

Rushden Matters

SPRING 2023



Trial door-to-door minibus service to come to Rushden and Higham Ferrers

We are pleased to announce an extended 'Wellibus' service is to be trialled between Rushden and Higham Ferrers.

Provided by Shire Community Services and jointly funded by Rushden and Higham Ferrers Town Councils, the new Dial-a-Ride style door-to-door minibus service is wheelchair friendly and fully accessible for those with mobility needs. It is specifically designed for residents who are unable to use public transport due to age or disability and help them access local shops and town centres using the concessionary bus scheme.

The demand-led service allows passengers to book up to 5 days in advance, or up to 12noon on the day before they would like to travel. Regular bookings can also be taken if you attend a weekly day centre, class or social group. Every day is different and dependent on the number of passengers booked.

To use the Wellibus service, a membership fee of £15 is required for the six month trial period, which starts from the end of March 2023. Transport on the bus is then completely FREE of charge if you hold a concessionary bus pass (Disabled or older person's bus pass)

A spokesperson for Rushden Town Council said, "Since Expresslines withdrew its Rushden-Higham Link in September, both town councils have been working together to secure a financially viable replacement service. The announcement of the Wellibus trial is great news for both towns, especially for the residents who relied on the Rushden-Higham Link. This new scheme is a case of **use it or lose it** and we encourage you to **get on board** and sign up to ensure the service continues."

The Wellibus service commences late March, 2023 and you can sign from the 1st March 2023 on your town council website. Forms will also be available from numerous outlets across the two towns. Alternatively, you can visit the Shire Community Services website to find out more about the service and to download a form: www.shirecommunityservices.org.uk

Towards the end of the trial, both councils will review its level of use and how well it is meeting your needs.

www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk

01933 316216 | info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk



@rushdencouncil



Councillor David Jenney



Councillors and staff were deeply saddened by the sudden loss of Councillor David Jenney on 26th December 2022.

Councillor Jenney had been a member of Rushden Town Council since 2007 and had been Chairman of both the Planning Consultative Committee and Policy and Resources Committee during that time. He was also Town Mayor for Rushden in 2013/2014 and performed this role with great enthusiasm and dignity.

David was highly respected within the Town Council and local community of Rushden where he was ward member for the Bates ward and his experience and great depth of knowledge will be greatly missed.

In addition, Councillor Jenney had also served as a valued member of East Northamptonshire Council since 2007, where he was Deputy Leader for several years. Councillor Jenney was an instrumental part of the steering group leading up to the formation of North Northamptonshire Council in April 2021.

At the time of his death David was a serving member of North Northamptonshire Council.

As a mark of respect the Union Flag at Rushden War Memorial has been lowered and our deepest sympathies are with Cllr Jenney's family at this very sad time.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT:



Rushden Graphics

When was Rushden Graphics established? Rushden Graphics was first opened by Myles White of TM Autoparts on September 1st 1992, in the old Rushden School of Motoring building, on Alfred Street. His late wife Julia ran it up until August 2012 when Nathan Godby took over with some fresh ideas and a new team.

What made you choose Rushden? Been my home all my life and I have always wanted to be successful in my home town sharing my passion with my neighbours.

Any plans to expand further? We are always looking to better our services even if this means moving into larger premises to give our clients a better experience.

What is the best thing about your job? Seeing the concept manifest into a creation and making Rushden a more colourful town to live in.

What's the best thing about being in Rushden? We are local to the high street which enables our customers to visit our neighbouring businesses whilst we work on their vehicles.

Any funny moments? We enjoyed watching the housemates try to put the everblocks wall together that we wrapped for Big Brother TV Show.

Describe your business in five words?
**'Signs, Designs, Websites
Vans, Tints'**

Any unusual requests? We have wrapped a plane in Bedfordshire, tinted a boat in Daventry and wrapped Santa Claus' 'Actual Sleigh' for the Round Table recently.

What makes Rushden Graphics Different? We treat every job as if it were our own, the input for design to the output of the finished product is personal to our team and represents us on its onward journey - it's not just a Job to us.

Who makes you laugh? Katrina's passion for Christmas is another level (I sometimes wonder if she's an actual elf...) Nathan leads with laughter as often as possible - you've gotta love what you can do and laugh as often as possible!

Proudest moment? Our proudest moment was the 2019 Soapbox derby, we were challenged by Dennis at King Tools to get a soapbox together and try to rival his super kart that wins every year with the awesome build from AW Fabs and the top components from AJ Cycles.... We came together as a team with customers, friends and a fearless 7 year old and we timed a 17 second run to win the fastest time down the hill along with a trophy that was as big as the driver, Zak! What a day - could have made a movie out of those memories.

www.rushdengraphics.co.uk
12 Alfred Street, Rushden NN10 9YS
01933 418419

A Brief History Of: *Rushden Hall*

Taken from the Amenities Society leaflet 1977, sketches by Clive Wood

Though a private Manor, Rushden Hall, as early as the 13C appears to have been associated with officers of Higham Park or Castle and later with John of Gaunt, son of Edward III.

Robert Pemberton 1461, first of the family which occupied the Hall for 200 years, M.P. for Northampton 1477-8, High Sheriff in 1480, Usher of the Chamber to Richard III.

Robert Pemberton 1542-1609, Gentleman Usher to Elizabeth I, his brother Sir Goddard Pemberton M.P. for Lewes and High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, (their fine tombs to be seen in St. Mary's Church).

Sir Lewis Pemberton High Sheriff of Northamptonshire in 1616, died 1639, the last of the family to live at the Hall which became the home of John Ekins of Chester House, Irchester, his grandson, another John, died in 1740.

The Fletcher family first recorded in 1755, John Fletcher sold the Hall for 'the benefit of creditors' in 1836.

Thomas Williams, a man with a considerable fortune came from Berkshire and was in residence in 1822,

High Sheriff in 1829, married twice he fathered some twenty one children and died at Windsor in 1881 aged 85 years.

The last family to occupy the Hall as a home appear in about 1840, when the newly married Frederick Urban and Mary Ann Sartoris took up residence, their grandson, Arthur Hugh Sartoris inherited the Estate, selling the property in 1929.

Rushden Urban District Council purchase the hall in 1931 from Mr Wheeler.

The Hall architecturally, is a complex mixture of styles both internally and externally – the early 16C arches within the Front Hall survive from the Great Hall of the Tudor house. The fine east front with its 'Dutch' gables and semi-circular bay windows, being post-Jacobean were probably built by Sir Lewis Pemberton, about 1630. Thomas Williams between 1820-30 carried out many alterations, adding the centre bay to the east front and re-modelling the south front, erecting the embattled porch (from elsewhere) and dividing the Great Hall into other rooms, incorporating the arms of Williams, Berthon and Cunningham into the ceiling of the Front Hall, the old



Lodge and gates were of this period. F U Sartoris added the two gabled projections to the north-west incorporating a new kitchen and servants quarters, a second bay on the south front and the stable block. and 'Flemish' over mantle were brought from Bristol, the fire-back beneath depicts the arms of Edward VI and came from Higham Castle.

The wall surrounding the old kitchen garden is worthy of note being built without mortar, according to Cole 'the engagement entered into with the builder, was, that it should be erected without lime or soft mixture of any kind, and that, if even a bee could creep in between the interstices, the contract should be void'.

Internally the two staircases possess original 17C balustrades though reconstructed, the linenfold panelling.



If you would like to know more about Rushden's historical past, please visit: www.rushdenheartsandsoles.co.uk

Park Spotlight: The Mallards

The Mallards Park located at Ballantyne Road, NN10 9ET is a great location for spotting wildlife and enjoying the outdoors. It features two ponds where fishing is permitted from designated platforms and there are lots of paths to explore plus plenty of grassy areas for picnics.

Additionally, there is a children's play area located between Ballantyne Road and Banner Close

Make sure to bring binoculars and a camera to take advantage of all the nature!



Hello,

I hope you all had a happy and safe Christmas.

On becoming Mayor in May 2022, it has turned out to be a momentous year.

We have celebrated our beloved Queen's Jubilee and it was an honour to take part in all the associated events. Who would have thought that just a few short weeks after we would be mourning the passing of her Majesty. The Queen was a truly inspirational woman who filled our lives with pride, her dedication to duty was second to none. This year we will be celebrating the coronation of King Charles III.

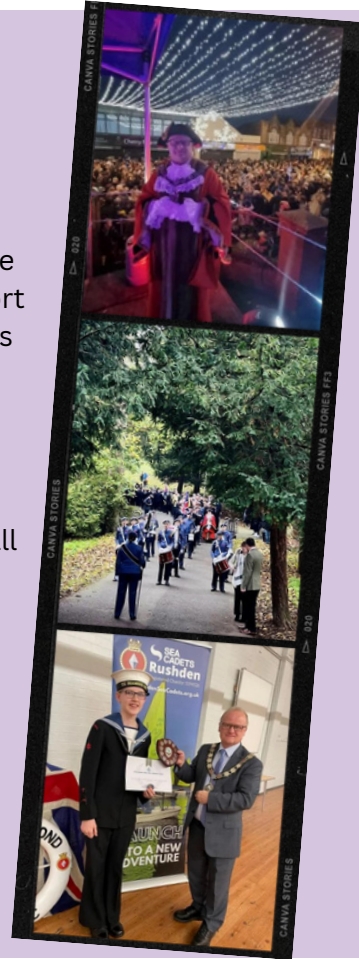
It is with pride I have travelled the area, to numerous events, representing Rushden and meeting so many interesting people, whilst letting them know all about the Rushden community.

In our town, we have a wealth of individuals and groups that do so much for Rushden, and it has been an honour to be associated with them.

As we enter a new year my wish is that we all enjoy health and happiness. Spring will soon be upon us and we look forward to new beginnings.

From my family to yours we send you our warmest wishes for the year ahead.

Adrian



New kitchen facilities for Rushden Heritage Chapel

The new kitchen facilities will be installed at Rushden Heritage Chapel in early 2023. The project has been funded by The National Lottery Community Fund, along with donations and fundraising from the Community and units and worktops donated by Howdens Joinery, Wellingborough.

The Trustees of the heritage chapel are said to be 'Delighted' and will be posting photographs of before and after on their Facebook page once the project is complete.

Mayor's Awards 2022 - 2023

Rushden Town Council is seeking nominations for the Mayor's Awards for Services to the Community for the year 2022 / 2023.

The Mayor's Award is given to an individual for their work and commitment within the community of Rushden over a number of years (Group nominations will not be eligible for an award).

Please submit the name and address of nominees, together with details of the reason for their nomination, to the Town Clerk at Rushden Town Council, Rushden Hall, Rushden, NN10 9NG



or email the Town Clerk
info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk

All nominations should be received by Monday 27th March 2023.



DOWNLOAD RUSHDEN TOWN APP



Just point your smartphone camera at the code associated with your app store

Weddings at Rushden Hall

Rushden Hall dates back to the 14th century and is an interesting mix of styles, resulting in an attractive house of mellow limestone. The Hall is surrounded by 34 acres of beautiful parkland, making a superb backdrop for wedding photographs. There are two rooms available for wedding ceremonies, the Fletcher Room and the Panelled Room.

The Fletcher Room accommodates 50 seated guests, or a reception of 40 guests seated at tables. The Panelled Room is a smaller, more romantic ceremony room, accommodating 35 seated guests.

Larger wedding receptions can be accommodated in the Walled Garden, adjacent to the hall, a perfect setting for the marquee.

Further information at:
www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk



Introducing two new councillors for Rushden



We are pleased to introduce the two newest members of Rushden Town Council, Councillor Joe Norris (Hayden Central) and Councillor Anthony Spooner (Spencer South).

Cllr Norris is a member of the Community Services Committee and Cllr Spooner, a member of the Planning Consultative Committee. Both councillors are passionate about making Rushden the best it can be and working with the local community to make a positive impact.

Return of Rushden's Remembrance Parade

Back in November, after two years of scaled down Remembrance commemorations due to the pandemic, Rushden Remembrance Day parade made an impressive return.

Over two hundred people from local organisations joined, this included members of the Airforce, Army and Sea Cadets, Scouts and Brownies groups, plus civic dignitaries including Brigadier David Russell-Parsons, Deputy Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Cllr Adrian Winkle, Rushden Town Mayor, Vice Chairman of North Northamptonshire Council, Peter Bone, MP for Wellingborough and Rushden and members of Rushden Town Council.

More than fifteen hundred members of the public lined the parade route and gathered at the War Memorial on Church Parade for the service conducted by Rev Tom King and Rev Linnet Smith. The service was supported by Rushden Town Band and the NN10 Choir.



Trees planted as part of Queen's Green Canopy

Rushden Town Council has planted several trees across the town as a part of The Queen's Green Canopy initiative, in memory of her late Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) is a tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022 which invites everyone across the UK to plant trees. Following the death of Her Majesty The Queen, and the wishes of His Majesty The King, the initiative will be extended to the end of March 2023 to give people the opportunity to plant trees in memoriam to honour The Queen.

A spokesperson for Rushden Town Council said: "The Queen's Green Canopy creates a living legacy to Her Majesty's long and dedicated reign and we are delighted that Rushden is taking part in this fitting commemoration to honour Her Majesty's service to her country and her people. As well as being a legacy, every tree planted brings benefits for people, wildlife and climate, now and for the future."

Have you already planted a tree? Make sure that you register this on the official website to ensure that this is displayed on the interactive map for . You can do this by visiting www.queensgreencanopy.org



Rushden Town Council

Meetings

Policy and Resources

Tue, 14 Feb 2023 19:30
Tue, 04 Apr 2023 19:30
Tue, 09 May 2023 19:30

Planning

Tue, 28 Feb 2023 19:30
Tue, 21 Mar 2023 19:30
Tue, 11 Apr 2023 19:30
Tue, 02 May 2023 19:30

Community Services

Tue, 28 Mar 2023 19:30

Full Council

Tue, 07 Mar 2023 19:30
Tue, 18 Apr 2023 19:30

AGM

Tue, 16 May 2023 19:30

Members of the public are welcome and can join these meetings by contacting the Town Clerk on:
clerk@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk

VENUE

Rushden Hall, Hall Park, Rushden NN10 9NG

What We Do: Planning



IMPROVED TENNIS COURT BOOKING SYSTEM AT SPENCER PARK

The tennis courts at Spencer Park, Rushden will soon be operating a new booking and access system starting in the Spring of 2023.

This is an exciting development with a much improved and modern approach to how our community tennis courts can be booked. It will help provide fair and equal access to everyone who want to use the courts to play tennis, which we know become very popular from April onwards.

Once the gates are installed, they will link to a new online booking system which will enable residents to book a timeslot in advance and then access the tennis courts using a unique pin code sent via email.

To ensure the tennis courts remain in a clean and playable condition into the future the council will also be introducing a low cost booking fee to access the courts during certain periods of the year. There will still be plenty of free court hours available throughout the week to book.

To further support people playing tennis in Rushden, the town council will also be working with an LTA qualified and accredited tennis coach. Starting from mid-April, a weekly free tennis coaching sessions will run on Sundays. This will follow on from the Park Run that starts at 9am. The free tennis session will be open to families and players of all ability, to help you improve and enjoy your tennis.

Further information on the new tennis court booking system and free tennis sessions will soon be available on the town council website, and displayed on new signage at the courts. Once the new system is up and running you can use the following website to book a court: www.lta.org.uk



A Warm Welcome at Rushden Hall

Back in November, Rushden Town Council launched its Warm Rooms initiative to help support residents of the town in response to the rise in cost of living and increased energy bills.

The free community warm rooms have been running on Friday afternoons at Rushden Hall, providing a welcoming space for visitors to keep warm and socialise whilst enjoying activities such as bingo, and table-top board games, along with warm drinks and light refreshments.

the Warm Rooms initiative has received support from local supermarkets including Coop, Morrisons and Waitrose who have all donated refreshments for guests to enjoy.



The warm rooms at Rushden Hall will continue to be held on Friday afternoons from 1:30pm to 3:30pm until the end of March 2023.

There is no requirement to meet any criteria and it is totally free for all residents of Rushden.

For more information regarding cost of living support, please visit:
www.northnorthants.gov.uk/cost-living



Congratulations to...

Lauren, who made the closest guess in our 2022 Christmas Hamper Competition! She won herself a hamper full of fantastic Christmas goodies from Rushden High Street.

We'd also like to congratulate the two runners up; Mr Whittaker and Claire who have won themselves a mini hamper each!

The total value of the Hamper's contents: £342.62

Thank you to all the Rushden businesses for their help and everyone that took part and ventured to the high street to enter.

“ Town Councillor, Janet Pinnock described the council's warm rooms events as "friendly and sociable afternoons with lots of chatting and laughter amongst guests.”

Rushden Town Council

Open: 9am - 5pm Monday to Thursday
9am - 4:30pm Friday

- Management and maintenance of public parks and open spaces
- Planning - consultation and representation
- Litter and dog bins under own ownership
- Licensed wedding venue
- Cemetery and burials
- Community events and Christmas lights
- Football and Rugby pitches
- CCTV - High Street, Hall Park & Jubilee Park
- Bus shelters under our ownership
- Street lighting under our ownership
- Floral displays
- Public conveniences

01933 316216

info@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk
www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk

North Northamptonshire Council

Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

- Council Tax
- Benefits
- Roads and Transport
- Bin Collections
- Waste Management
- Street cleansing
- Housing
- Rushden Library
- Fix My Street (Highways /Footpaths)
- Bus Passes and Blue Badges
- Planning
- Schools & Education
- Warm Spaces Directory
- Adult Social Care
- Children & Families
- Births, Deaths and Marriages

0300 126 3000

www.northnorthants.gov.uk

Homelessness, Rough Sleeping & Housing Advice

North Northamptonshire Council - Currently operate an emergency out of hours service within each area of North Northamptonshire.



0300 126 3000

www.northnorthants.gov.uk

If you are concerned about someone sleeping rough in North Northants please contact **NNC's Rough Sleeping team**. Please provide as much detail as you can about their location to help find them.

01536 464630

roughsleepingteam@northnorthants.gov.uk

Food Banks



Encompass Food Bank - Open for those in need on Tuesday and Thursdays 9.30am-12.30pm. You don't need a referral, just turn up.

01933 733001

19-21 Church Street, Rushden
info@encompasscharity.org.uk

Mental Health

Mind Crisis Cafe - If you find yourself in crisis or need support with your mental health, Mind are there to listen and help you in your time of need. Check on their website for the latest timetable.



01933 312800

Phoenix House,
Skinner's Hill,

Rushden, NN10 9YE

www.northamptonshiremind.org.uk

The Mental Health Number - For local support and services - Mind mental health navigators. Call, anytime of the day or night. Anyone in Northamptonshire is welcome to call.

0800 448 0828

Police

101

999 (Emergency)

www.northants.police.uk

NHS

111





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