

# Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Telephone: 01522 692542

We want to hear from you, so please submit your news story or event at [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk)

INSIDE this issue



RUSHDEN YARN BOMBERS HAVE BEEN AT IT AGAIN!

PAGE 05



MEN UNITED IN SONG SUPPORTING PROSTATE CANCER UK

PAGE 06

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Crematorium team receives 'Excellence Award'

The North Northamptonshire Council's Bereavement Service Care Team at Nene Valley Crematorium have received a top award from the Wellingborough and East Northants Chamber of Commerce for services of 'Excellence'.

Nene Valley Crematorium is recognised as an inspiring business - 'To recognise and celebrate a business that has gone above and beyond for its employees, customers and/or community'. Richard Porter, Operations Manager for the crematorium was presented with the award, sponsored by Weatherbys Limited, at an award ceremony in early December at the town's Golf Club in Great Harrowden.

The team are delighted to receive such a prestigious award and convey heartfelt thanks to the Chamber of Commerce judges for this recognition.

The Council's company operated crematorium serves the community of Wellingborough, and beyond. For more information visit the Nene Valley Crematorium website.

# Rounding off the year with a children's workshop

The air buzzed with excitement as children arrived to participate in the sixth workshop of the year at Rushden Hall provided by Rushden Town Council. Under the guidance of the facilitator, they explored the art of creating a festive mosaic tile.

The process of making mosaic tiles can be a captivating and hands-on experience, allowing the children to express their creativity in a unique way.

The joy and excitement that comes from seeing their creations take shape add a special sense of accomplishment to the learning process.

The atmosphere at Rushden Hall during the workshop was one of excitement and anticipation as children eagerly immersed themselves in the creative process.

A diverse array of superb tiles

emerged, each one unique and absolutely fabulous!

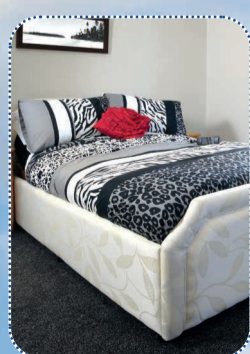
The event managed to strike a balance between fostering creativity and providing a structured learning environment with a festive edge.

The Christmas Mosaic Workshop at Rushden Hall was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on the children who participated.

Each child proudly showcased their festive creations and to commemorate the event, each one received a certificate and a chocolate treat.



SHOWROOMS: 69-71 WASHBROOK RD • RUSHDEN • NORTHANTS NN10 6UR [action2mobility.co.uk](http://action2mobility.co.uk)



Wet rooms and easy access bathrooms supplied and fitted

## Action<sup>2</sup>Mobility

THE REGION'S LEADING MOBILITY AID CENTRE

Phone us for delivery if you're shielding\*

Simply make your choice and phone through your order to **0800 698 2588**

\*Limited to 25 miles radius from our showrooms in Rushden

CALL FREE: 0800 698 2588 MON-FRI 8am-4.30pm FREE PARKING

Stockist of Cosyfeet and Sandpiper shoes

STAIRLIFTS: FULLY GUARANTEED, FREE HOME SURVEY



















# MOULTON COLLEGE STUDENT TO STAR IN BBC TV SERIES

*Moulton College Stonemasonry student Louise Regan is gracing TV screens on the new series of Make It at Market.*

The show is presented by Dom Chinae alongside a team of business and craft experts who work together to help budding entrepreneurs make a living from their hobby. Student and artist Louise stars alongside a host of other artists and crafters in the series.

Louise, who is studying for her Level 3 Stonemasonry qualification, was encouraged to take part in the show by a fellow Moulton College student. After meeting with the show's makers, Flabbergast TV, Louise impressed producers with her talent and was invited to take part.

Filming took place over the summer at Waterperry

Gardens in Oxfordshire, with Louise showcasing her abilities by creating pieces crafted from Ancaster stone. She also had the chance to meet with Dom Chinae and a team of business and craft experts, receiving

**Moulton**  
COLLEGE

mentoring support and advice on how to transform her hobby into a full-time career.

Following the show, she has big plans for the future. She is also sharing her knowledge offering stone carving starter courses, introducing beginners to

this vital heritage craft.

"I learned so much on the show and am excited to put this knowledge into practice and kickstart my career," says Louise. "Stonemasonry is an important skill that should be retained and supported to help preserve the UK's history and culture and I love being able to shine a spotlight on it."

Corrie Harris, Principal and CEO of Moulton College says: "We are delighted that Louise's immense talent is being recognised and all that she has achieved so far."

**Make it at Market is available on BBC iPlayer. [www.moulton.ac.uk](http://www.moulton.ac.uk)**

## HAVE YOUR SAY ON NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S SPENDING PLANS

The draft revenue budget for North Northamptonshire Council was approved for consultation by the Executive on 21st December and the council is now seeking views on its proposals for the next financial year.

People can take part in the consultation in a number of ways including:

- Completing the online survey.
- Writing to: Budget Consultation Response, North Northamptonshire Council, Sheerness House, Meadow Road, Kettering NN16 8TL. Please see the Your Voice Matters web page for more ways on how to have your say.

The Council's draft budget proposals set out a detailed spending strategy for the authority for the financial year 2024/2025 as well as outlining the medium-term financial forecast for the following three years.

Protecting and investing in local frontline services against a backdrop of continued national financial uncertainty is the focus of the proposals.

A commitment to maintain vital service provision has seen the Council invest an additional £53.4million into services, including adult social care and children's services, to protect the most vulnerable in our communities and address a growing need for services.

These pressures are, in part, offset by savings,

efficiencies and further income of £18.5m.

Taken together with an improvement in funding expected from business rates, Council Tax and government grants, the Council has been able to set a balanced budget for 2024/2025.

The proposed net revenue budget for 2024/2025 is £371.5 million. This money provides a range of services to residents and businesses across the area.

Cllr Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "Our draft revenue budget is just that – a draft – and the consultation phase is a very important one in the budget setting process as it's essential that we get the views of all of the people the proposals affect before we can shape the final plans in February."

Government has permitted local authorities to increase the Council Tax rate by 4.99% in recognition of the increasing demand and cost pressures faced by Councils. As such the Council is proposing an increase in council tax of 4.99%, which includes the 2% adult social care precept. There is no change to the Local Council Tax Support Scheme which will continue at 25%.

The consultation on the proposals will run until midnight on Friday 26th January. The Executive will then meet on 8th February to consider final budget proposals for recommendation to Full Council on 22nd February.



**Moulton**  
COLLEGE