

ENCircle

WINTER 2016

The latest news and service information from East Northamptonshire Council

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East
Northamptonshire
Council

Picture of the River Nene near Ditchford | Canoe2

Message from the Chairman

Welcome to the Christmas 2016 edition of ENCIRCLE.

I take this opportunity to send my best wishes for Christmas and the coming year to all the people in East Northamptonshire.

We are a large district with a population of 89,516 at the last count, extending from Easton on the Hill and Collyweston in the north to Rushden and Higham Ferrers in the south and Irthlingborough in the west. Our towns and villages have different interests and priorities, robustly represented by your district councillor(s) at our Council meetings as we debate and take the decisions necessary to deliver our services while keeping Council Tax at reasonable levels; these are priorities all my fellow councillors and I have in common, looking after our district community as a whole.

In November I made the opening speech at this year's sixth annual Youth Conference for young adults from the schools in our district. The focus of this year's conference was community safety in general and healthy relationships in particular – in essence, mutual respect. The conference included group discussions and presentations. There were also opportunities for the pupils to speak informally with officers of the police and other partner agencies present, letting them know their views and discussing relevant community issues.

I was impressed by the common sense and idealism of the young people at the conference. These give us grounds for confidence in their potential capacity to exercise the added responsibilities which they will face as they evolve in education and employment for the challenges and opportunities in the years ahead.

Warmest regards *CLLr Rupert Reichhold*



Christmas closing and opening dates/times

Please note that the Thrapston offices and Customer Service Centres (CSC) at Thrapston, Rushden and Oundle will close for the Christmas and New Year holidays on Friday, 23 December 2016 and will re-open on Tuesday, 3 January 2017. The closing/opening times for each CSC are:

Customer Service Centre	Closes 23/12/16	Re-opens 03/01/17
Thrapston, Cedar Drive	4pm	8:45am
Rushden, Newton Road	4pm	9am
Oundle, Oundle Library	1pm	10am
Irthlingborough Library - No service on Wed 21 Dec 2016 - re-opens on Wed 4 Jan 2017 (10am-1pm)		
Raunds Library - No service on Thu 22 Dec 2016 - re-opens on Thu 5 Jan 2017 (10am-Noon)		

You can access many of our council services at www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk
 You can still pay council bills on our payment line (24 hours) on **01832 742259**.
 Urgent problem which cannot wait? You can call our out of hours service on **01832 733530**.

Waste service over Christmas

Because of the way the bank holidays fall over this year's Christmas and New Year period, some collections will be made a day later than your normal collection day:

Normal collection day	Amended collection day
Mon 26 Dec	Tue 27 Dec
Tue 27 Dec	Wed 28 Dec
Wed 28 Dec	Thu 29 Dec
Thu 29 Dec	Fri 30 Dec
Fri 30 Dec	Sat 31 Dec

Collections from 2 January as normal.

Please remember to recycle your paper wrapping, cardboard boxes and recyclable packaging from all those presents!

Don't forget to use your food recycling caddy for all your cooked and uncooked Christmas food waste.

Food waste is usually collected separately from the refuse/recycling bin. This may be considerably earlier or later than when your wheeled bin is emptied.

Bins are emptied from **7am-7pm**, so please leave your bin out on your usual collection day from 7 in the morning until 7 in the evening, or until empty.

Please note there are **no garden waste collections between 24 Dec – 8 Jan.**

To find out your bin collection day, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/waste



**reduce
reuse
recycle**
in East Northamptonshire

Council awards prestigious Healthy and Active Lifestyles contract

A UK specialist in leisure management has been chosen to run the three leisure centres in East Northamptonshire along with a new outreach programme.

East Northamptonshire Council has awarded Freedom Leisure the contract to manage and develop the healthy and active lifestyles offer in the district through the Nene Centre in Thrapston, the Pemberton Centre and Splash Pool in Rushden and a programme that will provide activities in more rural parts of the district.

Council Leader, Steven North, said: "We're delighted to be forging this exciting partnership with Freedom Leisure. Their expertise and experience will ensure that we are able to provide the widest range of activities for the district and support health and fitness opportunities in our local community.

"We would like to thank the staff of Aspirations Wellbeing for the service they have provided over the last 13 years. Freedom Leisure will inherit a talented, committed and enthusiastic team, who will benefit from the opportunities that being part of a bigger organisation will bring.

"We will be working with Freedom Leisure and the wider community to reach a number of target groups at community centres and out in the rural villages. These include older people, children, young people and those with disabilities. We believe big improvements can be made in residents' health and wellbeing by encouraging greater participation in physical activities."



facebook

We're back on Facebook!
Follow us at www.facebook.com/ENCLatestNews

Are you In to WIN?

Over 1500 households in East Northants are feeding their food waste bins for the chance to win some fantastic prizes in a countywide competition.

'I'm in to Win' was launched by the Northamptonshire Waste Partnership last year. It runs across four council areas (East Northants, Daventry District, South Northants and Corby) and aims to encourage the county to recycle more food waste.

565 tonnes of additional waste material has been collected since the start of the scheme saving around £32,000 in disposal costs!

Winners are picked at random each month from the registered households who are regularly recycling.

So far, residents in East Northants have won prizes including vouchers for Oundle's Brewbabu, Beckworth Emporium vouchers, a Discovery Pass for Fineshade Woods, a canoe experience on the River Nene and a family pass to Rockingham Castle.

If you're not one of the 1584 East Northants households already taking part, there's still time to join in:

- Visit www.feedyourcaddy.co.uk to register online. You'll receive a registration pack, including an 'I'm in to Win' sticker.
- Simply put the sticker on your food waste bin and leave it out for your weekly collection, as usual.

Visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/waste to find out more about recycling in East Northants.



**reduce
reuse
recycle**
in East Northamptonshire

The results are in

Northamptonshire Residents' Panel

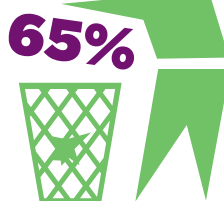
Thank you to all those who took part in our latest Residents' Survey.

Your views are always welcome and we use what you tell us to improve our services and how we deliver them.

More engagement



Rubbish & Litter



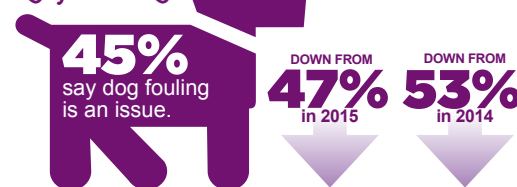
thought rubbish and litter was not a problem in their area.

Waste & recycling

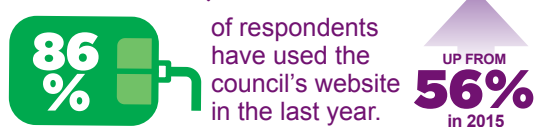


satisfied with the service.

Dog fouling



Communication



Top three uses were:

1. View a planning application - 44%
2. Find bin collection day - 31%
3. Find contact details - 27%

Moving & Accessibility

If moving,



would stay in the district.



access the River Nene or surrounding countryside at least once a week.



feel that accessibility in general is unchanged or better than in the past.

Read the full report by visiting east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/RSresults

‘Dial a bus’ service, available to all, operating in the Oundle, (Stamford, Peterborough) and Thrapston areas

CallConnect is a unique bus service whose timetable is not fixed, but responds to passenger requests.

This means its routes are different each day depending on the bookings made by passengers. Journey requests can be made by telephone or online.

The service is designed to improve transport links for rural communities in the Oundle,

Stamford, Peterborough and Thrapston area and for local journeys within Oundle and Stamford.

Please note they are generally unable to provide journeys where there is already a frequent commercial bus service.

Anyone can use the Nene & Welland CallConnect bus service for any reason and as frequently as required.

The service is operated by modern, fully accessible minibuses and the service operates between 7am-7pm Monday to Saturday.

The Nene & Welland CallConnect service is funded through a unique four local authority partnership between Lincolnshire County Council, Northamptonshire County Council, Peterborough City Council and Rutland County Council.



Find out more about CallConnect by visiting www.wellandcallconnect.co.uk or call 0345 263 8153



Northamptonshire
County Council

Health and wellbeing clinics at our offices

First for Wellbeing (FFW) – a social enterprise set up entirely to serve the health and wellbeing needs of the local community - is now holding clinics at our **Rushden office (Newton Road) on Wednesdays, 12-4pm** and our **Thrapston office (Cedar Drive) on Fridays 9am-1pm**.

They provide free advice and support to over 18s on health and wellbeing issues including stopping smoking, weight management, alcohol management, financial wellbeing, emotional wellbeing, housing, employment and adult learning and social wellbeing.

If you know someone who you think could benefit from this support, please let them know about the drop-in clinics and that this is a free service.



For more information about the service, visit www.firstforwellbeing.co.uk

First for
Wellbeing



12 days of Community Safety Christmas

1

Festive lighting - be secure - Don't feed extension cables through partially open windows – criminals look out for this. When it comes to outdoor lighting, opt for solar or battery operated lights instead.

2

Christmas shopping online - Install an anti-virus product on your computer and if you can, use a credit card or PayPal instead of a debit card for increased protection.

3

Bogus calling - Always be sure the caller is who they say they are before letting them in (genuine callers will have ID and won't mind you asking to see it). If you don't want callers in your home, tell them and contact the police if they don't listen.

4

Vehicle security - Ensure all windows/doors are closed/locked and avoid leaving your purchases/presents on display. Park your car in a well lit car park, preferably one that's attended or displays the Park Mark logo.

5

Avoid a Christmas debt hangover - Get your priorities right and don't forget the everyday bills – the rent/mortgage, utility/food bills and other existing debts still have to be paid, even though it's Christmas.

6

Home security - Deterring would-be criminals is one of the most effective forms of crime prevention. Invest in a motion sensor flood-light or some outdoor Christmas lights to highlight your home's exterior and put off potential burglars.

7

Never leave candles unattended - Make sure candles/tea lights are secured in a fire resistant holder and away from furniture, curtains, clothing and hair. Don't forget to put them out when you leave the room.

8

Christmas presents at home - Try and leave it until the last minute to put presents under the tree and don't leave them in view of a window. Don't hide presents in obvious places such as under the bed or on top of the wardrobe – thieves are less likely to go into the loft.

9

Dispose of gift packaging carefully - Make sure you only put your rubbish out just before the collection and do your best to break apart boxes so they don't advertise the new contents of your home to thieves.

10

Don't drink and drive - You can't calculate your alcohol limit, so don't try. Christmas should be a time for a celebration, not a night in the cells, so don't let a selfish decision ruin your life or someone else's.

11

Domestic abuse - Incidents of domestic abuse increase over Christmas, when the pressures of family, money and an increase in alcohol consumption places additional strains on relationships. Don't suffer in silence.

12

Drink responsibly - The Christmas season has arrived and many of us will be thinking about going out with friends/family. Stay safe, drink sensibly and plan how to get home in advance – save the number of a licensed taxi firm in your mobile phone.



Even Santa knows to check before booking a table!

Christmas is a time to enjoy good company and good food without worrying about what's happening in the kitchen. There's one easy way to set your mind at rest, visit www.food.gov.uk/ratings

The Food Hygiene Rating Scheme rates food businesses on their hygiene standards, based on inspections carried out by our food safety officers. Businesses are rated on a scale ranging from 0 which means 'urgent improvement necessary' to a top rating of 5 which is 'very good.'



Food Standards Agency
food.gov.uk/ratings

Get the latest gritting updates on Twitter at [@NNhighways](https://twitter.com/NNhighways)



Northamptonshire County Council

Free parking for Christmas shopping and January sales

Those who choose to shop in East Northamptonshire will have more cash for festive gifts and New Year bargains thanks to the free council run car parks in five of our towns. East Northamptonshire boasts 11 free car parks with generous time allowances, so shoppers can take their time searching for that perfect gift.



For more information about the car parks in East Northamptonshire, visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/carparking

Going for gold in East Northants



We are helping more businesses deliver healthy food choices for customers across the district by running a bespoke course next year.

Food businesses in East Northamptonshire are invited to attend a day session at the our offices in Thrapston on 8 February to complete the Healthier Food and Special Diets course.

For just £72, the course will cover the principle of balanced diets and how to plan and provide special diets, and you'll receive the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH) Level 2 Award.

This qualification has been designed to provide a good, basic understanding of nutrition to enable learners to plan well-balanced meals that will have a positive impact on health.

Taking part in the course is essential if you want to achieve gold status for Eat Out Eat Well (EOEW), a new healthy eating award adopted by ENC that recognises and rewards catering businesses that promote healthier food choices for their customers.



So far, 16 food businesses in East Northamptonshire have received the EOEW award and three have achieved gold: Manor School Kitchen in Raunds, Rushden's Pie Place and Stanwick caterer MiamMiam.

Principal Linda Brooks of the Manor Learning Trust said:

"We are very proud to hold the Eat Out Eat Well award as we want students to not only recognise the food on their plate, but to develop an understanding of their health and nutrition, and the impact this has on their learning and education."

Councillor Steven North, Leader of ENC, added:

"We have some great restaurants and cafés in East Northamptonshire and we want to work with them to provide healthy options for customers who enjoy eating out with family and friends. We hope that more caterers take up the opportunity to book on the course and become part of this initiative to ensure that in East Northamptonshire, there are always healthy choices on the menu."



For more information on EOEW, including how your food business can apply for and receive the award, please visit www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/eatouteatwell or contact the Health Protection team at HealthProtection@east-northamptonshire.gov.uk or **01832 742055**.

THAT WAS
EASY...

LAST YEAR...

282
households switched
energy supplier
Average savings per
household of more than
£350

SWITCH. SAVE. SMILE.

#switchsavesmile

Finding a pound coin on the floor, a fiver in your pocket you forgot about, how about winning £10 on the lottery? Getting money you weren't expecting puts a smile on anyone's face. So how about the possibility of having an **extra £350 in your pocket?** In **under 10 minutes** you could register to receive an offer from an energy provider and **save money on your energy bills!**

We are once again working with energy switching experts **ichoosr**, East Northamptonshire Council is aiming to use collective purchasing power to try and secure better deals for residents in East Northants.

There's **no cost for registering** and you don't have to accept the offer you receive, but the more people that register, the better the offers!

Register your details at
www.east-northamptonshire.gov.uk/switch
or call **01832 742121** for more advice.
Please have your **last annual energy statement** ready.



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It's not such an
alien concept

