

# Nene Valley NEWS

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

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EXCITING ACTS ANNOUNCED FOR THIS YEAR'S PETERBOROUGH CELEBRATES FESTIVAL!

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## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Healthwatch contract awarded

Following public and stakeholder consultation, North Northamptonshire Council's commissioning process to identify the new provider of Healthwatch services for North Northamptonshire residents has concluded, with the contract awarded to Support Northamptonshire.

Aligning with recommissioned public health services for North Northamptonshire, the former countywide Healthwatch Northamptonshire service will be delivered as two separate contracts, for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Councils, from April 2025.

Healthwatch North Northamptonshire serves as the local, independent champion for health and social care. It provides information and advice about health and social care services.

A key role of Healthwatch is to gather feedback from the public and influence service improvements by reporting findings to health and social care decision-makers.

Residents can get in contact with Healthwatch North Northamptonshire by emailing [info@healthwatchNN.org.uk](mailto:info@healthwatchNN.org.uk) or by telephoning 07902 976135.

# Raunds celebrates grand opening of new Skate and Pump Track

The town was buzzing with energy and excitement as the brand-new Raunds Skate Park and Pump Track officially opened to the public. The long-anticipated launch event was an action-packed celebration, featuring BMX tricks, community spirit, and fun for all ages.

To mark the occasion, Olympic BMX bronze medallist Declan Brooks joined the Mayor of Raunds to cut the ceremonial ribbon, officially welcoming skaters, riders and thrill-seekers to the new facility. Alongside an elite crew of demo riders, Brooks put on a spectacular BMX

showcase, leaving the crowd in awe.

The event wasn't just about high-flying action – it was also a celebration of the Raunds community. Local businesses came out in full force, with Illicit Skate Shop, Sketti Butta, Freedom Leisure, Blue Surf Pod, and Kentucky Cookout

all joining the festivities. From skateboard gear to delicious eats, attendees had plenty to explore between runs on the ramps.

Another highlight of the day was the unveiling of a commemorative piece of artwork, dedicated to the generosity of those who supported the Town Council's 2024 crowdfunding campaign, which raised an incredible £10,001 towards the construction of the park.

A series of competitions also took place, drawing participants aged from just 2.5 years old to 43 years old, reinforcing the project's core aim of creating a space inclusive for all ages and abilities. The lucky winners



were rewarded with a range of fantastic prizes.

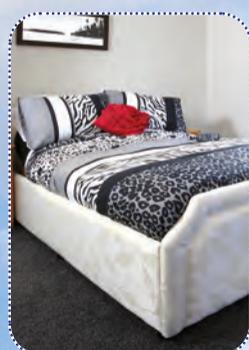
Speaking on the success of the event, Steve Tucker, Town Clerk, expressed his appreciation, saying: "The grand opening event for Raunds Skate Park and Pump Track was a fitting celebration for everyone's efforts – those who fundraised, those who volunteered, and everyone connected with the Town Council that worked so hard to

deliver the project from start to finish. It was brilliant to see the park come alive with so many people enjoying themselves. Today's event has firmly put Raunds on the map as a place where residents can lead active, healthy lifestyles."

Whether you're a seasoned rider or just starting out, one thing is clear: Raunds is now a must-visit destination for wheeled sports enthusiasts of all ages.



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# North Northamptonshire's first Members of the UK Youth Parliament appointed

North Northamptonshire has concluded its Youth Parliament election, and has now appointed two Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs) to represent its young people.

Alfie Richards, 16, and Ivanna Obi, 15, received the highest number of nominations from over 1,000 votes from young people across North Northamptonshire. This marks a historic moment for the local authority, as they will be the first Members of

Youth Parliament to have been elected to represent the constituency.

As part of their manifestos, candidates were asked to highlight a local, national, and global issue affecting them and provide plans to address the issues.

Alfie's manifesto focused on safety and protection, as a local issue; education, as a national issue, and the dangerous impact of social media, as a global issue.

Ivanna's manifesto focused

on amplifying young people's involvement locally, at all levels; education on a national level and the impact of people being put under pressure on a global scale.

Adele Wylie, Chief Executive Officer for North Northamptonshire Council, said: "I am delighted to announce the appointment of Alfie and Ivanna, who will represent the young people of North Northamptonshire in Westminster. The Youth Parliament is a vitally important

way for young people to become politically engaged and have their say on the issues that matter to them.

"It has also proven to have had a positive impact in developing confidence and leadership skills in the young people chosen from other areas across the country who have gone before them. By securing their seats in

the Youth Parliament for the coming year, they are representing young people's voices which will be heard in the Houses of Parliament, which is an incredible honour. I wish them all the very best in their endeavours!"

The two new MYPs will be granted seats on North Northamptonshire's Youth Advisory Council, which

was formed in January of this year, and will be invited to sit in Parliament at key periods during their terms as MYPs.

Other key activities will include campaigning locally, regionally and nationally throughout the year, delivering sessions with schools and in the community to engage young people with the democratic process.

## GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY  
JAN PEARSON

I love it when I can lay my hands on a certificate that I have ordered from the General Register Office (GRO). What gems will I find therein? These, along with census returns, are the primary source of records when starting out on our ancestral trails. Civil registration in England and Wales came into force for events from 1st July 1837 but many of the registrars had other jobs.

They were paid per entry but, if they heard of a birth in their area, especially if it was a remote part of Cornwall for example, they might not think it worthwhile to make a 4-hour round trip to record the event. Although it was the parents' responsibility for registering the birth, many did not, believing that by having the babe baptised, that would suffice. It is thought that up to 30% of these early births were not registered. The legislation was a bit woolly and open to interpretation and so it was not until 1874 that registration became compulsory

and strict fines were imposed upon those who did not comply. Also, births had to be registered within 6 weeks of the baby's birth, otherwise a penalty would be incurred. Therefore, you might find the birth date on certificates differing slightly to any recorded in the baptism registers!

When ordering a certificate, it is useful if you know the references. These are the registration district, the quarter in which the event was registered, the volume and page numbers. The quarters were those ending March, June, September and December. One thing to bear in mind is that, like my grandfather who was born on 28th December 1896, his birth was not registered until a few days later in the January and so does not appear until the March quarter of 1897. It is always worth checking not only the quarter either side but also a couple of years either side of a possible date.

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## RUSHDEN TOWN COUNCIL SECURES PURCHASE OF 20 ACRES OF AMENITY LAND

Rushden Town Council is pleased to announce that it has managed to secure the purchase of 20 acres of amenity land situated off Bedford Road.

Primarily this land will be used

to create a new town cemetery. Newton Road Cemetery is rapidly reaching full capacity and the Town Council has a responsibility to provide burial facilities. Therefore, after lengthy negotiations it has managed

to obtain land within Rushden Parish. This opportunity allows the council to future-proof a significant protected green space and provide much needed cemetery facilities for years to come.

**For further information please contact: Rushden Town Council on 01933 316216 or email [info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk)**

## Future contractor for household waste recycling in North Northants confirmed

*Biffa Waste Services and HW Martin Waste Ltd have been confirmed as the contractors for recycling services across North Northants, following a procurement process by North Northamptonshire Council.*

Since April 2024, the Waste service has been undertaking a procurement process for the new residual waste treatment and disposal contract and the operation and management of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs).

The current arrangements had been inherited from the previous county council.

The council currently runs four HWRCs: Corby, Kettering, Rushden and Wellingborough and from this month they will be operated and managed by HW Martin Waste Ltd on behalf of the council.

Also, from April, Biffa Waste Services will be contracted for the provision of residual (non-recyclable) waste treatment and disposal.

George Candler, North Northamptonshire Council's Executive Director of Place and Economy, said: "This has been a long, thorough process, and

the new contracts will launch on 1st April 2025, taking over from legacy countywide contracts that had been in place.

"We'll now be working with both contractors to look at these vital services, how they are being delivered and can be improved to further benefit residents."

Mike Thair, Director of Business Development & Treatment at Biffa, said: "We are delighted to have been awarded the new Residual Waste Treatment and Disposal Contract by North Northamptonshire Council and are now focused on ensuring a safe and seamless transition of the service. We look forward to working in partnership with the Council to minimise the environmental impact of

residual waste and support the local community."

Adam Smith, Director from HW Martin Waste Ltd said: "We're delighted to have been awarded this contract. This opportunity reflects the trust our clients place in us and underscores our commitment to delivering high-quality Household Waste Recycling Centre services for North Northamptonshire residents."

The council says it went through a full and thorough process to ensure that the service procured met the needs of the council, whilst providing value for money and allowing for a consistent service across North Northants.

It also allows for flexibility for future improvements and adaptations as the council moves forward.

**More information about waste services in North Northamptonshire is available on the council website.**

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# North Northamptonshire Family Hubs welcome Strong Start for Life services

Families across North Northamptonshire are set to benefit as the early years universal service, Strong Start for Life, is delivered from North Northamptonshire Family Hubs bases starting this month.

**WORDS BY JANE BETHEA, NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL'S DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

Aligning with the recommissioned public health services for children, young people and families, the former countywide service will be delivered as two separate contracts, for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Councils, ensuring families receive services as close to home as possible.

Formerly known as Strong Start, the North-based team will transition from the West Northants Council Libraries Service to the North Northamptonshire Family Hubs service as the Strong Start for Life team. This new team forms part of the Family Hubs offer for under 5s and will ensure that families receive comprehensive support, from pregnancy through to young adulthood, in a single, accessible location.

The Strong Start for Life team will continue to be funded and overseen by North

Northamptonshire Public Health, maintaining its commitment to delivering key public health early years priorities.

Strong Start for Life sessions are bookable in advance via Eventbrite. For more information on Family Hubs, please visit North Northamptonshire Family Hubs.

It is wonderful news that families will now be able to access Strong Start for Life services as close to home as possible through the council's Family Hubs.

I encourage pregnant mums and parents with newborn babies or young children to book onto a Strong Start for Life service.



# SOAP BOX DERBY 2025: START YOUR BUILD NOW – THE PERFECT EASTER HOLIDAY PROJECT!

With race day fast approaching, why not use the Easter holidays to get your teeth into designing and constructing your soapbox car?

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How to enter: Think you've got what it takes to compete? We would love to see your innovative designs on the track!



To enter, simply download and complete the application form available here: <https://bit.ly/4i6elqx>. Forms must be submitted by Friday, 23rd May 2025 to [info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk)

Alternatively, physical copies of the application form can be collected from:

- Rushden Hall
  - Rushden Library
  - Customer Services and Northamptonshire Discovery Hub at Rushden Lakes
- Don't miss your chance to take part in this exciting event!

Whether you're competing or cheering from the side-lines, the 2025 Soap Box Derby guarantees a fantastic day out for the whole family.



For more information, please contact: Rushden Town Council, Rushden Hall, Hall Park NN10 9NG, Email: [info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk), Website: [www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk). Join us for a day of high-speed action and creative racing – see you at the starting line! Scan the QR Code to download the entry form.



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  - Sun 20 Skegness
  - Mon 21 Great Yarmouth - Bank Holiday
  - Wed 23 Hereford Market Day
  - Wed 23 Hereford Cathedral
  - Sat 26 Oxford
  - Sat 26 Oxford Castle
  - Wed 30 Bury St Edmunds Market Day
- MAY**
- Sat 3 Carriages of Cambridge with St Ives
  - Sun 4 Lincoln
  - Thu 8 Tina Turner
  - Thu 8 Les Misérables
  - Thu 8 Living Crafts Hatfield House
  - Fri 9 Stamford Market & Boundary Mills
  - Sat 10 Malvern Spring Show
  - Sat 10 Springfields
  - Sat 10 Spalding Flower Parade
  - Sun 11 Hunstanton
  - Mon 12 Derbyshire & Peak District
  - Wed 14 Wye Valley River Cruise & Lunch
  - Thu 15 Clacton on Sea
  - Sun 18 Melton Mowbray Cheese Fair
  - Sun 18 Camden Markets
  - Wed 21 Mystery Full Day & Lunch
  - Sat 24 Warwick Market Day
  - Sat 24 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
  - Sun 25 Brighton
  - Mon 26 Twycross Zoo - Bank Holiday
  - Tue 27 Coventry Market Day
  - Tue 27 Coventry Transport Museum
  - Thu 29 Family Seaside Mystery
  - Fri 30 Cannon Hall Farm
  - Sat 31 Call the Midwife Chatham Dock Yard
  - Sat 31 Rochester
  - Sat 31 Skegness
- JUNE**
- Sun 1 Great Yarmouth
  - Sun 1 Coronation Street Tour
  - Tue 3 Melton Mowbray
  - Wed 4 Sheringham & NNRW
  - Thu 5 Chesterfield Flea Market
  - Sat 7 Hunstanton
  - Tue 10 Nottingham Cruise & Lunch
  - Thu 12 Nantwich Market Day
  - Sat 14 Cromer
  - Sun 15 Gardeners World & Good Food Show
  - Fri 20 National Arboretum & Lichfield
  - Fri 20 National Arboretum
  - Sat 21 Swanage
  - Sun 22 Great Yarmouth Wheels Festival
  - Tue 24 Windsor Luxury Afternoon Tea Cruise
  - Sat 28 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
  - Sun 29 Sheringham
- JULY**
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- JUNE – JULY**
- 8-14 JUNE**  
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# Spotlight on > Homes & Gardens



Bosworth's Garden Centre

## > BOSWORTH'S GARDEN CENTRE

Nestled in the heart of Northamptonshire, Bosworth's Garden Centre in Burton Latimer has been a much-loved family owned establishment since 1959. Over the decades, it has blossomed into a comprehensive destination for gardening enthusiasts and families alike.

At the heart of the garden centre lies the Aspen Café, a warm and inviting space perfect for relaxation. Whether you're starting your day with a hearty breakfast, enjoying a leisurely lunch, or indulging in

afternoon tea, the café offers a diverse menu to cater to all tastes. It's an ideal spot to unwind after exploring the extensive plant collections or to catch up with friends over freshly brewed coffee.

Beyond its horticultural offerings, Bosworth's boasts an impressive array of giftware. From elegant home décor items to unique kitchenware and thoughtful gifts for special occasions, there's something to delight every visitor. The curated selection ensures that you'll find the perfect item, whether you're treating yourself or searching for a

memorable gift.

A standout feature of Bosworth's is its expansive plant area, showcasing a vast selection of flora. Remarkably, many of these plants are cultivated in the centre's own onsite nursery, which produces over a million plants annually. This commitment to homegrown quality ensures that customers receive quality plants, perfect for enhancing any garden.

Bosworth's is dedicated to fostering a sense of community and learning among its customers. The centre regularly organises workshops tailored to inspire and educate, covering a range of gardening topics and techniques. Additionally, for those eager to explore renowned horticultural sites, Bosworth's offers coach trips to various destinations. This year, they are thrilled to announce an exclusive trip to the world-famous Keukenhof Gardens in the Netherlands, allowing participants to immerse themselves in the breathtaking beauty of millions of blooming tulips and other spring flowers.

Throughout its evolution, Bosworth's Garden Centre has remained steadfast in its mission to provide exceptional service and high-quality products. The knowledgeable

and friendly staff are always on hand to offer expert advice, ensuring that every visitor's experience is both enjoyable and informative. Whether you're a seasoned gardener or a novice looking to cultivate your green thumb, Bosworth's offers a welcoming environment to inspire and assist you on your gardening journey.

In summary, Bosworth's Garden Centre in Burton Latimer is more than just a garden centre; it's a community hub where passion for plants, dedication to quality, and a love for learning come together to create a truly enriching experience for all who visit.

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Kettering or we can visit you for a no obligation design discussion and quote. To see our work visit: [www.mjhillery.com](http://www.mjhillery.com) or call 01536 791914 or 01604 411788."

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# NENE VALLEY NEWS - EVENTS

## > SATURDAY 12TH APRIL AND SUNDAY 13TH APRIL, 2PM TO 4PM

**Cowslip and Fritillary** - St Peter's Church, Newton Bromswold. Contact Helen Lines 01933 315864. Come and visit this award winning churchyard. Plants for sale. Afternoon teas being served.

## > SUNDAY 13TH APRIL, 10.15AM

**Countryside walk organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden** - 'Titchmarsh without Alan' - a three mile walk on footpaths around Titchmarsh. Meet in Church Street, Titchmarsh NN14 3DB (opposite the church) in time to start at 10.30am. Details from Andrew Presland, 01933 316927.

## > FRIDAY, 18TH APRIL, 11AM

**Rushden & Higham Ferrers Council Churches Good Friday service** - St Mary's Church grounds in Rushden town centre (inside if wet).

## > SUNDAY 20TH APRIL, 9.30AM

**Higham Ferrers Footpath Group** - Saffron Road car park for car sharing. Contact Jan 07816 552200. 6.5-mile walk around the woods and fields of Brigstock.

## > SUNDAY 20TH APRIL, 10.15AM

**Whitefriars Church Easter Sunday service** - Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX.

## > SATURDAY 26TH APRIL, 7.30PM

**Wellingborough Community Gospel Choir** - St Mary's Church, Higham Ferrers. Admission fee: £15, see website for details. Contact information: [www.artsweekendhigham.com](http://www.artsweekendhigham.com). Leave your inhibitions at the door and get ready for an inspirational musical experience!

## > SATURDAY 26TH APRIL, 10AM TO 3PM

**Artisan Market** - Rushden Town Council is pleased to announce its 3rd Artisan Market, which will take

place on Rushden High Street. "We have a variety of stalls including handcrafted goods, unusual gifts and of course delicious artisan food. St George will be making an appearance after his busy day of dragon slaying on the 23rd April! Please join us to support our fantastic local High Street Traders and the Artisan stall holders." For more information, email [info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk) or call 01933 316216.

## > SUNDAY 27TH APRIL, 10.15AM

**Whitefriars Church Morning Worship with Holy Communion** - Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 9HX.

## > SUNDAY 27TH APRIL, 2PM

**Gardeners Question Time** - Bede House, Higham Ferrers. Admission fee: £12.50, see website for details. Contact information: [www.artsweekendhigham.com](http://www.artsweekendhigham.com). Get expert advice from three nationally renowned gardeners: Bunny Guinness, Susie Pasley-Tyler and Joe Whitehead.

## > SATURDAY 10TH MAY, 10AM-2PM

**Plants, Books and Cakes Sale** - Please join the community in Cotterstock Village Hall for a sale of plants, books and cakes. Also serving teas and coffee. Everyone welcome.

## > SATURDAY 10TH MAY, 7.30PM

**Rutland Sinfonia Concert** - 'Broadway Blockbusters'. St Peter's Church, Oundle. Tickets £12/£14 in advance, £13/£15 on the door. Visit [www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk](http://www.rutlandsinfonia.org.uk). The music of Rodgers & Hammerstein and Andrew Lloyd Webber.

## > SATURDAY 10TH & SUNDAY 11TH MAY, 12-5PM BOTH DAYS

**Thurning Fairy Trail** - Family Day Out. Fairy Trail, mini rides, facepainting, refreshments, BBQ, bar. No dogs please. Thurning Feast Field, PE28 5RE. £5 person. Children under 2 years free! Pay on entry, cash or card. Contact email: [alisonajp@aol.com](mailto:alisonajp@aol.com)

# OUNDLÉ FRINGE FESTIVAL

The Oundle Fringe Festival takes place in the friendly Northamptonshire town again this summer from 27th June to 6th July 2025, with an extravaganza of free entertainment over 10 days.

The best local rock bands, folk musicians, classical performers, poets and drama groups will fill every café, pub, restaurant, hotel and public

venue in Oundle and the surrounding villages as the Fringe hosts 55 free events. No need to book, but early arrival at smaller venues ensures you a seat. And when the hat passes round to cover performers' expenses, pop in a little cash.

A week-long Art Exhibition, a devious Treasure Trail, a Jane Austen period dance, a two-night 'Battle of the Bands' for young talent, a Quiz Night (£5 a head), a 'welcome all' folk evening and a 'Last Night of the Proms' concert in St Peter's Church add to the fun.

Acts include irreverent poet Nic Aubury, comic duet Sweet FA (witty, and gritty!), flutes, ukuleles from Peterborough, harp music from Nick Penny, jazz from the Jively Sisters, bluegrass from the Down County Boys and sea shanties from Millstone Grit.

During the week, a kilted piper, a choir with 'Songs from the Musicals', and folk dancers will entertain in the market square.

Take a picnic for a drama evening with Shakespeare's favourite 'fool', Will Kemp, at Lyveden New Bield.

The Fringe has also booked singer-songwriters and guitarists such as Richard Booth, Calder McLaughlan and Gary Ward, and groups including BandX, the Cellotapes, and Oakes, for a truly rocking ten days.

Details at [www.oundlefringe.org/events/](http://www.oundlefringe.org/events/)

# Exciting acts announced for this year's Peterborough Celebrates Festival!

As planning continues for Peterborough Celebrates Festival, the region's biggest free family-friendly community festival at Ferry Meadows, the first professional performance acts are now confirmed. Giant walkabout butterflies, an acrobatic display with bamboo and an interactive pop-up play installation will all be wowing festival-goers across the weekend of 17th-18th May 2025.

Professional touring performers at this year's festival include: No Fit State, an acrobatic performance group bringing their high-impact, high-skill circus show Bamboo, using UK grown bamboo and human bodies; Feet off the Ground, a women-only group with Turning Point, an evocative performance on a purpose-built rotating stage; Vanhulle Dance Theatre, the Cambridgeshire-based dance duo, who will return to the festival for the third year with their show Orb, fusing highly physical contemporary dance with martial arts and an emotive sound score; Pif-Paf touring theatre, bringing their creative interactive installation Right to Play to the festival site, and the dramatic scale and colourful wing designs of walkabout butterflies from Apus.

Many local community performers and festival favourites are returning this year, including Indian dancing from the Peterborough Diwali Festival, traditional brass band music from the Peterborough Salvation Army, Peterborough Rock Choir, Wansford Ukes and Gabriella Pineda-Rodrigues, with her ever popular Disney and showtunes.

The bar tent stage, introduced last year for the first time, is being expanded this year and will host a wide range of musical performers throughout the festival weekend.

As well as the many music, drama and dance performances, the festival will offer a varied programme of other entertainment and activities to get involved in across the weekend - from arts and crafts, sport and adventure to local organisations showcasing what they do in the city, there will be something for all the family to enjoy. The full line-up is still being developed, but will be shared soon on the festival website at: [peterboroughcelebratesfestival.co.uk](http://peterboroughcelebratesfestival.co.uk)

Schools, community groups and care homes are busily creating painted butterflies to be part of an eye-catching 'Flutter of Butterflies' art display over the festival weekend - a community project sponsored by headline sponsor Allison Homes. There's still time to get involved with your group - just contact [festivals@neneparktrust.org.uk](mailto:festivals@neneparktrust.org.uk) to find out more.

The festival weekend is free-to-attend and is being supported by generous sponsorship from a number of local businesses including Allison Homes, Avery Healthcare and Castor Lodge Care Home. Parking charges apply at Ferry Meadows over the weekend. However, as an alternative to driving, Nene Valley Railway and Railworld have partnered up again to offer FREE parking at Railworld in the city centre and tickets on the train to Ferry Meadows for £2 each way - a great way of travelling sustainably to the festival.

## BOOGIE AND BHANGRA

New for 2025, Peterborough Celebrates is introducing exciting ticketed events in the



Big Top on the evenings of Friday 16th and Saturday 17th May, when the main festival has finished. The Friday will host two 'Boogie in the Big Top' silent disco sessions. Expect live DJs, multi-channel headphones, and tunes to get everyone in the party mood. Saturday evening will see 'Bhangra in the Big Top' - an East meets West dance party, hosted by the nationally-renowned group Punjabi Roots Academy. Expect remixes from Bhangra Beyoncé to Bollywood Rihanna, an International DJ, loud & proud dhol drummers and colourful bhangra dancers. Their high energy and infectious beats are guaranteed to get you throwing your best shapes and continuing that festival feeling into the evening. More information and ticket details will be released soon.

## JOIN THE COMMUNITY

The festival is all about celebrating the many communities in Peterborough. If you would like to get involved, through sponsoring or volunteering at the event, or by getting involved in the community butterfly project, the festival team at Nene Park Trust would love to hear from you. For more information about the festival, please visit [www.peterboroughcelebratesfestival.co.uk](http://www.peterboroughcelebratesfestival.co.uk)

Steph Peachey, Head of Visitor Engagement at Nene Park Trust says: "Now that we have established the festival firmly in Peterborough's calendar, we are asked all the time about what people can expect to see at the festival, so it's a joy to be able to start telling people about our first performers, and there will be more announcements to share in the coming weeks as we finalise our festival programme.

"We can't wait to bring Peterborough together at Ferry Meadows to celebrate our city, our communities and our collective creative talents."

# NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL REACHES FINALS OF MJ AWARDS 2025

North Northamptonshire Council has reached the finals of the nationally recognised MJ Achievement Awards 2025, with three nominations across key categories.

- Irchester Field School – Finalist for the Innovation in Public Private Partnerships Award
  - Hi Street! initiative – Finalist for the Community Engagement Award
  - NNC's Project Manager for Adults, Health Partnerships, and Housing – Finalist for the Rising Star Award
- Adele Wylie, Chief Executive of North Northamptonshire Council said: "Everyone involved should be incredibly proud to be recognised as finalists in these prestigious awards. The three nominations reflect the hard work, dedication, innovation and passion of our teams in delivering impactful initiatives that benefit our communities. From supporting local businesses and revitalising town centres to enhancing heritage education through important partnerships and developing talent within the Council.

"The MJ Awards attract hundreds of entries from local councils across the UK. Winning would be a true testament to the efforts of staff, volunteers, and partners – fingers crossed for a successful outcome!"

## Innovation in Public Private Partnerships Award

The Irchester Field School, a partnership between the Council's Chester House Estate, Northamptonshire's Archaeological Resource Centre (ARC) and the University of Leicester, has been recognised for its innovative public-private partnership.

Every June and July, archaeologists from the University of Leicester excavate within the suburbs of the Roman town, in partnership with volunteers and staff from The Chester House Estate and ARC.

This initiative combines academic expertise and council facilities to offer immersive archaeological experiences for students, volunteers, and the wider community. Through this

partnership, the programme has expanded access to heritage education, providing school visits and live excavation opportunities.

Over the past four years, it has provided opportunities for over 120 local volunteers, engaged 3,300 schoolchildren in hands-on learning, and facilitated significant community events such as the Chester House Estate Roman Festival.

This nationally recognised project attracts participants from across the globe while providing an exceptional range of opportunities for local communities to connect with North Northamptonshire's archaeological heritage. The partnership will ensure the continued growth of these programmes through innovation and enterprise.

## Community Engagement Award

NNC's Hi Street! initiative has been shortlisted for the Community Engagement Award, recognising its innovative approach to revitalising town centres across North Northamptonshire and

strengthening the connection between local businesses and the community.

At the heart of the campaign is a commitment to encouraging residents to shop local, fostering a sense of community pride and economic resilience. Through engaging campaigns, targeted advertising, and participation in local events, Hi Street! has placed small businesses in the spotlight – boosting visibility, driving footfall, and strengthening engagement between small businesses and their customers. The initiative continues to evolve, showcasing the power of collaboration in reinvigorating local high streets.

Complementing this work is the Retail Support Programme, which has provided hands-on assistance to small businesses through mentoring, workshops, and grant funding. By tailoring support to business needs, the programme has helped ensure North Northamptonshire's independent retailers have the tools and confidence to thrive.

## Rising Star Award

The finalist in the Rising Star category has demonstrated exceptional career progression within local government, beginning as an apprentice and steadily advancing to a leadership role. Their dedication, enthusiasm, and ability to go the extra mile have been evident in every project they have undertaken. From leading transformative initiatives in adult social care to playing a key role in developing innovative housing strategies, their impact has been felt across the organisation.

Their willingness to collaborate across departments, engage with the public, and drive positive change showcases their potential to succeed and continue making a meaningful difference at North Northamptonshire Council, making them a deserving finalist for this prestigious award.

**The winners of the MJ Achievement Awards 2025 will be announced at an award ceremony in London on Friday 20th June.**

## WHAT'S ON AT COWPER & NEWTON MUSEUM

### > 13TH APRIL, 10:30AM-12:30PM Olney Town North End Guided Walking Tour

Discover the stories of yesteryear, including the Great Fires of Olney and life and trades of the 18th and 19th centuries. Discover why Olney High Street is so wide. See the fascinating house decorated in the Art Nouveau style and explore the Bucks Lace Industry. This is a short walk with plenty to see along the way. Book your place by emailing with the title of this tour in your email's subject heading: [events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org](mailto:events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org). uk or book on 01234 711516. Or if you're passing by, ask a volunteer in the shop. Places are limited to 20 people, so please book in advance. Price: Adults £12, Children under 16 years FREE.

### > APRIL, 11:15 AM-12:30PM Museum Guided Tour in the home of William Cowper

Find out about how the lives of William Cowper and John Newton

came together, through Cowper's poetry and prolific letter-writing, the Olney Hymns including John Newton's famous hymn 'Amazing Grace' of 250 years, and key artefacts collected over the 125 years of the museum's history. Spaces limited to 10 people. Book via [events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org](mailto:events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org). uk / call 01234 711516, or ask in the shop. Cost: Free with your annual pass or purchase your pass on the day for £10. Children under 16 years FREE (accompanied by an adult).

### > 23RD APRIL, 1PM-2PM Beginners' Gardening Club – pricking out, potting on and growing on

Ready to dig into the world of gardening? Whether you're new to growing your own flowers and vegetables or just want to brush up on your skills, this Beginners' Gardening Club is the perfect place for you! Fun, hands-on workshops led by the knowledgeable garden volunteers. Price: only £2 per session

with your annual pass (or £4 without a pass). Check website for session themes throughout the year. No need to book in advance.

### > 27TH APRIL, 10:30AM-2:30PM Guided Walk to William Cowper's Alcove

Join a leisurely and fact-filled historical guided walk through Olney to Weston Underwood, approximately 3 miles each way. Hot drinks and a slice of homemade cake at the Alcove. Book in advance via [events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org](mailto:events@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org). uk so that numbers can be estimated, but walkers also welcome to just turn up on the morning. Pay on the day by cash or credit card. £15 adults, children under 16 years go FREE.

**Cowper & Newton Museum  
Orchard Side, Market Place,  
Olney MK46 4AJ  
T: 01234 711516  
E: [info@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org](mailto:info@cowperandnewtonmuseum.org)**

## Brand new Easter Trail opens at Lyveden, Northamptonshire

The 2025 Easter Trail was unveiled recently at Lyveden, a National Trust property in Northamptonshire. Running until 21st April, the new Easter Trail invites visitors to join the colony and jump into the wonderful world of bees. Families can have a go at making their own waggle dance, compete in collecting Velcro pollen, bee and spoon races, dress up and more.

With 10 different activities to find, there is something for everyone to enjoy at Lyveden this Easter holiday. Normal admission applies plus £3.50 per trail, includes Easter trail sheet, bunny ears and a dairy or vegan Free From chocolate egg.

At the opening weekend one visitor said: "It's always a lovely day out, but the Easter trail really made it special."

The Easter holidays also see the return of Lyveden's Outdoor Tuesdays and Craft Thursdays. For just £2 visitors can join volunteers as they make seed bombs, bug hotels and more. Visit Lyveden's

page on the National Trust website to find out more: [Events at Lyveden](https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/lyveden).

Connor, Senior Visitor Experience Officer at Lyveden said: "With the arrival of spring the Elizabethan gardens start to come to life. Lyveden's heritage orchard will see its different varieties of tree bloom, creating a rolling calendar of spectacles to enjoy throughout the season. With a small pop-up exhibition in the manor red room, visitors can learn all about Lyveden's orchard and even have a go at blossom origami! Visitors to the manor will also find Tresham College's Reimagine exhibition in the upstairs common room, alongside the carefully curated secondhand bookshop."

Visitors to Lyveden and other participating National Trust locations can enjoy unlimited free Easter Trails this season when signing up for a new National Trust membership. Speak to a member of the Lyveden team or head to the National Trust website to find out more.

**Lyveden is open every day from 10am until 5pm, with last entry to the property at 4pm.**

COWPER & NEWTON MUSEUM

## Your Health – Fertility: Tiny needles, big results?

WORDS BY  
**CLAIRE SHORT**

With spring coming, the pressure on women trying for a baby but feeling like your body missed the memo can get more intense. Bear in mind that you're not alone. Many couples find the road to parenthood more complicated than they expect. That's where acupuncture comes in – an ancient practice that might just give your fertility a little poke in the right direction.

### How can acupuncture help fertility?

Acupuncture is the art of inserting tiny, hair-thin needles into specific points on the body to improve energy flow (or Qi, if you're feeling fancy). But what does that have to do with baby-making? Turns out, quite a lot:

- Boosts blood flow to the uterus – because a

well-nourished uterus is like a five-star hotel for an embryo.

- Regulates hormones – helping to balance cycles and ovulation like a well-tuned orchestra.
- Reduces stress – which is great, because stress is like an unwanted guest at the fertility party.

### What does the research say?

While acupuncture isn't a magic wand, studies suggest it can help improve fertility outcomes, particularly when combined with other treatments:

- Some research shows acupuncture can increase pregnancy rates in women undergoing IVF.
- It may help reduce miscarriage risk by supporting progesterone

levels.

- Studies indicate it lowers stress hormones, which can interfere with conception.
- There's also some evidence it improves sperm motility and quality – good news for the guys!

### The bottom line

If your fertility journey feels more like a marathon than a sprint, acupuncture might be worth a shot (or rather, a few tiny needles). At worst, you'll leave feeling blissed out. At best? A positive pregnancy test might be on the horizon!



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

## HIGHAM'S PEREGRINES ARE NESTING

*The peregrine falcons who nest in the bell tower of St Mary's Church in Higham Ferrers are off to a good start this year. Last year the couple didn't seem to be happy in the nesting box and no eggs appeared. It's possible they were a young couple as they seemed to be unclear about what they were supposed to be doing.*

**In the end they shared the nesting space with a couple of pigeons who bravely built an untidy nest of sticks when the peregrines were out feeding. It wasn't clear to anyone watching how the pigeons managed to avoid being eaten by the peregrines!**

During the winter, a brave team from Higham's centre for health and wellbeing, The Ashgrove Clinic, climbed into the nesting area and cleaned it. They also installed a second camera so that you can see the peregrines from two sides of the nest.

Currently there are four eggs and the peregrines seem to be looking after them well. They're likely to

hatch around the 21st April, so put the date in your diary.

One caution, however: this is true 'reality TV'. Falcons prey on live birds, and some of the footage will show the male delivering dinner to his mate. Some people might find this upsetting.

Access to the live feed, together with other useful facts about peregrines, can be found on The Ashgrove Clinic's website and YouTube page. Just follow the QR code.

The live feed can be wound back by up to 12 hours, so even during this build-up stage, it will always be possible to see one or both of the birds in and around the nesting box.



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The Ashgrove Clinic, 11 Market Square, Higham Ferrers, NN10 8BT



Wellbeing Walks are fun, friendly and FREE local walking groups, open to all ages and abilities.

Led by North Northamptonshire Leisure, the volunteer run walks, offer **over 20 walks across North Northamptonshire**, and we are actively looking to set-up more! The walks are in a variety of locations and range in length, so there is a suitable walk for everyone.

Walking is a low-impact activity that is easy on your joints and can be done at any age or fitness level. Walking has many health and wellbeing benefits including:

- maintaining a healthy weight
- reducing symptoms of anxiety and depression
- improving your mood
- boosting self-esteem
- connecting you to nature, which is proven to reduce stress, lower your blood pressure and boost immune function.

A significant benefit of joining a walking group is the social aspect. Our Wellbeing Walks can help you meet new people, build friendships, and provide a sense of community.



Whether you are looking to improve your physical health and mental wellbeing, or simply looking to meet new people, a walking club can provide a supportive and enjoyable environment to achieve your goals.

### We are now looking for volunteer walk leaders!

Do you enjoy walking? Why not share your passion and become a walk leader?

Walk leaders provide a safe, supportive, and welcoming space for participants of all abilities to enjoy low-level activity, to meet new people and enjoy paths and greenspaces within their local area.

If you are interested in finding out more, visit:

[www.northnorthants.gov.uk/wellbeingwalks](http://www.northnorthants.gov.uk/wellbeingwalks) or scan QR code





To advertise in Nene Valley News please call 01522 692542

Rushden Academy

Coffee Morning!  
Date: Thursday 24th April 2025  
Times: 10:30 - 12:00

Come to our spring themed coffee morning, make friends, take part in crafts, play games and connect.

Phone the school office to book a place.  
Phone number: 01933 350391

**Woodford Gardens will be Open on Saturday & Sunday 31st May & 1st June 1pm to 5pm**  
Find us at NN14 4HE or NN14 4EX

Tickets £5 for both days (under 16's free)  
Tickets on sale on the day on The Green and at St Mary's Church  
For more details please contact  
Brian Mearns - [bmearns@rocketmail.com](mailto:bmearns@rocketmail.com) / 07912 421177  
Proceeds to St Mary's Church Woodford Repair Fund

**Thurning Village Fairy Trail**  
★ Thurning Feast Field PES 5RE  
£5 per person, under 2's free!  
Sat 10th/Sun 11th May 12-5pm ★

Fairy Houses, Fairy Quiz, Crafts, Mini Fair Rides, Face Painting, Teas, Cakes, Bar, BBQ, Tombola, Picnic Areas. Free car parking.

Magician on Sunday afternoon!

SORRY NO DOGS: SOME RESTRICTED AREAS FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS

Proceeds- St. James' Church, Thurning Village Hall & a local charity (tbc)

Enquiries: [Alisonajp@aol.com](mailto:Alisonajp@aol.com)

## Nene Valley news CLASSIFIEDS

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



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## NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (WEST STREET, KINGS CLIFFE)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of West Street, Kings Cliffe as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of West Street, Kings Cliffe from outside no.45.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during fire hydrant repairs.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 28th April 2025 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 2 days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Park Street and Wood Street.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N907 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/206

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (BRICK KILN ROAD, RAUNDS)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Brick Kiln Road, Raunds as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Brick Kiln Road, Raunds from opposite no.22.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during new fire supply works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 6th May 2025 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 A45, Chelveston Road, Higham Road and Raunds Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N920 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/232

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (GRAFTON ROAD, BRIGSTOCK)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Grafton Road, Brigstock as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Grafton Road, Brigstock – between Brakehill Family Farm and Park Cottages.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during pole replacement works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 6th May 2025 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 one day.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Sudborough Road, Kettering Road and Slipton Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N81 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/233

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (THE GREEN, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council intend, not less than seven days from the date of this Notice, to make an Order the effect of which will be to prohibit traffic from proceeding along that length of The Green, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length The Green, Woodford from the junction of Addington Road to Whittlesea Terrace.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during fibre ducting.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 8th May 2025 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 Church Green and Club Lane.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1034 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/299

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (HIGH STREET & NEWTON STREET, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 those lengths of High Street and Newton Street, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: High Street – no. 56a to Newton Street and Newton Street – for its entire length.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during fibre ducting.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 9th May 2025 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 seven days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: High Street, Kettering Road, Denford Road and Ringstead Road. Newton Street – n/a cul-de-sac location.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1035 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/300

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (WEST STREET & BRIDGE STREET, KINGS CLIFFE)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 West Street and Bridge Street, Kings Cliffe as set out below.  
LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: Those lengths of West Street and Bridge Street, Kings Cliffe – entire lengths of roads.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ironworks replacement.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 14th April 2025 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 12 days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Batherwyck Road, Deene Road, Southwick Road, Bulwick Road, Woodnewton Road, Oundle Road, Main Street and Apethorpe Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N868 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/194

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (CHURCH STREET, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Church Street, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: Church Street, Woodford – 1. From Club Lane to Church Street. 2. From outside no.1 to no.6.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ducting for fibre works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 14th April 2025 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: 1. Club Lane, High Street, Addington Road and Church Green. 2. n/a cul-de-sac location.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1029 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/280

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (RECTORY LANE, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Rectory Lane, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Rectory Lane, Woodford from outside no.2A to Addington Road.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ducting for fibre works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 14th April 2025 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 Church Lane and Addington Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1030 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/281

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (ADDINGTON ROAD, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Addington Road, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Addington Road, Woodford from the junction of The Green to outside no.21.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ducting for fibre works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 15th April 2025 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 3 days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Thrapston Road, Kettering Road, Denford Road and Ringstead Road.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1031 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/282

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (CHURCH GREEN & DE CAPEL CLOSE, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 Church Green and De Capel Close, Woodford as set out below.  
LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: Church Green – Addington Road to Church Street. De Capel Close – its entire length.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ducting for fibre works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 17th April 2025 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 9 days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Church Green use Club Lane. De Capel Close – n/a cul-de-sac.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1032 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/283

**ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (VARIOUS ROADS, WOODFORD)**  
(TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2025  
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 the various roads in Woodford as specified in the Schedule below.  
REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during ducting for fibre works.  
PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 25th April 2025 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 13 days.  
ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: follow signage.  
If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 24/25 – N1033 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T25/284

**SCHEDULE**  
(Lengths of roads to be closed)  
Club Lane – from no.1 to no.10. Bakers Lane – from Whittlesea Terrace to no.15. Whittlesea Terrace – from The Leys to Club Green.

Dated this 12th day of April 2025  
SANJIT SULL  
Director of Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer) (Interim)

# EASTER EGG-STRAVAGANZA WITH SPECIALIST ENTERTAINMENT TEAM AT BILLING AQUADROME

*Plenty of fun for all the family during the holidays.*

Specialist entertainment team 'THE TRIBE' will be resident at Billing Aquadrome this Easter (Saturday 5th – Friday 25th April) offering an action-packed programme of activities with incredible live performances, family-friendly fun and unforgettable moments.

THE TRIBE have been working with external entertainment agency, Bass Beatz Productions to create a high-quality family entertainment offering like no other. From Dynamic Days to Electric Nights, a calendar of events and activities has been lined up from dawn till dusk to keep everyone entertained at Billing Aquadrome throughout the Easter holidays.

This is the first Easter season for Meadow Bay Villages in the holiday and residential parks industry, having acquired a number of highly popular English holiday resorts last year, and the company is committed to offering a truly outstanding Easter break at Billing Aquadrome.

A highlight in the Easter activity schedule will be the Big Easter Fun Day, an action-packed day for all the family, with an assault course, tug of war, water

balloon dodgeball, sports stars, foam party, slip & slide and Olympics activities.

Some of the other standout activities on offer at Billing Aquadrome this Easter include:

- Hoppy Trail – an egg-citing, fun-filled Easter scavenger hunt
- Gooney Easter Slime Time – create your own slime masterpiece from glittery goo to colourful slime masterpieces
- Moonlit Masquerade Ball – best costumes take centre stage for exciting prizes
- Dance Groove Workshops
- Hoppy Crafts – bunny paper plate crafts, Easter bonnet making and egg designing
- Easter Bonnet Parade
- Carnival Parade – procession of vibrant costumes and lively performers
- Samba De Janeiro Production Show – delivering a salsa carnival

The full calendar of Easter activities and entertainment on offer at Billing Aquadrome can be found online.

This new Easter entertainment offering is testament to Meadow Bay Villages' ongoing commitment in Billing Aquadrome following a multi-million pound investment programme of upgrades

undertaken at the resort last year.

Nikki Rathie, Holidays Director at Billing Aquadrome, said: "We are fully committed to offering the most memorable stay at Billing Aquadrome and we are delighted to have THE TRIBE, our entertainment team in place delivering our first Easter holiday season as new owners of the resort.

"THE TRIBE is offering an entertainment proposition like no other. With Easter crafts to entertain the little ones to family scavenger hunts, Silent Discos to Glow in the Dark Parties, Moonlit Masquerade Balls and Carnival Parades, there really is something on offer for everyone this Easter at Billing Aquadrome.

"Our Easter package of entertainment complements our programme of upgrades made at the resort throughout the winter months. Our new facilities, combined with the natural landscape we enjoy at Billing Aquadrome, which we believe is unrivalled in the UK, are sure to make your staycation truly unforgettable, creating memories that will last a lifetime."

Declan Lightly, THE TRIBE Entertainment Manager at Billing Aquadrome, said: "I'm absolutely thrilled to be leading the entertainment



at Billing Aquadrome this year. Our 2025 programme is packed with incredible live performances, family-friendly fun, and unforgettable moments that will bring our TRIBE community together like never before. Whether you're here for the big-name acts, interactive shows, or the exciting, themed events, there's something for everyone. Get ready for a season of non-stop entertainment not to be missed."

Located in the beautiful Nene Valley, in the heart of Northamptonshire, Billing Aquadrome is set within 235 acres of stunning scenery with lakes, rivers, canal side location, and a marina.

The £12 million investment made by Meadow Bay Villages in Billing Aquadrome last year has resulted in new and upgraded facilities at the resort, soon to be revealed over the Easter season.

New facilities include an Amphitheatre and Open-Air Cinema, a new Water Park facility, BMX pump track, Himalayan Adventure Golf Course, as well as new and upgraded holiday accommodation including platinum caravans, luxury glamping pods with private hot tubs and refurbished touring caravan facilities, including hard standing and super pitches.

<https://meadowbay.com/billingaquadrome/>



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