

# Nene Valley NEWS

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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VIRTUAL REALITY COMES TO HERMITAGE HOUSE CARE HOME

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Cost of Living support for residents

North Northamptonshire Council is once again able to support households who are having difficulty managing due to the cost of living crisis through funding from UK Government's Household Support Fund (HSF) Extension until 30th September 2024.

To access HSF funding, applicants will need to fill in a simple online form at [northnorthants.gov.uk/household-support-fund/wider-essential-and-cost-living-support](http://northnorthants.gov.uk/household-support-fund/wider-essential-and-cost-living-support) as well as upload payslips and bank statements, ideally using a computer. Those who do not have access to a computer can visit a North Northamptonshire library where they are available for free public use. Once approved, applicants will receive payment in supermarket vouchers of up to £320 (depending on household size).

This funding will also provide support for families where children are on Free School Meals, including food vouchers for the Summer holidays.

For any queries please contact the team at [HSF4North@northnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:HSF4North@northnorthants.gov.uk)

## Family Food Aid appeal launched to support local families experiencing food poverty

Northamptonshire Community Foundation has launched the Family Food Aid appeal, to tackle food poverty and ensure that vulnerable families and children across the county have access to nutritious food and vital support services.

In January 2024, the Food Foundation estimated that 24% of UK households with children were experiencing food insecurity. Northamptonshire Community Foundation aims to raise at least £25,000 to create a fund that will award grants to local groups and charities working to address this food insecurity in deprived communities in Northamptonshire.

All money raised will be distributed through the foundation's partner charities and community organisations, to ensure this vital support reaches those most in need. Donations can be made via Justgiving: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/familyfoodaid2024>

Dean Jones, Head of Giving & Development at Northamptonshire Community Foundation and leading the launch of the Family Food Aid appeal, said: "We have launched this campaign in response to the number of households in our county who do not have access to sufficient and nutritious food, a number

which is unfortunately growing at an alarming rate.

"It is children in particular who bear the brunt of rising food poverty, which we know from the publication of worrying statistics such as 6% of children in the UK used food banks in 2021/22.

"We are very grateful to local organisations who have already shown their support for the Family Food Aid appeal, including Wilson Browne Solicitors who kindly gave us our first donation. Any support that local residents and businesses can offer, to join us in the fight against food poverty, will make a tangible, meaningful difference and will be hugely appreciated."

Northamptonshire Community Foundation has run several successful fundraising campaigns to tackle urgent need across the county. In 2021, the foundation was able to award £40,456 in grants from the Family Food Aid Fund, benefitting 3,870 beneficiaries as a result



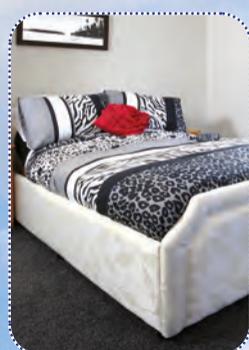
of the fundraising appeal by the same name.

With their funding, Northampton Town of Sanctuary were able to provide healthy hot meals to the young refugees attending their youth club; Weston Favell

Centre Foodbank were able to hand out food parcels to families living in deprived neighbourhoods, and Family Support Link Wellingborough purchased food for families with young children who were adversely affected by food poverty.

To find out more about Northamptonshire Community Foundation and the local charities they fund, visit <https://www.ncf.uk.com/>

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# £25,000 grants available for organisations to improve energy efficiency and upgrade community buildings across North Northamptonshire

Voluntary and community organisations across North Northamptonshire are being encouraged to apply for grants of up to £25,000 to improve energy efficiency and upgrade facilities in community buildings.

The grants are funded by the UK government through the Shared Prosperity Fund which aims to increase life chances across the UK, investing in communities and place, supporting local business, as well as people and skills.

If an organisation can effectively demonstrate that the funding will be used to support any of the following priorities, they

can apply for a grant of up to £25,000:

- Community facility building upgrades to improve energy efficiency (e.g. LED lights)
- Community facility building accessibility and safety (e.g. ramps, rails, paths, lights, signage, etc.)
- Internal upgrades to community building facilities (e.g. equipment upgrades: kitchen, toilets, etc.) to enhance community use

The following groups can apply:

- Parish councils
  - Charities
  - Community and voluntary groups
  - Clubs
  - Not-for-profit organisations
- School PTAs (parent teacher associations), 'Friends of' groups and health charities and religious groups can also apply if their projects benefit the wider community and support the overarching aims.

Joint applications between organisations are also welcomed. One organisation needs to apply and take the lead during the application process.

Applications are open until Tuesday 18th June 2024, with full criteria and how to apply on the council's community funding pages.

Cllr Mark Rowley, the council's Executive Member for Housing, Communities and Levelling Up, said: "Bringing investment into our area is a huge focus for the council, and this funding means we will be able to support a range of projects and programmes that will offer opportunities for our residents.

"The funding available will give organisations with ambition and creativity the chance to help our local communities thrive and leave a long-lasting legacy for the area."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "One of our key commitments as a council is taking a lead on improving the green environment and making the area more sustainable for generations to come.

"We are looking forward to working in partnership with more community groups and investing in innovative projects that will deliver local impact. I urge anyone interested to take a look at all of the support available and get applying!"

Organisations must:

- Demonstrate value for money in the investment of public funds (environmental, social and economic)
- Identify and quantify beneficiaries and impact of investment
- Consider on-going sustainability
- Ensure the identified funding priorities are met in the application

## GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY  
JAN PEARSON

I digressed somewhat last time, starting off by wondering how Jane came by her money, then on to the puzzle of her age throughout the census. This can easily happen when you are in the world of family history – you can end up going down various rabbit holes!

One easy way of becoming diverted is in the world of mistranscriptions. The first census to be transcribed nationally was not the 1841 as you would expect, taking it in date order, but the one from 1881. It was jointly carried out by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints and the Federation of Family History Societies. In order to minimise transcription errors, two volunteers independently transcribed the census, which were then compared by a third person. Any discrepancies would be sorted out by this third volunteer. All this took place before computers were widely available in homes and so many copies appeared on microfiche in Archives and Family History centres.

However, by the year 2000 (after any millennium bugs were quashed...) work was underway for the 1901 census to appear online. The Public Record Office (now the

National Archives) did not have the resources to undertake this and so contracted out to the Enterprise and Supply Services – a division of HM Prison Service! Work was slow and so it was contracted out further where English was not the first language of those performing the task. Words were written as they appeared to be seen and did not necessarily make sense. Knowledge of places was alien to these people and so, although we may know of the names of villages and towns where we are researching, they did not. Once published online, the census proved to be so popular that the system crashed and was taken out of action for 8 months. Some of the errors were sorted out during this time, but not all.

Don't forget – if you find a transcription error (in whatever transcription), please report it to the provider so that they may correct it for future researchers.

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You can also subscribe to Nene Valley News for £1.50 per issue.

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 22nd June  
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 12th June

Publication date: Saturday 6th July  
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 26th June

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## COMMUNITY GARDEN UNVEILED AT NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HERITAGE SITE TO EDUCATE, PRODUCE AND EQUIP

A community garden has been unveiled at The Chester House Estate in Irchester, with the aim of establishing a learning environment, growing local produce and bringing the sense of community to partners and visitors.

Based at The Chester House Estate, the garden programme is a partnership initiative with Creating Tomorrow College, Nene Rivers Trust and the Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC). The project will focus on providing opportunities for physical activity, social interaction and learning about food and resources.

Cllr Helen Howell, North Northamptonshire Council's Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism, said: "I am immensely proud of the collaboration among various partners to establish a lasting community resource. This garden is more than a source of fresh produce for the café and our vegetable box programme – it is a cornerstone of education at our onsite Creating Tomorrow College.

"Here, students not only cultivate employability and life skills but also gain practical knowledge in horticulture and culinary arts, ensuring they are prepared for the future."

Rickleigh Edwards, Project Officer at Nene Rivers Trust, said: "The expert Curators at the Estate advised us on where we could build the garden so it didn't interfere with the archaeology under the

landscape, and we created the garden through 'no dig methods' using raised bed planters built from pallets that we found and repurposed. The students have been using egg boxes as planters to sprout flowers and herbs before planting them in the planters, and we have designed a rainwater catching system off the side of one of the buildings to collect up to two thousand litres of water.

"Potatoes, peas, garlic, chilli, fennel and carrots have been planted in the garden, and flowers and herbs take up the majority of one of the plots as they are shallow-rooted. The waste from the Farmhouse cafe will be used for compost, produce that is grown will be used for food preparation classes organised by Nene Rivers Trust, and we eventually hope to sell vegetable boxes on site at cheaper rates to make healthy eating accessible to everyone."

The community garden will be open for the public to visit from early summer, where visitors have free parking and free entry to the entire Estate. The project team are urging local businesses to support with funding, grounds clearance and partnerships to further strengthen the garden as a community asset.

The project has been made possible by the Co-op Local Community Fund and you can visit the Nene Rivers Trust website to find out more about the community garden.

## Voi offers free rides for national Car Free challenge

Micromobility rental company Voi is offering free e-bike and e-scooter rides to support a national Car Free Challenge taking place during June.

Climate action charity Possible is challenging people across the UK to cut their car use from 1st-30th June, either by swapping the daily commute from the car to another form of transport, swapping the car for a bike, or pledging to go car free for a day, week or the whole month.

New Voi riders can enjoy a free 30-minute ride on an e-scooter or e-bike to help them meet the challenge. Simply download the app and use code: CARFREE24

Voi recently supported a trial run by Possible in Oxford during March where people were challenged to reduce their car use for three weeks.

The Oxford Car Free Challenge was run in partnership with LCON and the Centre for Climate Change and Social Transformations (CAST), funded by the Foundation for Integrated Transport, Oxfordshire County Council's Councillor Priority Fund and many Oxford residents, as well as receiving support from Voi and Avanti Cycling, Bainton Bikes, Co Wheels, Laka Bike Insurance, Pedal & Post and Oxfordshire County Council's road safety team.

The participants discovered that they cut carbon, saved money, and found a new love for car-free travel that they plan to keep up for the long term.

E-scooters can help to reduce air pollution in

cities by replacing short car journeys, and have been shown to cut commuting time by 47%, helping to reduce congestion as well.

James Bolton, General Manager, Voi UK, said: "In the UK, over a quarter of our carbon emissions come from transport. We aim to transform how people move in cities, freeing us from car dependency and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and really hope to help encourage that shift during June by offering free rides to support the Car Free Challenge.

"A growing proportion of riders are giving up their cars as alternatives like e-bikes and e-scooters become available.

"Using an e-scooter is a reliable way to get around without causing congestion or pollution. They're easy-to-use, affordable, reliable and sustainable and we hope new riders will have a go and see how easy and convenient it is to make the switch."

Izzy Romilly, Sustainable Transport Manager at Possible, said: "It's great that Voi is offering free e-bike and e-scooter rides to support our national Going Car Free Challenge in June.

"We know that car miles across the UK need to fall significantly to hit our climate goals. Replacing car trips with more sustainable options where we can is better for the planet and better for our health. We need everyone to work together to shift our transport system away from a reliance on private cars, and towards walking, wheeling, cycling, e-mobility and public transport."

More information about Possible's Car Free Challenge can be found at [www.wearepossible.org/actions-blog/going-car-free-challenge](http://www.wearepossible.org/actions-blog/going-car-free-challenge). For more information about Voi's commitment to sustainability, a report is available here: [www.voi.com/blog/sustainability-report-december-2023/](http://www.voi.com/blog/sustainability-report-december-2023/)

## New chair appointed at North Northamptonshire Council

At North Northamptonshire Council's Annual Full Council meeting, councillors welcomed a new Chair for the next civic year.

During the meeting, Cllr Lora Lawman was elected as the Council's chair with Cllr Jennie Bone as Deputy Chair. Councillors also thanked Cllr Barbara Jenney for carrying out the role for the past year.

The role of the Chair is a largely ceremonial one, including chairing Full Council meetings and representing the area at civic functions and events.

The new Chair of the Council announced that the local charity Teamwork Trust will be her charity for this year.

Cllr Lora Lawman, Chair of the Council said: "It is an absolute honour to represent North Northamptonshire Council as its civic head for the next 12 months. I am looking

forward to getting out and about to meet people and organisations across North Northamptonshire.

"There is lots of fabulous work and projects taking place across North Northamptonshire and it will be a privilege to visit them and help shine a light on the great work that is taking place in our local communities. I have nominated Teamwork Trust as my charity for the year."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council said: "As a Council we remain focused on our mission to invest in public services. At this meeting of Annual Council, I outlined the significant investment this council is making in public services including our roads, education, housing as well

as investing in a wide range of important facilities in communities across North Northamptonshire."

During the meeting, the Executive and their portfolios for 2024/25 were confirmed with Cllr Jason Smithers continuing as Leader and Cllr Helen Howell as Deputy Leader alongside her role as Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism.

The meeting also saw Claire Edwards approved as Interim Director of Finance and Performance and Section 151 Officer (S151) for North Northamptonshire Council. Tributes were also paid to the departing Janice Gotts, Executive Director of Finance and Performance/S151 Officer who was wished well in her new role.



### JUNE

Tue 11 Nottingham Cruise & Lunch  
Thu 13 Nantwich Market Day  
Sat 15 Cromer  
Sun 16 Gardeners World & Good Food Show  
Fri 21 National Arboretum & Lichfield National Arboretum  
Sat 22 Swanage  
Tue 25 Windsor Luxury Afternoon Tea Cruise  
Sat 29 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde  
Sun 30 Sheringham  
Sun 30 Great Yarmouth Wheels Festival

### JULY

Sat 6 Llangollen Motorised Boat Trip  
Sat 6 Llangollen Railway/Classic Transport Show  
Sun 7 Hampton Court Garden Festival  
Tue 9 Bicester Shopping Village  
Sat 13 Skegness  
Sun 14 Hunstanton  
Mon 15 Bakewell Market  
Wed 17 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Oakham  
Sat 20 RAF Fairford Tattoo  
Thu 25 Shropshire & Little Switzerland  
Fri 26 London Zoo  
Sat 26 Postal Museum, London  
Sat 27 Southend on Sea  
Sun 28 Whitby  
Sun 28 Weymouth  
Tue 30 Trentham Estate & Monkey Forest  
Wed 31 Sandringham Flower Show

### AUGUST

Thu 1 Black Country Museum  
Thu 1 Dudley Zoo  
Fri 2 Chester  
Fri 2 Chester Zoo  
Sat 3 Buckingham Palace & Afternoon Tea  
Sun 4 Sheringham  
Mon 5 Chesterfield Market Day  
Tue 6 Cromer  
Wed 7 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde  
Wed 7 Haworth & KWVVR  
Thu 8 Liverpool  
Thu 8 Liverpool  
Thu 8 Liverpool's Open Top Bus  
Thu 8 Liverpool Afternoon Tea Cruise  
Fri 9 Butterfly Farm & Stratford Upon Avon  
Sat 10 Broadstairs  
Sat 10 Margate  
Sun 11 Skegness Carnival Day  
Mon 12 Norfolk Broads River Trip  
Tue 13 Kennet Vale Horse Drawn Boat Trip  
Wed 14 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Oakham  
Thu 15 Windsor OR Windsor Castle  
Fri 16 Canterbury OR Whitstable  
Sat 17 Canterbury Airshow  
Sat 17 Hunstanton  
Sun 18 Great Yarmouth  
Sun 18 Cleethorpes  
Tue 20 Wye Valley Cruise & Lunch  
Thu 22 London Free Time OR Museums  
Thu 22 Kensington Palace

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### AUGUST

#### 16-19 AUGUST LYTHAM 1940'S WEEKEND

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### SEPTEMBER

#### 20-23 SEPTEMBER VICTORIA'S BEAUTIFUL ISLAND WEEKENDER

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### OCTOBER

#### 11-14 OCTOBER ROBIN HOOD WEEKENDER

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### MARCH 2025

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# Spotlight on > HOMES & GARDENS



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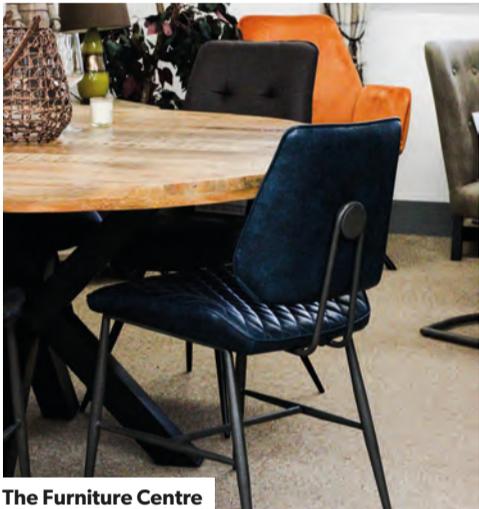
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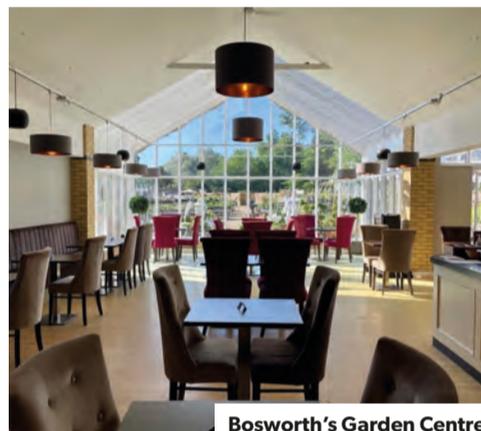
“It's not just a fantastic retail experience that we provide. We are also proud to deliver an extensive events calendar throughout the year. With recent coach trips including RHS Chelsea Flower Show, workshops such as Watercolour Landscapes, and Garden & Grow sessions exploring topics such as Border Design – we are sure you'll find something that will excite you!

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“Our Elton site is home to our award-winning Mulberry Café with a welcoming atmosphere and delicious menu! Better yet, many of the ingredients used in our dishes are wheeled over from our Kitchen Garden, which you can explore during your visit.

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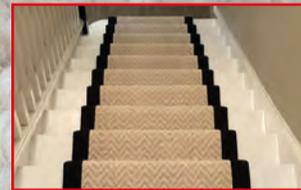


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## PLANNING A SPRING CLEAN? DON'T BIN YOUR BATTERIES

Residents planning a spring clean are being reminded to think before disposing of used batteries and items containing batteries, including children's toys and vapes.

Recently, North Northamptonshire Council's bin crews have had to think quickly twice to avoid potential bin lorry fires. The incidents could have been avoided if batteries had been recycled correctly.

When waste and recycling bins are collected by crews, any batteries inside can be squashed, punctured or shredded, which could cause batteries to get very hot and ignite, resulting in a fire or explosion in the bin lorry or at the waste facility.

Recent research by Material Focus found that 1.6 billion batteries were thrown away in the past year – including 1.1 billion electrical items containing lithium-ion batteries.

However, batteries can be recycled, easily and safely for free – at places such as supermarkets and DIY stores which all have battery bins. All North Northamptonshire Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) also have battery bins, where you can take your old batteries for free recycling.

North Northants HWRCs also accept all types of vapes – these can be disposed of in the household battery containers if they are a solid unit. If they have a removable battery, this can go in the battery bin and the vape body can be put in the bin for electrical items.

Toys can be taken to HWRCs or placed in general refuse bins – once the batteries have been removed.

Cllr Matt Binley, the council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "It is worth taking the time to remind yourself of what can go in your general waste and recycling bins. But we also want to take



this opportunity to ask that residents check before they bin their batteries – they should never go in your general or recycling bins. Instead, most shops and supermarkets have recycling points where you can drop off your batteries and our Household Waste Recycling Centres have drop-off points."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "Our waste crews have had a couple of lucky escapes recently and it was only their quick thinking which prevented fires on bin lorries.

"Any fire could have been potentially very disruptive, with rounds having to be cancelled or amended, not to mention the loss of a vehicle."

The website Recycle Your Electricals has a postcode checker where residents can find their nearest battery recycling point.

**More information about what and where items can be recycled in North Northants is available on the council website.**

## Peterborough Festival celebrates success once again

For the third year running, Peterborough Celebrates Festival at Ferry Meadows (18th–19th May) has been declared a resounding success by festival hosts Nene Park Trust, with record numbers of visitors and overwhelmingly positive feedback.

The festival all started with the pre-festival Big Top Cinema on Thursday 16th and Friday 17th May, making the most of the festival site set up and building the festival anticipation. 700 cinema-goers arrived for four different films across the two evenings in an array of fancy dress costumes, ready to sing a long and enjoy the festival atmosphere.

Saturday 18th May and Sunday 19th May saw the sun breaking through the clouds and festival visitors flocking to enjoy free performances and a wide range of activities for all the family. Nene Park Trust estimates from car parking data and visitor counters that around 25,000 people attended the festival across the weekend. In addition, Nene Valley Railway reported that 720 tickets were sold for the festival shuttle train service, a significant increase on tickets from last year.

Throughout the weekend, visitors were treated to a wide range of performances, such as music, theatre, dance, and activities including art and community workshops, and have-a-go sports and games. In total there were 44 different performing groups which consisted of about 250-300 individual performers, providing approximately 42 hours of free live entertainment!

Performers ranged from local music and dance groups such as Peterborough Rock Choir, Wansford Ukelele Folk, Peterborough Opera, Indian dance group Ritu Ranga and Latvian children's dance group Kastinitis, to renowned professional acts such as acrobats Mimbire, Vanhulle Dance, Pif-Paf Theatre and Xidus Pain.

Community groups from across Peterborough were at the heart of the festival. 28 local

organisations had festival stalls showcasing what they do and 13 different community groups decorated large wooden hearts which were dotted around the centre of the festival site for visitors to discover and explore. The community Heart Bunting display had an amazing impact with 2,084 hearts made from recycled materials and decorated by 49 different community groups, schools and care homes, all incorporated into a heart-shaped installation.

The festival finale saw a dramatic Hindu Holi Colour celebration in front of the main stage. Festival-goers gathered together to throw coloured powder paint in the air and at each other in a joyful celebration of the arrival of spring and to mark a colourful end to a fantastic festival weekend.

The festival couldn't have run without the generous funding from hosts Nene Park Trust and also corporate sponsorship from AEPG, Caterpillar, Greenwoods, Savills, Hegarty Solicitors, We Love Peterborough, Term Times family magazine, P&DAA, Peterborough Cathedral, Tony's Ices, GCE Hire and BBC Radio Cambridgeshire.

Stephanie Peachey, Head of Visitor Engagement for Nene Park Trust and Peterborough Celebrates Festival Director, said: "Thanks to the huge effort by our staff, volunteers and the Peterborough community, we all enjoyed a feel-good celebration of the talent and diversity of our fantastic city. It really was our 'love letter to Peterborough'. Thank you to all our festival visitors too for coming along and celebrating the city with us over the weekend."

## More than £170,000 to improve internet speed in primary schools across Northamptonshire

Executive members approved the funding of £171,936 for six schools across the area at a recent meeting of North Northamptonshire Council at Corby Cube.

The money is from the 'Connect the Classroom' grant, which is a government-funded programme aimed at improving internet speed in schools.

Schools across North Northamptonshire were contacted as part of the programme, and those which fell below Wi-Fi connectivity standards during the assessment and met the criteria were awarded funding.

This money is to go towards upgrading to the latest wireless network, giving full coverage throughout the schools and externally where required.

The following schools will benefit from the award:

- Alfred Street Junior School, Rushden (£30,036)
- Corby Old Village Primary School (£24,416)
- Mawsley Primary School (£31,487)
- Meadowside Primary School (£40,603)
- Tennyson Road Infant School (£21,858)
- All Saints CEVA Primary School and Nursery (£23,536)

Cllr Lloyd Bunday, Executive Member for Finance and Transformation, said: "Our pupils now feel more connected to each other, their teachers and our community than ever before. Many schools are using technology to improve their classroom learning experience and have invested in tablets and digital screens, for all pupils and staff. However, the ability of the IT network to cope with

so many additional demands on bandwidth often leads to poor connectivity and slow performance.

"Fast, reliable connectivity is vital in today's classrooms and the fantastic new Wi-Fi provided through the 'Connect the Classroom' programme will allow schools to transform how teachers teach, using the latest educational tech, giving pupils and staff access to a huge library of new tools and resources to thrive and engage with the curriculum."

Jason Smithers, Leader of North Northamptonshire Council, said: "In today's teaching environment, Wi-Fi is key to student success for several reasons. As you leave school, students need Wi-Fi to get a job, find insurance, buy home goods, manage their pensions, and file their self-assessments. Helping them get used to using the internet now, identifying safe connections and managing their data usage are all good skills to furnish learners with.

"High speed, reliable internet is crucial to helping schools provide the best possible experience for pupils. This investment will expand a whole world of possibilities for schools and teachers in these schools, whether that is through more access to online resources for children, or fast, top quality video streaming."

Schools receiving the funding were chosen because they fell below the government's Wi-Fi connectivity standards as part of the assessment.

These standards include:

- Using the latest wireless network standard approved by the Wi-Fi Alliance
- Having a fully functional signal from a wireless network throughout the school or college buildings and externally, where required
- Having a solution that can centrally manage the wireless network
- Installing security features to stop unauthorised access

## Olympic heroes lend their support for student training day

Students had the unique opportunity to interview four Olympic athletes recently as part of a media training day hosted by East Midlands Academy Trust.

The Year 10 students from #EMATter schools Northampton International Academy and Prince William School were joined by pupils from Wollaston School, part of the Nene Valley Partnership, for the session, where they were able to interview gold medallist Tessa Sanderson CBE, bronze medal-winning sprinter Joslyn Hoyte-Smith MBE, Olympic hammer thrower Shirley Addison and runner Lou Collins.

The event was a training day to prepare the students for their trackside reporting duties at the forthcoming EMAT Olympic Day, an athletics competition involving 10 schools taking place this month which will be broadcast live on YouTube.

The training was led by Sky Sports presenter Dave Fulton, who will also be the host for the EMAT Olympic Day, and saw the students learn about interview skills and commentary practice.

Prince William School student Grace Moreland, who attended the media training day, said: "I really enjoyed the training day. I liked learning about interviewing people and I'm going to practice at home to build my confidence."

East Midlands Academy Trust chief executive Josh Coleman said: "This is the fourth year running that we've held our EMAT Olympic Day and it's thanks to our unique partnership with GB Olympians that the students today were given

the special privilege of speaking to no fewer than four Olympic athletes.

"Our EMAT Olympic Day is about promoting teamwork and commitment through sport, but this opportunity for some of our students to be trackside reporters at the event offers even greater learning experiences for our pupils.

"I'm very thankful to the four Olympians for taking the time to speak with our learners."



## JURASSIC MUSICAL ADVENTURE ARRIVES IN WELLINGBOROUGH!

Direct from London's West End, The world's leading dinosaur show is coming to Wellingborough!

See life-sized, monstrous beasts up close in this award-winning festive all-star spectacular, exclusively featuring the world's only Mosasaur, the world's last flying Pterodactyl and more dinosaur species than any other show on earth! Jurassic Musical Adventure is the UK's most interactive theatre show where audiences become part of the dinosaur adventure.

### The Show

Aimed at families, this show takes you on a musical journey as you join Ranger Joe, Ranger Nora and the rest of the Jurassic

rangers to help save the day from an evil man who is trying to shut down the Jurassic zoo. There will be lots of audience participation and fun with your favourite comedic rangers on stage alongside dinosaur favourites.

### New World First

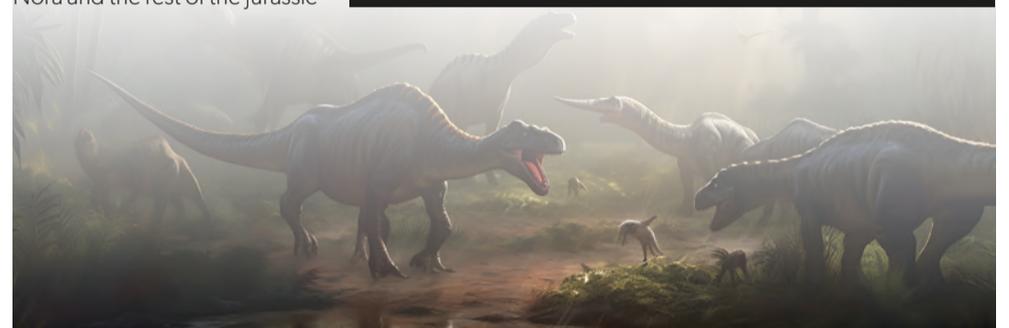
"We are thrilled to announce for 2024... the Tylosaurus, a genus of Mosasaur and the largest predatory marine reptile to ever grace our oceans. It is the largest marine puppet ever made and the only one of its kind in theatres anywhere in the world. See it swim in its

gigantic purpose built Jurassic tank onstage and be warned.. if you sit near the front... you WILL get wet!"

### Sensory warning

Please note this event features the use of strobe lighting and pyrotechnics. This show is aimed at families and is suitable for those aged 3+, but does feature a mild scare factor and scenes using dart guns and scenes where rangers' lives are temporarily in danger. Jurassic Musical Adventure will be at Castle Theatre, Wellingborough on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June.

**Ticket prices are £21.50 and can be booked by calling the Box Office on 01933 270 007 or visiting [www.castletheatre.co.uk](http://www.castletheatre.co.uk)**



## Your Health – Making babies!

WORDS BY  
CLAIRE SHORT

After I wrote about my experiences with acupuncture last time, we had a few questions about whether these tiny needles can help with fertility issues.

How it works is not well understood, but we used to joke that one of our acupuncturists had made her own football team!

What I found interesting was hearing how the 'basal temperature diary' of her patients started following a more normal pattern after a few weeks of acupuncture. I like science and knowing that there are scientific changes to the body when you have acupuncture gives me great confidence in it.

Some of our patients use acupuncture alongside fertility treatment and some try it before starting fertility treatment. Each journey is different, and our team accepts whatever choices you make. And your acupuncturist will work alongside any medical team, it's not a competition to see who can make the biggest difference, it's a team effort.

You can also get support through the pregnancy. One patient said in a testimonial that



once they were pregnant "we focused on my health, my morning sickness and anything else I threw at her during those first few, terrifying months."

It can be difficult to get your head around how some super-thin needles can have such a profound effect on the body, but when you see the results and research it's hard to argue with them.

Of course, the one thing we will NOT do is use acupuncture for infertility of a lawnmower. You already know how much I despise that machine and the idea of making it reproduce fills me with horror. I hope yours is working well right now – it's that time of year, isn't it!

Have a great week, but don't try needling yourself or the lawnmower!

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- Period pains
- Menopause
- Fertility problems
- Pelvic organ prolapse
- Mum and baby osteopathy check ups



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Women's Health Specialist,  
Brooke Robinson.

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[The Ashgrove Clinic](#)



Move better. Feel better. Live better.

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

# ROOKIE MEN'S CHOIR STUNS AUDIENCE IN PROSTATE CANCER FUNDRAISER

A popular singing project, launched earlier this year, has produced a brand new men's choir with 46 highly motivated, Northamptonshire-based men all aiming to raise money in support of Prostate Cancer UK. The project – 'Men United in Song 2024' – is part of a national programme, funded by Arts Council England, involving five existing male voice choirs: Northampton, Peterborough, Radcliffe on Trent, Welwyn Garden and Worcester.

The majority of the men in the Northamptonshire 'Men United in Song' choir are totally new to choral singing and performing in public. They nevertheless took on the enormous task of learning 10 songs in just 10 weeks to perform at a Rotary Club of Rushden charity concert as special guests of Northampton Male Voice Choir (NMVC). To prepare for their debut concert the men worked hard in

rehearsal each week under the leadership of NMVC's Musical Director, Stephen Bell. And, at its first ever concert – on 11th May in St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers – a 'sell out' audience was blown away by the new choir's amazing performance.

Speaking after the concert, MD, Stephen said: "What a journey it's been. The 'Men United in Song' lads did a really great job. Zero to performance – 10 songs in 10 weeks – unbelievable! They just didn't know that it was impossible! And now they go on to take part in a concert in Nottingham as part of a huge massed choir with upwards of 400 other men from the five areas involved in this project."

Reflecting on the new choir's performance NMVC Chairman, Mark York, said: "Despite my having been involved with these guys since the outset of the 'Men

United in Song' project, I was completely taken aback by their energy, enthusiasm and fantastic singing. I can't congratulate them enough. One of the main objectives of the project is to raise money for Prostate Cancer UK in support of its fight to combat this terrible disease. We've already raised in the region of £3,000 and our efforts are ongoing."



PHOTOGRAPHY: COURTNEY CARPENTER

Anyone wishing to help can donate via [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/great-north-run-2024-55960](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/great-north-run-2024-55960)

# NENE VALLEY NEWS - EVENTS

## Raunds forthcoming events:

> **THURSDAY 6TH JUNE 7PM, 9.30PM**

**D-Day 80**

Saxon Hall

> **SATURDAY 15TH JUNE, FROM 9.30AM**

**Saturday Market**

Market Square

> **TUESDAY 18TH JUNE 1.30PM-3PM**

**Film Afternoon**

Saxon Hall

> **THURSDAY 6TH JUNE**

**Rushden D-Day 80**

8.00am

**Rushden War Memorial**

The D-Day 80 Proclamation read by David Coleman, Rushden Town Mayor

8.05am

Exhortation, Last Post, Two Minutes' Silence observed, Reveille, Kohima

8.10am

Laying of wreaths at war memorial David Coleman, Rushden Town Mayor to light 'Lamp Light of Peace'

Attendees to be given candles to light

1.00pm

**St Mary's Church**

Ringin' Out for Peace – bells at St Mary's Church

7.15pm

**Hall Park**

Open for Fish and Chip picnic supper

8.00pm

Choir and Wartime music

8.55pm

Standards march in

Welcome address from David Coleman, Rushden Town Mayor, Event History – David Hawker, Reading and Prayers,

Exhortation, Last Post, Two Minutes' Silence observed, Reveille, Kohima, The Tribute – Deputy Lord Lieutenant  
9.15pm Beacon Lighting

> **SUNDAY 9TH JUNE, 11AM - 5PM**

**Open Gardens in Oundle**

£5 in advance, £7 on the day. U16s free when accompanied by an adult. Contact information [www.creativeoundle.co.uk](http://www.creativeoundle.co.uk) An opportunity to visit some of the exquisite private gardens in the heart of Oundle.

> **SUNDAY 9TH JUNE, 2PM TO 5PM**

**Newton Bromswold Open Gardens**

Admission fee (if applicable): Family Ticket £5 includes 2 adults and 2 children, Adult £3. Contact Helen Lines 01933 315864. Refreshment and programme available from Village Hall.

> **WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FOR SEVEN WEEKS AT 7.30PM, STARTING ON 5TH JUNE**

Bridge Community Office, Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HXL. Life explored – An Introduction to the Christian Faith. All are welcome: please contact king. [simon@live.co.uk](mailto:simon@live.co.uk) or [peterquires@sky.com](mailto:peterquires@sky.com) for more details.

To submit your event please contact us via our website [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk) or call 01522 692542.

## RAUNDS FILM AFTERNOON



Come & meet new friends

Showing at Saxon Hall, Raunds on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Refreshments served from 12:45pm  
Film starts at 1:30pm

No under 18's permitted without an adult

£1 entry (includes tea/coffee & cake)

Email [info@raunds-tc.gov.uk](mailto:info@raunds-tc.gov.uk) or Ring 01933 622087 between

9:00 am – 2.30pm to reserve your seat.



In the summer of 2014, a World War II veteran sneaks out of his care home to attend the 70th anniversary commemoration of the D-Day landings in Normandy.

An event provided by Raunds Town Council

## RAUNDS MAYOR'S SHOW

**SATURDAY 1 JUNE 2024 12PM- 5PM**

Live music from Jennah

**Bassfords Recreation Ground, Marshalls Road**

Fun for all the family

**FREE ENTRY**

Bar, Food, Craft Stalls.... and much more

**Ultimate Dog Show**  
Born 2 Dance  
Bubble Show  
Birds of Prey  
Football Freestyler  
Tug of War & Children's Races

**Bungee Trampolines**  
Crazy Golf  
Free Football Skills Workshops  
Free Penalty Shootout  
Fun Fair  
Reptiles

[@Raundscouncil](https://www.facebook.com/Raundscouncil)

[@raundstowncouncil](https://www.instagram.com/raundstowncouncil)

[www.raunds-tc.gov.uk](http://www.raunds-tc.gov.uk)

An event organised by Raunds Town Council

## COMMEMORATING D-DAY 80

**6 JUNE 2024 RUSHDEN**

**8.00AM RUSHDEN WAR MEMORIAL**  
THE D-DAY 80 PROCLAMATION READ BY DAVID COLEMAN, RUSHDEN TOWN MAYOR

**8.05AM EXHORTATION**  
LAST POST  
TWO MINUTES SILENCE OBSERVED  
REVEILLE  
KOHIMA

**8.10AM LAYING OF WREATHS AT WAR MEMORIAL**  
DAVID COLEMAN, RUSHDEN TOWN MAYOR TO LIGHT 'LAMP LIGHT OF PEACE'  
ATTENDEES TO BE GIVEN CANDLES TO LIGHT

**1.00PM ST MARY'S CHURCH**  
RINGING OUT FOR PEACE – BELLS AT ST MARY'S CHURCH

**7.15PM HALL PARK**  
OPEN FOR FISH AND CHIP PICNIC SUPPER  
CHOIR AND WARTIME MUSIC

**8.00PM STANDARDS MARCH IN**  
WELCOME ADDRESS FROM DAVID COLEMAN, RUSHDEN TOWN MAYOR  
EVENT HISTORY – DAVID HAWKER  
READING AND PRAYERS  
EXHORTATION  
LAST POST  
TWO MINUTES SILENCE OBSERVED  
REVEILLE  
KOHIMA

**9.15PM THE TRIBUTE – DEPUTY LORD LIEUTENANT**  
BEACON LIGHTING

# NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE HIGHWAYS PROGRAMME TO REPAIR WINTER DAMAGE

As the weather starts to improve, North Northamptonshire Council has started the spring and summer phase of its extensive highways repair programme.

Every year there is a planned programme of works which involves various treatment methods, running alongside the reactive maintenance that addresses issues highlighted by routine inspections and reports via the council's website.

Over the coming weeks, with highways partner Kier, repairs will include a mix of surface dressing treatments, micro asphalt and thermal road repairs. These are proactive forms of maintenance offering a more cost-effective and sustainable solution, when compared to typical resurfacing schemes, that future-proof roads for up to 15 years.

Cllr Matt Binley, the Council's Executive Member for Highways, Travel and Assets, said: "A combination of winter weather and increased heavy usage causes damage to roads and footways not just here but throughout the UK.

"As well as winter weather causing damage to the roads it's also more challenging in carrying out road repairs

and many repair methods actually rely on the weather being warm and dry to be the most effective.

"The next few years will see the largest investment we have made to date on highways which includes a significant amount of capital spend."

Jason Smithers, Leader of the Council, said: "We know that having our roads repaired is a top priority for many of our residents and we're determined to make an impact on the network over the coming months.

"A well-maintained highways network is essential in keeping our communities connected and helping the economy to grow. That's why we're continuing to invest more in our highways in the coming years."

## Surface dressing

Surface dressing is the most cost-effective way to prolong the life of roads that show minor signs of deterioration. It improves the road surface, skid resistance and seals the surface to stop water getting in. This protects it from damage caused by severe winter weather conditions and traffic.

A thin film of bitumen is sprayed onto the road surface followed by one or two layers of chippings. The chippings are

then rolled into the bitumen to form an interlocking, long lasting surface.

Over the coming weeks, the programme will see surface dressing covering almost 134,400m<sup>2</sup> of highways.

Schemes include:

- Wellingborough - Ditchford Lane
- Great Doddington - Cut Throat Lane
- Isham - A509 Kettering Road (Finedon Station Road to Nioirt Way roundabout)
- Rushton - Rushton Road (Rothwell Road, Rushton to Glendon Road, Rushton)
- Pytchley - Orlingbury Road (Broughton turn to Pytchley)
- Brampton Ash - A427 Harborough Road (Dingley to Stoke Albany)
- Finedon - Station Road (Finedon Station Road to Avenue Road)
- Irchester - Gypsy Lane (Wollaston Rd to A509 roundabout)
- Yarwell - Wansford road (county boundary to Suleyhay Road)
- Rushden - A6 Liberty Way (Newton Road roundabout to John Clarke Way roundabout)
- Great Doddington - A509 Wilby Way

(Sainsbury's roundabout to the A45)

## Microasphalt

This is used when the structure of the road is good but the very top surface is beginning to wear and needs sealing to stop water getting in, preventing major deterioration. Treatments usually take place between May and September.

Over the coming weeks, the programme will see micro-asphalting covering 24,940m<sup>2</sup> of highways.

Schemes include:

- Kings Cliffe - West Street
  - Desborough - Rothwell Road
  - Rothwell - Rushton Road
  - Wilbarston - Carlton Road
  - Great Doddington - Glenfield Drive
- Additional carriageway projects
- Islip - Phase 2 A6116 Thrapston roundabout - Resurfacing
  - Harley Way, Brigstock - Resurfacing
  - Rushton Road, Rushton - A6003 Hamburger roundabout to Glendon Hall/Glendon Rd junction - Resurfacing
  - Finedon Road, Irthlingborough - whole length - Patching
  - Ecton - A4500 Wellingborough Road

- Re-texturing

- Corby - A6003 Uppingham Road - Re-texturing

## Resurfacing

Resurfacing is the process of removing the existing surface course, and in some cases base layers, of the full width of the carriageway. The carriageway is then replaced with new layers of material to extend the life of the road and ensure it remains safe for use.

## Patching

Patching is the process of removing the defected areas of the carriageway to provide a cost-effective maintenance method to extend the life of the road where it is needed.

## Re-texturing

Road re-texturing is a restoration treatment where the carriageway is blasted, with either high pressure water or small ball bearings, to restore surface texture. The process is low cost and is generally used on roads in a good condition which just need improvements to skid resistance.

More information about forthcoming roadworks will be available on the Council's website: [www.northnorthants.gov.uk/improving-our-roads](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/improving-our-roads). Updates are also available on Facebook and X: @NNCHighways



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# CANDO CARE CELEBRATES 10 YEARS AT ISLIP WMC

On Sunday 12th May the Service Users of Cando Care, their families, friends and guests joined staff and volunteers to celebrate 10 Years of Cando Care. They enjoyed singing along with, and some even danced to, the sounds of "Bread 'n' Drippin", a Chas and Dave style duo. Managing Director and Founder Member, Kathleen Meredith, was thrilled to see that so many came along to celebrate.



10 years party balloons

Cando Care CIC is a Wellbeing Day Centre based at Irthlingborough Library and caters for the vulnerable, lonely and those with dementia. At the centre, all the Service Users are looked after by trained staff and volunteers who engage with them with games, arts and crafts, music, exercise classes, outings and more.

Mayor of Irthlingborough Cllr Ethan Hopkinson was accompanied by his Mayoress and three Town Councillors on his final engagement before his term of office ends. He was delighted to be there and was pleased how well the Irthlingborough business was doing and how important it was to the local community.

Pictured presenting a

cheque to MD Kathleen Meredith for £1,722 is Islip Club Steward Terry Gunn. This was raised by their Skittle League, Easter Raffle and Music Nights. Terry, who last year presented a cheque for £1,553 to the centre, said: "Knowing and seeing the difference Cando makes to their Service Users and families is inspirational, and it's a pleasure to be able to help them with the fundraising, which is ongoing."

MD Kathleen Meredith said: "We can't thank Terry and his committee enough for the use of the club, sorting the buffet, and for their fundraising."

Terry is well known for all the local causes Islip Members and Associates have supported for years. They were deservedly voted the "CIU Club of Month" in January.



Joining in to sounds of "Bread 'n' Drippin"

Cando Care is a not for profit company, therefore it isn't government funded and is grateful for the donations like this as well as the support from families with both donations and raffle prizes – also for the support from fundraising events during the year, along with some grants and support from the National Lottery

Community Fund. A raffle held in the afternoon with all prizes donated raised £382.

All these donations, grants and fundraisers help Cando Care with the ever increasing costs of the centre, and to keep the cost down to the Service Users, thereby making it accessible to as many as possible.



Kath dancing with a client



Terry Gunn presents a cheque to Cando Care MD Kathleen Meredith

**If you want to know more about Cando Care or would like to become a volunteer at the centre, or if you would like to volunteer as a Driver, please do not hesitate to ring Kath on 07741 651170. Please follow Cando Care on Facebook to get regular updates.**



 **The Hawthorns**  
NORTHAMPTON

## WHY WAIT?

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"Since moving here, I have made new friends and found a new and very rewarding life. The amenities are great with something to do every day and the staff are very caring. I am so pleased that I decided to come to the Hawthorns, but I wish I had done it earlier." - *the Hawthorns resident*



**01604 358133 | [hawthornsretirement.co.uk](http://hawthornsretirement.co.uk)**

# HELPING NORTH NORTHANTS RESIDENTS' RECOVERY FROM LONG COVID

North Northants residents can now sign up for specially designed 12-week Long COVID Exercise Programme sessions at Corby's Lodge Park Sports Centre.



L-R: Cllr Gill Mercer, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing and Councillor Helen Howell, Deputy Leader of North Northamptonshire Council and Executive Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism at the E-GYM opening at Lodge Park

Any resident in North Northamptonshire who is suffering from persistent symptoms caused by COVID-19 infection can self-refer onto the programme at [www.nnleisure.co.uk/longcovid](http://www.nnleisure.co.uk/longcovid). They can also be referred to the programme through any medical professional.

The goals of the programme include helping users manage and increase energy levels and reduce fatigue, boost respiratory function, improve muscle strength and endurance, enhance mental well-being, improve coordination, motor skills, balance, mobility, and help achieve and maintain a healthy body weight.

The sessions are supported by E-GYM's suite of equipment and Immunity Boost programme, offering tailored fitness programmes using state-of-the-art technology to improve health and fitness levels of individuals suffering from Long COVID.

Executive Members, Public Health and Leisure staff were invited to an opening event at Lodge Park Sports Centre to hear all about the programme and how it will support residents, as well as see the equipment demonstrated.

Councillor Gill Mercer, Executive Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing for North Northamptonshire Council said: "I am delighted that Public Health in North Northamptonshire Council has been able to fund this project.

I was particularly impressed that that the equipment is automated, so ideal for even inexperienced gym users to support their recovery.

Also, that participants can, through the interactive app, go on to embed physical activity in their daily lives."

Individuals who opt for the 12-week Long COVID Exercise Programme will be invited to Lodge Park Sports Centre to complete a full assessment of their condition by the Exercise Referrals Team, who are all trained in Long COVID exercise. Participants will be taken through a health induction and can then train individually, or as part of group sessions, using the E-GYM equipment.

Councillor Helen Howell, Deputy Leader of North Northamptonshire Council and Executive

Member for Sport, Leisure, Culture and Tourism said: "I was massively impressed by the E-GYM Smart Strength equipment. It is a real game-changer, customising workouts to individual needs and adapting as the user grows stronger.

"Importantly it adapts to users so that they don't overdo things and end up with the lowered immune systems that are associated with post-exertion in Long COVID.

"Staff obviously can't wait to get going and help residents with Long COVID improve their health and wellbeing, so if you know someone affected, do let them know about this offering."

The Long COVID offer is a 12-week programme, with support from one of the qualified health and fitness team. Individuals can then progress onto Activity on Referral giving them support for six months in total.

The instructor will provide safe and effective activity advice based on medical history and experience, guiding participants through their journey with bespoke programmes and activities.

If they are not digitally confident, or do not have access to a smartphone, the trainers will also show and guide participants using the centre's digital equipment, so they can see and be motivated by their progress.

Customers can join the discounted Activity on Referral scheme at £24.50 per month. This option gives access to the E-GYM as well as other facilities at Lodge Park, seven days a week. Alternatively they can opt to 'pay as you go' at a cost of £4.20 per session.

Leader of North Northants Council, Jason Smithers said: "It is so important that we support our residents living with this debilitating condition to live their best lives. We now have such a superb offering for those of our North Northants residents who are affected by Long COVID, with trained staff and specialist equipment and providing tailored exercise.

"All the employees involved have worked exceptionally hard to put this together and I wish them, and the residents who will use the programme, every success."

## 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](http://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](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk)

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## Family NOTICES

Nene Valley News can help you make those important family announcements.



Walker, Aaron/  
Hunt, Nicola  
Married on April 2 2014,  
at St Andrews Church.  
The couple had their  
honeymoon in Paris.



Chloe Booth have a  
wonderful day.  
Love from Mummy, Daddy,  
Nanna & Grandad xxx

For help and information to place your notice please call 01522 692542 or visit [www.nenevalleynews.co.uk](http://www.nenevalleynews.co.uk)

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14  
(DRYDEN STREET, RAUNDS)  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2024  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Dryden Street, Raunds as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Dryden Street, Raunds from outside no.29.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during water mains works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 11th June 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 up to three days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use London Road, Marshall's Road, Cartrill Street and Grombold Avenue.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N061 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T24/294

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14  
(HIGH STREET, EASTON ON THE HILL)  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2024  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of High Street, Easton on the Hill as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of High Street, Easton on the Hill from outside no.25 to no.27.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during civils works by Open Reach.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 10th June 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 up to three days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use New Road, A43 and Stamford Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N063 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T24/295

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14  
(MAIN STREET & MILL ROAD, YARWELL)  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2024  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along those lengths of Main Street and Mill Road, Yarwell as set out below.  
LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: Those lengths of Main Street and Mill Road, Yarwell for their entire lengths.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during manhole maintenance.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 17th June 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 roads will be restricted for up to two days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Nassington Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N062 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T24/296

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14  
(BRIDGE STREET, KINGS CLIFFE)  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2024  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council have made an Order the effect of which is to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of Bridge Street, Kings Cliffe as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Bridge Street, Kings Cliffe from outside no.5.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during gas connection works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 17th June 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 up to five days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Wansford Road, Kings Cliffe Road and Apethorpe Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N074 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T24/302  
Dated this 8th day of June 2024  
ADELE WYLIE  
Executive Director of Customer & Governance (Monitoring Officer)



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# Virtual reality helps wish come true at Hermitage House Care Home

Staff at Hermitage House Care Home in Thrapston recently fulfilled a wish for resident Kate. She had mentioned to staff her desire to visit North Yorkshire again as it was one of her favourite places. Now with travelling being a bit more difficult for Kate, the home decided to think outside of the box to grant this wish.

"Kate loves Yorkshire and has spent many happy holidays there with her family, she especially loves the North Riding area. Together with her husband and sometimes friends of

the family they visited Thirsk, Whitby and many other local places. They stayed in the same bed and breakfast every year at Levisham, a tiny hamlet of less than 100 residents about

5 miles north of Pickering in the North York Moors National Park," said Customer Relations Manager Jess Grayson.

Kate remembered: "You had to go up a very steep hill to get to the bed and breakfast in Levisham, but once you were there it was beautiful, the children would help the owners water vegetables in one of the six greenhouses. They had a horse and the children loved playing badminton on the lawn."

To grant Kate's wish, staff at Hermitage House sought the support of virtual reality specialists Recreo VR, who explain, "Our goal is to facilitate a seamless integration of virtual reality into the daily practices of care facilities, ensuring a transformative and enriching experience for all involved."

Kate said: "Today I've been transported back to my fondest memories in North Yorkshire, which has all been made possible through the power of this wonderful technology. I've been able to see Levisham on the VR headset including the church,

village centre and tiny post office. I also saw Whitby and was reminded of the statues of the herring sellers on the dock. I also especially loved seeing the Abbey on the hill and couldn't believe the size of the seagulls."

When Kate saw all these fond and familiar places she commented: "It's so clear and very realistic. I've loved seeing all this again, we live in our memories, and what lovely memories they are."

Home Manager Susan Barnes said: "Resident Maureen also used the VR headset and looked around Nunnington Hall, a National Trust property near Thirsk. She was able to see inside the Hall and admire all the paintings, books, and artefacts on display. Other residents looked at gardens and local landmarks, they were amazed at how real the experience was."

The staff team at Hermitage House Care Home added: "We want to all say a big thank you to Recreo VR for helping us make this wish possible for our resident Kate. It was a wonderful session enjoyed by all in the comfort of our care home."



To find out more about life at Hermitage House Care Home, please contact our home on 01832 430 084 or via email at [hermitagehouse@countrycourtcare.com](mailto:hermitagehouse@countrycourtcare.com)

## OPEN EVENTS

Higham Ferrers Campus

Saturday 15 June 2024  
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