

# Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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**LOCAL ORGANISATIONS  
AWARDED £94,000  
TO FIGHT CLIMATE  
CHANGE**

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**CEREMONY TO  
REMEMBER  
WARTIME  
TRAGEDY**

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Skate facility for  
Burton Latimer**  
Young people of Burton Latimer have received a boost after the dream of two local teenagers got off the ground recently.

A partnership between North Northamptonshire Council and Burton Latimer Town Council successfully secured a £40,000 grant from the FCC Communities Foundation, to build a new skate facility – complete with a specialist purpose built twin ramp – at the King George IV Recreation Ground, Burton Latimer.

The driving force behind the project are 13-year-olds Alfie Brown and Jamie Neyland, who spent months lobbying support for the scheme.

Cllr Matt Binley, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets said: "The boys have shown a real entrepreneurial spirit to help bring improvements to their community and this is really to be applauded. The skate ramp is a tremendous asset to the town. I would also like to thank our ward councillor Cllr Jan O'Hara, who played a major part in taking forward the funding bid as well as our own grounds maintenance team, which has been key to the project."

## Higham Ferrers Town Council opens Community Library and Wellbeing Hub

*The Higham Ferrers Community Library and Wellbeing Hub was officially opened on the 5th of March by the Mayor of Higham Ferrers, Councillor Nigel Brown.*

Since the library closure by the former County Council in December 2019 there has been no library provision in the town. The Town Council were advised early last summer that £22,310 of section 106 monies held for 'library provision in Higham Ferrers' by North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) were to be returned to the developer unless they could be used. The Town Council were invited by NNC to submit a plan for the development of library provision to allow the monies to be retained for the community.

With the plan submitted and approved, the Town Council is pleased to have been able to establish the small Community Library and Wellbeing Hub (The Hub), operating out of the room at the back of the old library building, now owned by Snowdon Homes.

The Hub is currently open Tue 2pm-4pm, Wed 10am-12noon and 2pm-4pm, and Thurs 10am-12noon. Opening times will change and increase in line with the demands of the community, and to allow delivery of wellbeing groups and sessions not currently available to residents.

The Mayor was joined at the opening by Town Councillors, staff of Snowdon Homes and the new Hub volunteers. He was delighted to open the Hub, saying: "A lot of hard work has gone on behind the scenes to get the Hub opened in such a short space of time.

"None more so than from our initial eight volunteers who have given their time to open the Hub for eight hours a week, alongside the preparation of the shelving and the sorting of the donated books."

Information on what is happening at The Hub and how to volunteer can



be found online. Visit: [highamferrers-tc.gov.uk/community-library-and-wellbeing](https://highamferrers-tc.gov.uk/community-library-and-wellbeing)

The Hub is looking to recruit more volunteers over the coming

months, so if you would like to join in, complete the volunteer application form which can be accessed from the following URL: <https://forms.office.com/e/jjYCFURpSB>

**They would also love to hear your views on what services or groups you would like to join. The suggestion form can be found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/uGQxM00Hqv>**

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## Secondary school places successfully allocated in North Northamptonshire

A total of 4,292 secondary school places for this academic year have been allocated to pupils across North Northamptonshire.

More applications were made online than in previous years – now at 99.4% and up from 99% in 2023.

We are pleased to announce that over 96% of applicants have received a place at one of their preference schools.

The following figures apply to pupils' first, second and third preferences:

- 83.01% of applicants have been allocated a place at their first preference – up 3% on last year.
- 10.51% of applicants have been allocated a place at their second preference – fewer applicants getting second preference compared to 2023 at 12.1%.
- 3.05% have been allocated a place at their third preference - pretty consistent since 2022.

Families who applied for their secondary school place online before the closing date of 31st October 2023 are able to check their offer online.

Cllr Scott Edwards, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Member for Children, Families, Education and Skills said: "I'm delighted that we are seeing more children getting a place at their first preference school and consistency in the number of children being allocated one of their preferred schools year on year.

"Meanwhile, we continue to work hard to create additional school places across North Northamptonshire to meet the demand caused by our growing population.

"New schools are being built and we are expanding existing sites across the area.

"I wish all the children well as they embark on this next stage of their education."

Any parent has the right to appeal (through the independent appeals process) against refusal of a place at any school for which they have applied.

The next round of secondary school place allocations (for late applicants) will take place in April.

Primary and Junior school allocations will be announced on 16th April.

## GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY  
JAN PEARSON

My former mother-in-law was a witch. No, I am not being rude; she really was a witch – a white witch. This was brought to mind the other day when chatting with a friend and we were talking about notorious people in our ancestry. The mother-in-law had become quite excited when I told her that one of the folk in my ancestry was one of the last people to have been arrested as a witch. I took quite a liking to the judge at my ancestor's trial who, when an accusation of flying was made, remarked that flying, per se, was not a crime! Although sentenced to death, this ancestor was pardoned, but had to move out of her village for her own safety!

This made me wonder what other notorious folk there were in people's trees. My Great Grandfather, John Smith, was a ring leader in the North Essex Agricultural Labourers' Strike of 1914. Farm labourers were paid just 13 shillings a week and were amongst the lowest paid in the country. They went on strike, asking for 16 shillings a week

and that their hours of work be changed to 6am to 5pm with a half day on Saturdays. To cut a long story short, I now have a copy of his prison record – he spent 2 weeks in Saffron Walden gaol – which tells me that he was 5'8" tall with fair hair and blue eyes, details that I would not have known without it. The prison record was found at the Essex Record Office, so if you have criminal ancestors, a trip to the local Record Office could reap you many rewards!

Some records are online as well. The Proceedings of the Old Bailey ([oldbaileyonline.org/](http://oldbaileyonline.org/)) may also show details of the court cases in which your ancestors were involved. Also, a good old rummage in the newspapers of the day can throw up so many details that you might not otherwise come across.

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## Crimestoppers launches Northamptonshire service station vehicle safety campaign

The charity Crimestoppers has launched a campaign to ensure steps are taken to keep vehicles safe when parking in Northamptonshire service stations.

Crimestoppers with the Northamptonshire Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, Stephen Mold, are running this campaign using a grant awarded to the Commissioner by the Home Office, under the Safer Streets Round 5 scheme. This is intended to reduce thefts from HGVs and overall vehicle crime, both at Watford Gap and Northampton service stations. The Commissioner's office and Roadchef motorway services have matched this funding by 50%.

This money is being used to improve service station security, including installing new fencing, additional CCTV and improved lighting.

In the year ending June 2022, 1.65 billion tonnes of goods were carried by HGVs registered in Great Britain and operating in the UK. Thieves typically target HGVs parked at service stations overnight, most commonly breaking into trailers or slashing trailer curtains when drivers are resting and when the service stations are less busy.

Crimestoppers is also appealing for information to be given anonymously about those involved in service station vehicle crime.

To pass on information about service station vehicle crime 100% anonymously, visit the Crimestoppers charity's website

([Crimestoppers-uk.org](http://Crimestoppers-uk.org)). You can fill in a safe and secure form or call the 24/7 UK-based Contact Centre on 0800 555 111. Young people can also report crime via the charity's youth service website Fearless.org

Lydia Patsalides, Crimestoppers Regional Manager for the East Midlands, said: "Our charity knows that speaking up about crime is hard, especially if you're passing on information about those who are potentially dangerous. We take tip-offs every day from concerned individuals who tell us anonymously what they know. They share our belief in wanting to help keep people and our communities safe.

"If you know of anybody involved in service station vehicle crime, Crimestoppers – which is independent of the police – is here to take information from you 100% anonymously. We have no way of knowing who you are. We pass on what we are told to the authorities who decide how best to proceed. Whilst no one will ever know you contacted us, your information could help to keep people and their vehicles safe."

Northamptonshire Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner Stephen Mold, said: "Preventing crime is a central part of my Police, Fire and Crime Plan for Northamptonshire, and I am pleased to be working in partnership with Crimestoppers to make sure drivers know how to be safe and to encourage people who see something suspicious to report it quickly and easily."



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## Government funding boost for transport projects welcomed by North Northamptonshire Council

North Northamptonshire Council has welcomed an announcement from Government of a £149.208million funding injection over seven years from 2025/26 for significant improvements to the local transport network.

From 2025, the Local Transport Fund (LTF) will fund a wide range of projects to improve the local transport connections that people rely on every day, particularly across towns, villages and rural areas.

The funding for North Northamptonshire is part of a wider investment nationally of £4.7billion – announced as part of Network North – with £2.2billion allocated for the Midlands.

The Government will develop guidance to enable local authorities to invest in ambitious transport improvements from 2025 through to 2032, which will:

- drive better connectivity within towns and suburbs
- drive better connectivity between villages and towns
- improve everyday local journeys for people

The money is additional to the funding which was recently announced for the A509 Isham bypass and the A43 dualling between Kettering and Northampton.

Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council said: "This is a very substantial allocation of funds to invest in our highway and transport networks. This money is

very welcome indeed and I would like to extend my thanks to the Government.

"With previous funding announcements and assuming we continue to receive existing grants at current levels, this additional funding will bring the total that we will be investing in North Northamptonshire roads to about £418million up to 2034.

"Over the next decade this will allow us to tackle major infrastructure projects, complete more resurfacing of the existing network and develop better connectivity within our towns.

"A robust and innovative transport infrastructure is essential to unlock future economic growth and improve journey times for commuters as well as connecting communities and relieving congestion."

Cllr Matt Binley, the Council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "We wait to hear further details from Government about how funding will be allocated and the terms and conditions involved.

"However, the amounts involved suggest that this could allow us to implement many long-desired improvements to our road network, and to implement many of the walking and cycling improvements that we have set out in our Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans."

The council will now start work on publishing plans on how the money will be spent, as is required. Details will appear on the North Northamptonshire Council website in due course.



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### MARCH 2024

Tue 19 Saffron Walden  
 Wed 20 Seasonal Mystery Trip  
 Fri 22 Ideal Home Show  
 Fri 22 Stratford Upon Avon  
 Sun 24 Tottenham Hotspur Stadium Tour  
 Tue 26 Barnsdale Gardens & Cream Tea  
 Thu 28 Canterbury  
 Thu 28 Canterbury Cathedral & Free Time

### APRIL 2024

Mon 1 Great Yarmouth - Bank Holiday  
 Tue 2 Black Country Museum  
 Tue 2 Dudley Zoo  
 Sat 6 Norwich  
 Wed 10 London Museums or Free Time  
 Wed 10 Tower of London  
 Thu 11 Fakenham & Sheringham  
 Fri 12 Cannon Hall Farm  
 Thu 18 Banbury  
 Sun 21 Skegness  
 Wed 24 Hereford  
 Wed 24 Hereford Cathedral  
 Fri 26 Southwold  
 Sat 27 Oxford OR Oxford Castle

### MAY 2024

Wed 1 Bury St Edmunds  
 Sat 4 Bury (Lancashire) Market Day  
 Sun 5 Lincoln  
 Mon 6 Bakewell Market - Bank Holiday  
 Wed 8 Phantom of the Opera  
 Thu 9 Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre  
 Fri 10 Stamford Market & Grantham  
 Sat 11 Malvern Spring Show  
 Sat 11 Springfields  
 Sat 11 Spalding Flower Parade  
 Sun 12 Hunstanton  
 Mon 13 Derbyshire & Peak District  
 Wed 15 Wye Valley River Cruise & Lunch  
 Sat 18 Clacton on Sea  
 Sun 19 Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair  
 Sun 19 Camden Markets  
 Tue 21 Mystery Full Day & Lunch  
 Sat 25 Warwick Market Day  
 Sat 25 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde  
 Sun 26 Brighton  
 Mon 27 Twycross Zoo - Bank Holiday  
 Tue 28 Family Seaside Mystery  
 Wed 29 Battersea Power Station Lift Tour  
 Thu 30 Gullivers Land Theme Park Resort  
 Thu 30 Milton Keynes Shopping  
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### MARCH

**29 MARCH-1 APRIL**  
**EASTER in BATH & BRISTOL –**  
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The 4 star Mercure Bristol Grand Hotel is set in a historic Grade II listed building in the heart of Bristol city centre. This holiday is Half Board including Excursions. Bristol was the first British city to be named European Green Capital. The city straddles the River Avon with a prosperous maritime history. Its former city-centre port is now a cultural hub, the Harbourside, where the M Shed museum explores local social and industrial heritage. The harbour's 19th-century warehouses now contain restaurants, shops and cultural institutions such as contemporary art gallery The Arnolfini.

### APRIL

**12 -14 APRIL**  
**MOTOWN, 60S & SOUL WEEKEND**  
**£299.00pp**

The Grand Hotel, Blackpool, Half Board including Entertainment. With plenty of time to explore Blackpool either shopping, the thrills and spills of the Pleasure Beach, going up Blackpool Tower and plenty of Motown 60s or Soul music throughout the weekend.

**13-19 APRIL**  
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**24-28 APRIL**  
**REGAL SCOTLAND**  
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# Spotlight on > Farmers' Markets



## > HIGHAM FERRERS FARMERS' MARKET

Higham Ferrers Farmers' Market is held in the historic Market Square between 9am and 1pm on the last Saturday of each month, except December when it is usually the last available Saturday before Christmas.



The Farmers' Market is a very successful monthly market, there are around 20 stalls providing a great variety of produce and many award-winning traders. Some produce varies depending on the season and farming schedules but always includes a great range of meat, poultry, eggs, pies, cheese, bread, cakes, sweet treats, honey, chutney, chilli sauces, hot drinks and fruit and vegetables.



Buying from local producers means you can ask them direct questions about their products and get advice or even recipe ideas from these friendly and helpful traders.

The market creates a lovely atmosphere in the town throughout the year and there are often extras such as craft stalls, charity stalls and a Christmas band in December.

## > FRESH PRODUCE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

Oundle Farmers' Market is held in the Market Place on the second Saturday of each month between 8am and

2.15pm. The market supplies a wide range of fresh, local produce including meat, fish, eggs, cheese, sourdough, vegan baked goods, Turkish street food, stuffed flatbreads, pies, cakes, hog roast, locally roasted coffee and much more.

There's a lot on offer to tempt you and all the stall holders are ready to answer any questions you have about

their goods.

Why not make a day of it and visit one of the many independent cafés, shops and restaurants, take a stroll along the River Nene or follow the Heritage Trail. With free car parks, and a convenient and regular bus route on the X4, there is lots to enjoy. Take a look at [loveOundle.org](http://loveOundle.org) to find out how you can make the most of your visit.







*Dates for 2024*





JANUARY	27th	JULY	27th
FEBRUARY	24th	AUGUST	31st
MARCH	30th	SEPTEMBER	28th
APRIL	27th	OCTOBER	26th
MAY	25th	NOVEMBER	30th
JUNE	29th	DECEMBER	21st







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**2024 DATES**

13 January	13 July
10 February	10 August
9 March	14 September
13 April	12 October
11 May	9 November
8 June	14 December



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# More support for local businesses looking to reduce emissions

North Northamptonshire Council has launched the latest round of a grant scheme to help local businesses increase energy efficiency, move to a lower carbon economy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Small or medium-sized businesses can now apply for grants up to £5,000 towards 50% of project costs, with the remaining amount to be match funded by the business.

The funding can be used for:

- lighting and lighting controls
- heating and heating controls
- insulation
- energy efficient machinery and equipment (e.g. air compressors)
- solar panels
- heat pumps
- biomass boilers
- energy storage
- building energy management systems

Cllr David Brackenbury, the council's Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration, said: "Businesses have had a difficult time over the last couple of years and we are here to support them. The NNDecarb grant scheme is designed to help those who want to increase their energy efficiency and just need a financial boost to help make their

plans a reality."

Cllr Harriet Pentland, the council's Executive Member for Climate and the Green Environment, said: "This important grant scheme is now in its second round and will help many more businesses with the installation of low carbon and energy efficient measures including solar panels, heat pumps and insulation."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "This grant scheme has proved extremely popular, so I would encourage businesses looking to reduce their carbon footprint to apply as soon as possible. Every small change we can make as a community will help towards us becoming carbon neutral."

More information about eligibility and how to apply can be found on NNC's website and the deadline for applications is 15th April 2024.

**This project is funded by the UK government through the Shared Prosperity Fund.**

## ARTISTS PRESENT CLIMATE INSTALLATION IN LOCAL CHURCH

Pale Blue Dot Collective (artists Louise Beer and John Hooper) have spent the last four months in residency with Fermynwoods Contemporary Art, to create an immersive photographic and sound based installation that will be displayed in All Saints' Church, Aldwinckle from Sunday 24th March until Sunday 7th April.

The artists use installation, film, photography and sound to examine our place within the universe, framing the impact of the climate emergency through the eyes of evolution and

the immense time period it has taken for each form of life to arrive at this point.

Of Immeasurable Consequence, funded by Northamptonshire Community Foundation's Creative Climate Action Fund, combines images, sound and light to transport the viewer to an imagined forest environment. With the artists' interest in the deep time nature of our existence on the planet, they have developed an installation that explores both the fragility and the miraculous nature of life on Earth.

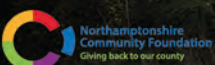
Sound recordings from Fermyn Woods, made with a variety of homemade and professional microphones, are combined with their own archive of field recordings collected from around the world. The final composition transports the audience to a forest outside of our experience. Images taken under moonlight during their residency are installed in the central body of the church, juxtaposed with astronomical imagery that prompts us to consider our own place in the wider cosmos.

You are invited to the launch event from 6.30pm on Saturday 23rd March, featuring an insight into the work by the artists and an informal, interactive telescope viewing with an astronomer from 7.30pm. In the event of bad weather, the astronomer will deliver a talk inside the church. The event is free, however please register your place at: <https://tinyurl.com/PaleBlueDotCollective>



### PALE BLUE DOT COLLECTIVE

An immersive audio visual installation  
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[www.fermywoods.org](http://www.fermywoods.org)



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# LOCAL ORGANISATIONS AWARDED £94,000 TO FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE

Through Northamptonshire Community Foundation's Creative Climate Action Fund, two Northamptonshire-based organisations were awarded more than £47,000 each for creative projects that build awareness around climate change and encourage local residents to make behavioural changes to protect the environment.

Climate change is a global issue. The Office for National Statistics' Opinions and Lifestyle Survey 2022 revealed three in four adults

reported feeling worried about climate change, and the United Nations are working to tackle climate issues through Sustainable Development Goal 13: Climate Action. Work funded by the Creative Climate Action Fund will encourage participants to think global and act local in their efforts to combat the climate crisis in Northamptonshire.

Grants from the Creative Climate Action Fund were awarded to Fermynwoods Contemporary Art and Sol Haven for projects run by creative professionals with

the aim of engaging local communities with climate issues.

Fermynwoods, an innovative educational charity based in Thrapston but covering the county, are hosting four artist-led initiatives with the aim of helping the public to better understand the climate crisis and to imagine new possibilities for the future. These include a mobile art workshop built using waste materials from major art institutions, the creation of speculative maps to address intersectional environmentalism, solar-powered online artwork and an audio-visual installation matched with a series of talks with astronomers, geologists and biologists.

James Steventon FRSA, Director of Fermynwoods Contemporary Art, said: "Our approach to our Creative Climate Action Fund projects was to engage families and the general public through working with young people in artistic activities. It's an emotive subject and we have been encouraged by how the arts can be uplifting and inspiring in the face of climate breakdown.

"Many of the young people we have been working with have encountered multiple challenges (including climate anxiety), yet we have seen engagement and excitement as well as increases in confidence and self-esteem."

Sol Haven, a sustainable,

permaculture community farm in Moulton, are working with artist and arts educator Elizabeth Tomos to run a series of community workshops that will utilise Tomos' self-developed printmaking techniques and Sol Haven's well-practised and practical approach to addressing climate change, to engage participants and to eventually form a book.

Tamsyn Payne, In Contact Project Manager at Sol Haven, said: "Things are progressing well at the In Contact project. Lead artist Elizabeth Tomos has created five beautiful workshops that are now available to book. These will include printmaking, discussion about climate crisis and a wellbeing walk with a different theme each week. Using home-made plant-based inks and beautiful rag and rice papers to create images from nature. Alongside which we are also working on



the performance and artists' book! We can't wait to share with you the work we have done so far."

The grants awarded from the Creative Climate Action Fund will support up to two years of activity. Alex Rex, Grants Manager at Northamptonshire Community Foundation, said: "The

Creative Climate Action Fund was set up to make a real difference in attitudes towards climate change in Northamptonshire. The work that these groups have undertaken so far has proven invaluable in its impact and we're eager to see what more Fermynwoods and Sol Haven will achieve."

**For more information on Northamptonshire Community Foundation, visit [www.ncf.uk.com](http://www.ncf.uk.com)**



## Major investment in highways network agreed by Council

**At two recent council meetings, North Northamptonshire Council agreed to significant funding to improve highways across the area.**

At today's Full Council, Councillors agreed, as part of the Capital programme for 2024-2028, to spend approximately £49.1m over the next four financial years on highways projects, the largest investment the council has made towards highways to date. This allocation includes £16m on pothole repairs.

This money includes £9.768m, allocated for highways infrastructure improvements, received from the Department of Transport and agreed at a meeting of North Northamptonshire Council's Executive.

The package of funding from DfT will support projects and help maintain the existing highways infrastructure assets, investing in and improving highways infrastructure, improving access by cycle and foot (including safety improvements) and

improving safety and traffic flows by upgrading traffic signals.

Now the funding has been approved, the council will look to allocate the budget to specific highways schemes in line with the Northamptonshire Transportation Plan.

Cllr Matt Binley, the council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "We are looking to the future and have put a significant fund aside to invest further in our Highways network over the next four years. This is a huge investment in our highways, the largest to date, with large sums of money set aside for highways maintenance, including repairing potholes – something I know residents will be pleased to hear.

"But it's not just about the roads, we will also be looking at improvements to cycling and pedestrian networks, informed by our wider work on the Corby and Kettering Local Cycling and Walking infrastructure plans, and improving safety and

traffic flows."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "I am delighted that this council is investing in our highways network, improving our infrastructure and connecting communities. It has and always will be a priority for us.

"We recognise the importance of our highways network to residents and businesses across North Northamptonshire and by combining our investment alongside funds from the Department of Transport presents a huge opportunity to significantly improve our road network over the coming financial years."

These recent funds are part of NNC's overall investment into North Northamptonshire's Highways network and will combine with the funding already received from the DfT as part of their recently announced investment using funding from the cancellation of the northern section of HS2.



## Grants on offer to make energy saving home improvements for hundreds of residents using off-gas heating

North Northamptonshire Council is pleased to announce the availability of the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2), a government-funded scheme aimed at providing energy-saving upgrades to residents with off-gas heating systems.

The HUG2 program offers free-of-charge energy-saving improvements that will not only keep homes warm but may also help residents manage their heating bills efficiently. Whether you own your home, privately rent, or are a private landlord with tenants, you may qualify to apply.

The grant is available to households meeting specific criteria, including not being heated by mains gas, having a combined annual income of less than £31,000 (this will increase to £36,000 after 2nd April 2024), and having a home that an Energy Performance Certificate declares as 'hard to heat.' Landlords are also encouraged to apply, under conditions detailed further below.

The scheme aims to phase out the use of fossil fuel heating, supporting the UK's 2050 Net Zero commitment and promoting household health and well-being through the reduction of cold homes.

Eligibility criteria:

The Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 (HUG2) is open to homeowners and

private tenants in:

- Homes not heated by mains gas which includes oil, coal, LPG or only electric heating. AND
- Households with a combined annual income of less than £31,000 (£36,000 after 2nd April 2024) OR receiving certain income-related means-tested benefits such as Universal Credit OR you live in an Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) area. You can check your postcode on the council website [www.northnorthants.gov.uk/hug2](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/hug2) or call 0800 107 8883. AND
- Hard to heat homes – this is based on your home Energy Performance Certificate (EPC). You will be helped with this part of the assessment and receive a free EPC assessment if you do not have one already.

Landlords, who have four or fewer properties, will be able to apply and will be required to contribute at least one-third of the cost of the upgrades in addition to the funding provided. This will be agreed before work begins.

How will it help?

You may be offered energy saving improvements to help cut your energy bills and reduce your carbon emissions.

These could include:

- Insulation and ventilation upgrades (to

keep you warm in winter and cool in summer).

- A low carbon heating system such as an air source heat pump (which will mean upgrading any existing heating system).
- Heating controls which make sure you only use heat when you need it.
- An energy efficient hot water solution to keep your water warm for longer.
- Solar panels (PV) to generate electricity.
- Energy-efficient lighting which is cheaper to run.

A survey will identify what is suitable for your individual home and you'll get a free updated EPC assessment.

Councillor David Brackenbury, Executive member for Growth and Regeneration said: "This grant scheme addresses the pressing issue of fuel poverty, which has affected a significant percentage of households in North Northamptonshire.

"Hundreds of residents across the authority will receive a letter from the council in the coming days alerting them of their eligibility and we are urging them to apply."

To apply for the Home Upgrade Grant Phase 2 and find out more, visit the council website [www.northnorthants.gov.uk/hug2](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/hug2) or call 0800 107 8883. Applications are open until March 2025.

## Up to £50,000 available for rural businesses

Using monies received from the Rural England Prosperity Fund, North Northamptonshire Council has re-launched a grant scheme to support existing rural businesses, with applications now open.

Following on from rounds 1 and 2 in 2023, applications are invited from projects that can be started quickly and be delivered with all spend claimed by 28th February 2025. Capital grants of between £5,000 and £50,000 are available in Round 3.

The grant scheme is intended to help rural businesses become more resilient and support growth. A particular target for Round 3 is business diversification and the visitor economy.

Applications for this round of funding must be received by 25th March 2024.

Cllr David Howes, the council's Executive Member for Rural Communities and Localism, said: "We have a wide range of businesses in towns and villages across North

Northamptonshire. But this is also the case in the more rural communities, with rural business looking to diversify and develop their offering in an ever-changing economy. This latest round of grants are designed to help them grow and develop."

Cllr David Brackenbury, the council's Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration, said: "With grants of up to £50,000 available, this latest round of funding will really help our rural businesses grow. I would urge any rural businesses in North Northants to get in touch with the team, take a read through the criteria and submit your application before 25th March."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "Since we received this funding from central government, we have been committed to ensuring it reaches those who need it most. We are now in the third round of grants for this particular fund and the grants have already been received by so many rural businesses, making a huge difference."

**Interested rural businesses who wish to apply for funding in Round 3 are invited to send a request for an application form, eligibility criteria and guidance notes to [ukspf@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:ukspf@northnorthants.gov.uk)**



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# Nene Valley News - Events

## > SUNDAY 17TH MARCH, 10.15AM

### Whitefriars Church Morning Worship

Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome. Details from Andrew Presland, 01933 316927.

## > WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH, 10AM-12NOON

### New adult Art Classes in the community

Wellingbrough Museum. Admission £75 for 5-week course. Contact Nadine 07305 326308, nadineartemail@gmail.com or Gerald 07587 695052, gerald\_porter@talktalk.net. Two artists will run a series of adult art workshops in the community. Join today!

## > WEDNESDAY 20TH MARCH, 11.30AM TO 1PM

### Lent Lunches

Available at St Mary's Church, Rushden for a donation. Soup and roll provided by members of local churches. All welcome.

## > SUNDAY 24TH MARCH, 10.15AM

### Whitefriars Church Morning Worship

## with Holy Communion

Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX. All are welcome. Details from Andrew Presland, 01933 316927.

## > FRIDAY 29TH MARCH, 11AM

### Good Friday open air service

Outside St Mary's Church, Rushden. Organised by Rushden & Higham Ferrers Council of Churches. Refreshments to be served in the Church Hall from 10.15.

## > SATURDAY 30TH MARCH, 10AM TO 1PM

### Volunteering Day

Midshires Covert, Kelmarsh Road, Harrington NN6 9ND – opportunities for conservation work followed by food cooked on the campfire, with Forest School activities from Fox's Den Forest School. Details from Andrew Presland, 01933 316927.

## > SATURDAY 6TH APRIL, 2PM TO 4PM

### The Islip Bowls Club Jumble Sale

Village Hall in Islip. Jumble, raffle, tombola and cake stall. 20p admission.

To submit your event please contact us via our website [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk) or call 01522 692542. Please supply in the following format: Date, event, place, time, admission fee (if applicable), contact information, 15 word description.

# Coffee, cakes, chatter and more

Cotterstock's last pop-up café of the season opens in the village hall on Monday 8th April from 10-12noon, drop in whenever you like. The bakers will be pulling out all the stops to make this one extra special.

In a change to the advertised programme, for the final 30 minutes, if you choose to stay, Robin Windsor will treat people to a flower arranging demonstration. He will make two beautiful arrangements, showing people how to create



floral decorations easily and cheaply. There will also be a free-to-enter raffle where the lucky winners will take home Robin's creations.

A mat and a selection of toys for pre-school children to enjoy will be available too.

The cost for any or all of a drink, cake and the demonstrations too is just £3 (cash only). Please bring friends and neighbours, everyone will be warmly welcomed.

For more information go to "Cotterstock Village Facebook".

# THE COMEDY STORE

With nearly 40 years' experience in the business as the premier name in comedy, The Comedy Store is renowned as a breeding ground for new comedy talent, and remains the place to see tomorrow's stars today. The likes of Eddie Izzard, John Bishop, Jimmy Carr, Rhod Gilbert and Sarah Millican have all cut

their comedy teeth with us.

We bring you the best stand up from around the globe, showcasing the brightest names in comedy today. Simply the funniest show you'll see all year.

The lineup for March includes:

- Dinesh Nathan
- Hannah Byczkowski
- Funmbi Omatayo
- Barry Dodds

"Still the greatest and most influential comedy club on the planet" Time Out.

The Comedy Store will be at Castle Theatre, Wellingborough Saturday 30th March. Ticket prices are £19 and can be booked by calling the Box Office on 01933 270 007 or visiting [www.castletheatre.co.uk](http://www.castletheatre.co.uk)

# EASTER ADVENTURES AT NENE PARK

Get ready for a jam-packed Easter holiday at Nene Park! Full of outdoor adventures, wildlife workshops and our eggciting new Easter Adventure Trail – there's something for all the family to enjoy from 29th March to 14th April.

Find out what's happening and when, with our guide to Easter adventures in the Park:

## > ACTIVITIES ON EVERY DAY

### Easter Adventure Trail: Brand new for 2024!

Pick up your activity pack and follow our Easter woodland adventure trail! Complete egg-citing games and activities along the way and claim your Easter Egg prize! Running daily during the Easter holidays.

**Oak Adventurers Holiday Club:** Open from 8th-12th April at Nene Outdoors in Ferry Meadows, our multi-activity holiday club for 8-13 year olds offers a fantastic opportunity for kids to experience a variety of water and land activities. From kayaking and paddleboarding to climbing and bushcraft. Individual days are £43, or book the whole week and save 20%!

### Pay & Play Watersports at Nene Outdoors:

Open daily between 11am and 5pm, choose from dragon and swan pedalos, row boats, stand up paddle boards, kayaks and canoes. Book online to avoid the queues!

**Book a camping trip!** Enjoy a night or more under canvas on the peaceful banks of Gunwade Lake! Our pitch your own and bell tent campsites are perfect for families, ideally located in the heart of Ferry Meadows to take advantage of all the exciting activities on offer at Nene Outdoors.

**Daily Boat Trips:** Enjoy a tranquil trip around Overton Lake and onto the River Nene on our electrically-powered passenger boat. The 45 minute pre-bookable trips will depart at regular times each day from the Visitor Centre Jetty. Suitable for all ages, it's £9 per person, free for under 3s and wheelchair spaces are available.

**Ride the Ferry Meadows Railway:** Sit back and enjoy the ride! Trains will be running daily, weather permitting.

## > OUTDOOR ADVENTUROUS ACTIVITIES

### Tuesday 2nd & Thursday 11th April - Climbing Wall:

The climbing wall will be back at Nene Outdoors, with sessions running throughout the day. Great fun for both adults and children age 4 and over, who will reach the top first? Sessions are £12 per person.

### Thursday 4th & Tuesday 9th April - Archery:

Unleash your inner Robin Hood or Maid Marian! Our archery sessions are 45 minutes long and take place at Nene Outdoors. Sessions are £12 per person and suitable for ages 8 and over.

### Monday 8th & Tuesday 9th April - Youth RYA Sailing - Stage 1:

This two-day beginners' course will take you through the basics of dinghy sailing, getting you to a standard where you are

able to enjoy the freedom of sailing! All safety equipment, including wetsuits and buoyancy aids, are provided. Suitable for 8-15 year olds, £190 per person.

## > WILDLIFE WORKSHOPS

### Wednesday 3rd April - Charming Worms

Come along to find out more about these amazing wriggly creatures and have a go at charming them to the surface, then make a wormery to enjoy at home! Suitable for all ages, it's £5.50 per child.

### Thursday 4th April - Meeting Magical Mammals:

Join a ranger for a walk around the Park to discover all about the small mammals that live here! We might see voles, mice and shrews, and we'll teach you all about their habitat, diet and identifying features. Suitable for age 5 and over, it's £5.50 per child.

### Thursday 4th & Friday 12th April - Heart Decorating Workshops:

Embrace this year's Peterborough Celebrates Festival theme of 'LOVE' by crafting colourful hearts to festoon the festival field in May! To get involved, join us at our free heart decorating workshops from 11am to 3pm, at the wooden hut near the Visitor Centre.

### Tuesday 9th April - Orienteering Challenge:

Learn essential skills to follow directions and find your way around a real orienteering route! Who will be the first to visit all the points? Suitable for children aged 8-13, it's £5.50 per child.

**Tuesday 9th April - Treasure Hunt:** Explore Ferry Meadows using your super sleuthing skills to work out where the treasure is hidden! Suitable for children aged 4-9, it's £5.50 per child.

### Wednesday 10th April - Tree-tectives!

Discover the different trees at Ferry Meadows, gather the evidence like a real detective and complete your very own Tree Encyclopedia. Suitable for children age 5 and over, it's £5.50 per child.

### Thursday 11th April - Remarkable Romans:

Step back in time in this exciting workshop to discover all about the Romans who made their home at Nene Park and build your own Roman catapult! Suitable for children age 7+ and their families, it's £5.50 per child and £2.50 for adults.

### Friday 12th April - Family Wildlife Boat Trip:

Join our expert ranger on our electric passenger boat for a guided trip of Overton Lake and the River Nene, learning all about the wonderful wildlife we spot along the way! Suitable for children age 5 and over, it's £15 per person.

## > VISIT LONGTHORPE TOWER

Have you discovered Peterborough's hidden historical gem yet? Be amazed at the medieval wall paintings there, widely considered to be the best in a domestic setting in western Europe! Book your ticket here to enjoy a tour with our knowledgeable volunteers. Available every Saturday and Sunday!

For more details on any of our Easter events and activities, and to book your places, please go to [www.nenepark.org.uk/easter](http://www.nenepark.org.uk/easter). Contact 01733 234193 or email [visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk](mailto:visitor.services@neneparktrust.org.uk) for more information, accessibility advice or directions.



## GRANTS ON OFFER FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

*Voluntary and community organisations across the rural areas of North Northamptonshire are being urged to come forward and apply for grants of up to £20,000.*

Organisations including parish councils, charities, community groups and school Parent Teacher Associations are all being encouraged to check their eligibility and apply online at NNC's website.

Organisations will be eligible to apply if they can demonstrate that the funding will be used to support the creation of or improvements to local rural green spaces, existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions or active travel enhancements e.g. community transport.

The money is from the area's allocation of £217,840 for 2024-2025 from the Rural England Prosperity Fund.

Cllr David Howes, the council's Executive Member for Rural Communities and Localism, said: "The Rural England Prosperity Fund is designed to support those in the more rural areas of North Northants. It is great that we are now able to offer grants of up to £20,000 to

organisations that will truly make a difference to rural communities.

"So, if you have a project in the pipeline that could improve the lives of people in your community that needs a funding boost, do get in touch."

Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council, said: "We are delighted to be announcing such a comprehensive plan of support for communities across the authority. This pot of funding is just part of our ongoing commitment to supporting communities across rural North Northamptonshire.

"If you are a member of an organisation or community group that operates in one of the rural areas of North Northants, I would encourage you to take a look at the information online and apply for a grant before the deadline."

**Applications are open until 12 noon on Tuesday 2nd April 2024. This project is funded by the UK government through the Rural England Prosperity Fund.**

## Valentine's Day at Hermitage House Care Home

Residents and staff came together to spread the love at Hermitage House Care Home in Thrapston and celebrate St Valentine's Day. The event truly encapsulated the family-first approach to care at Hermitage House.

"From nostalgic songs to delightful treats, our Valentine's Day festivities were a hit among our residents, who fondly reminisced about their past experiences and offered personal advice to the younger generation of today on matters of love. They offered advice such as 'Never go to bed on an argument' and 'communication is key'," commented Customer Relations Manager, Sarah-Beth Preston.

"Our Valentine's Day party was a truly special occasion where residents shared their wisdom and cherished memories," remarked Gyalbo Tamang, Client Services Manager. The hospitality team provided a delightful spread of cakes, sandwiches, and other buffet delights, along with a glass of bubbly to toast the occasion.

"We dressed our dining room tables in crisp white tablecloths and sprinkled them with rose petals and red balloons to create a romantic setting for our residents. We also had a large, handcrafted heart-shaped selfie frame for capturing special moments. Everyone had great fun," commented Jess Grayson, Home Administrator.

The highlight of the event was the live performance by guest singer, Lindsey, whose captivating songs had everyone tapping their toes and singing along. The front-of-house team members couldn't help but notice the pure happiness shining from each resident as they immersed themselves in the music. "It was a joy to see them all together, enjoying each other's company and the wonderful entertainment," commented a member of the care team.

For resident Renee, the day held a special meaning as she reflected on the simple joys of receiving flowers and chocolates while hearing songs from her children's teenage years. "The

atmosphere was simply magical, and it warmed my heart to see both residents, loved ones, and staff alike embracing the afternoon with open arms," she said.



**To find out more about life at Hermitage House Care Home, please contact Customer Relations Manager, Sarah-Beth Preston on 07754 559 526 or email: [sarah-beth.preston@countrycourtcare.com](mailto:sarah-beth.preston@countrycourtcare.com)**

  
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# Tales of bread and bar

*Tim Stubbs's talk 'Reflections of Life' on Friday 1st March in Cotterstock village hall was a sellout.*

Tim was on great form as he regaled the audience with stories of the people he met delivering bread from his father's bakery in Thurlby in the 1970s and some of

the "unusual" customers he encountered as publican of the Red Lion in Warmington.

There was a quality raffle prize draw with prizes kindly donated by local businesses.

After expenses, Tim's talk raised an excellent £1,015.25 for Cancer Research UK.

Go to 'Cotterstock Village Facebook' to see more photos taken on the night.



## Have your say on how to improve parks and green spaces in North Northamptonshire

**People are being asked to have their say on how parks and green spaces in North Northamptonshire's urban areas can be improved.**

The survey forms part of a wider strategy which aims to attract further funding to develop the natural environment in our towns.

Led by North Northamptonshire Council, the six urban areas identified are Corby, Desborough, Kettering, Wellingborough, Rushden and Higham Ferrers.

The Council is keen to hear from residents, local groups and organisations and businesses with their ideas.

Examples might include any of the following, or other suggestions:

- Developing or creating a new park
- Creation of a new community garden
- Tree planting within urban environments
- Improvements to existing parks or green spaces
- Improvements to accessibility

Cllr David Brackenbury, the Council's Executive Member for Growth and Regeneration, said: "Having quality parks and gardens is a vital component of development in our urban areas – achieving a good mix of green space with the built environment.

"This strategy will help inform that process and I would urge people to have their say to help shape plans going forward."

Cllr Harriet Pentland, the Council's Executive Member for Climate and the Green Environment, said: "It is important to give consideration to our green spaces in our urban areas to create havens for nature and provide residents with spaces to enjoy and relax in.

"I look forward to seeing this strategy develop and for our residents of North Northamptonshire to have their say in how it progresses."

North Northamptonshire Council has secured more than £1.5million of the Government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) for the scheme. Delivery of individual projects is scheduled to be complete by March 2025.

The first part of the scheme includes undertaking an audit of urban green spaces within these towns, before then developing a strategy prioritising those spaces with plans for how the investment can improve the area and optimise its use for visitors.

It is also hoped to create a legacy strategy document that can be used to attract future funding bids building on the investment already secured through the UKSPF.

The council has secured specialist open space consultants in The Environment Partnership (TEP) and CFP Landscape & Heritage to carry out engagement on the project brief and prepare a strategy with prioritised schemes for delivery.

People have until Monday, 18th March to submit their ideas online.

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# Your Health - Clicking hips

WORDS BY  
CLAIRE SHORT

Does one of your hips pop when you move it? Have you been told that it will cause you arthritis?

Does it worry you when you do pilates, gardening or sit down?

The good news is that the pop is probably just a tendon flicking over a knobby bit on your thigh bone. It's very common and normally doesn't cause any problems at all. You might find that hard to believe as the pop can be very loud, but yes, it's perfectly normal. Even if you hear a really loud pop in pilates or yoga, it's fine!

The time when it's not normal is when it's painful. If the popping noise coincides with pain, or if you're getting regular pain in the hip then you need to get it looked at. Sometimes the problem is just an imbalance in the way your body is moving. This can be from tight or weak muscles,

shortened tendons or stiff joints.

The pain can also be caused by osteoarthritis/ general wear and tear, so it's important to find out. Usually, it's possible to find the cause by examining you, which any osteopath, chiropractor, physio or GP can do. Ordinarily you only need x-rays or scans if you're in severe pain, or if the physical examination throws up something unusual.

And the solution? Once you know what is causing the

pain you can have hands-on treatment and exercises to do at home that will help you. If x-rays or scans are necessary, your healthcare practitioner will refer you for them.

The big question is, will mowing the lawn help you? Well, you know how I feel about the horrible machine that is started by a piece of string, but in this case, yes, pushing a string-starter lawnmower can be a good exercise for the hips. So long as it doesn't cause any pain.

Have a hip hoppy week!



Claire Short is a Registered Osteopath and runs The Ashgrove Clinic in Higham Ferrers. Send questions to [claire@ashgrovehealth.co.uk](mailto:claire@ashgrovehealth.co.uk)

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- ☐ Spinal Arthritis
- ☐ Acute or chronic back pain



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## Nene Valley news

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### PUBLIC NOTICES

#### NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
(VARIOUS ROADS) (ELECTRIC VEHICLE PARKING PLACES) (BATCH 6)  
ORDER 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intends to make the above Order under Sections 32, 35 to 39 and 45 to 55 and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and all other enabling powers. The effect of the proposed Order is to designate parking places restricting use at all times for electric vehicles only i.e. solely battery powered or hybrid – connected to and using charging equipment located adjacent to the parking place on the highway and as specified in the Schedule below.

A COPY of the proposed Order, together with the plans showing the exact lengths of roads to which it relates and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be inspected on the Council's website at [www.northnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk) (search traffic regulation orders) and may also be inspected at Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northants, NN6 9BX at a time and date specified by appointment only by calling 01604 529700.

OBJECTIONS to the proposed Order, stating the grounds on which they are made should be sent in writing to the Traffic Orders Section, Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Harborough Road, Brixworth, NN6 9BX or via email to [NNCparking@kier.co.uk](mailto:NNCparking@kier.co.uk) by 6th April 2024.

Dated this 16th day of March 2024  
ADELE WYLIE, Executive Director of Customer & Governance  
(Monitoring Officer)

P/2007

#### SCHEDULE

PROPOSED ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGING ONLY PARKING PLACES  
'8AM - 6PM 4 HOURS NO RETURN WITHIN 1 HOUR' AND  
'ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGING ONLY AT ALL OTHER TIMES'

Bridge Street, Thrapston – North side of Bridge Street, starting from a point 9 metres from existing double yellow lines in an easterly direction for a distance of 14.5 metres to adjoin the existing double yellow lines for the access to the former 'The Bridge Hotel'.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO EXISTING RESTRICTIONS IN PLACE FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGING ONLY PARKING PLACES  
'8AM - 6PM 4 HOURS NO RETURN WITHIN 1 HOUR' AND  
'ELECTRIC VEHICLE RECHARGING ONLY AT ALL OTHER TIMES'

Brook Street, Raunds – Starting from a point 16.5 metres from the 'h bar obstruction marking' opposite Ashfield Avenue for a distance of 14.5 metres in a southerly direction.

#### NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14  
(NEWTON LANE, SUDBOROUGH)

(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2024

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 Newton Lane, Sudborough as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Newton Lane, Sudborough for its entire length.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during tree trimming.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 9th April 2024 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 one day.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Main Street and Brigstock Road.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 23/24 – N569 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T24/169

Dated this 16th day of March 2024

ADELE WYLIE

Executive Director of Customer & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

#### NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984  
(EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT)

(WAITING AND LOADING RESTRICTIONS AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES)  
(CONSOLIDATION) ORDER 2009 (AMENDMENT NO. 23) ORDER 2024

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intends to make an Order under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 32, 35 to 39 and 45 to 55 and Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act") to amend "The Northamptonshire County Council (East Northamptonshire District) (Waiting and Loading Restrictions and On-Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2009" as specified in the Schedule below.

A COPY of the proposed Order, together with plans showing the exact lengths of roads to which it relates and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order, may be inspected on the Council's website at [www.northnorthants.gov.uk](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk) (search traffic regulation orders) and may also be inspected at Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northants, NN6 9BX at a time and date specified by appointment only by calling 01604 529700.

OBJECTIONS to the proposed Orders, stating the grounds on which they are made should be sent in writing to the Traffic Orders Section, Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northants, NN6 9BX or by email; [NNCparking@kier.co.uk](mailto:NNCparking@kier.co.uk) by 6th April 2024.

Dated this 16th day of March 2024

ADELE WYLIE, Executive Director of Customer & Governance  
(Monitoring Officer)

P/2016

#### SCHEDULE

PROPOSED NO WAITING AT ANYTIME RESTRICTIONS  
(DOUBLE YELLOW LINES)

Rockingham Hills, Oundle – Whole junction with Glaphorn Road, extending until the boundary line of property 121 adjacent to the parking bay in a south easterly direction. Pightles Terrace, Rushden – Around the bend with Grove Road on the east side. Kings Meadow Lane, Higham Ferrers – Both sides extending from the existing restrictions at the junction with North End to a point past the 'Walnut Tree Triangle' and opposite over the access for properties no 3 and 3a. School Lane, Higham Ferrers – Both sides from the existing restrictions in a westerly direction for 14.5m. On the south side only from the footpath to 'The Eye' in a westerly direction. Kimbolton Road, Higham Ferrers – From existing restrictions at the junction with Chichele Street in an easterly direction past the access for 55m. The Old Quarry, Oundle – Both sides of the junction with A605 and to extend to the turning head and around each access point in an easterly direction. Stoke Doyle Road, Lilford and Pilton – Both sides over the two bridges from the southern traffic lights northwards towards a point where the current white line finishes just past the river and before the second set of traffic lights. Goulsbra Road, Rushden – Whole junction with Hollowell Close, whole junction with Sunningdale Drive extending on the east side to opposite the junction with Hart Way and the introduction of school zigzags extending past the zigzags to cover the turning head for the school access. Whole junction with Willmott Road. On the north side of the bend around property no 20 towards Hart Way whole junction. Warrens Close, Irthlingborough – Whole junction with College Street and on southern side from the far boundary of no 17 to the area for off road parking.

PROPOSED CHANGE TO 'NO WAITING AT ANY TIME' RESTRICTION  
(DOUBLE YELLOW LINES) FROM EXISTING 'NO WAITING 8AM-6PM'  
RESTRICTION (SINGLE YELLOW LINES)

Kings Meadow Lane, Higham Ferrers – West side from the existing restrictions from a point opposite the junction with George Street around the bend to the tactile drop for the footpath around the 'Walnut Tree Triangle'. School Lane, Higham Ferrers – On the east side of the road, for the whole of the junction with Windmill Banks

PROPOSED NEW TIMES FOR EXISTING LOADING BAY TO BE INTRODUCED  
'LOADING ONLY 8AM-5PM MON-FRI'

Spencer Road, Rushden – North side, outside of local business between property no 52 to 58.

PROPOSED NO STOPPING ON ENTRANCE MARKINGS

'MON-FRI 8AM-9AM & 3PM-4PM' (SCHOOL KEEP CLEARS)

Goulsbra Road, Rushden – East side, outside of Rushden Primary School starting from a point from opposite the boundary with property no 26 in a southerly direction.



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# Ceremony to remember **wartime** tragedy

*A remembrance ceremony commemorating the lives of 17 American airmen killed in an air crash 80 years ago was held at Stanwick Lakes recently.*

The ceremony – 80 years to the day – marked the anniversary of a mid-air collision that occurred between two B17 Flying Fortress aircraft on 22nd February 1944.

The aircraft – one from 303rd Bombardment Group at Molesworth and one from 384th Bombardment Group at Grafton Underwood – were forming in the skies above Irthlingborough in preparation for a bombing mission over Germany as part of 'Operation Argument' – an Allied Forces operation for bombing of targets in occupied Europe which included cities, factories, aircraft manufacturers, shipyards and military facilities.

Whilst getting into formation, the two aircraft collided mid-air, killing all but three airmen who parachuted to safety. Part of the crash site was in an area that is now part of Stanwick Lakes.

Stanwick Lakes volunteers

John Abbott and Andy Dyks have led the research into the incident, uncovering details of the crash and the airmen, as well as uncovering memories and recollections from local people of the collision.

The ceremony of remembrance was attended by 501st Combat Support Wing Commander Colonel Landon Phillips and local dignitaries from surrounding towns and villages, including Deputy Lieutenant of Northamptonshire Air Vice Marshall White, and Vice Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire Brigadier Tim Seal.

Col. Landon Phillips expressed his thoughts on the event: "It's truly humbling to be here today to pay a very special tribute to those 17 American airmen who tragically lost their lives 80 years ago. I'm honoured to stand alongside our UK partners in remembrance and grateful for those who have been kind enough to

host us. Your commitment to cherishing the memory of our fallen wingmen is a testament to our two countries' long-standing special relationship and reinforces the bond between our great nations."

Attendees gathered for a short private service, and the reading of a poem originally written by a local young girl, present at the time of the incident. The Honour Guard were given the order to post colours, followed by Taps to accompany the laying of a memorial wreath and a salute.

The Mayor of Irthlingborough, Cllr Ethan Hopkinson, added: "It is an honour to remember the brave men of the 303rd and 384th Bombardment Groups of the United States Air Force who so tragically lost their lives on 22nd February 1944.

"On behalf of the people of Irthlingborough, I express our heartfelt gratitude to the men who lost their lives that day, and all our American

friends who sacrificed so much, arm in arm with our own countrymen, during World War 2 in pursuit of the freedom we enjoy today. In gracious, glorious, and eternal memory."

The ceremony was a private service, and marked the start of an accompanying exhibit open to the public in the Visitor Centre at Stanwick Lakes.

The exhibition ran until 3rd March but Stanwick Lakes invites visitors to learn more about the longer-term heritage project, with plans to fundraise for a permanent memorial on site.

Nadia Norman, Heritage Coordinator at Stanwick Lakes, said: "The B-17 collision in 1944 is such a significant event in local history, and it was important to us that we were able to remember and commemorate the airmen



**Posting the Colours, US Air Force Honor Guard**

on the 80th anniversary of the crash. A permanent memorial here at Stanwick Lakes will help tell the story of self-sacrifice and bravery of our Allied Forces. It will be a lasting legacy that shows our communities had and still have a special relationship with US air bases in the local area."

Thanks go to the dedicated Stanwick Lakes volunteers who have worked compassionately on the

facts and context around the history of the B17 incident, to curate and bring the exhibition to life.

Stanwick Lakes is a nature reserve and heritage site managed by environmental charity Rockingham Forest Trust and works closely with its valued network of volunteers who contribute to events across the organisation's core areas of focus, nature, heritage and adventure.

**More information on the local history of the time, the tragic event, and the exhibition are available on the Stanwick Lakes website [www.stanwicklakes.org.uk](http://www.stanwicklakes.org.uk)**



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