

Nene Valley news

YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER FOR EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

Telephone:
01522 692542

We want to hear from you,
so please submit your
news story or event at
www.nenevalleynews.co.uk

INSIDE
this issue



**CARICATURIST
MARKS THREE
DECADES OF
SUCCESS**

PAGE 03



**SIX WEEKS OF
SUMMER AT FERRY
MEADOWS**

PAGE 09

NEWS IN BRIEF

**Lifeline for people
affected by cancer**

Just six months after opening its doors, Maggie's Northampton, at the Diana Russell Building Northampton General Hospital NHS Trust, has welcomed more than 3,000 visits from people living with cancer, as well as their family members and friends, demonstrating the growing need for free cancer support across Northamptonshire.

Since opening, the centre has become a place where people affected by cancer can find expert psychological, practical and emotional support in a warm, welcoming environment. From benefits advice and psychological support to nutrition workshops, relaxation sessions and simply a place to sit with a cup of tea, Maggie's offers support for anyone affected by cancer – without appointments or referrals.

Despite the growing number of people finding help through the centre, many across Northamptonshire still don't know that Maggie's is here for them.

For more information about Maggie's Northampton, to access support or find out how you can help through fundraising, volunteering or corporate partnerships, please visit Maggie's website. www.maggies.org

ANIMAL CHARITY RECEIVES £1,500 DONATION

The Stray Animal Fund (SAF) Cat Rescue, a Northamptonshire-based charity that helps rescue and rehome stray cats, has received a £1,500 donation from Barratt Homes to assist with its vital work.

The charity was established in 2008 when staff at a local veterinary practice wanted to help the many stray cats taken in, rather than rely on already overstretched local rescues.

Now a registered charity, SAF Cat Rescue continues to rehome cats as well as focusing on prevention and education to support the next generation of responsible pet owners.

Dawn Smith, Trustee at SAF Cat Rescue, said: "We were absolutely over the moon to receive this generous donation from Barratt Homes.

"We are a small, volunteer-based rescue, and this donation will really help

ease the pressure on our fundraising efforts. Our monthly veterinary bills continue to rise, so this incredible support will directly help provide the essential medical care our stray cats urgently need.

"Barratt Homes' Community Fund scheme is an amazing and thoughtful opportunity to support local charity work, and we are truly grateful that the staff chose to consider us for this donation.

"On behalf of everyone at SAF Cat Rescue, I would like to thank Barratt Homes for its kind support. Kindness like this strengthens our work within the community, and we deeply appreciate Barratt Homes' commitment to

helping local charities."

Barratt Homes' contribution was made as part of its Community Fund scheme via The Barratt Redrow Foundation, which is run by its parent company, Barratt Redrow. It is designed to support national and local charities, large and small, across the UK to leave a legacy in the communities in which the housebuilder operates.

The Barratt Redrow Foundation is celebrating its fifth anniversary in 2026. Since its launch, it has committed £20 million to good causes, supported over 2,000 different charities and is estimated to have directly impacted 100,000 young



Staff from SAF Cat Rescue with their cheque from Barratt Homes

people each year.

Simon Francis, Managing Director at Barratt Homes Northampton, said: "We are delighted to be able to offer SAF Cat Rescue a donation to support the fantastic work it does. As a leading

housebuilder we strive to support the communities in and around the areas in which we build.

"It's brilliant to see charities like SAF Cat Rescue looking out for the wellbeing of our four-legged friends."

To find out more about the charity, visit the website at safcatrescue.co.uk. For more information about developments in the area, visit the website at www.barratthomes.co.uk

SHOWROOMS: 69-71 WASHBROOK RD • RUSHDEN • NORTHANTS NN10 6UR action2mobility.co.uk



**Wet rooms
and easy access
bathrooms
supplied
and fitted**

Action²Mobility
THE REGION'S LEADING MOBILITY AID CENTRE

Phone us for
delivery if you're
shielding*

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

*Limited to 25 miles radius from our
showrooms in Rushden

CALL FREE: 0800 698 2588

MON-FRI 8am-4.30pm

FREE PARKING

Stockist of Cosyfeet and Sandpiper shoes

STAIRLIFTS: FULLY GUARANTEED, FREE HOME SURVEY

Northamptonshire Tourism Business Awards 2026 - **entries now open**

Following on from the success of the 2025 awards, Discover Northamptonshire is inviting entries for this year's Northamptonshire Tourism Business Awards 2026 - designed to celebrate excellence across the visitor economy.

Submissions are now welcomed from businesses and organisations across the sector. The deadline for entries is 31st July, offering a vital platform for recognition, growth and national progression. The headline sponsor for this year's event is Wilson Browne Solicitors.

The launch of this year's awards follows on from last year's 'Pub of the Year' winner - the Tollemache Arms picking up the 'Bronze' award in the same category at the national VisitEngland Awards for Excellence 2026.

Winners in each of the categories will qualify for the prestigious national VisitEngland Awards for Excellence.

Sponsorship opportunities are now available for the Northamptonshire Tourism Business Awards 2026, providing organisations with a high-profile platform to support and engage with the county's thriving tourism sector alongside headline sponsors Wilson Browne Solicitors and Category Sponsors, North Northamptonshire Council and West Northamptonshire Council. Contact info@discover-northamptonshire.co.uk for more details.

The finalists of the Northamptonshire Tourism Business Awards will be announced at the Discover Northamptonshire Business Conference on 7th October at Kettering Park Hotel. It is advised for businesses to save the date now with tickets going live later this month.

For full details on categories, entry criteria, deadlines and how to apply, visit the Discover Northamptonshire website.

GENEALOGY JOTTINGS

WORDS BY
JAN PEARSON

Picture the scene... your ancestor, Robert Austen, has moved from his sleepy Suffolk village by the sea to the throbbing metropolis in search of work. Coming from a farming background – his father and brothers were 'Ag Labs' – there was not much need to go to school, as you didn't read books or write anything out in the fields.

This was especially pertinent at harvest time – what's the point of school when there is work to be done! Lodging with Mrs Brown in Southwark (which was in Surrey – the other side of the river!) was fine – he just handed over his half crown a week in rent for his room, knowing the value of the coins. All was well until the enumerator called. Mrs Brown was able to read and write and so managed after a fashion to complete the form left. She went round her lodgers, asking where they came from. When she arrived at Robert, his reply was "Dunwich in Suffolk". However, not being fully au fait with the broad Suffolk accent, she heard, "Dunnijin, Suffolk". Thus, your ancestor's birthplace was recorded as such for posterity. No wonder you cannot find him!

Therefore, if you have the chance and your ancestor was still alive 10 years later, it is a good idea to find him in the next census and see what his place of birth is there. As time went on, more people moved around the country and so more place names became known to those outside the area. Also, say what you see out loud. It may help you with some lateral thinking.

But also remember – less is sometimes more when searching the censuses. If you are having problems with specifics, then widen your search. Just entering the county with his name and then scanning down the results could pull up a 'soundalike'. Also, don't forget the use of 'wildcards'. Many websites allow the use of an asterisk. Robert's surname could be Austin or Austen and so a search of Aust*n could bring forth results.

Genealogy Specialists, Tracing Our Past, Discovering Our Genes (TOP DOG)
www.genealogy-specialists.com

Want to place an **advertisement** or submit an **article**?

If you wish to contribute or have any comments please email news@nenevalleynews.co.uk or call 01522 692542. To advertise, call 01522 692542. Alternatively you can email advertising@nenevalleynews.co.uk

If you are not receiving your copy of Nene Valley News, please email distribution@km-media.co.uk or telephone 01522 692542.

If you would like to receive this publication as a download, Nene Valley News is available online as a pdf at nenevalleynews.co.uk.

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 1st August
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 22nd July

Publication date: Saturday 15th August
Articles to the editor by: Wednesday 5th August

km
KM Media & Marketing
Your partner in publishing

JO BELL: BOATER – A LIFE ON ENGLAND'S WATERWAYS

Thursday 27th August, The Whitwell Room, The Talbot Hotel, New St, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4EA.

Join Authors in Oundle for a workshop and/or a book talk with former UK Canal Laureate, Jo Bell.

Writing Workshop: Beginning Your Memoir, 2.30-5.30pm.

We all have stories, but how do we turn them into a memoir? Through guided exercises, prompts and discussions, you'll uncover memories, find your voice, and transform fragments into compelling scenes.

We look at questions that every memoirist faces: How reliable is memory? How do we write about other people? What makes a personal story interesting to readers who weren't there? And how can we balance honesty with good storytelling? Whether you want to begin a full memoir, create a family record, develop personal essays, or just explore possibilities, this afternoon will provide ideas to help you move forward. No previous writing experience is required. Bring

curiosity, a notebook, and a willingness to explore the stories only you can tell.

Book Event: Step Aboard Boater, a mesmerising voyage along the tranquil waterways of England 7.30-8.30pm.

"It's not a lifestyle. It's a life."

For over twenty years, Jo Bell, archaeologist and poet, has travelled the waterways of England, meeting extraordinary people in an extraordinary environment. The canals and rivers have taught her about human nature, including her own; about rope and Brasso and bravery; about ducks and locks, and above all, about the necessity for a constant supply of biscuits. In this smart, funny memoir she describes an alternative nation within a nation, a place of different maps and deep history, and home to people who live and work in a world quite separate from the land.



Join her as she navigates shallow waters and deep trouble and welcomes readers onboard a remarkable voyage through the past, present and future of our remarkable canals and the communities they support.

Archaeologist, poet and boat-dweller Jo Bell is the author of several award-winning books, including poetry collections Navigation and Kith, two cult-classic poetry handbooks and (with Tania Hershman and Ailsa Holland) the history almanack, On This Day She.

Workshop £40, Book Talk £8 (£7). Both events £45.
Tickets available from Leo's Pet Supplies, Oundle (cash only) or online www.authorsinoundle.co.uk
Enquiries contact info@authorsinoundle.co.uk

OUR CLIMATE, OUR FUTURE

22 July 2026
7pm

Queen Victoria Hall
7 West Street, Oundle
Northants, PE8 4EJ



fermywoods
contemporary art



Caricaturist marks three decades of success

Thrapston-based fine-art caricaturist Adrian Teal is celebrating thirty years of pulling faces into interesting new shapes on canvas and paper.

From the age of 10, Adrian received informal tuition at the Spitting Image workshop, and so when the show was revived on screen and on stage a few years ago, he was brought on board to design the majority of the new puppets, including Donald Trump and King Charles. He has also worked on The Masked Singer and ITV's Bigheads.

Adrian produces private caricature commissions of celebrities for clients locally, and globally. His work is shown at Primrose Gallery in Thrapston, Jackdaw Gallery in Oundle, and he has a forthcoming exhibition at Quirky Fox Gallery in New Zealand. Entitled 'Divine Comedy', it's a series of caricatures featuring some of the best-loved comedians and comedy actors from the last century, including Billy Connolly, Laurel and Hardy, and Rowan Atkinson as Blackadder.

Additionally, Quite Good greetings cards has just published a selection of his fine-art caricatures as cards (also available at Jackdaw): www.quitegoodcards.com/pages/cartoons_caricatures

Adrian has been fully freelance since 1996. He produced a cover and wrote/illustrated



historical spreads for the BBC's QI books. He has illustrated for QI merchandise and marketing material, as well as for the TV show itself. He has produced illustrations and political cartoons for national and international publications such as The Sunday Telegraph, Penthouse, The Scotsman, The Times, The Guardian, Time Out, The Sun, and The Daily Mail.

He and his wife Lindsey Fitzharris, the New York Times bestselling author and medical historian, have produced and illustrated non-fiction books for kids – 'Plague-busters!', which was published by Bloomsbury USA in October 2023, and 'Dead Ends!' was released in October 2025 by the same publisher.

www.adrianteal.com
07885 021217
Teal.Cartoons@yahoo.com
@TealCartoons

Consultation launched on next phase of High Street Rental Auctions project

A consultation has been launched on the next phase of a project designed to tackle issues with long-term empty shops in North Northamptonshire.

North Northamptonshire Council was confirmed as one of 11 'Early Adopters' of the High Street Rental Auctions (HSRA) Programme announced by the Government in 2024, which will result in landlords renting out long-term empty shops to new tenants.

Following on from an engagement exercise in Autumn 2025, and positive feedback, the council is proposing to progress a targeted use of these new powers in a pilot area. Data has been collated to determine which town has the highest percentage of eligible vacant premises in line with the guidance from central government.

The figures show that Wellingborough has the highest number of vacant premises and the council is now consulting on whether residents and stakeholders agree that moving forward with the designated area within Wellingborough Town Centre might be the first where the High Street Rental Auction programme could be used.

CLLr Jan O'Hara, the council's Executive Member for Planning and Economic Growth, said: "Areas with high levels of empty shops often see higher unemployment rates, boarded up shops, vandalism and a lack of pride from residents in their local area.

"It is clear from the engagement exercise last year that there is support from residents and stakeholders for the project and it is great that we're moving forward to the next stage.

"The data shows that Wellingborough has the highest number of vacant premises and we are now asking for views on potentially moving forward with a HSRA pilot for Wellingborough, based on the designated area.

"With this information guiding our focus for this pilot alongside the development of the Wellingborough Masterplan, we are aware there has been a lot of focus on the town. But that doesn't mean we are not aware of issues and the need for regeneration in other towns across North Northamptonshire and we remain committed to doing all we can to encourage growth in all our town centres – helping towns adapt to changing habits. Plus, if this pilot is successful, we will look to extend to other areas in North Northamptonshire."

Separately, a consultation on a Masterplan for Wellingborough has just concluded and the council continues work to look at regenerating all towns across North Northamptonshire.

Once the consultation has closed on the High Street Rental Auctions, all feedback will then be collated before a final decision is made by the council's Executive.

The consultation is now live and will run until 19th July 2026. The consultation survey can be accessed online via the council's consultation hub.

Alternatively, you can respond via email to High.Street.Rental@northnorthants.gov.uk or write to North Northamptonshire Council, High Street Rental Auction consultation, Swanspool House, Doddington House, Wellingborough NN8 1BP, specifying whether you support (or not) the proposal and include the reasons why.



SUMMER HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES



Holiday Activities
available across
North
Northamptonshire
during the school
summer holidays.

Find out more www.northnorthants.gov.uk/holidayactivities



RB Travel
01536 791066

JULY

Fri 17 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Stamford
Wed 22 Sandringham RHS Flower Show
Thu 23 Shropshire & Little Switzerland
Sat 25 Southend On Sea
Sun 26 Weymouth
Tue 28 Trentham Estate & Monkey Forest
Wed 29 Battersea Power Station Lift Tour & Shopping
Thu 30 London Zoo
Thu 30 Postal Museum, London
Fri 31 Chester
Fri 31 Chester Zoo

AUGUST

Sat 1 Buckingham Palace & Afternoon Tea
Sat 1 Whitby
Sun 2 Festival of Quilts
Sun 2 Sheringham
Tue 4 Cromer
Wed 5 Haworth & KWVR
Wed 5 Hovercraft Experience to Ryde
Thu 6 Emmerdale Village Tour
Thu 6 Liverpool
Thu 6 Liverpool River Cruise & Afternoon Tea
Thu 6 Liverpool's Open Top Bus
Fri 7 Butterfly Farm & Stratford Upon Avon
Fri 7 Stamford Market Day
Sat 8 Broadstairs
Sat 8 Margate
Sun 9 Skegness Carnival
Mon 10 Norfolk Broads River Trip, Wroxham & Horning
Wed 12 Canterbury
Wed 12 Whitstable
Thu 13 Southwold
Thu 13 Windsor OR Windsor Castle
Fri 14 Rutland Belle River Cruise & Stamford
Sat 15 Eastbourne Airshow
Sat 15 Hunstanton
Sun 16 Great Yarmouth
Tue 18 Cleethorpes
Wed 19 Wye Valley River Trip & Lunch
Thu 20 London Free Time or Museums
Thu 20 Kensington Palace
Fri 21 Cirencester Market Day
Sat 22 Epping & Ongar Railway & Fish & Chips
Sat 22 Weston Super Mare
Sun 23 Bognor Regis Seaside
Sun 23 Mablethorpe
Tue 25 Bournemouth
Wed 26 Black Country Museum
Wed 26 Dudley Zoo
Thu 27 Kew Palace & Gardens
Thu 27 Little Venice & Camden Markets
Fri 28 Clacton Airshow
Sat 29 Alton Towers

Check out our website for further days out
www.rbtravel.co.uk



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER

31 AUGUST-4 SEPTEMBER - HARROGATE & THE YORKSHIRE DALES - £699PP

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Harrogate. Half Board including Excursions. Set in the heart of Yorkshire, the Harrogate District is one of the most spectacular areas of England with attractive towns and villages, historic houses, castles, abbeys, and beautiful countryside. Expect exquisite gardens, beautiful parks, and handsome tree-lined boulevards. With its handsome historic buildings and verdant gardens, Harrogate is one of Yorkshire's most elegant destinations. Enjoy tea at the famous Bettys tearoom or relax with a visit to the luxurious Turkish baths. Holiday includes entrance to Newby Hall and Wensleydale Creamery.

OCTOBER

12-16 OCTOBER - BOURNEMOUTH, HIGHCLIFFE & SWANAGE - £579PP

Durley Dean Hotel, Bournemouth. Half Board including Excursions. Bournemouth is among Britain's best-loved seaside towns. Its mild climate makes it a popular resort both in summer and in winter, and is well supplied with good shops, restaurants and sports and entertainment facilities. It is a town of parks and gardens and many trees. The star attraction is unquestionably its stretch of soft sandy beach. The iconic Bournemouth Pier offers all manner of seaside fun, with retro amusement arcades, colourful souvenir shops and tempting ice-cream stalls.

19-23 OCTOBER - EASTBOURNE & THE BLUEBELL RAILWAY - £599PP

The Lansdowne Hotel, Eastbourne. Half Board including Excursions. Eastbourne - one of Britain's most elegant resorts with that special quality that makes it stand out from the rest. The three-tiered promenade and the magnificent Carpet Gardens are the envy of all the other seaside towns. Sheltered by Beachy Head and the South Downs, its climate is mild and the sunshine record good. There is always plenty to see and do - shops, shows, concerts, museums, dancing, boating, bowls, putting or walking, the list is endless!

NOVEMBER

22-25 NOVEMBER - AN ENCHANTED CHRISTMAS IN DISNEYLAND® PARIS - FROM £985PP (based on 1 adult + 1 child per room, bed and breakfast) please ask for other options

Dream Castle Hotel. Embark on a Christmas voyage to your favourite worlds from the Old West to Galaxies far far away, you'll be transported to the enchanted lands of the stories that you know and love from Disney, Pixar, Star Wars and MARVEL! Take off on a fun-filled adventure with over 50 attractions to enjoy, it's the perfect way to spend an unforgettable pre-Christmas time with friends & family! Create memories this Christmas to cherish forever. Includes all coach travel, ferry and 2 day pass to Disneyland.

CALL NOW ON 01536 791066
TO GET OUR FREE BROCHURE!
taurus@rbtravel.co.uk
www.taurusholidays.co.uk

DISUSED GARAGE SITES TRANSFORMED INTO 300 NEW PARKING SPACES

An ambitious programme to transform 34 disused garage sites into much-needed resident parking spaces across Wellingborough is nearing completion.

The two-year programme has been delivered by Northamptonshire-based housing association Greatwell Homes in the Hemmingway and Queensway areas of the town, where the organisation owns and manages a large number of homes.

The transformed sites – situated on Gannet Lane and Fulmar Lane on the Hemmingwell estate and Kiln Way and Minerva Way in Queensway – have been resurfaced with smart-looking block-paving, providing close to 300 new parking spaces for residents in the area. New brickwork, fencing and bollards have tidied up the boundaries, and the housing provider has also installed new LED street lighting to enhance safety and security on the sites.

The former garage sites which had been disused for a number of years, were first demolished and fenced off in 2024 due to safety and anti-social behaviour concerns, with Greatwell Homes securing planning permission for the proposals.

The programme – which has been completed over three phases through local contractors Phoenix Surfacing Ltd and A. Ainge and Sons – is in response to feedback from local residents at the lack of suitable parking in the area.

Julie Robinson, executive director at Greatwell Homes said: "Providing places that respond to and meet the needs of our customers and wider community informs so much of what we do and this programme is another example of this commitment.



"Transforming these sites not only provides 292 much-needed new parking spaces for our customers, it also significantly improves the safety and security of areas that were proving to be an eyesore for the community.

"Our customers now have safe, secure and fit-for-purpose parking where they live, which we know will have a positive impact on day-to-day lives."

Following the completion of the first phase of the programme last summer, MP for Wellingborough and Rushden, Gen Kitchen visited one of the sites on Gannet Lane, Hemmingwell to see how the programme was progressing.

Speaking during the visit in July 2025, Gen Kitchen MP said: "It's great to see the positive impact these improvements will have. Increased parking and better lighting will make a real difference to the daily lives of residents.

"I know from speaking to people in Hemmingwell and Queensway that anti-social behaviour and a lack of parking are a real issue. Greatwell Homes has listened to those concerns."

Raunds man prosecuted and fined for fly-tipping commercial waste

A man from Raunds has been fined a total of £5,930 following reports of fly-tipping and an investigation by North Northants Council.

At Northampton Magistrates Court on 16th June 2026, Mr Tatenda Chibanda of Brook Street, Raunds was convicted after illegally dumping commercial vehicle repair waste in a residential street.

The case followed concerns raised by residents after they discovered fly-tipping in their local area. The dumped waste consisted of materials linked to vehicle repairs, including oil filters, paperwork and various car parts. Some of the waste oil had begun leaking into the grass and pavement, posing risks to the environment and public health.

On 28th June 2025, residents reported the significant fly-tip in Manor Street, Raunds, to North Northamptonshire Council. Following an investigation by the council's Waste Management Team, officers uncovered evidence linking the waste to a mobile car repair business operating from an office on Kettering Parkway. The business owner, Mr Chibanda, who was running a business under the name of Crestwood Group Ltd, was subsequently identified as the culprit.

Mr Chibanda initially denied involvement in the fly-tipping but later admitted to the council that he had illegally deposited the oily waste and car parts in Manor Street. Officers issued Mr Chibanda with a £1,000 fixed penalty notice for fly-tipping, which he failed to pay. He also failed to provide a valid waste carrier licence and waste transfer



documentation when requested and later refused to attend an interview under caution.

As a result, Mr Chibanda was summonsed to court. He appeared before Magistrates on 16th June 2026, where he pleaded guilty to all offences.

In sentencing, the Magistrate described Mr Chibanda's actions as a serious offence, highlighting the pollution caused to the public highway and his failure to engage with enforcement efforts. Mr Chibanda was fined a total of £5,930, which included penalties for fly-tipping and duty of care offences. Fly-tipping can carry an unlimited fine, and six months in prison.

Councillor Ken Harrington, Executive Member for Assets, Waste and Environmental Services said: "Fly-tipping is completely unacceptable – there is no excuse, and this latest conviction shows we take it extremely seriously. Both businesses and individuals have a clear legal responsibility to dispose of their waste properly, and there are legal, accessible provisions across North Northamptonshire."

Parson Latham's Oundle Educational Grants

Grants of up to £400 are available to students, of all ages, who are residents of the Parish of Oundle & Polebrook.

Grants are awarded to students towards apprenticeships, degrees, music lessons, extra-curricular subjects, computer software, sports and much more.

Successful applicants need to have spent at least 2 years or more of their education at a state school.

To apply for a grant, download an application form from the website-

www.parsonlathamscharity.org.uk

Return the completed form to the Clerk-

Zara Shacklock

Email- clerk.lathams@outlook.com

Or by post to

Parson Latham's Hospital, 24 North Street, Oundle, Peterborough PE8 4AL

All Applications to be received by Friday 11th September 2026.

LOW BACK PAIN? NECK PAIN? CURRENT TREATMENTS NOT WORKING?

Do you suffer from...?

- ☐ Herniated or Bulging Discs
- ☐ Degenerative Disc Disease
- ☐ Posterior Facet Syndrome
- ☐ Sciatica
- ☐ Spinal Stenosis
- ☐ Spinal Arthritis
- ☐ Acute or chronic back pain



Find out if you are a candidate for IDD Therapy®

A comfortable, non-invasive back pain treatment with success rates reaching 92%.

01933 469043

www.ashgrovehealth.co.uk
reception@ashgrovehealth.co.uk

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



New Signalong videos launched to support inclusive communication for children

A new series of free 'Signalong' training videos has been launched to help support communication for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

The videos, launched by North Northamptonshire's SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SEND IASS), are designed to help parents, carers, education professionals, and wider support networks, build confidence in using simple, practical signs in everyday situations.

The series aims to make communication more accessible and inclusive for children and young people who may benefit from additional support.

A total of 18 videos will be released over the coming weeks, with new content published twice weekly.

The initiative was developed in response to feedback received by SEND IASS from families and professionals about the need for accessible communication tools and resources. The project also supports the Waiting Well programme within North Northamptonshire's Priority Action Plan following Ofsted inspections, helping children and young people who may be waiting for speech and language support.

Signalong is a keyword sign-supported communication system that uses speech, sign and gesture together to aid understanding and expression. As a universal communication tool, it can be used across home, school and community settings, helping to create more inclusive environments and improve communication opportunities for children and young people.

The benefits of Signalong are already being seen across North Northamptonshire; during a recent Truth from the Youth, SEND Youth Council session, a primary-aged pupil explained how using Signalong enabled them to discreetly ask for help during a school event without drawing attention to themselves.

Councillor Elizabeth Wright, Executive Member for Children, Education and Families at North Northamptonshire Council, said: "These new Signalong training videos are a fantastic resource for families, schools and professionals across North Northamptonshire. Effective communication is at the heart of helping children and young people reach their full potential, and these videos provide simple, practical ways to support that every day."

"By making these resources freely available, SEND IASS is helping to promote inclusive communication and giving more people the confidence to use Signalong in their daily interactions. I would encourage anyone supporting a child or young person with additional needs to take advantage of this valuable training series."

The videos form part of SEND IASS's ongoing commitment to providing free, accessible and practical support for families and professionals. By offering easy-to-follow guidance that can be used in everyday situations, the service hopes to increase understanding of Signalong and encourage its use across communities throughout North Northamptonshire.

The Signalong video series can be viewed on the SEND IASS YouTube channel and via SEND IASS Facebook and Instagram.

— SINCE 1977 —

NENE VALLEY RAILWAY

Where every journey is a step back in time

★ WHAT'S ON ★



Kids for a Quid - With Varied Entertainment
Every Wednesday in August + Thursday 27th August
Take a heritage train ride and Kids travel for just One Pound! As an added extra, we'll be putting on different entertainment each week. Some entertainment may cost extra



THE FLYING CODMAN
Selected Dates
Afternoon family friendly fish & chip service across selected dates in August



MURDER AT THE RAILWAY
Saturday 15th August
Join the RAW Theatre Production Company for a night of Murder & Mystery set within our Continental Carriages, as seen in ITV's Murder on the Orient Express



SUMMER CREAM HSTea
Wednesday 19th August
Enjoy a Cream Tea while enjoying the views of the Nene Valley in First Class on board the InterCity 125 HST



THOMAS & HIS TEDDY BEAR'S BIG ADVENTURE
Friday 21st August
Join Thomas on his Big Adventure as he takes the main line from Peterborough Nene Valley Station to Wansford with his special train



MEET PADDINGTON AT THE RAILWAY
Sunday 23rd August
Travel on our heritage trains, enjoy a relaxed picnic, and meet Paddington himself at intervals throughout the day on the platform at Wansford.



THOMAS BANK HOLIDAY BRANCH LINE WEEKEND
Saturday 29th, Sunday 30th & Monday 31st August
Travel behind Thomas on his Branch Line to Yarwell and back

ALSO: The Peak of Summer Freight Driving Experience; Into the Night (Mixed Traction); HST Driving Experience; Jolly Fisherman (Evening Fish & Chips)

Nene Valley Railway
Wansford Station, Stibbington
Peterborough, PE8 6LR

BOOK ONLINE
NVR.ORG.UK





 NeneValleyRailway

 nene_valley_railway

 nenevalleyrailway

MEGA FURNITURE SALE

CLEARANCE LIVING & DINING, BEDROOM, OCCASIONAL, RUGS, SOFAS & CHAIRS



Monaco Corner Sofa
NOW £949
SAVE £490



Mambo Garden Table & Chairs
NOW £799
SAVE £700



Zurich Accent Chair
NOW £289
SAVE £60

Nene Valley News - EVENTS

> SATURDAY 18TH JULY, 2 FOR 2.30PM

Butterfly walk and event - Midshires Covert, Kelmarsh Road, Harrington NN6 9ND - including food cooked on the campfire. Details on 07943 307873.

> SUNDAY 19TH JULY, 10.15AM

Whitefriars Church Morning Worship - Whitefriars Primary School, Boughton Drive, Rushden NN10 0HX.

> MONDAY 20TH JULY

Nene Valley Valley Astronomical Society, a presentation by Dr Martin Braddock, 'The Physical and Mental Challenges Facing Astronauts on Long Journeys' - Chelveston Village Hall, Caldecott Road Chelveston NN9 6AT. Admission £6 including Tea/Coffee and biscuits. For more information please see www.neneastro.org.uk, or call Kevin on 07731890594. Could you survive a 9-month long Space X trip to Mars?

> FRIDAY 24TH JULY, 2PM

Steve Dimmers Magic with Melody Show Raunds Library, High Street Raunds NN9 6HT. Designed to complement the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge which began on 4th July. Contact 01933 623747.

> THURSDAY 30TH JULY, 6.30PM

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group - Saffron Road car park. Contact: Daphne 07709 569415. 4-mile evening walk around Higham Ferrers, followed by post-walk refreshments.

> FRIDAY 31ST JULY

The First Peterborough International Indian Dance Festival - The Cresset, Rightwell East, Bretton Centre, Peterborough PE3 8DX. Festival Activities from 2pm. Free Dance Workshops: Kathak and Bollywood Dance. Evening Cultural Programme from 6pm. Feature Showcase: Play Ball by Srishti - Nina Rajarani Dance Creations (London). Chief Guest: Alpana Sengupta-Taylor MBE, Director, ASDC Wisbech. Tickets: From £10. Bookings: www.cresset.co.uk, 01733 265705.

> SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST, 10.15 FOR 10.30AM

Countryside walk of 3 to 4 miles - From Hall Park, Rushden (Hall Avenue entrance): Wymington area. Organised by Whitefriars Church, Rushden and all are welcome. 07843 307873.

> SUNDAY 2ND AUGUST, 9AM

Higham Ferrers Footpath Group - Saffron Road car park for car sharing. Contact: Cindy 07752 993777. 6-mile walk from Ecton following Northampton Round to Cogenhoe returning via the River Nene.

> SUNDAY 30TH AUGUST 12 NOON-4PM AND MONDAY 31ST AUGUST 10AM-4PM

Art Exhibition - Masonic Hall, Wellingborough Road, Rushden NN10 9YJ. Art exhibition from local artists, some are returning but we also have new artists attending.

WHAT'S ON AT:

COWPER & NEWTON

> SUNDAY 19TH JULY, 11AM-12NOON

Sound Bath Experience with Fernanda - Venue: Summer House Garden. Bookings

taken by Nook by Nature. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> WEDNESDAY 22ND JULY, 2PM-4PM

Practical Gardening Club - Join the Practical Gardening Club! Session 9. Preparation for Autumn. www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> FRIDAY 24TH JULY, 7PM-9PM

Piping Up and Harping On! - Tickets £12 online and from the shop. Traditional and historical music on an unusual array of instruments, with stories from oral traditions - storytelling for grown-ups! www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> SATURDAY 25TH JULY, 2PM-4PM

Foraging, Garden Wandering and Herbal Remedies (Adults and Kids) - Venue: Summer House Garden. Bookings taken by Nook by Nature. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> SUNDAY 26TH JULY, 10AM-11.30AM

Bathing in Light - Yoga and Sound Journey - Venue: Summer House Garden. Bookings taken by Nook by Nature. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> SUNDAY 26TH JULY, 2.30PM-4.30PM

Dan Evans and Cara Bo Garden Concert - Venue: Summer House Garden. Tickets £10 online and from the shop. International Dulcimer player and guitarist with talented singer, Cara. www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> MONDAY 27TH JULY, 10.30AM-12NOON

NatureMakers - Hapa Zome Leaf Dye - family fun - Venue: Summer House Garden. Bookings taken by Nature Makers. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> TUESDAY 28TH JULY, 10AM-1.30PM

NatureMakers - Willow Weaving a Garden Obelisk - Venue: Museum Summer House Garden Museum. Bookings taken by Nature Makers. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY, 10.30AM-12NOON

NatureMakers - Hapa Zome Leaf Dye - family fun - Venue: Summer House Garden. Bookings taken by Nature Makers. See the link at www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY, 1.30-3PM

Nature Crafts with Pat - Join Pat under the Courtyard veranda for fun nature crafts. Create star twig hangers, nature brushes, twig butterflies and wooden pot decorations. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Usual adult admission. Children £2. 10 places available. www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

> THURSDAY 30TH JULY, 10.30AM-12NOON

Refreshments in the Courtyard - Delicious homemade cakes, a choice of tea, coffee, speciality tea or juice and a relaxing stroll around beautiful 18th-century, tranquil gardens - All for only £6. www.cowperandnewtonmuseum.org.uk

Higham Ferrers Town Mayor cheers on Girls Under 11s at historic first home matches

Higham Ferrers Town Mayor, Cllr Chris O'Rourke, and Mayoress Kathleen Meredith were delighted to attend the Girls Under 11 team's first-ever home fixtures at Rushden & Higham Town Cricket Club on Sunday 5th July, marking an important milestone for girls' cricket in Higham Ferrers.

The Mayor was proud to support this special occasion and to celebrate the continued growth of opportunities for young people in the town. The addition of the Girls Under 11 team reflects the increasing opportunities available for girls to participate in cricket, and it was wonderful to see so many young players representing their club with enthusiasm and pride on home soil for the first time.

Watching from the boundary, the Mayor was able to see first-hand the enthusiasm, teamwork and determination shown by every player throughout the day's matches. While results are always secondary at this stage of



development, the occasion itself marked a significant achievement for both the players and the club.

The Girls Under 11 squad is in its second season and has been built to provide young players with the opportunity to learn the game in a fun, inclusive and supportive environment. Coaches, volunteers and parents have all played an important role in helping the team reach this landmark, and the fixtures demonstrated just how far the

programme has come in a short space of time.

Speaking after the matches, club representatives thanked the Mayor for taking the time to attend and support the team on such an important occasion. The visit highlighted the strong links between the cricket club and the local community and showcased the growing opportunities available for girls to take up the sport in Higham Ferrers and Rushden.

If you know a young person in the local area interested in joining a team, you can find out more on the Rushden and Higham Town CC website: www.rushdenhighamtowncc.com/ If you would like the Mayor of Higham Ferrers to visit your organisation, community group, school or local event, you can extend an invitation to Higham Ferrers Town Hall directly by calling 01933 312075 or email info@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk.

CREAM TEAS AT CHICHELE COLLEGE GARDENS

Ria Jefferies, the local Children's Society co-ordinator in Higham Ferrers is helping Hope Bloom this summer to raise funds for the vital work of the charity. On 30th August Ria will be hosting Cream Teas served in the Duchy Barn Gardens at Chichele College in Higham Ferrers.



There will be two pre-booked sittings at 1pm and 2.30pm when you can enjoy a fresh scone with butter, jam and cream, and a drink for £6 per person. A raffle will also be held for attendees on the day. Before or after you will be able to enjoy the rest of the medieval gardens of this English Heritage site, formerly a monastery, and in the building itself see the free art exhibition on show the same weekend.

Across the UK too many young people are facing mental health challenges, abuse, exploitation or neglect. The Children's Society Hope Blooms campaign aims to prevent this by helping young people grow, explore and build confidence through their services. Last year they worked directly with 70,000 young people, reaching a further 300,000 through preventative work, and even more through campaigning and advocacy work. More information can be found via www.childrenssociety.org.uk

Tickets can be purchased from Ria direct on 07771884120, via riarosy@email.com or message the Facebook event page <https://facebook.com/events/s/charity-cream-teas/2067098040824493/>

RUSHDEN HISTORICAL TRANSPORT SOCIETY
Supported by Rushden Town Council

Rushden Classic Car Show

Sunday 2nd August 2026
Hall Park, Rushden
11am - 4pm



CLASSIC CARS & MOTORCYCLES
FOOD & DRINK, TRADE STANDS & MORE
Public Entry by Donation
Suggested minimum donation of £4 per person or £10 per family
Public parking on site £10 per vehicle
Entry donation included
All display vehicles must be booked in advance
administrator@rhts.co.uk / 0300 302 3150
www.rhts.co.uk / [rhtscarrally](https://www.facebook.com/rhtscarrally)

Regent Wrought Iron Ltd

The Regent Street Wrought Iron Works

180-186 Regent Street, Kettering, Northants NN16 8QH
PHONE 01536 485892

High quality gates and fencing hand made on the premises since 1963



We have 18 styles to choose from.
All on show in our showroom.
Full fitting & painting service.

Automatic Estate Gates

- Highest quality equipment
- Up to 14' opening
- Flat draped or bow topped
- Fully installed & painted
- **FREE** first year service
- Guaranteed for 2 years
- Full back up & yearly service
- We have been installing automation since 1998
- Full pressure tested and certified to BS 12453

We can automate your existing gates (if suitable) or upgrade old equipment to meet BS 12453 safety regulations



Has your garden wall/fence had it? Replace it with wrought iron!
LASTS A LIFETIME • USUALLY FITTED IN A DAY

BEAT THE BURGLAR – Free security locking bolts fitted to all our side entry gates or full range of mortise locks fitted

Visit our website for our online catalogue www.regentiron.co.uk

CLASSIFIEDS

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

ACCOUNTANCY

Jon Essam & Co Ltd

Chartered Accountants

Proactive accountancy and tax service for landlords, sole traders, partnerships and limited companies

Fixed fee quotation

Bookkeeping, management accounts and VAT submissions

Payroll, auto enrolment and CIS bureau service

Making tax digital (MTD) submissions

Partner with Xero, Quickbooks and Sage

Tax planning and advice

Registered auditor



Email or visit our website to arrange a free consultation
23 Cottingham Way, Thrapston, Kettering, Northants NN14 4PL
(behind the fire station)
info@essamca.co.uk | www.essamca.co.uk | 01832 730280

PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 (POLOPIT, TITCHMARSH) (30 MILES PER HOUR SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that North Northamptonshire Council, in exercise of its powers under Sections 82, 83, and 84 and Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, proposes to make an Order to extend the 30 miles per hour speed limit on the length of road described in the Schedule to this Notice. The effect of the proposed Order will be to prohibit any person from driving a motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 30 miles per hour on the road specified in the Schedule below.

A copy of the proposed Order, together with a plan showing the exact length of road to which it relates and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing the Order, may be:

- Viewed online at: www.northnorthants.gov.uk (search: "Traffic Regulation Orders"), or
- Inspected by appointment at: Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Old Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire NN6 9BX. To arrange an appointment, please call: 01604 529700

MAKING REPRESENTATIONS OR OBJECTIONS – Any person wishing to object to, support, or make representations regarding the proposed Order must do so in writing, stating the grounds for their objection or representation, quoting reference P2182 to: The Traffic Order Team, Kier Highways, Brixworth Depot, Old Harborough Road, Brixworth, Northamptonshire, NN6 9BX or by email to: NNCParkingenquiries@kier.co.uk. Responses must be received no later than 8th August 2026.

Dated this 18th day of July 2026

KAMILA COULSON-PATEL,

Director of Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

P2182

SCHEDULE

30 miles per hour speed limit

Item	Road Name	Description
1	Polopit, Titchmarsh	At a point 190 metres South of its junction with Abbotts Close, extending 90 metres in a Southerly direction.

NORTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (CHURCH LANE, BARNWELL) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Church Lane, Barnwell as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Church Lane, Barnwell from Church Green to Armston Road.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during bridge repairs.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 3rd August 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 3 days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Church Lane, Well Lane, Armston Road, Red Lodge Road, Oundle Road, Main Street, Duke Street, Church Street and Hemington Road.

For further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N141 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/587

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (BROOK STREET, HARGRAVE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Brook Street, Hargrave as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Brook Street, Hargrave from Raunds Road to Church Street.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during GPR survey.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 3rd August 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 3 days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Raunds Road.

For further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N134 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/588

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (SHELTON ROAD, HARGRAVE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Shelton Road, Hargrave as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Shelton Road, Hargrave from the junction of road to Mere Farm.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during new water mains works.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 20th July 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 road to Mere Farm, Raunds Road, Church Street, Church Road and B645.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N068 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/537

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (INKERMAN WAY, OUNDLE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Inkerman Way, Oundle as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Inkerman Way, Oundle from outside no.5 to no.7.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during new connection works.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 22nd July 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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: n/a.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N067 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/541

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (ROBBS LANE, LOWICK) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Robbs Lane, Lowick as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Robbs Lane, Lowick from number 18 to Drayton Road.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during the checking of boundary boxes for leaks.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 22nd July 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 Main Street and Drayton Road.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N095 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/542

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (MILL ROAD & MAIN STREET, YARWELL) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Mill Road and Main Street, Yarwell as set out below.

LENGTHS OF ROADS TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: Those lengths of Mill Road and Main Street, Yarwell – full closure from and to Nassington Road.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during water maintenance works.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 27th July 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 3 days.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use Nassington Road.

If you require any further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N074 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/553

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 – SECTION 14 (BLACKPOT LANE, OUNDLE) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF THROUGH TRAFFIC) ORDER 2026

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 Blackpot Lane, Oundle as set out below.

LENGTH OF ROAD TO WHICH RESTRICTION APPLIES: That length of Blackpot Lane, Oundle from Station Road to Glapthorn Road.

REASON FOR RESTRICTION: The restriction is required for safety during road maintenance works.

PERIOD OF CLOSURE: The proposed Order will come into effect on 1st August 2026 and will continue in force for a period of 18 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 1 day.

ALTERNATIVE ROUTES: use New Street and A427.

For further information please contact Steve Fowler ref:- 26/27 – N154 Steve.Fowler@northnorthants.gov.uk PKG/T26/580

Dated this 18th day of July 2026

KAMILA COULSON-PATEL

Director of Law & Governance (Monitoring Officer)

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE VOTED RED ADMIRAL ITS BUTTERFLY CHAMPION - NOW IT'S TIME TO GET OUT AND COUNT THEM

With the Big Butterfly Count underway, Northamptonshire residents are being urged to discover whether their favourite butterflies are thriving this summer.

Northamptonshire has spoken and crowned the Red Admiral its favourite butterfly, now wildlife charity Butterfly Conservation is calling on residents to get out for its annual Big Butterfly Count and report on how the striking species is faring.

People across the county voted for their favourite species as part of Butterfly Conservation's first-ever nationwide poll to find Britain's Favourite Butterfly in June, with the national crown taken by the showstopping Peacock.

Completing the colourful cast of characters in Northamptonshire's top five were the iconic Peacock coming in a close second, sunshine-yellow

Brimstone third, fairy-like Holly Blue taking fourth, and bright orange Comma in fifth.

Now Butterfly Conservation wants to know how butterflies are faring across the county this summer.

The charity is calling on everyone in Northamptonshire to take part in this year's Big Butterfly Count, which kicks off on Friday 17th July and runs until Sunday 9th August, to help scientists see what's happening with some of our most common and much-loved butterflies.

The world's largest butterfly survey, the Big Butterfly Count asks people to spend just 15 minutes outdoors in a sunny spot, count the butterflies and day-flying moths they see, and submit

their sightings via the free app or at www.bigbutterflycount.org.

Butterfly Conservation's Head of Engagement, Kate Merry, said: "It's been wonderful to see so many people in Northamptonshire get behind their favourite butterflies in the vote. Now we want that passion to turn into action!

"We'd love residents to be ready and waiting to help paint a picture of how butterflies and moths are doing across the county."

This year's Big Butterfly Count carries greater urgency than ever. In 2024, Butterfly Conservation declared a butterfly emergency after numbers fell to their lowest level in the survey's history, and in 2025 the charity launched a rescue mission to help reverse long-term declines.

Around 80% of UK butterfly species have declined over the past 50 years, the result of habitat loss, climate change and pesticide use, and scientists need

as many eyes as possible looking for butterflies this summer to see what's happening. Every sighting counts.

The Red Admiral, Peacock, Brimstone, Holly Blue and Comma can all be recorded as part of Butterfly Conservation's Big Butterfly Count, along with 15 other butterflies and day-flying moths.

Kate Merry added: "Butterflies are key indicators of the UK's biodiversity and environmental health, so every single person that takes part and submits their sightings is helping us to see how these vital pollinators



are doing, which in turn helps conservationists build a wider picture of how all butterflies and moths are faring.

"It's easy, fun for all the family,

and a great excuse to get outside and experience the simple joy of spotting butterflies. Download the app and get ready to get out for the Count!"

How to take part:

- Download the free Big Butterfly Count app or visit www.bigbutterflycount.org
- Between Friday 17th July - Sunday 9th August spend 15 minutes in any sunny outdoor space and count the number and types of butterflies and day-flying moths you see.
- You don't need to be an expert - use the free ID guide on the app and website to help you identify what you've seen.
- Log your sightings on the website or free app and help protect UK butterflies for future generations.
- This summer, experience the joy of butterflies and see how many you can count. Which will be the most spotted species in this year's Big Butterfly Count? Time will tell...

HEADWAY EAST NORTHANTS
YOUR LOCAL BRAIN INJURY CHARITY



EVER WANTED TO RUN THE

TCS LONDON

MARATHON 2027?



WE HAVE CHARITY PLACES FOR 2027!

DO SOMETHING AMAZING! BE PART OF OUR FUNDRAISING TEAM. RAISING FUNDS TO SUPPORT ADULTS WITH AN ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

Apply via our website

www.headwayeastnorthants.org.uk/tcs-london-marathon

Higham's best kept secret is right on Market Square...

When you need legal help you'll want a law firm that stands by you. At Wilson Browne we have a friendly, down to-earth-approach, so we can understand you and you can understand us.

With offices across Northamptonshire and in Leicester, we offer a complete range of legal solutions for individuals and businesses, with transparent costs.



0800 088 6004

info@wilsonbrowne.co.uk
wilsonbrowne.co.uk

- Wills, Trusts & Estates
- Managing Wealth & Assets
- Residential Conveyancing
- Family Law
- Employment Law
- Disputes
- Debt Recovery
- Business Services
- Commercial Property

All the help you need



wilson browne
SOLICITORS

SIX WEEKS OF SUMMER AT FERRY MEADOWS

From Saturday 18th July, dive into a summer full of fun at Ferry Meadows with daily activities and events for all ages. With outdoor adventures, family-friendly activities, wildlife workshops and holiday clubs, there's something for everyone to enjoy this summer.

Find out what's happening and when, with the Six Weeks of Summer guide to family fun in the Park: www.nenepark.org.uk/summer.

Summer-Long Activities

- Watersports at Nene Outdoors: Open daily between 11am and 6.30pm, choose from dragon and swan pedalos, row boats, stand-up paddle boards, kayaks and canoes. Book online to avoid the queues.
- Hire a bike at Nene Outdoors: Hop on a bike and explore the Park! Available daily from 10.30am to 5pm, choose from a range of styles and sizes, including e-bikes, plus helmets come free.
- Daily Boat Trips: Enjoy a lake and river cruise on the eco-powered passenger boat. These 45-minute trips depart daily from the Visitor Centre Jetty. Suitable for all ages, wheelchair spaces are available and dogs are welcome too.
- Foodie Fridays at Ferry Meadows: Kick off the weekend with delicious

street food, drinks and live music – the perfect summer evening.

- Summer Holiday Adventure Trail: Pick up your activity booklet from the Visitor Centre and explore the Park. Complete the quiz as you go, then return to claim your prize.
- Book a camping trip: Camp under the stars by Gunwade Lake in a cosy bell tents or at Ferry Meadows' scenic pitch-only site.
- The Big Summer Cycling Challenge: Join the summer fundraising challenge! Ride any distance, explore your favourite routes and help support Nene Park Trust along the way.
- FREE Crafts at the Visitor Centre: Join in at the activity table to enjoy some crafty activities.
- Ride the Ferry Meadows Railway: Sit back and enjoy the ride! Running daily, weather permitting.

Holiday Clubs

- Oak Adventurers Holiday Club: An exciting multi-activity holiday club at Nene Outdoors, open weekdays from 20th July to 28th August. Perfect for kids aged 8-13. Action-packed fun awaits!
- Acorn Explorers Holiday Club: A nature-based holiday club at Lynch Farm open weekdays from 3rd to 14th August for kids aged 5-8. Non-stop activities and creative outdoor fun.

Family Events

- Family Cycling Drop-In - 18th July: Come along and test your balance and coordination at this free Slow Cycling Skills session, get a free bike safety check and find out about the Big Summer Cycling Challenge.
- Indoor Archery – 20th July, 7th & 19th August: Unleash your inner Robin Hood or Maid Marian! Archery sessions are 45 minutes long and take place at Nene Outdoors.
- FREE Pond Dipping – 23rd & 28th July, 19th August: Drop in for some wildlife fun! Try pond dipping and discover the fascinating creatures living beneath the surface.
- FREE Bug Hunt at Thorpe Meadows – 24th July & 24th August: Come along and join in as a minibeast detective.
- FREE Nature Crafts Workshop – 30th July: A fun nature crafts session for all the family!
- Climbing Wall – 31st July, 10th & 26th August: The climbing wall will be up at Nene Outdoors, with sessions running throughout the day. Who will reach the top first?
- The Big Jump Adventure Park – 18th August to 1st September: The Big Jump Adventure Park brings two weeks of action-packed family fun, combining their famous inflatable attractions with exciting fairground rides, family entertainment and



special themed activity days. With a range of wristband options designed to suit every family, making it a brilliant way to enjoy time together at the Park.

- Family Friendly Bat Walk – 21st August: Discover the secret life of bats! Enjoy a bat-themed craft, a twilight walk and use bat detectors and thermal tech to spot these night-time flyers and other nocturnal wildlife.
- Longthorpe Tower Weekend Tours: Delve into the fascinating history of this local gem, guided by a friendly and knowledgeable team of volunteers. Explore the remarkable medieval wall paintings and uncover centuries of stories.

Learn to Sail (ages 8-15)

- Youth RYA Sailing – Stage 1, 3rd & 4th August or 18th & 19th August: Learn the basics of sailing, including launching, steering and sailing across the wind, in this 2-day course. Safe, fun and rewarding!
- Youth RYA Sailing – Stage 2, 5th & 6th August: Build your sailing skills with this 2-day RYA Stage 2 course, designed to boost your confidence, boat control and speed in a safe, fun environment.
- Youth RYA Sailing – Stage 3, 10th & 11th August: Take your skills to the next level with this 2-day RYA Stage 3 sailing course to confidently sail a dinghy on all points of sail in moderate conditions.

Ferry Meadows can't wait to welcome you all to enjoy a summer of fun! To find out more and book your tickets, please visit www.nenepark.org.uk/summer

Looking for a new Accountant?



- 📍 Accountancy & Audit
- 📍 Bookkeeping & Payroll
- 📍 Management & Business Accounts
- 📍 Tax Returns & Tax Planning
- 📍 Wealth Management
- 📍 Wills & Estate Planning



📞 01933 312950

✉️ help@elsbyandco.co.uk

