

Rushden Matters

Autumn 2024



RUSHDEN REMEMBRANCE DAY 2024 SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER RUSHDEN WAR MEMORIAL

Rushden Town Council and the Royal British Legion
Rushden Branch invite the public to the annual
Remembrance Day Service and Parade.

The parade will assemble at Rushden Hall at
10.15 am

and march to the
Rushden War Memorial.

The memorial service will commence
at 10.50 am

followed by a service at
St Mary's Church

at 11.15 am.

Lest We Forget



Rushden High Street

Christmas Lights

Switch-on

- Saturday, 30th November 2024
- Festivities start at midday
- Lights Switch on : 4:30 PM

Festive Entertainment ~ Fair ~
Santa's Grotto ~ Local Traders ~
Real Reindeer ~ Nativity Scene ~
Food Stalls.



Gather on the high street to experience
the glow of decorative lights creating a magical
and festive atmosphere.

Anticipate live music, festive performances, and a
countdown to the lighting ceremony.



J H MAY ELECTRICAL LTD

J H May Electrical is a family-owned electrical contracting company with a rich history of over 77 years, renowned for its traditional values, meticulous attention to detail, and exceptional customer service.

Founded in 1947 by John Herbert May, it remains family-managed to this day.

Any unusual requests?

We have been asked to repair lamps and light fittings for MOTHS in the past (by the Wildlife Trust rather than the winged creatures themselves!) and only last week we were asked to improve the electrical safety in an old bomb shelter!

What is best piece of advice you have been given:

Measure twice, cut once.

What's the best thing about being in Rushden?

The People!

We still do electrical installations, repairs, testing, etc, for the same old established multi-generational businesses that the original J H May did back in 1947.

We even have some domestic customers who have been inviting us back into their homes for over sixty years - we have been providing electrical help and support to the people and businesses in Rushden for 77 years now!

Describe your business in five words?

- Old!(Established in 1947)
- Consistent
- Responsive
- Caring
- Safe



Proudest moments:

Seeing the second generation finally achieving retirement in their seventies and passing the baton on to the third and fourth generations of Mays' to continue the family business.

The Old Dairy Workshop
5 Station Road
Rushden
NN10 9SR

www.jhmay-electrical.co.uk

01933 312900/ 355 444

Monday – Friday 8am – 5:30pm



For Rushden Town Councillor:

ADRIAN WINKLE



How long have you lived in Rushden?

I was born in Rushden and went to school here. Apart from 10 years living in Irchester, I have spent nearly all my life in the town, including working for the same local company for 50 years.

Why did you become a Councillor?

Good question that, I sometimes ask myself the same. In reality, this is my home town and I wanted to give something back, the best I could.

What do you enjoy about the Town?

The people for one, they are friendly and honest with you. Rushden has a lot to offer and more besides. Doing my best for our community.

Favourite piece of music?

Being a radio presenter, this is a difficult one. Music is a passion of mine, but at this time of year it has to be the Pomp and Circumstance which is played at the Last Night of the Proms.

Favourite film?

Easy, anything James Bond. If I had to pick one it would be Live and Let Die, with Skyfall coming a close second.

Favourite Drink?

I don't drink alcohol but I am partial to a nice latte or flat white.





Hello,

Much has happened since my election as Town Mayor for 2024-25 during May with many engagements across the Town and wider area. It is a great privilege to be able to represent our Town and I look forward to an opportunity of meeting up with many of you, over coming months.



I hope you have all had an enjoyable Summer despite the indifferent weather. The civic year has seen a number of significant events to date including Armed Forces Day and our commemoration of the 80th Anniversary of D-Day with the beacon-lighting ceremony on June 6th, in Hall Park.

Party in the Park showcasing local charities and organisations, again proved highly successful with an excellent turn-out. Thanks must go to all whose input enabled this event to take place.

Our annual Proms in the Park again proved a most enjoyable event with a superb performance by the Rushden Town Band. This was, again well attended as was Bark in the Park the following day, both taking place in the Walled Garden. Many thanks to you all for your support.

Over events have included the Civic Opening of Rushden Feast with our Civic Service taking place at St. Mary's Church on Sunday 6th October. Coming months will see several events bringing our Town together including our Remembrance Day Parade and Service, the annual Scouts Fireworks Display in Hall Park with the Christmas Lights switch-on approaching fast – where has the year gone!

During the coming months, I will be arranging fund-raising events for my principal charities. These include the Royal British Legion (Rushden Branch), Rushden Sea Cadets and Dementia UK. I hope that you agree these are worthwhile causes and your support would be appreciated.

Rushden has much to commend it, not least the many unsung individuals and organisations who work tirelessly behind the scenes in our community. I would be pleased to support any local groups or events as possible. If I can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Initial contact details should be via the Mayor's secretary on mayor@rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk or by telephone on (01933) 316216

Best wishes

David C.

News From The Mayor...

BARK IN THE PARK UNLEASHES TAIL-WAGGING FUN!



AND RAISES OVER £2000!

We are pleased to announce that we raised over £2000 which will be distributed among our chosen dog charities

BARK IN THE PARK hosted in the Walled Garden in Hall Park was a pawsitively delightful event that brought together dogs and their humans for a day filled with tail-wagging excitement.

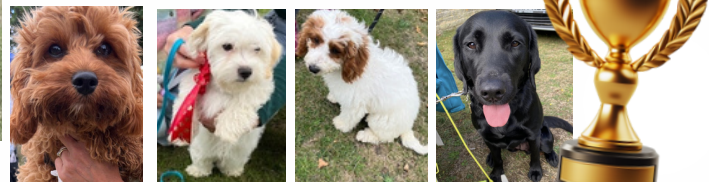
The park buzzed with energy as pups of all shapes and sizes enjoyed 14 dog showing classes including our 'fastest pizza' eating class (2inch square of dog friendly Pizza) kindly made and donated by Venezia, Rushden, and culminated with Best in Show.

Scan the code to view photos captured on the day.



Bark in the Park extends heartfelt thanks to Barb Shepherd from **A Walk With Friends** for her all-day commentary, and to **Beat Route Radio** for providing music and broadcasting the event.

We also deeply appreciate everyone who donated prizes, as well as our stallholders, class sponsors, judges, volunteers, and attendees. A special thank you goes to Gladwells Pet & Country Store, Rushden, for being our main sponsor once again this year.



Mayor's Choice



Best in Show Winner and Reserve in Show



A Brief History Of: The Rushden Scout Movement

Scouting has been active in Rushden for many decades, reflecting the town's commitment to youth development. The movement in the UK began in 1907 with the **1st Rushden Scout group** being formed in **1909**, since then, it has grown to include a significant number of young people from different backgrounds. Overall, the Scout Movement in Rushden plays a vital role in the community, providing opportunities for young people to grow, learn, and contribute to society in meaningful ways.

Rushden is home to **3** groups: **1st**, **4th** and **8th** Rushden Scouts who fall under the Nene Valley District banner. Organised by age ranges into Sections including **Beavers** (ages 6-8), **Cubs** (ages 8-10.5), **Scouts** (ages 10.5-14), and **Explorers** (ages 14-18).



Regular meetings are held by these groups to engage in various activities. The activities often involve camping trips, outdoor skills such as cooking and knot-tying, games, and a variety of challenges.



Rushden Scouts, Rushden House 1913

The Firework display has become a much-anticipated event in the local calendar, with the Scouts' involvement highlighting their role in the community.



Additionally, they participate in events such as Jamborees, where Scouts from various regions gather to exchange experiences and engage in large-scale activities. Nene Valley District Scouts hold a Firework Display every year in Hall Park, Rushden.

This year, the Scouts celebrate their **55th** annual Firework display which will be held on **Saturday 2 November, 2024**. The Scout groups take the lead in planning, setting up, and running the event



To join or get involved with your local Scout group, visit: www.nenevalleyscouts.org

Display Tickets available from: Raunds: Post Office Higham Ferrers: Mark Bird Flooring Grove Street Stores Rushden: Rushden Library, Premier Stores-Churchill Road. Happy Mondays Coffee, High Street. Mini Market, High Street. PW House Jewellers, High Street. Barry Thomas News (02/11 only)

B B C Nina Robinson Wins Award for Voluntary Service at RUSH 2TheDEN in Rushden

The BBC 'Make a Difference' awards have honoured Nina Robinson known as River from Rushden's **RUSH 2The DEN** community group with the Volunteer Award.

Nina was recognised for her exceptional dedication and impact on the community.

RUSH 2The DEN is renowned for its enriching environment for children, largely due to Nina's tireless dedication. She has been instrumental in organising activities, managing daily operations, and creating a nurturing space for children's growth.

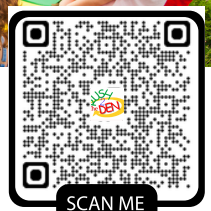
As a nonprofit community hub, **RUSH 2The DEN** is run by DBS-checked volunteers and supports two local charities: **RUSH 2The DEN Tots & Adults** and **RUSH 2The DEN Youth Club**. It also serves other local charities, ensuring inclusive access for young people, regardless of affordability.

Open year-round, except for Christmas week and bank holidays, it provides a welcoming environment with refreshments, support networks and various programs. **RUSH 2The DEN** aims to inspire young people through a range of activities, from baby and toddler sessions to youth clubs, promoting skill-building, confidence, and healthy life choices for children up to 17 years.



Nina's contributions have been recognised with the Volunteer Award, highlighting her positive impact on families in Rushden and the collective efforts of everyone involved in RUSH 2TheDEN.

Scan to view the latest classes and events





Higham and Rushden Who Are They...

The Higham and Rushden U3A (University of the Third Age) is a local branch of the U3A movement in the UK, which provides educational and social opportunities for people in their "third age"—a term generally referring to those who are retired or semi-retired.

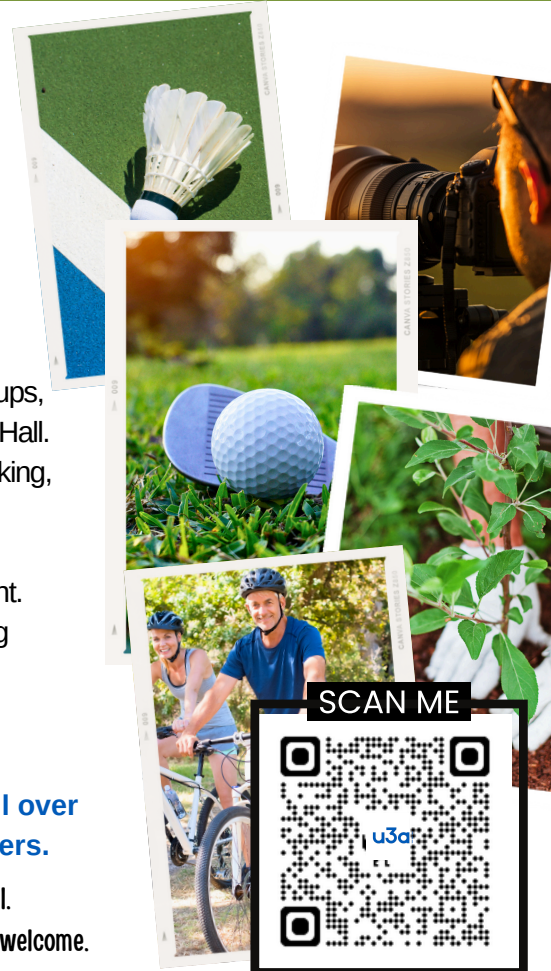
Activities: They offer a variety of activities, including educational courses, interest groups, social events, and outings with a number of the groups regularly meeting at Rushden Hall. These could range from languages, history, and literature to physical activities like walking, singing or dance, as well as creative hobbies like painting, knitting, gardening or photography.

Membership: Membership is open to anyone who is no longer in full-time employment. The organisation is run by volunteers, with members often taking on roles in managing groups, organising events, or teaching classes.

Purpose: The U3A focuses on lifelong learning, fostering friendships, and keeping members engaged with their communities.

The U3A is an independent, international organisation with branches all over the UK, each tailored to meet the needs and interests of its local members.

U3A Higham & Rushden is welcoming new members! They meet in the Salvation Army Citadel.
16-20 Church Street. Rushden. NN10 9YU on the 3rd Monday of the month at 1.30pm. Everyone is welcome.



SCAN ME

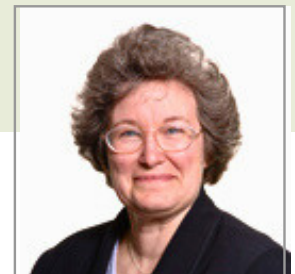


CONTACT: ✉ info@highamandrushdenu3a.org 🌐 www.highamandrushdenu3a.org 📞 Phone: 01933 522934



For Rushden Town Councillor:

GILL MERCER



How long has Rushden been home for you?

I moved to Rushden in 1979. We moved here as my husband was working in Bedford at Texas Instruments. We originally came from Essex but had lived in Devon and London before we came here.

What made you become a Councillor?

Rushden Town Council was being set up in 2000 as a new council and with my children having flown the nest I thought it would be a good way to get involved with the community and to give something back. I was elected by a majority of 2 votes after 3 recounts, which goes to show that every vote counts!

What do you like most about our Town?

The friendly people. Where I came from in Essex no-one talked to anyone except their immediate neighbours. In Rushden the shopkeepers and people at the bank all got to know you and treated you like friends. Since coming here we have made lots of good friends.

Favourite place in the world?

The Austrian Alps, where my daughter lives. Not only is a beautiful place but I also get to see my 6 grandchildren that live there. I do not get to see them as often as the 4 other grandchildren that live in this country. Visiting Austria also gives me an opportunity to use my German.

Favourite Food?

Devon cream teas as they remind me of the times when I was at Exeter University and could get cream teas very easily.

What was the last book you read?

My husband's third novel Over and Beyond (in the Beyond series). This is about to be published. It is a good light read



NENE VALLEY DISTRICT
SCOUTS 55th ANNUAL
**FIREWORKS
DISPLAY**

SATURDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2024

FUN STARTS AT 6:30pm

Advance Tickets	Adult - £7	Child - £5
On the Night	Adult - £8	Child - £6
	Aged 3-14 Yrs	

HIGHAM FERRERS

RUSHDEN

MARK BIRD FLOORING
GROVE STREET STORES

RUSHDEN LIBRARY
PREMIER STORES CHURCHILL ROAD
HAPPY MONDAYS COFFEE SHOP

RAUNDS

PW HOUSE JEWELLERS
MINI MARKET HIGH STREET
BARRY THOMAS NEWS 02/11 ONLY

POST OFFICE

Supported by:



FREE! SPOOKY HALLOWEEN WORKSHOP

FOR AGES 4 & ABOVE

THURSDAY 31 OCTOBER, 2024
AT RUSHDEN HALL, HALL PARK, NN10 9ES
45 MIN SESSIONS
9:30AM - 3:45PM

COME AND MEET A RANGE OF MINI-BEASTS, REPTILES, MAMMALS AND BIRDS.
DIRECT HANDLING IS ACTIVELY ENCOURAGED - IF YOU DARE...!

SCAN ME

BOOK NOW

HALF TERM, SCARY FUN...

To Book : Visit : www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk



For Rushden Town Councillor:

BARBARA JENNEY



When did you become a Rushden resident?

My family and I moved to Rushden in August 1993. I very quickly got involved with a local church and was impressed by the strong community spirit within the town.

What do you enjoy about being a Councillor?

Being able to work with fellow councillors to maintain a proactive Council that continues to make a positive difference for residents. Rushden is especially good at holding great town events to bring the community together. I enjoy helping to keep that tradition going.

What advice would you give to anyone considering a Councillor role?

You will be dealing with a wide range of issues for the Council. Be prepared to commit time to understanding local issues and preparing for decision making. You will need to balance this with your other commitments outside of Council work. It is a big responsibility but can be very rewarding.

Favourite pastime/hobby?

Walking and spending time with my little dog

Three things you would take to a desert island

My four-legged friend, a big bag of treats and a mobile phone.

Favourite film?

Knight & Day (or Die Hard)





For Rushden Town Councillor:
PAUL HARLEY



How long have you lived in Rushden?

I have lived in Rushden for 52 years.

What makes a good Councillor?

Being community spirited, taking time to listen to resident's concerns and trying to improve facilities within the town.

What do you enjoy about being a Councillor?

Giving something back to the Town I grew up and still enjoy living in.

Favourite Sport?

Archery

Favourite Film

Top Gun

What three things would you take to a desert island?

I would take – a tent, a torch and, of course a good book



Friends of Rushden Hall

Rushden Hall has reopened its doors this month, welcoming the Friend's of Rushden Hall community group.

In collaboration with the Warm Rooms initiative, the Hall is providing a cosy environment for individuals seeking refuge from the cold, allowing community members to gather, socialise, and feel supported.

Visitors can enjoy complimentary warm drinks, fostering a sense of connection and community.

Let's Talk:Knit:Sew:
Garden:Drink Tea:
Play Board Games:
Socialise.



Friends of Rushden Hall
COMMUNITY GROUP



Complimentary
Tea, Coffee &
Biscuits.

**Everyone
Welcome!**

This initiative is especially important during colder months, reinforcing Rushden Hall's commitment to being a valuable resource for local people.

WHEN: Every Friday

WHERE: Rushden Hall. Hall Park.

NN10 9NG

TIME: 1.30 - 3.30pm*

*Times may vary

Call 01933 316216 for further information or visit www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk

**Planning A
Wedding?..**

Rushden Hall is licensed for
wedding ceremonies and
civil partnerships

Simple Ceremony Prices

Starting from

£495 for 4 hrs

for the ground floor suite
and kitchen.

01933 316216



Rushden Hall, RUSHDEN, Northants. NN10 9NG

Rushden Town Council

Events Diary



2024

**Children's Halloween
Workshop**

THURS 31ST OCTOBER

Rushden Hall

**School's Garden of
Remembrance**

WED 6TH NOVEMBER

Rushden War Memorial

Remembrance Day

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

Rushden War Memorial

Armistice Day

MONDAY 11TH NOVEMBER

Rushden War Memorial

**Christmas Lights
Switch-On**

SAT 30TH NOVEMBER

Rushden High Street

Additional information and
updates on our website:

www.rushdentowncouncil.gov.uk



ROUND UP OF.. 2024



Rushden Town Council was proud to deliver a wide array of diverse community events in 2024, promoting physical activity, cultural celebration, and mental well-being. These events fostered engagement, brought residents of all ages together, and helped strengthen the community

Among the key initiatives was the installation of outdoor gym equipment in **Hall Park**, **Melloway Park**, and **Spencer Park**, providing free access to fitness facilities, promoting healthier lifestyles.

The **Active Family Fun Day** in **Spencer Park**, encouraged families to enjoy the outdoors and participate in physical activities together.

Charity initiatives such as the **Twilight Walk** raised funds for the **Brain Tumour** charity and a variety of cultural events held significant importance, with commemorations like the **Windrush** event and **D-Day 80**, marking the 80th anniversary of the Normandy landings.

Children were also at the heart of community engagement, with several workshops aimed at developing their skills and creativity including a 'Don't Rubbish Rushden' poster competition. Popular annual events like **Party in the Park** filled the summer with music and entertainment whilst **Heritage Day** at Rushden Lakes celebrated local history and traditions, attracting both locals and visitors.

The dog-friendly **Bark in the Park** was a hit among pet owners, while **Proms in the Park** provided an opportunity to enjoy classical music in a picturesque outdoor setting.



Free tennis coaching was also provided, giving residents an opportunity to try out or improve their tennis skills without cost.

The highly anticipated Rushden **Classic Car Show** run by the **Rushden Historical Transport Society** was hosted in **Hall Park** attracting car enthusiasts from the local area and beyond.

Remembrance Day will honour those who sacrificed their lives in military service whilst **Armistice Day** will offer a moment for reflection on the end of **World War I**.

The Christmas Lights switch-on promises to bring festive cheer to the town followed by the **Civic Carol Service** which will round off the year with a heartwarming community celebration filled with carols and Christmas spirit.

Rushden Town Council remains committed to providing support and organising valuable events that benefit the community.

