Complex, Highfield, Woodford NN14 4FL
Contact Donna on 07460 428484 / Facebook - The Woodford Vintage Festival



RB Travel

01536 791066

APRIL

- Wed 19 Hereford
- Thu 20 Banbury Market
- Sun 23 Skegness
- Tue 25 Spitfire & Hurricane + RAF Manston
- Fri 28 Southwold & Diss
- Sat 29 Oxford OR Oxford Castle

MAY

- Mon 1 Bakewell Bank Holiday Market
- Wed 3 Bury St Edmunds Market Day
- Sat 6 Belvoir Castle & Gardens
- Sun 7 Lincoln
- Mon 8 Derbyshire & Peak District
- Thu 11 Jersey Boys
- Thu 11 Back to the Future the Musical
- Fri 12 Stamford Market & Grantham
- Sat 13 Malvern Spring Show
- Sat 13 Springfields
- Sat 13 Spalding Flower Parade
- Sun 14 Hunstanton
- Mon 15 Salisbury Cathedral & Free Time
- Wed 17 Wye Valley River Cruise & Lunch
- Sat 20 Clacton-on-Sea
- Sun 21 Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair
- Sun 21 Camden Market
- Tue 23 Mystery Full Day
- Thu 25 Constable Country & Essex
- Sat 27 Warwick Market Day
- Sun 28 Brighton
- Tue 30 Family Seaside Mystery
- Wed 31 American Museum & Bath

JUNE

- Thu 1 Tank Museum
- Thu 1 Monkey World
- Fri 2 Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- Fri 2 Doncaster
- Sat 3 Skegness
- Tue 6 Melton Mowbray Market Day
- Wed 7 Sheringham & NNRW
- Sat 10 Hunstanton
- Sun 11 Great Yarmouth
- Thu 14 Nottingham Cruise & Lunch
- Thu 15 Nantwich Market Day
- Sat 17 Cromer
- Sun 18 Gardeners World with Good Food Show
- Fri 23 National Arboretum & Lichfield
- Fri 23 National Arboretum
- Sat 24 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
- Sun 25 Swanage
- Tue 27 Windsor Luxury Afternoon Tea Cruise

JULY

- Sat 1 Llangollen Motorised Boat Trip
- Sat 1 Llangollen Railway/Classic Transport Show
- Sun 2 Great Yarmouth
- Sat 8 Hampton Court Garden Festival
- Sun 9 Hunstanton
- Tue 11 Bicester

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TAURUS

Holidays



MAY

30th APRIL – 5th MAY - ISLE OF SKYE
Dunollie Hotel, Broadford. Half board including Excursions, £629pp. The village of Broadford is the second largest on Skye. This beautiful, tranquil town is a great place to stay while taking part in various outdoor activities like walking and climbing. The area is dominated by the magnificent Red Cuillins mountains, while the views over the bay extend across to Applecross mountains on the mainland. There is some wonderful wildlife in the area like otters, seals, sometimes Orca whales, Whooper swans, Brent geese and many other examples of marine and bird life.

22nd – 26th MAY - THE GATEWAY TO WALES
St. Pierre Marriott Hotel & Country Club, Chepstow. Half Board including Excursions, £499pp. You'll find plenty of tempting independent boutiques amid the handsome Georgian and Victorian buildings in the centre of Chepstow. This lively town combines the best of ancient and modern. A major medieval powerhouse, its Norman castle is built at a strategic point overlooking the river Wye. Chepstow Castle is Britain's oldest surviving post-Roman stone castle. Excursions include a boat cruise and train journey.

28th MAY – 2nd JUNE - JUMP INTO IRELAND
Stormont Hotel, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast. Half Board including Excursions, £659pp. Belfast is Northern Ireland's capital. In recent years it has undergone a remarkable transformation. With important 19th-century buildings and award-winning 20th-century architecture, this city offers excellent facilities and many modern tourism developments. The renovated dockyards' Titanic Quarter includes the Titanic Belfast, a museum reminiscent of a ship's hull, as well as shipbuilder Harland & Wolff's Drawing Offices and the Titanic Slipways.

JUNE

10th – 18th JUNE - THE BEAUTIFUL AUSTRIAN LAKES & MOUNTAINS
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Moulton College launches part-time construction courses at Higham Ferrers

If you're considering a change of career, there is a challenging industry in desperate need of skilled workers: construction.

It's a varied and interesting sector, which requires skills like plumbing, electrics, carpentry and brickwork to fill the gaps left by an ageing workforce. And with statistics from the Construction Industry Training Board showing an additional 225,000 construction workers may be needed in the next few years, it's never been a more exciting time to join the industry.

Now, to support adults looking to retrain or brush up their skills, Moulton College is offering part-time construction courses at its Higham Ferrers campus. From September 2023, Moulton College will run courses in Bricklaying, Plumbing, Carpentry and Electricals based at the

fully-equipped construction workshops at its Chelveston Road site. Lessons will take place two evenings per week to help adults fit their lessons around existing commitments.

Craig Robertson, Head of Construction for Moulton College explains: "The UK is seeing an increasing number of adults looking to retrain and pursue brand new careers. With so much opportunity in construction, we wanted to be able to teach the skills required in a way that works flexibly for those who want to maintain their day jobs.

"Our part-time courses allow learners to develop new skills in a supportive environment led by dedicated lecturers. We also have strong links with local construction

companies, which can open doors for students looking to work in a hugely rewarding and diverse industry. Moulton College's part-time offering is further supplemented by a range of full-time courses and apprenticeships in construction."

For those interested in exploring the Higham campus facilities and to learn more about what's on offer, Moulton College is holding two hands-on experience and information events in June, specifically for adults.

The events will take place as follows:

- Tuesday 13th June 6pm-9pm, Brickwork and Plumbing
- Thursday 15th June 6pm-9pm, Electrical and Carpentry

To find out more and book your place, visit www.moulton.ac.uk/events

OUTDOOR LEARNING FOR ALL PUPILS AT NENE PARK

Whether you are looking for adventurous activities or environmental education visits, Nene Park in Peterborough offers a huge range of opportunities for outdoor learning, where young people can try different activities, develop new skills, and most importantly, have fun!



Environmental Education

The education team delivers a range of environmental education activities designed to tie in with national curriculum requirements at all levels. Teachers can choose from a selection of themed days developed to target specific curriculum areas, or tailor their visit to individual requirements.

Outdoors Adventurous Activities

From its base at Nene Outdoors Watersports and Activity Centre, the team offers a safe and fun environment to encourage personal development and group cohesion through a wide range of land and water-based adventure activities. The qualified team will advise on selecting a range of activities to meet your learning requirements, curriculum links and the needs of your pupils.

The Nene Outdoors team can also visit your school and run education and adventurous activities on site.

Residential Visits

With stunning lake views, Nene Park's campsites are discreetly tucked away from the bustle of the

rest of the park. Facilities include a shelter, benches, campfire and a fixed barbecue stand. Access to the toilet and shower facilities at Nene Outdoors is available 24 hours a day. Choose from the Lakeview Bell Tent campsite or pitch your own tents on The Glade campsite.

Forest School

Forest School activities provide pupils of all ages regular opportunities for hands-on learning experiences in a woodland setting. Nene Park offers a range of experiences, from taster days to full length Forest School courses.

Teacher Training

Incorporating regular opportunities for outdoor learning into your teaching has proven to be a great way to achieve curriculum goals, while at the same time boosting pupils' physical and mental wellbeing. Nene Park's CPD training and RQF registered training courses provide a range of opportunities for teachers and education professionals to build skills and gain experience.

To find out more please visit www.nenepark.org.uk/education



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Forest School and Teacher Training

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Industrial Action from Tuesday 11th April until Saturday 15th April – **advice for patients requiring health support during this time**

The BMA and HSCA have announced a junior doctors' strike running from 06:59 on Tuesday 11th April until 06:59 on Saturday 15th April.

Junior doctors make up half of all doctors in the NHS so the action will have a significant impact on hospitals in the county.

The local NHS in Northamptonshire is offering the following advice to patients who need health support during this period.

Toby Sanders, Chief Executive, Northamptonshire ICB said: "This four day strike comes immediately after a four-day bank holiday weekend, which is already challenging for the NHS and at a time when we know there will high levels of annual leave due to the Easter holidays.

"Junior doctors are qualified doctors who have up to eight years' experience working as a hospital doctor and make up around half of all doctors

in the NHS, so we know this industrial action is going to have a significant impact on our hospitals.

"During strike action we will prioritise resources to protect emergency treatment, critical care, neonatal care, maternity, and trauma, and ensure we prioritise patients who have waited the longest for elective care and cancer surgery. We will only cancel appointments and procedures where it is necessary and will reschedule as swiftly as possible.

"It is important that patients who need urgent medical care continue to come forward as normal, especially in emergency and life-threatening cases - when someone is seriously ill or injured, or their life is at risk. Patients with less urgent needs are advised to use the alternative services which

are available to them such as NHS 111 online, their pharmacy, Corby Urgent Care Centre or their GP practice."

Options available to patients during strike action:

Patients with urgent health concerns

Anyone who needs urgent care should use 111.nhs.uk to be assessed and directed to the right care for them. If needed a healthcare professional will call you back and this option can save you time in waiting areas. If you do not have internet access or you are contacting 111 about a patient aged 5 or under, please call 111 instead.

Corby Urgent Care Centre is open every day between 8am and 8pm and can help with minor injuries/ illnesses such as lacerations, sprains, strains,

minor burns or scalds.

GP practices will also continue to be open, including the enhanced access service (out of hours). Please continue to contact your GP practice if you need GP services and the out of hours service can be reached via 111.nhs.uk.

Patients with minor illnesses and injuries

Your local pharmacy can help with minor illnesses like coughs, colds and red eye. They are open late and no appointment is needed.

Patients who need medical help or advice but are unsure where to go

Contact NHS 111 online unless it unless it is a life-threatening emergency when you should still call 999.

Patients who have an appointment on strike days

Everyone who has an appointment should attend as planned unless your local NHS provider has contacted you to reschedule. If they have not contacted you, please attend your appointment.

GP services will be running as normal on strike days. Please continue to attend scheduled GP appointments as planned.

Patients should continue to call 999 in a medical or mental health emergency – when someone is seriously ill or injured, or their life is at risk.



For more information on when to call 999 and when to go to A&E, you can visit the NHS UK website.

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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:

> IRTLINGBOROUGH

Demolishing and replacement of existing stone boundary wall (average 2.0m high) and timber panel fence (average 1.8m high) separating Meeting Lane public footpath and house numbers 4 to 11 Wearra Close and also part number 2 Meeting Lane rear garden at Meeting Lane Irthlingborough (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/23/00224/FUL (9 May 2023)

> HARRINGWORTH

Change of use of public house and hotel to dwelling (including part demolition of 1 single storey extension, removal of 1 dormer, removal of 1 rooflight, extension

to existing single storey extension including new pitched roof, internal and external alterations (including replacing some doors and windows), reconstruction of dormers at The White Swan Seaton Road Harringworth NN17 3AF (LB/CA) (Info) LBRegs NE/23/00231/FUL and NE/23/00232/LBC (9 May 2023)

> RUSHDEN

Proposed fascia sign at 37 - 39 High Street Rushden NN10 0QE (LB/CA) (Info) NE/23/00277/ADV (9 May 2023)

> RAUNDS

Variation of condition 4 to allow for access from Brookes Road for agricultural purposes only, in accordance with proposed turning head and track access 18027-SK114, pursuant to 12/01889/VAR. Variation of Condition 4: Removal of the access between Brooks Road and the eastern part of the site so

that access to and from this eastern parcel is via Midland Road only. Approved plan CS24675/T/108 to be substituted with revised plan CS-0593-T-001, pursuant to Application 09/01626/OUT - 'Outline application: Proposed Sustainable urban addition to Raunds comprising residential (Use Class C3); residential care facilities (Use Class C2); business (Use Class B1); storage and distribution (Use Class B8); new vehicular and pedestrian access and associated road infrastructure, public open space, landscaping (including flood alleviation measures), and conversion of existing buildings to provide residential (Use Class C3) and/or community facilities (Use Class D1) (All matters reserved except for access)' dated 12.10.09 at Land North Of Raunds Fronting Brick Kiln Road North Street Brooks Road And Midland Road Raunds (Info) (Part3) (Info) NE/23/00274/VAR (9 May 2023)

> TITCHMARSH

Installation of 22 "in roof" solar panels. 11 panels on the west elevation and 11 panels on the east elevation at Titchmarsh Village Shop 1 The Green Titchmarsh NN14 3DE (Info) (LB/CA) (Info) NE/23/00209/FUL (9 May 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 15 April 2023

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

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

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www.instagram.com/highamferrerstc

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AT THE TOWN HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED

Town Council Meeting - Tuesday 25th April, 7.30pm

Planning & Development Committee Meeting - Tuesday 16th May 6.45pm

Environment and Recreation Committee Meeting - Tuesday 16th May 7.30pm

Town Council Meeting - Tuesday 30th May, 7.30pm

Farmers Market - Saturday 29th April, 9am - 1pm - Market Square

Farmers Market - Saturday 27th May 9am - 1pm - Market Square

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

* Cllr Bert Jackson Email: bertjackson@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	* Cllr Jennie Bone Email: jenniebone@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Barry Prigmore Email: barryprigmore@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Tony Reading Email: tonyreading@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Gary Salmon Email: garysalmon@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Peter Tomas Email: peteromas@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Pam Whiting Email: pamwhiting@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Tina Reavey Email: tinareavey@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Chris O'Rourke Email: chrisorourke@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Angela Gardner Email: angelagardner@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Nigel Brown Email: nigelbrown@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Barry Spencer Email: barryspencer@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Vijay Paul Email: vijaypaul@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Paul McCann Email: paulmccann@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Gerald Kelly Email: geraldkelly@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Sean Prosser Email: seanprosser@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk

* North Northamptonshire Councillors

Creative Oundle

Open Gardens in Oundle

Saturday 21 May | 10am – 3pm

An opportunity to visit twelve of the town's exquisite private gardens in the heart of Oundle, including a plant sale.

Refreshments available around town.

£5 in advance / £7 on the day / u16 free when accompanied by an adult.

Please note that dogs are not allowed into the gardens.

The route begins at the Queen Victoria Hall, West Street, Oundle, where you will exchange your ticket for a map, guide, and access wristband.



tickets available at creativeoundle.co.uk

Sponsored by:



Your Health – Marathon tips (for non-marathon runners!)

WORDS BY
CLAIRE SHORT

As you can imagine, marathon training is not just about getting fit enough to run a long way. It requires mental fitness too.

What I find fascinating is that the support and advice being shared in our Ashgrove Active Facebook group can be applied to non-marathon runners too.

Here are some tips from our sports therapy team and hypnotherapist, all of whom have run marathons themselves. Read them and consider how making it personal can help motivate all of us.

- Ask friends to cycle alongside you to keep you company when training gets hard.
- Get friends to choose a song for your playlist, it will give you a lift during the miles.
- I counted up to half way, and then counted down, try this



on your long runs and see what feels best for you.

- Write names of friends and family on your gels, drink bottles, or snacks, or get them to write good luck messages on the packs for you.
- Get help as soon as you need it. Don't wait.
- Dedicating each mile to someone you care for helps you think about someone else, instead of your aches.
- Fuelling & clothing – from the start of training it is important to find what fuel and clothing works for you. Don't try a new outfit on the day in case it rubs.

Okay, so that last one might not apply to your normal daily life! Did you notice though, the others are all about making things personal in order to keep going.

When things are hard for someone you know, maybe you could put a little message somewhere where they will find it later. Whether it's on a marathon runner's gel pack, or next to a colleague's coffee cup.

To all the local runners who are building up their miles right now – I hope someone puts a message on your gel packs this week!

Have a fabulous week!

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

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Music festival returns to raise funds for local charities

A boutique music festival, which helps raise money for local charities, returns to the Cranford Estate, near Kettering, on 9th and 10th June. The music event, now called The Music Barn Festival, was started around eight years ago and

has raised over £60k for local charities including Cransley Hospice in Kettering.

This year's The Music Barn Festival is raising money for The Hope Centre in Northampton, which provides services to support those facing hardship,

hunger and homelessness, and Kettering Street Pastors, who patrol the town's centre every Saturday night, providing help and support to those in need.

Festival organiser Mark Robinson, whose international DJ career spans over 25 years,

said: "We hope to raise lots of money for these wonderful local charities, whose work in helping support so many local people has never been so vital."

He adds: "The stunning, unique rural setting of The Music Barn Festival makes it a truly special, intimate event with a wonderful atmosphere. Artists play against the backdrop of an ancient cliff face, opposite a grassy bank, which has created a natural amphitheatre."

The boutique festival features a broad spectrum of musical genres from live bands and DJs, with established acts rubbing shoulders with unsigned artists.

Headliners include Dub Pistols, The Futureheads, Lottery Winners and international DJs Jeremy Healy and A.Skillz. Attendees will also be able to enjoy music from bands and performers from Northampton include DJ OP1, Blue Cabs, Maddox Jones, the Revive DJs and DJ Cally Gage.

Along with all of this great music will be a range of top

quality food and drink, with The Music Barn partnering with the Greedy Gordon's Pub Group, to deliver the event's food and drink offers. The group's four venues include award-winning pubs The Red Lion at Cranford and The Pig & Waffle in Grafton Underwood.

The Greedy Gordons Food Shack will be offering tasty dishes including fish and chips, homemade burgers and kebabs. The festival's bars, also curated by the group, include Birra Moretti, Belgian beers from Duvel Moorgat, real ales from Roman Way Brewery in Weedon,

cocktails, prosecco, a G&T bar, including gins from Harrington based Warner Edwards, exciting non-alcoholic drinks and a Kopperberg Cider Tent.

For the second-year, camping and glamping is also available at the festival, with glamping on offer from Northamptonshire's Brook Bell Tents.

Robinson said: "There aren't many places to enjoy live music in Northamptonshire, so why not make a weekend of it and camp or glamp for the full festival experience. Bring your tribe to enjoy the vibe."

Nene Valley News - EVENTS

> SUNDAY 16TH APRIL, 10.15AM

Whitefriars Church Morning Worship

Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome.

> SUNDAY 23RD APRIL, 10.15AM

Whitefriars Church Morning Worship with Holy Communion

Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome.

> FRIDAY 21ST APRIL, 7.30PM

Fashion Show and Sale

Bede House, Higham Ferrers, £6 (includes FREE glass of wine or soft drink), contact highamferrerstourism3@gmail.com. Pure Heart Boutique selling clothing, jewellery, accessories – tickets from Sidey Design and Savour the Flavour.

> SUNDAY 30TH APRIL, 2-4PM

H. E. Bates in Higham Ferrers

Bede House, Higham Ferrers, £12.50 (includes cream tea), contact highamferrerstourism3@gmail.com. Illustrated talk with the author's son and granddaughter with readings by Northampton-based actor Graham Padden.

> WEDNESDAY 4TH MAY OPEN FROM 1.30PM AND START AT 2 PM

The Addington's Horticultural Society

The Addington's Horticultural Society welcomes Mary Matts talking on 'Wild Flowers and Waterways'. We expect there will be a lot of interest because of her links with our well-known local Foxton Locks, near Market Harborough.

Always worth an outing. We meet at The Memorial Hall, Great Addington (NN14 4BS), opposite Church. Members Free, (£20 p.a). Any visitors are always welcome £5 – with FREE teas or coffee/biscuits included. Note during Summer we have our outings before our next indoor talk at Great Addington on 6th September. For any further info. 01832 734750.

> SATURDAY 13TH AND SUNDAY 14TH MAY, 12-5PM

Thurning Fairy Trail

Thurning Village Field PE8 5RE, £5 each but children under 3yrs free, contact Alison Pilkington: (Alisonajp@aol.com). Explore the Woodland Trail full of fairy houses, lots of fun activities – great family fun!

> SATURDAY 13TH MAY, 7.30PM

Rutland Sinfonia Concert – 'Postcards from America'

St Peter's Church, Oundle. Tickets: Adults £14 on the door (£12 advance), Concessions £12 on the door (£10 advance). Music by Gershwin (Rhapsody in Blue), Bernstein, Barber, Copland, Piazzolla, Moncayo, Marquez. www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk

> SATURDAY 20TH AND SUNDAY 21ST MAY, 10AM-5PM

Woodford Vintage Festival

Woodford Community and Sports Complex. Admission over 16s £5, kids free. Contact Donna on 07460 428484. Small steam engines, classic cars and bikes, trade stands, tractors, bouncy castle, motorcycle Wall of Death and more!

HOLD THE DATE

Creative Oundle is a registered charity whose mission is to inspire, entertain and enhance the lives of all local residents. Like other arts organisations, the pandemic has hit us hard and to that end we are offering a reduced programme this year, while we regroup for the future.

However, we are busy putting the finishing touches to a series of high-quality events, which will include something for just about everyone. Full details of all our events will be published very soon on www.creativeoundle.co.uk. The first

of our 2023 events is the ever-popular Creative Oundle Open Gardens Day on Sunday 21st May 10am-3pm.

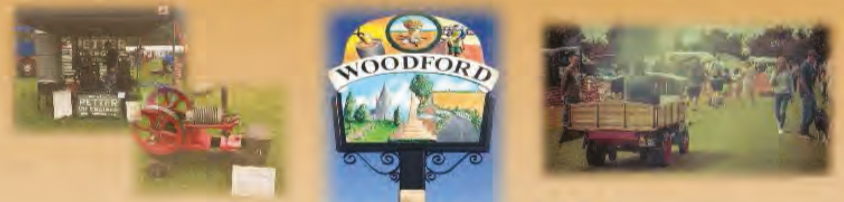
Enjoy a relaxed stroll around our beautiful town, and a unique opportunity to see some gorgeous late Spring gardens. Oundle is home to a lot of enthusiastic gardeners, and this year we have a dozen residents happy to share their plots with you to explore once more, including the magnificent two-acre garden at Cobthorne. Refreshments around town and a plant sale round off what we hope will be a perfect Spring day.

Tickets are £5 in advance available online and £7 on the day from 9:30am at the Queen Victoria Hall, 7 West Street. Under 16s are free. The route begins at the QVH, where you will show your ticket to get your guide, map and wristband. The guide lets you know what to expect at each location and gives advice on accessibility. We look forward to seeing you! If you have any queries or would like to get involved as a volunteer, please do email us at info@creativeoundle.co.uk



For more information and to book tickets see: www.musicbarn.co.uk

The Great Woodford Vintage Festival



May 20th & 21st 2023

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Traders And Exhibitors Please Contact Donna 07460428484 or Andy 07793560758

THE ARTFUL DUCK

If you love handmade items and arts and crafts, then we know you are going to enjoy a visit to The Artful Duck in the pretty town of Raunds.

It's a beautiful independent shop full of interesting locally made products and is owned by local businesswoman Ali, who has lived in Raunds for 20 years.

Ali welcomed us to her shop and told us: "When my father sadly passed away, we had the task of clearing out his workshop, which was full of his paintings and art tools, and some of my grandfather's too. I tried to give it all away to a friend who suggested that I should have a go at painting, and I was surprised to find that I could paint! It wasn't long before friends and loved ones wanted to buy my creations, which gave me the confidence to start selling them further afield at craft fayres.

"I met many talented traders at these events and thought how brilliant it would be if we could work in collaboration with each other, and the seed was sown about setting up a local art gallery.

"Following the sudden death of my mother during the Covid-19 pandemic, I decided to leave my career in the NHS and with a small inheritance from my mum and dad, I decided I wanted to open the gallery and have retail space too, with a huge range of unique art and craft products made by local traders on display for people to see and buy.

"It was hard work setting it all up, but when the shop space became available in Raunds, I was so excited! My plan was to create a contemporary, bright, open space where customers and traders would feel welcome, and I'm happy to say that I have achieved this. The building used to be a bank and has some quirky interior elements including a huge safe, which is now the staff room and kitchen area – it's amazing what artistic vision can do!

"Using the local term of endearment, m'duck to help name the business, we opened The Artful Duck last summer where we started off with 30 traders, and there are now 57! The styles of art and craft here are incredible, and everything is chosen thoughtfully with my customers in mind.

"There are detailed wood carvings, painted pictures and prints using many artistic techniques, ceramics, fashion and accessories, cards, stationery, lighting, toiletries made from natural oils, vintage items... the list is endless.

"There is a lot to choose from and the shop has something for everyone of all ages, and with prices starting from £1.50 we cater for all budgets. We do commissions too for that extra special gift or occasion, and with the help of my husband, we offer a bespoke framing service which is ideal for the artwork on sale.

"Prior to The Artful Duck, I worked for the NHS in cardiology, so this is a massive change for me and it's one that I am really enjoying. I love to see products that traders



have created to sell in the shop, and hear the stories behind them, and it feels great that they are supporting my dream, and me theirs by working in collaboration like this.

"Running a business is hard at times, there is always a lot to do, and sometimes not enough hours in the day, but it is very enjoyable, every day is different. I have learnt so much in the past year including marketing, social media, finance, property maintenance, interior design, customer service – you get to be a jack of all trades and I love it!

"I've met amazing people, and I wouldn't change it for the world. I still get the wow moments when I see the items the traders bring to the shop to sell, I am constantly blown away by their creativity and skill, and I still get a great feeling with every sale.

"The business community in Raunds is good, we support and recommend each other, and all agree that we need to keep the message out there about shopping locally and shouting about the fantastic independent businesses in the area."

The Artful Duck is open Tuesday to Friday from 10am to 5pm and on Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. It is well worth a visit if you are looking for a special gift or a treat for yourself, and there is lots to see in Raunds with independent shops, cafés, and restaurants plus places of interest.

Show your support to this great local business by:

- Liking them on social media @TheArtfulDuck
- Visiting their website – see products, events and exhibitions coming up
- Visiting the beautiful shop on Brook Street, Raunds
- Leaving a positive review online
- Telling your friends about them

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

North Northamptonshire is home to many small towns which make great destinations for shopping, socialising, eating out and exploring. That's why, with Government funding to support it, North Northamptonshire Council launched its Hi Street campaign to showcase these and to harness support for the variety of local businesses in the area.

From charming shopping streets in Higham Ferrers, Oundle and Thrapston, to traditional town centres in Kettering and Wellingborough, and modern shopping precincts like Corby, there is something for everyone ready to be discovered.

You'll find a variety of independent businesses selling unique and interesting products, serving delicious food and drink, offering beauty and wellbeing services... and more!

Local businesses are run by creative, talented people, and often sell unique products that you can't find elsewhere or online. Shopping and buying locally will give you the feel-good factor for supporting an independent business and will help boost the local economy, making a real difference to the area you live.

How can you support a local business?

Along with visiting local towns and using local businesses to buy products and services you can:

- Follow their social media – like, share and tag your friends



- Leave a positive review online – the benefits to the business can be huge
- Visit markets and events with local traders
- Buy vouchers or gift cards – help your loved ones discover them
- Tell people about them

Get local on social

Stay up to date with news

from your local High Street, campaigns and events happening in a town near you with our Hi Street social media channels.

Contact us to share what you love about your local town and businesses – don't be shy, come and say Hi!

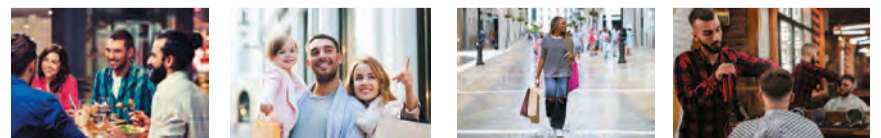
- Like us on Facebook www.facebook.com/histreetnn
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Are you a local business?

We love shouting about local businesses! If you would like to be featured for our social media campaign, please get in touch by sending a direct message on our Facebook or Instagram page.



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www.northnorthants.gov.uk/histreet
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Head over to the Hi Street Facebook page to read more at www.facebook.com/histreetnn

Men unite for Motor Neurone Disease charity

Northampton Male Voice Choir, (NMVC), well known for working tirelessly to raise money for good causes, is challenging the men of Northamptonshire and surrounding areas to join with it to raise money for the great Northampton based charity, Motor Neurone Disease Association (MNDA).

NMVC Chairman, Mark York, says: "Men of all ages, from curious novice to seasoned chorister, are invited to come along to the 'Open Evening' events we're holding this May and June and find out what NMVC's challenge is all about. This will be a great opportunity to meet choir members and our Music Team, enjoy a free beer and discover how you can help NMVC reach its fundraising target for the Motor Neurone Disease charity.

"All we're asking for is just a short-term commitment this summer and autumn to learn up to five popular songs under the guidance of NMVC Musical Director, Stephen Bell, and go on to perform them with the full NMVC at our annual concert in aid of MNDA on 28th October."

NMVC Open Evenings will be held on:

- Tue 9th May 2023, 7pm – Towcestrians Sports Club, Greens Norton Rd, Towcester NN12 8AW

- Tue 23rd May 2023, 7pm – Old Northamptonians, Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5RX
- Wed 7th June 2023, 7pm – Moulton Community Centre, Sandy Hill, Reedings, Northampton NN3 7AX

To secure your place at the open evening of your choice, or if you'd like further information about NMVC's fundraising challenge, please contact NMVC Recruitment Coordinator, Marc Bentley on 07999942390 or marc.bentley23@gmail.com

Singing in a choir is great for your health, with many benefits including reducing the risk of heart disease, improved breathing, a positive effect on your immune system plus the mental benefits gained through the wonderful camaraderie that can be enjoyed throughout the training and beyond.

NMVC website: <https://www.nmvc.co.uk>

NMVC YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWCKnjss8p1LrO1NonSf0KQ>

Follow NMVC on Facebook

Latest information on warm spaces

Various local organisations are making 'warm spaces' available: places where anyone can drop in free of charge to spend time – and to get involved in activities if they wish, this reducing the cost of heating their homes. The current list, after some recent changes, is below.

Rushden:

- Mondays to Fridays 9am to 6pm, Saturdays 9am to 5pm: Rushden Library
- Mondays: Salvation Army, 10am to 2pm
- Wednesdays: the Wesleyan Church, High Street, 10am to 12 noon (Take a Break)
- Thursdays: St Mary's Church, 10am to 1pm
- Fridays: Rushden Town Council (Rushden Hall), 1.30pm to 3.30pm

Elsewhere in the former East Northamptonshire Council area:

- Brigstock United Reformed Church and St Andrew's Church, June Small room, 6 Mill Lane, NN14 3HG: Thursday 10am to 3pm
- Kings Cliffe Active Kingsmead, Station Road PE86YH: Monday to Wednesday 9am to 6pm.
- Oundle Library, Glapthorn Road PE8 4JA: Monday to Saturday 9am to 5pm.
- Oundle St Peter's Church, Tuesdays 10am to 12 noon
- Oundle Town Council, Fletton House, Fletton Way PE8 4JA: Monday to Friday 9am to 2pm
- Raunds: Community Library Trust, High Street, NN9 6HT: Tuesday 10am to 12 noon and 2pm to 4pm, Wednesday 2pm to 4pm, Thursday 2pm to 6pm, Friday 10am to 12 noon.
- Raunds Town Council, Saxon Hall, Thorpe Street NN9 6LT: Tuesday 2pm to 4pm
- Thrapston Baptist Church, Tuesday and Thursday 10am to 12 noon
- Thrapston Community Library, 5 High Street NN14 4JH: Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 10am to 1pm, Thursday 2pm to 5pm.
- Thrapston St James Church, Church Walk NN14 4NP: Tuesday and Saturday 10am to 12 noon

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WILDLIFE NEWS

WORDS BY
ROY BURRELL

What do blackbirds, ravens, carrion crows, jackdaws and coots have in common?

There can be very few answers, but to make sure: yes, they are all black! Yet they are all identifiable by size, or by distinctive markings – like the coot's bright white face – or by voice.

But the bird's voice, call, song, whatever name we give to it, can vary more than the others, and is often genuinely a seasonal factor. We can follow the year through that voice.

The middle of the (calendar) year, however, is not the best time to go out with a "roving microphone", simply because their 'diaries' are too full. Even one of the most talkative birds finds little chance to join the crowd, though it does its best to break the silence at most other times, and is kind enough to call out his name. It is the jackdaw.

It is not really a completely black bird – around the back there is quite a patch of grey feathers,

easily seen if the bird is kind enough to sit still. But this is a very social bird which likes to mix in crowds, so in the mass of feathered activity their calls are probably a mixture of hearing through a rabble, finding lost children and even perhaps a love song – not all at the same time, of course!

And what does this clever bird sound like? It is as clear as the cuckoo, but is even more snappy – simply, "Jack". It needs remembering, however, that it has to penetrate the noise of the hundreds of others around it. So spare a thought for those who are 'blessed', they must welcome the arrival of the longer days, not just for the chance to raise a family but also for the demands of feeding babies, which takes up so much of a jackdaw's day that they cannot do their voice exercises. Among the small birds which fly over to our land to do their courting, they will not give such generous assistance in telling us where they are – so just keep trying.

Nene Valley news CLASSIFIEDS

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (THE HEDGE, RUSHDEN)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2023
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of The Hedge, Rushden, as set out below.
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of The Hedge, Rushden from St James Close to Prospect Avenue.
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during installation of a new water connection.
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 9th May 2023 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 up to three days.
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use St James Close, Handcross Way, Tollbar, Higham Road and Prospect Avenue.
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 22/23 – N649 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T23/294

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (WEST STREET, OUNDLE)
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2023
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of West Street, Oundle as set out below.
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of West Street, Oundle from the one way section of West Street from Stoke Hill.
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during installation of new sewer connection.
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 8th May 2023 and will continue in force for a period of eighteen months. An application may be made for the approval of the Secretary of State for Transport for the Order to be extended if this proves necessary. However, the restriction specified will have effect only at such times and to such an extent as is indicated by the display of signs prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016.
EXPECTED DURATION: It is expected that the road will be restricted until 12th May 2023.
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Stoke Hill.
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 22/23 – N653 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T23/298

Dated this 15th day of April 2023
DEBBIE CARTER-HUGHES
Executive Director, Pathfinder Legal Services Ltd

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Wellingborough, Northants NN8 4BH

Local community foundation awards over £2.5 million in grants to those in need across the county

The recent end of the financial year saw the end of Northamptonshire Community Foundation's biggest grant-making year since it was first established 22 years ago, outside of delivering emergency funds during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Over £22.5 million in grants has been awarded to charities and community groups across Northamptonshire. Projects such as food banks, mental health support groups and wellbeing activities for

the county's most vulnerable residents have been sustained by funds awarded through the Foundation.

Rachel McGrath, CEO of Northamptonshire Community Foundation, said: "One of our

biggest years of grant making has been made possible because of the extraordinary generosity of our private, corporate and public donors and our partners. A heartfelt thank you on behalf of our

foundation team who have worked very hard to ensure this generosity has the greatest impact across our towns, villages and neighbourhoods. And on behalf of our donors, staff, volunteers, patrons and

trustees we say an especially big thank you to our brilliant small, local charities and community organisations whose work it is our privilege to support and who make all the difference on our doorstep."

Northamptonshire

Community Foundation is the leading independent grant-making charity in the county, supporting Northamptonshire's most in-need residents and helping local donors and businesses to change the world on their doorstep.

Find out more by reading their most recent impact report or taking a look at their website: www.ncf.uk.com



New toilet facility opened to support people with disabilities and their carers

Making public spaces inclusive and accessible for people with disabilities and their carers is the aim of the national Changing Places initiative which has seen North Northamptonshire Council open a brand-new refurbished toilet facility at Corby Cube.

The new toilet facilities help people who are limited in their mobility and need equipment to assist with this and have modern features including a powered

height-adjustable changing table, raising and lowering sink, movable ceiling hoist, grab rails, non-slip flooring, privacy screens, an alarm and a large clear space to accommodate wheelchair users and their carers.

Other locations in North Northamptonshire with Changing Places facilities already in use are Rushden Lakes, Wicksteed Park, Waendel Leisure Centre and Corby Swimming Pool.

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