

Higham Ferrers

Christmas Sparkle

Saturday 18th
November
11am-6pm

Lights
Switch On
5pm

Anniversary Year
20 years of
Sparkle!

Christmas Market, Fun
Fair, Live Entertainment,
Craft Stalls, Refreshments
and much more...

Higham Times

News, Views & Town Events



Issue 41
November 2023

Welcome

Welcome to our Autumn Newsletter.

Since our last edition in August, there have been lots of events and activities in our town such as the Town Wide Garage Sale, Horticultural Show, Heritage Family Fun Day and Harvest Farmers Market to name a few.

In preparation for Remembrance, our wonderful craft volunteers have checked and mended the poppy tree display ready for all to see throughout November and December. Our craft community are also busy creating angel themed yarnbombing to add to the Christmas display this year. If you would like to be involved in decorating the town and are able to spare an hour or two to help us put out the display in November, please do get in touch - Our elves are a little thin on the ground this year!

The newsletter now has colour coded sections for Town Focus, Community News, Advertising and Council News. Town Focus will be a spotlight on our local businesses, landmarks and heritage. Community News will have updates from Higham Ferrers Tourism, St Marys Church, Hope Methodist Church, local schools and community groups. Council News will include council events, contact information, a Mayor's report and a council update on current projects such as the Neighbourhood Plan, Community Library and Minibus Service. There is an opportunity for local businesses to advertise in this quarterly newsletter so please get in touch if you would like more information about this.

For the most current information about what is happening in the town, we encourage you to check the Town Council website (www.highamferrers-tc.gov.uk) and social media pages for regular updates.

If you have an article about local news or events which you would like to be included in the next edition of the Higham Times in February, then please forward the information to;

donna@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk (no later than 2nd January 2024).

Thank you for your continued support.

Donna Anderson, Editor

Any views or opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of Higham Ferrers Town Council.



Photograph by Kirsty Jones



Photograph by Susie Grace

Business Spotlight...

In this edition of the Higham Times we will be taking a look at another one of our local businesses.

Higham Man and Van Removals is owned by Seb Smith and run by himself and his Wife Louise. The business was established in 2016 and was initially just Seb and a van working evenings and weekends to support his young family. Things have come along way since then and as of 2023, they now have their own premises in Higham Ferrers offering secure storage as well as multiple vehicles and providing employment to a small number of locally based staff and proud to be 5* rated across Trustpilot and Google reviews.

They have facilitated moves far and wide, as south as Cornwall and as north as Northumberland. They move everything from a fish tank to a 5 bedroom house and everything in between.

They are strong believers in focusing on customer service and are proud to be a local family-based business in Higham Ferrers. Being an active part of the community and supporting other local businesses is also a wonderful quality of this business and they have done so in many ways.

Avid attendees of the local business forum networking meetings arranged by the council, it is great for them to enjoy a drink with fellow businesses and learn from them, share ideas and have fun. They sponsor the Higham Christmas tree every year and were happy to also sponsored the Kings Coronation coins earlier this year too. Additionally, regular sponsors of Higham Town Football Club including tournament programmes and ground advertising.



They have even collected therapy couches for Ashgrove Clinic and used their great service to keep their bodies in tip-top shape. If you want to see the team, they can often be spotted in the high street, queueing at the Higham Bakery - refuelling is essential. Customers have often said they must be champions of the game Tetris due to their packing skills and at least once a week they will hear someone say the "to me, to you" catchphrase!!!

It is considered that moving house is the most stressful thing you can do – funny fact, when Seb moved to his home in Higham in 2013, his eldest son (SJ) decided it would be the ideal day to be born!

For more information on the service provided, contact Seb and his friendly team.

**HIGHAM
MAN & VAN
REMOVALS LTD**



Seb Smith
Owner



Contact details: 01933 779951 / 07725144393

info@highammanandvan.com

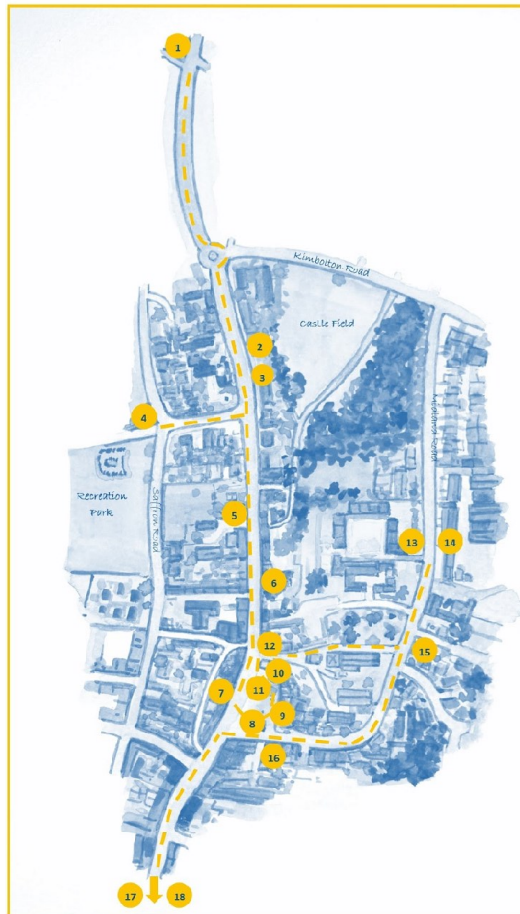
www.highammanandvan.com

**Higham Man & Van Removals Limited,
Unit 3 Chelveston Road,
Higham Ferrers, NN10 8HN**

The Blue Plaque Trail

Higham Ferrers

**HIGHAM FERRERS
TOURISM**
BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



2. The Almshouses College Street

The Almshouses are a set of 6 single bed properties on College Street. They exist due to the generosity of George Newman, who died in 1855 having spent 14 of his years as a resident of Higham Ferrers.



The foundation stone for the Almshouses was laid in 1866 after George's will, proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury in 1855, gave "such part of his personal estate as he could lawfully bequeath for charitable purposes to support six poor Almswomen". In a time before state-funded benefits such bequeathments were a significant and welcome support for those were unable to provide for themselves. The original wording allowed for each resident to receive "8 shillings a week, for ever". Today, each resident of the Almshouses still receives a small annual grant at Christmas-time.

Little is known of why George Newman chose to make his gift that allowed the Almshouses to be built, but today his legacy still stands and the Almshouses still provide for 6 residents of the town - though the rules were changed some time ago to allow men to live there too.

George Newman is buried in Higham Ferrers at St Mary's Church, the proximity of his grave to the church seemingly indicating his level of importance to the town.

Newman's Charity, and the administration and management of the Almshouses, was with Wilson Browne Solicitors for a number of years, but now sits with Higham Ferrers Town Council.

DISCOVER the stories behind the plaques

In each edition of the Higham Times we will take a look at one of the steps along the Blue Plaque Heritage Trail. You can find out more at www.blueplaquetrail.com



Higham Ferrers United Charities



What do you know about Higham Ferrers United Charities?

Read on to find out a little about this historic Trust...

Higham Ferrers has a rich history dating back hundreds of years, and over those years some significant residents of the town set up charitable funds or bequeathed money in their will to be used in certain ways. These funds would have originally been administered individually but over time and as the provisions in the town changed it made sense to bring them together under one umbrella. Thus, in 1914 Higham Ferrers United Charities was formed.

Today the Trust is overseen by a board of 12 Trustees made up of long-standing members of the community, including representatives from both main churches in the town. The main responsibilities of the Trust are to manage the Almshouses on College Street, and appoint and oversee the Bedesmen and Pressland Pensioners. You can read a little about the history of the Almshouses on the page opposite.

The Bedesmen are a proud tradition dating back 600 years to the time of Henry Chichele. Originally, they all lived together at the Bede House with a Bedeswoman to look after them. They earned one penny a day (a very good living in those days). The word 'Bede' means prayer, and the Bedesmen lived their life to a definite rule divided in monastic style into periods of prayer and manual work in the gardens. Today, we still have 12 Bedesmen and one Bedeswoman and although their roles are now largely ceremonial (and they no longer live together at the Bede House!) they are still an important part of Higham Ferrers' civic traditions. You can still see them at events such as Remembrance Day or the Civic Service in their traditional blue woollen cloaks with red stars.

The Pressland Pensioners were formed as a result of the will of Selina Dennis Pressland, who lived in Higham Ferrers her whole life and died in the late 1880's. Selina left a sum of money for 'the benefit of poor widows belonging to the Town'. Today, we still appoint Pressland Pensioners when there is a vacancy and welcome applications from all women of pensionable age who live in Higham Ferrers.

Under the original aims of the Trust, the Almspeople, Bedesmen and Pressland Pensioners all receive a small stipend every Christmas time from the charity and also get invited to events like the Christmas and Summer Parties. The general day-to-day work of Higham Ferrers United Charities is undertaken by Higham Ferrers Town Council at the Town Hall.

£30
each

A Henry's Friends Event

Festive
**WREATH
MAKING**
Evening

*Tuesday 5th December
From 7.30pm at
Henry Chichele Primary School*

Floristry by Flowers Of Eden

Enjoy a festive evening of wreath making alongside a glass of prosecco. All proceeds to Henry's Friends.

Take home kits available, including a small bottle of prosecco for you to enjoy at home.

Book now via email henryspta@outlook.com

HIGHAM FERRERS
TOURISM

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

SANTA'S GROTTO

SATURDAY 18 NOVEMBER 10-4
CHICHELE COLLEGE, HIGHAM FERRERS

£5
PER CHILD

NEW
FOR 2023

CVL SYSTEMS
are kindly sponsoring
real trees to add sparkle
to the town centre
this Christmas

HIGHAM FERRERS
TOURISM

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

CVL
DESIGN SECURE PROTECT

Join us at our
CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Coffee Morning

Saturday 23 December
9am - 12 noon
Bede House Higham Ferrers

HIGHAM FERRERS
TOURISM

BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



I am slowly discovering the people, places and events that make this town Higham, and not forgetting my other parish of Chelveston and Caldecott with charms of its own. We are still new here but it feels already like home.

And now the year winds on, schools and nurseries have started back, and term time activities have restarted. As I write, it is Harvest season giving thanks for bounty of our food. Next, we look towards the solemnity of All Souls Day and Remembrance Sunday, a time when people come together to mourn and remember those we see no longer. The season echoed by the nights drawing in and winter heading into view.

Then as a church we face the start of our new year, the season of Advent, when we look forward towards the events of 2,000 years ago when the Holy Family wandered their own strange path to the birth of Jesus, in Bethlehem. A birth that brought joy and hope and salvation into the world. A birth that had people travelling to find the baby, following not a map but a star. A birth that caused Angels to sing in the heavens, and a birth that we still celebrate with much joy today.

Come join us to celebrate that birth; there are many events and services at St Mary's, and St John's, where we will tell of that special Christmas story. We start with the Angel Festival, as part of Higham's Sparkle, then move to Christingle services and more. Follow us on Facebook or check our website for more details.



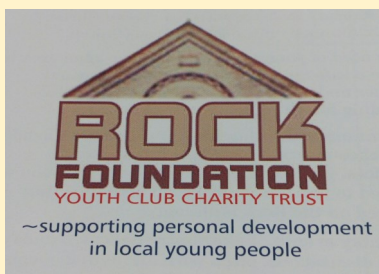
May I wish you a blessed and Happy Christmas,

Mother Louise



www.stmaryhighamferrers.org

Update on our Charitable Giving!



Since the last Rock Foundation Charity report in the Higham Times August edition, the trustees have been pleased to award four grants to help fund local young people to attain their aspirations. YOUR APPLICATION could be one to be considered at the next meeting, in January.

These latest recipients consist of: Two individuals raising funds to go to India to do humanitarian work, a group needing instruments to enable them to make music together and enrich their musical appreciation and a Sports Club needing a secure storage facility for their kit.

You can see from the diversity of these awards, ALL applications are given serious and sympathetic consideration, and the trustees are happy to grant an award if the criteria of the Charity are met.

Namely: Individual young people aged 11-21 years, living in the local area - or organisers of a group that falls within the criteria, who think that they or their group would benefit from financial help to support their activities are invited to apply for a small grant from The Rock Foundation Charity Trust.

The Charity is registered with the Charity Commission, Charity no. 30424

To request a grant, there are leaflets with application forms available for you to pick up from Higham Ferrers Town Hall, Rushden Library or by contacting the trustees by email:

rockfoundationrushden@btinternet.com



FRIENDS CELEBRATE WITH A GILBERT AND SULLIVAN EXTRAVAGANZA

The Bede House was packed to the rafters for an evening of celebration to mark the 10th Anniversary of the Friends of St. Mary's, generously sponsored by Wilson Browne Solicitors. In the presence of our special guest, the Vice Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Morcea Walker MBE, the audience were treated to an evening of the biting wit and enchanting music of Gilbert and Sullivan by The Wandering Minstrels.

Decked out in period costume and with an array of props, the five singers, their pianist and lighting manager presented a programme from Gilbert and Sullivan's famed comic operas. With words by W. S. Gilbert and music by Sir Arthur Sullivan, the programme featured songs from *The Mikado*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Yeoman of the Guard*, *Iolanthe*, *The Sorcerer* and *The Gondoliers*.



The Wandering Minstrels

It is the first time that The Wandering Minstrels have visited the town and it won't be the last, given the obvious enjoyment of both the audience and the entertainers. Tim Hurst-Brown, the artistic director, commented that *"everything went splendidly and I think the audience enjoyed themselves too, so a good time was had by all!"*

Profits from this event go towards the restoration of the Bede House roof and our next exciting project, to restore the charming bell cot above the Bede House entrance and return the bell to working order. For more information on what we do please visit www.friendsstmaryhigham.org.uk.



Morcea and Valentina Sokorenko from the Ukraine enjoy a typically English concert.

"A Gilbert and Sullivan Extravaganza" and it certainly was! Thank you to the Friends who staged a most wonderful evening presented by The Wandering Minstrels who were so entertaining. Hard not to join in the singing as my school days came rushing back to me but my feet were definitely tapping! Well done to everyone for putting together such a well-attended and joyful evening."

Morcea Walker MBE, Vice Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire



SWEET SUCCESS FOR BEST BAKER

Higham Ferrers newcomer Isabelle Angus thought she would try her hand at baking for the Higham Ferrers Horticultural show in September. "I thought I would enter the baking section and see what it was all about," she recalled. She spent some eight hours on her celebration chocolate cake and her plum and marzipan pie and thought that the best she would get was a second position place.

But she was in for a surprise when she returned to Chichele College where the horticultural show was being held, to discover she had taken first prize in the chocolate celebration cake category – and scooped the coveted silver salver for being the Best Baker.

Her prize-winning creation included several elements, including dark chocolate, white chocolate in a feathered effect and chocolate chards. Never having made a pie before, she was also thrilled to take second place for her plum and marzipan pie.



Truly scrumptious! Isabelle Angus did herself proud when she took the Best Baker title

Isabel has spent some 15 years entering baking contests in the region, but the Higham Ferrers show was her best result. "I certainly was surprised to be the best baker," she said. She finds baking a pleasant distraction from her job as an accountant.

What was her recipe for success? "You have to plan in advance. And if you are baking a chocolate cake with drips around the side, you have to work quickly as it is quite tricky to get that right. It took me a couple of tries. It is definitely something you have to practice," she said.



Back in her kitchen, the town's Best Baker prepares for the Macmillan Coffee Morning

Isabelle bakes for friends and family and after the horticultural show, she was gearing up for the annual Macmillan's Coffee Morning cake sale.

The horticultural show organiser, Pam Webbley, said that the celebration cakes on display rivalled the Great British Bake Off. "And they all looked so tempting," she said.

Did you miss the show? Catch up by seeing our film on YouTube – search for Higham Ferrers Horticultural Show – kindly sponsored by NNC Councillor Jenny Bone's Empowerment Fund.

Visit www.highamferrerstourism.org to see all the winners, including Ruth Bond who won Best in Show for her floral display.





Higham Ferrers
Nursery and Infant School

Care Share Enjoy Respect Friendship



It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the new headteacher of Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School. My name is Jane Toyer, and I am delighted to join such an amazing team of staff, governors and parents, all of which work together to strive for the best possible education for the children, academically, socially and emotionally to ensure they reach their full potential.

With over twenty years' experience, I bring with me a passion for early childhood education and a commitment to nurturing the bright minds of our youngest learners. I firmly believe that the early years of a child's education are the most crucial, setting

the foundations for independent, resilient, life-long learners.

At Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School, our mission is to foster a safe, inclusive and engaging environment that supports each child's individual growth and development. With a child-centred approach, we provide opportunities that spark the imagination, encourage curiosity, creativity and a love of learning. I am proud that Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School has been recognised as a Good school by Ofsted and carries the Quality Mark for literacy and maths standards. We are also an 'Attachment Aware' school, where well-being, nurture and resilience are high on our agenda and where behaviours are taught to develop important life skills which support positive mental health.

Our core values: Care, Share, Enjoy, Respect and Friendship, underpin everything we do and are woven into the fabric of our curriculum and daily interactions, ensuring that are children not only reach their full potential academically, but also grow into empathetic and responsible individuals. One of my foremost priorities is to foster a strong partnership between school, parents and the local community. Your involvement and support are invaluable in ensuring the success and wellbeing of our children.

I invite parents to actively engage in their child's educational journey so that together, we can provide the most enriching experience possible.

I look forward to the year ahead, where Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School can look forward to exciting new initiatives and enhancements in the learning environment as well as a school filled with laughter, growth and boundless possibilities.

£30 PER PERSON

Including materials & tuition provided by Eden Florist, mulled wine/ prosecco & a mince pie.



**CHRISTMAS
WREATH MAKING
WORKSHOP**

29.11.23

AT 7PM
IN THE SCHOOL HALL
AT HIGHAM FERRERS
NURSERY & INFANT
SCHOOL

Purchase your ticket now
by emailing
thefriends@hfi.education

If you can't
attend, **MAKE
AT HOME KITS**

can be purchased for
£26, including materials,
a video tutorial, a mini bottle of
prosecco & a mince pie.



Higham Ferrers Nursery and Infant School



[highamferrersnurseryandinfants](https://www.instagram.com/highamferrersnurseryandinfants)



<https://www.highamferrersinfants.org.uk>



HIGHAM CHICHELE SOCIETY

The Higham Chichele Society meets in the Bede House or Parish Church (check local noticeboards - ie. Town Hall/Church). The meetings commence at 9.30am (doors open at 9am). Admission is £3 which including refreshments.

Our speaker for 24th November is Chris Rowe "Tales from the Tudor Table". This will be our last meeting in 2023. The Society will then have a winter break.

The first meeting in 2024, which will include our AGM, will take place on Friday March 29th, when Nora Butler will be speaking about "The History of Kimbolton".

Check our website: www.highamchichelesociety.co.uk

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME, PLEASE COME ALONG.



Yarnbombing Update

The crafting community (or 'The Woolly Angels' as we are fondly calling them this year) have been busy creating angels for the latest addition to the Christmas yarnbombing display. We have had an amazing amount of people requesting patterns so we can not wait to see how many we get handed in throughout the coming weeks. All styles and sizes welcome! Your woolly creations can be dropped off at the Town Hall or Millers Yarn and Crafts on the High Street. We would like to have as many as possible handed in by 14th November so that we have enough time to get them displayed before the Christmas Sparkle the following weekend. You can still get involved even if you can't knit or crochet because we are in need of volunteers to help display the work throughout the town. Please get in touch if you are interested and can spare a couple of hours to help. 01933 312075 or email donna@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk





Hope Methodist Church

Serving Higham Ferrers & Rushden

Linnetts Lane Higham Ferrers NN10 8DE
Nene Valley Circuit 23/23

www.hope-methodist.church



We have had a great time recently celebrating so many things. In July, we rejoiced at the first wedding held since moving back into our renovated church. There have been several enjoyable, if slightly exhausting, birthday parties for children, and adults, of all ages, often held at the weekends. Higham even rang with a mighty cheer when the church car park resurfacing was completed and dry. All of that, as well as the weekly celebration of our faith in worship at 10.30am on Sundays. Now it's the turn of the expectation and excitement of Advent and Christmas, a time of reflection and joy, not forgetting hope. The Methodist theme for Christmas this year is 'Out of the ordinary' with its reminder that 'out of our ordinary acts, in our ordinary lives, the world-transforming, extraordinary love of God can shine through'. As our thoughts turn to gifts, one that we offer all year round to our communities is to anyone who raises funds for a registered charity. Did you know that you are able to hire our hall and kitchen, eg on some Saturday mornings for a coffee morning, for your favourite cause, at a reduced cost? For further details, please contact us on HopeMethodistbookings@gmail.com. We also have a small room available for general hire. We are really looking forward to the Sparkle celebrations, with the host of people, as well as of angels, thronging in and around our building, attracted by the warmth of welcome and fellowship as well as the smell, and taste, of food. The kitchen elves like to be kept busy. Another treat is the return visit of Rushden Town Band for a concert on Saturday 2nd December starting at 6pm. Tickets are £10 each, including refreshments of non-alcoholic mulled wine and mince pies. Look out for other treats throughout next year. We hope and pray that everyone will have an interesting, even extraordinary, Christmas and New Year.

Hope Methodist Church

Linnetts Lane, Higham Ferrers, NN10 8DE



Join us and celebrate Christmas with

Rushden Town Band



SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER



Tickets: **£10.00** include mince pies and
non-alcoholic mulled wine
Eileen 07942 357130
or
Margaret 01933 387550

Fundraising for Cando Care



Terry Gunn (Islip WMC steward) called into Cando Care in Irthlingborough to present a cheque for £1253.

This was raised by skittle teams playing in the Islip league, an event sponsored for Cando Care by brewers Carlsberg & Marston's, as well as raffles held at Islip WMC.

Cando Care is a wellbeing centre providing day care for elderly, vulnerable and those with

dementia. They have service users from Higham Ferrers, and all surrounding areas.

MD Kathleen Meredith, who plays in one of the Islip teams, thanks everyone who takes part in the league and for buying raffle tickets to support the people of Cando, to enable us to continue giving these people a good day.

Terry Gunn, who is pictured presenting the cheque to Kathleen Meredith is a big supporter of local causes and has raised thousands of pounds for many over the years.

Cando Care will have a stall at Higham Ferrers Christmas Sparkle on November 18th so come and see them and help support the work they do.

If you want to know more or would like to volunteer either at our centre or as driver, telephone 07741 651170, visit our website www.candocarecic.co.uk or follow us on facebook.

Rainbows

2nd Higham Ferrers Rainbows have a fun filled year taking part in many events such as Harvest, Remembrance, Ferrers Disco and the Angel Festival with our district.

We have fun at our unit meetings and are proud to wear our uniform. We do lots of activities such as crafts, teddy bears picnics, games and badge work which the rainbows enjoy receiving.

If anyone aged 4 - 7 years would like to join us, we meet every Thursday, term time, 6pm - 7.15pm in Higham Ferrers please call

Carole - 07811516357

Jennifer - 07817585108

LibraryPlus

Rushden Library Christmas Fair



Saturday 2nd
December 2023

10am - 3pm

LOCAL CRAFTERS
GAMES
CHILDREN'S CRAFTS
RAFFLE

REFRESHMENTS
TOMBOLA
FACE PAINTING
AND MUCH MORE!

Free
Entry

**HIGHAM
FERRERS**

BOOK EXCHANGE



The Higham Ferrers Book Exchange opened in May and has seen many residents use the new facility since its opening. There is a great selection of books for both adults and children of all ages. This is a free service and you can take as many books as you

wish. The book exchange is located at the **Sports Pavilion, on Vine Hill Drive** (next to the skatepark), with parking available. We are open on Mondays 10am - 2pm, Thursdays 3.15pm-6pm and on the last Saturday of each month 9am-1pm (the same day as the Farmers Markets). Please pop by and say hello! If you require any further information or would like to get involved, please contact Barry on 07933 776167 or email: bap1957@hotmail.co.uk.



Advertising

J P FARR
BOOKKEEPING

- Let us lighten the load
- Get the financial processes right
- Get some insights into the numbers each month
- Free up some of your time to focus on the parts of your business that you're passionate about

PROFESSIONAL
BOOKKEEPING
& MANAGEMENT
ACCOUNTS

07435 720072

hello@jpfarr-bookkeeping.co.uk

www.jpfarr-bookkeeping.co.uk

In Memoriam

The Town Council was saddened to learn of the deaths of two Past Mayors and Councillors in the recent weeks.

In July Margaret Tuffnail passed away. Margaret, affectionately known as 'Tuffy', was a member of the Town Council for 24 years from May 1987-1995 and again from 1999-2015. She was Mayor of Higham Ferrers in 1991-1992. Margaret was a well known and friendly face around the town and a respected councillor with a wealth of experience. She will be greatly missed and always remembered.



In August we lost Derek Lawson MBE. Derek was the longest serving member of the Town Council with an incredible 57 years of service. He was Mayor of Higham Ferrers on three occasions and Leader of the Council for five. Derek had a long list of achievements, including Chairman of both East Northants District Council and Northamptonshire County Council, Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Ferrers School and Henry Chichele Primary School, and involvement in several

campaigns to improve the roads and services in the area.

For his years of commitment to local government Derek was awarded with an MBE in 2017, and later the Honorary Freedom of Higham Ferrers in 2022.

Derek's impact on the Town Council and the local government landscape cannot be understated. He dedicated his life to serving the people of Higham Ferrers and the surrounding area and his knowledge and insight will be sorely missed.

HERITAGE

FAMILY FUN DAY



This year the Heritage Family Fun Day was St George themed so we had a dragon, medieval themed activities and St George himself riding around the event site on his trusty steed. Rushden Band were also present, which was very much enjoyed by people who sat and listened on the boardwalk. We had a variety of stalls from Rushden and Higham Ferrers promoting their local businesses and goods.

We were pleased to again give people the opportunity to travel on an old open top

Routemaster bus for a free heritage tour of Higham Ferrers and Rushden. The passengers listened to a commentary from our two local tour guides - Cllr Janet Pinnock and Carol Fitzgerald - while they told us all about the rich history and heritage of our two wonderful towns. These tours are a fantastic opportunity to celebrate the links

that still endure between Higham Ferrers and Rushden today and prove popular every year with attendees to the event. Thank you to those who joined us, and also to those who waved so enthusiastically to us as we went past! We hope to welcome the bus tours back to the event next year so keep an eye out for how you can join us closer to the time.



Higham Ferrers
Town Council

Part of the
nenevalley
Festival 2023

@RUSHDENCOUNCIL
@HIGHAMFERRERSTC



RUSHDEN
Lakes
SHOP • EAT • EXPLORE



RUSHDEN
TOWN COUNCIL
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE



For September's market we were thrilled to be back at full capacity with the Market Square packed with wonderful local traders. We had all of our regular traders and some new businesses. We decided to have a harvest theme for the day and had the Town Council gazebo out with some decorations and harvest activities for the children. There were lots of smiles when people saw 'Old Red', the tractor that was visiting and many stopped to have a photo and give a donation to support Northamptonshire Search and Rescue. A big thank you to Dave Earl for bringing Old Red along on the day.



ABS_BAKES

We have had great feedback from customers about the lovely 'Ab's Bakes' who has now joined the market. She greets everyone with a smile and sells a truly scrumptious range of brownies, blondies and deep dish cookies so come along, say hello and treat yourself to something yummy.

Another of our new traders is a local lady called Jade who's business is 'Purely Poured', selling vegan hand poured 100% soy wax melts.

Purely Poured



Webbs Accessories started trading with us at September's market. They make a vast range of personalised items such as drink cups, tote bags, cake toppers and hair accessories so you can contact them to order personalised items for collection.



Webbs accessories

Accessories made with love

By the time this newsletter reaches you, we will have had our Halloween theme market in October with spooky seasonal produce from our traders and extra decorations and pumpkins. We look forward to welcoming you to our festive winter markets, where you will also be able to enjoy the beautiful Christmas lights and yarnbombing creations around the town. December's market will also have live music and a delicious hog roast so don't miss out - Saturday 23rd!





We could not do our annual Christmas Sparkle without the help of our wonderful volunteers. We need people to marshal the road closures and the entry/exit of the event, and provide general information to event attendees. We provide you with everything you need, **including a free food voucher & snacks**. We need people from 7am to 9pm and can be flexible to what you can offer. If you can spare a couple of hours please contact us on 01933 312075 email info@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk

Christmas Sparkle

**SATURDAY 18TH NOVEMBER
2023**



Service of Remembrance

To be held at
The War Memorial
Market Square - Higham Ferrers

Sunday 12th November 2023

10:50am



COMMUNITY ROOM HIRE



MONDAY - SATURDAY

9AM - 7PM WEEKDAYS
9AM - 4PM SATURDAYS

FORMER LIBRARY BUILDING,
MIDLAND ROAD, HIGHAM FERRERS

CONTACT HIGHAM FERRERS TOWN COUNCIL
01933 312075 OR [INFO@HIGHAMFERRERS-TC.GOV.UK](mailto:info@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk)

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*FOR THOSE WITH CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES



Shire Community Services

Application Forms available from Rushden Library and Rushden Town Council, Rushden Hall & Higham Ferrers Town Council, Town Hall

www.shirecommunityservices.org.uk



What is the Neighbourhood Plan?

The Neighbourhood Plan is a document that contains a vision of how the town will be by 2031, setting out objectives and local planning policies. The policies are used to help North Northamptonshire Council decide whether to approve planning applications for new buildings or changes to existing buildings or infrastructure. Back in 2011 the council first agreed work towards the Plan with a Steering Group subsequently set up to deliver it. The Steering Group members comprised representatives from the Town Council and the community. The Plan was completed in April 2016. Copies of the Neighbourhood Plan can be viewed at the Town Hall or via our website Neighbourhood Plan | Higham Ferrers Town Council (highamferrers-tc.gov.uk)

Why review the Neighbourhood Plan?

Neighbourhood Plans benefit from regular monitoring and review with revision from time to time to reflect changing needs or issues and changes to national planning policy or the adoption of Local Plans. When made in 2016 it was the intention the Plan be reviewed every 5 years. In 2021 the council agreed the review would take place and work has commenced. Grant funding has been secured to assist with the initial screening exercise of the Plan against national and local plan policies.

How can you be involved?

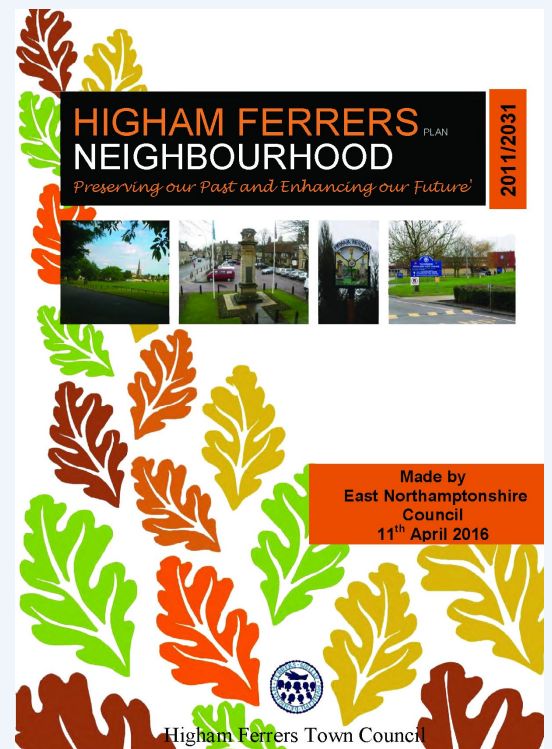
A new Steering Group is being established to help the council carry out the review. As previous, the Steering Group will be a mix of Town Council representatives and members of the community. If you are interested in joining the Steering Group please let us know. No former knowledge of planning process or policy necessary, enthusiasm and a desire to help for the better of the town are all we ask. To register your interest or obtain further information please contact the Town Clerk

GOOD NEWS for the Development of a Community Library and Wellbeing Hub

In the last edition we reported of our hope to receive funding to develop and provide library and wellbeing services within the town. The good news is that funding to the sum of £22,310 has been awarded to the council from North Northamptonshire Council. Part of this funding will be used to buy library furniture, equipment and stock and part to employ a 'Community Connector' to develop the wellbeing services and to assist the council with the overall set up of the hub. The hub will be based out of the community room at the back of the former library building now owned by Snowdon Homes.

At the time of writing we have just placed adverts for the job of Community Connector. If you are interested in applying for this part time position please contact us.

The Community Library and Wellbeing Hub will also have volunteering opportunities available to enable it to open regularly, ideally every day. Thank you to those that have already offered to volunteer. If you haven't already and wish to, please contact us.



01933312075 or info@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk



Mayors Report

I've been very busy since the last edition of the Higham Times, attending many events within the Town and visiting other areas. I made the most of the lovely weather we had and spent an evening playing croquet at Chichele College and attending a number of events in Rushden including Proms in the Park and the opening of the Feast Fair!



I also had my Civic Service in September at St Mary's Church, after which we enjoyed some tea and cake. We held our Heritage Day event, where I enjoyed a trip on the open top heritage bus tour.

In September, Cllr Paul McCann and the Town Clerk, Alicia, took part in a bike ride from Saffron Road to Regents Park to raise funds for my charity. I am very grateful to them both. By the time you are reading this, we will be coming up to Sparkle, I hope you will be joining us. I wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Cllr Nigel Brown



Higham Ferrers Town Council
 Town Hall, Market Square, NN10 8BT
 Telephone: 01933 312075
 Email: info@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk



@HighamFerrersTC 
 Facebook/HighamFerrersTownCouncil 
www.instagram.com/highamferrerstowncouncil 

ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS

* Cllr Bert Jackson 01933 314963 Email: bertjackson@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	* Cllr Jennie Bone 07979 764120 Email: jenniebone@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Barry Prigmore 01933 386225 Email: barryprigmore@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Tony Reading 01933 411361 Email: tonyreading@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Gary Salmon Email: garysalmon@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Peter Tomas 01933 359688 Email: petertomas@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Pam Whiting 01933 356717 Email: pamwhiting@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Tina Reavey 01933 413173 Email: tinareavey@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Chris O'Rourke 07591 733362 Email: chrisorourke@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Angela Gardner 07948 517560 Email: angelagardner@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Nigel Brown 01933 384875 Email: nigelbrown@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Barry Spencer 07976 570865 Email: barryspencer@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk
Cllr Vijay Paul 07850 723504 Email: vijaypaul@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Paul McCann Email: paulmccann@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Gerald Kelly 07389 673945 Email: geraldkelly@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk	Cllr Sean Prosser 07730 099101 Email: seanprosser@highamferrers-tc.gov.uk

* North Northamptonshire Councillors

Who to contact...

Town Council deal with;

- Cemeteries/Burials.
- Local Open Spaces/parks & Recreation Grounds
- Public Conveniences.
- Markets.
- Off Street Car Parking.
- Grants to Voluntary Bodies.
- Civic Events/ Local Tourism.
- Closed Churchyards.



deal with;

- Environment - Refuse Collection, Dog waste, Recycling, Food Safety, Pest Control and Noise Nuisance.
- Education.
- Highways/Transport/Street Doctor.
- Libraries & Information Services.
- Trading Standards.
- Electoral Registration/Elections.
- Council Tax & Business Rates Collection.
- Social Services.
- Registration of Births, Marriages and Deaths.
- Building Control.
- Housing Register.

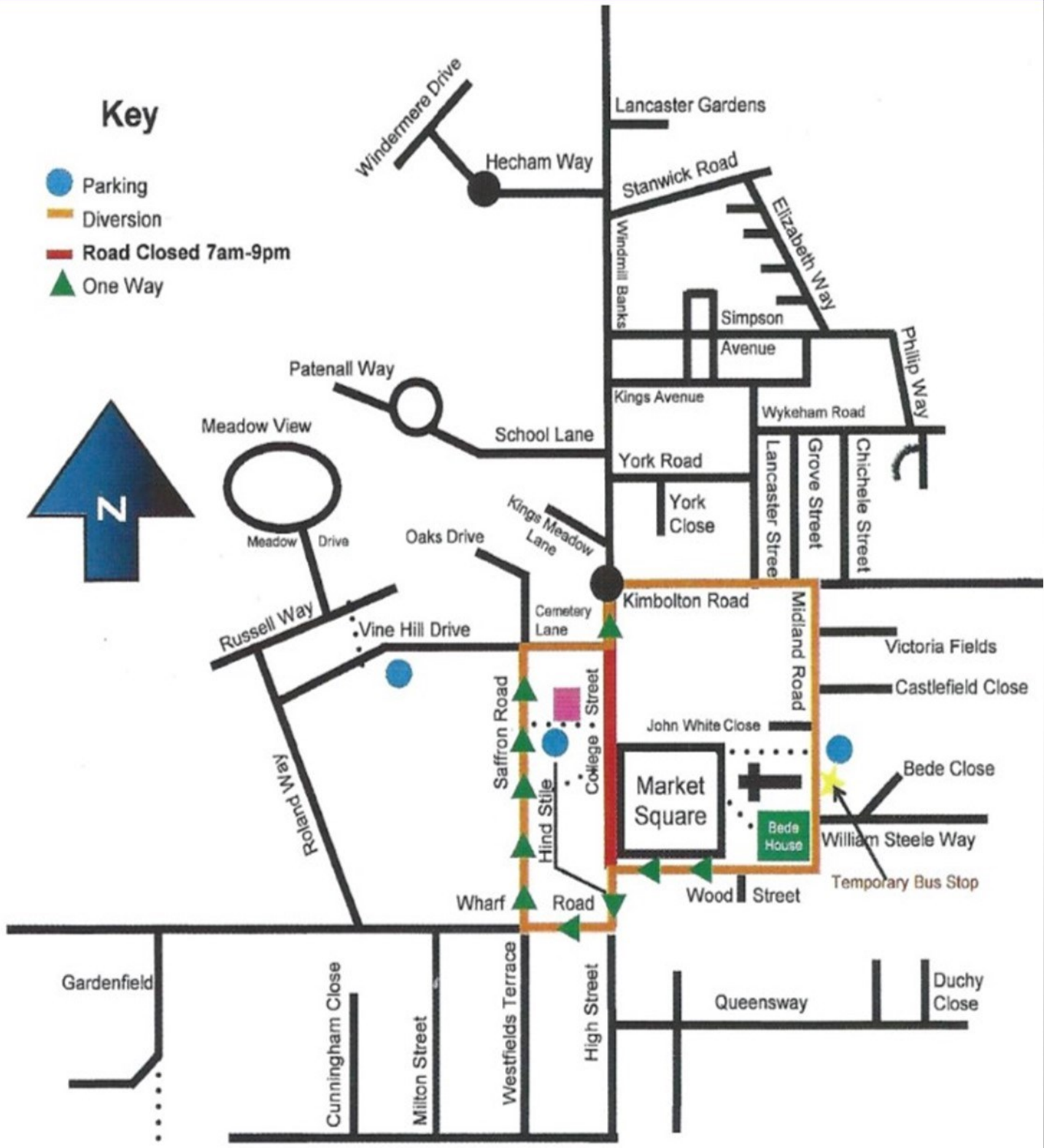
Telephone: 0300 1263000

Website: www.northnorthants.gov.uk

Christmas Sparkle

Saturday 18th November 2023

Road Closures and Diversions



Please walk or use public transport where possible, limited parking available