

Towcester Town Crier

Your FREE community magazine produced by Towcester Town Council

Issue 208

AUTUMN 2025

Town Hall, Towcester

Summer Fun!

Join SNYE Youth Club for a summer of fun activity days in Towcester

• See page 2 for details

Also inside....

Local News Updates

Towcester Junior Football Club
Marie Weller Primary School
Ability Community Bus
Towcester Foodbank
Renew169 Wellbeing Cafe
Tove Benefice

Get involved

Rotary Club & WI
Towcester U3A
Local History
Volunteering
Singing & Writing
Air Cadets

What's on

Women's Rugby World Cup
Heritage Open Days
Music concerts
Walking route
Comedy & Talks
& more...

SNYE
South Northants Youth Engagement

TOWCESTER
PLAY & ACTIVITY DAY
EVERYONE WELCOME

ALL FREE!

WHEN
Friday 29th August 2025 from 11am-3pm

WHERE
The Recreation Ground, Islington Road, Towcester

FOOD
ICE CREAMS
MUSIC
GAMES
SPORTS
ARTS

TESCO Community Grants
Persimmon Together, we make your home
Rotary Towcester
THE LODGE OF FIDELITY, TOWCESTER
TOWCESTER HOMES
EKFB



South Northants Youth Engagement

Back in May, SNYE was lucky enough to secure funding from The National Lottery Community Fund to keep all our youth clubs running for the next couple of years. This has now given our charity the stability we needed.

Both our Wednesday Night Youth Clubs in Towcester are doing well, with a regular cohort of over 15 young people per club.

Towcester C of E Primary, Nicholas Hawksmoor and Sponne schools have supported the clubs, along with Towcester Town Council and other organisations such as NAYC and the local police.

As always, the young people have been enjoying lots of amazing activities, especially playing sports like rounders and basketball outside in the evening sun. Wherever possible, we encourage the young people to choose the activities as this builds confidence and helps them feel empowered.

Volunteer with us

Despite all the fantastic things happening at our youth clubs, we are in desperate need of adult volunteers. The more we have, the more young people we can welcome and support. Even one evening a month can really make a difference!

Lastly, we have a couple of **Summer Holiday Art sessions** happening in Towcester for 10 – 12 years. These are **FREE** and running from 10am till 3pm on 5th and 19th August. For more information, please visit our social media pages. You'll also find information there regarding our **Towcester Play & Activity Day** which is happening on Friday 29th August. All the activities are free, and everyone is welcome. So please **SAVE THE DATE**.

For more information on our upcoming events, check out our social media pages:
<https://linktr.ee/snye>

Thank You!

SNYE South Northants Youth Engagement
TYE Towcester Youth Engagement

WEDNESDAYS
TOWCESTER JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

JUST DROP IN
10 - 12 YEARS
£2 ENTRY
5:30PM TILL 6:30PM

YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE, ISLINGTON RD, TOWCESTER. NN12 6AU

Northamptonshire Community Foundation
West Northamptonshire Council

SNYE South Northants Youth Engagement
TYE Towcester Youth Engagement

TOWCESTER SUMMER HOLIDAY SESSIONS
AT THE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE
ISLINGTON ROAD

10-12 YRS
FREE
1 session per child

Club Information:
5th & 19th August 2025
10am till 3pm
Bring a pack lunch.
admin@youth-engagement.co.uk

Crafts, Games & lots of fun!

BOOKING OPEN NOW!

Northamptonshire Community Foundation
West Northamptonshire Council

SNYE South Northants Youth Engagement
TYE Towcester Youth Engagement

WEDNESDAYS
TOWCESTER YOUTH CLUB

JUST DROP IN
13 - 16 YEARS
£2 ENTRY
7PM TILL 8:30PM

YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE, ISLINGTON RD, TOWCESTER. NN12 6AU

Northamptonshire Community Foundation
West Northamptonshire Council



A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

MEET YOUR NEW TOWN MAYOR

Rachel was a teacher in London before moving to Towcester in 2002. Her and her husband are proud parents of two grown up children, who both attended local schools, and are equally proud foster carers.

A history graduate, she is passionate about history and is a Trustee of Towcester Museum, where she regularly dresses up as a Roman slave or Boudicca, in her role as Trustee for Education and Community Events.

In her spare time she enjoys going to gigs and concerts, playing the violin (not too well), learning French and walking the family's new rescue dog, Cassie.

She remarked about her first few engagements: "It has been a wonderfully music filled start to my tenure as Town Mayor.

First, I hosted the 23rd annual Towcester Midsummer Music Festival over a very warm June weekend. What an amazing weekend of live music it was, once again showcasing the local musical talent we have, as well as our beautiful town.

I attended my Mayor's charity, Towcester NMPAT's summer concert at the end of June. I was able to pay tribute to the wonderful work of the centre's head, Rob Fleming, and all the amazing staff. It was an emotional concert as the music centre is moving from its long-established slot on Saturday mornings to Wednesday after school, but I know the wonderful work of starting the young people of Towcester on their musical journey, will continue.

We all paid our respects outside the Town Hall, raising the flag for Armed Forces Day.

Thank you you to the Royal British Legion Towcester and Rev. Paula Challen for the lovely service, as we remembered those who served and are still serving in the Armed Forces.

Also in June, I was delighted to be a guest of the Lord Lieutenant of Northamptonshire at his afternoon tea reception in the grounds of the stunning Rockingham Castle. The highlight was meeting the very worthy honours recipients of the Birthday Honours List 2024 and the New Year's Honours List 2025.

July began with more music. This time NMPAT's Summer Festival of Music. Two wonderful concerts showcasing Northamptonshire's junior and training groups. Another emotional day as the audience gave the Chief Executive, Peter Smalley, a standing ovation, as he steps down after an incredible 32 years with the Trust! We are forever grateful for his dedication and vision.

Finally, and certainly not least, I attended Nicholas Hawksmoor's gala evening. A wonderfully diverse showcase of young talent. We were treated to musical performances, choirs, dance groups, theatre and even circus skills. A thank you to all the hardworking staff and the members of FONHS for a lovely evening.

I look forward to the many events I have coming up. You can follow me on my Towcester Town Mayor Facebook page."



Cllr Rachel Dando LOlive

Towcester Town Mayor 2025-6
Facebook @TowcesterMayor

TOWCESTER TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

AUGUST - RECESS

FULL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 8th September 2025
Towcester Town Hall

FULL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 13th October 2025
Towcester Town Hall

FULL COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 10th November 2025
Towcester Town Hall

All electors in the parish of Towcester are welcome to attend Town Council meetings.

Full Council meetings are held on the second Monday of the month at Towcester Town Hall, usually at 7:30pm.

See our website for all committee dates, times, venues, agendas & minutes.

www.towcester-tc.gov.uk

**TOWCESTER
TOWN MAYOR'S
CHARITIES 2025-6**

Fundraising for:
NMPAT
Towcester

Fundraising for:



Scan to donate



We meet every Sunday at 10.30am at the
Tove Valley Centre, Northampton Road NN12 7AH

You can also watch the service or catch up later
on our TVBF YouTube channel.

For more about our church, visit tvbf.co.uk, where
you can access our recorded sermons, resources,
and more, or contact secretary@tvbf.co.uk

We would love to meet with you!



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It's good to
be *home*

*Find
out more*



Anna

Northampton & Daventry



TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

MEET YOUR NEW TOWCESTER TOWN COUNCILLORS

Whilst the seats for Towcester Town Council (parish council elections) were uncontested on 1st May, there have been a handful of changes to your Town Council members. We would like to thank outgoing councillors Klaus Bond, Peter Conquest and Chris Wright for their voluntary service to the local community. We warmly welcome David Reed and Stewart Tolley who have both stepped forward to represent our community. Please visit our website for further details if you are interested in becoming a Town Councillor.



Rachel Dando L'Olive
TOWN MAYOR 2025-6



Maggie Clubley
DEPUTY MAYOR 2025-6



Peter Allen



Charlie Askew



David Carmichael



John Godwin



Martin Johns



John Lynch



Innes Macauley



David Tarbun
Also WNC Councillor



Stewart Tolley
Also WNC Councillor



Damian Reynolds



David Reed



Lisa Samiotis



Miranda Wixon

YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

Your Town Councillors are local residents democratically elected to represent the people of the parish of Towcester. Towcester is divided into two wards represented by 16 councillors who are all volunteers from our community.

Brook Ward

CLlr Rachel Dando L'Olive (Town Mayor)
CLlr Maggie Clubley
CLlr John Godwin
CLlr Martin Johns
CLlr Innes Macauley
CLlr David Reed
CLlr Damian Reynolds
CLlr Lisa Samiotis
CLlr David Tarbun
Vacant Seat

Mill Ward

CLlr Peter Allen
CLlr Charles Askew
CLlr David Carmichael
CLlr Jim Lynch
CLlr Stewart Tolley
CLlr Miranda Wixon

TOWN COUNCIL STAFF

Town Clerk

Elizabeth Cox

Communications & Events Officer

Lizzi Bucklow-Holt

Facilities & Operations Officer

Mark Onley

Office Administrator

Rhianna Francis-Tims

Contact details

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86 Watling Street East,
Towcester, NN12 6BS
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towncouncil@towcester-tc.gov.uk
www.towcester-tc.gov.uk

TOWN CRIER INFORMATION

Towcester Town Council publishes the Town Crier. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the Town Council or its members, and the inclusion of advertisements does not constitute an endorsement of any products or services. Further copies of the Town Crier are available from the Town Hall. PDF versions of all current and previous issues can be downloaded from the council website. For editorial contributions, advertising and What's On entries, please call 01327 350995 or email enquiries@towcester-tc.gov.uk

Deadlines:

SPRING (Feb, Mar, Apr) - 31st December
SUMMER (May, Jun, Jul) - 25th March
AUTUMN (Aug, Sep, Oct) - 25th June
WINTER (Nov, Dec, Jan) - 25th September

Issue 208 Editor

Bella Haines (Sponne Student)

Produced by R1 Print & Design



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Street Village

Tuesday 9th September – 8, Burcote Wood
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Our moon circles are welcoming gatherings
designed for anyone looking to slow down, pause,
reflect and reconnect.

No experience or special knowledge needed. Just
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www.shinedevelopment.co.uk/yoga

SHINE
Yoga

FRIDAY NIGHT WIND DOWN

31 October 2025

Kirby Farm Barn, Pury End

6.30-8.30pm

- Gentle Yoga
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- Herbal Teas
- Relaxation

£25 per person
email to book

emma@shinedevelopment.co.uk

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- Reduce stress



For more information

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Hall**

Fun, Fitness
and Friends!

BENEFITS

- Improve rhythm
- Reduce stress
- Explore creativity
- Expand your social circle



For more information

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dance@gaynabrown.co.uk

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COACH**



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the West End and provide great training in singing, acting,
dancing but at the heart of it all is a great space to make
friends & build confidence!" Tilly James (Principal)

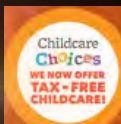
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Marie Weller Primary School, NN12 6LZ





Marie Weller Primary School Celebrates Official Opening with Community



Marie Weller Primary School, the newest addition to The Hawksmoor Learning Trust, officially opened its doors to the local community in a celebration that honoured both its educational mission and the remarkable woman whose name it bears.

While the school has been welcoming pupils since 2021, this established institution took the opportunity to celebrate with Towcester's community, marking a significant milestone for the growing Trust.



A Community Celebration

The official opening welcomed distinguished guests including members of Marie Weller's own family - Peter Ashby and Janet Bloomfield - alongside Councillor Rachel Dando L'Olive, the new Mayor of Towcester, representatives from the Women's Institute, and other local community leaders.

Mr Cox, the school's Headteacher, shared the school ethos and values that have been inspired by Marie's story. Guests were treated to a wonderful welcome featuring music, singing, and readings performed by pupils from across the trust's schools, showcasing the collaborative spirit that defines The Hawksmoor Learning Trust.

Creating Lasting Memories

The ceremony's highlights included the unveiling of a stunning new mural dedicated to Marie Weller's life and the symbolic planting of a tree to mark the beginning of 'Weller Woods' - the school's dedicated Forest School area. Pupils from all trust schools participated in engaging arts and sports activities, bringing the entire educational community together.

Miss Curtis, CEO of The Hawksmoor Learning Trust, reflected on the achievement: *"We are incredibly proud to have established another great school to serve our Towcester community. Our heartfelt thanks go to Sue Hamilton of the Towcester WI as well as Chris Lofts and Max Marchini, our dedicated trustees, who were instrumental in bringing Marie's inspiring story to light. We have thoughtfully woven our school values around her courageous spirit, ensuring her legacy of standing up for what's right continues to inspire future generations."*



Remembering Marie Weller

Marie Weller was a brave Towcester woman who became a local hero in the fight for women's suffrage. Born on 2nd September 1877, she dedicated herself to the cause of giving women the right to vote, earning recognition with a special certificate and medal from the famous Suffragette leader, Mrs Pankhurst. On 8th January 1910, Marie led a pivotal meeting at Towcester Town Hall that helped change history. She lived to see the victory of universal suffrage in 1928 and died on 17th October 1936, leaving behind a legacy of courage and determination for equality.



The celebration perfectly captured the school's commitment to honouring local history while building a bright future for Towcester's children.

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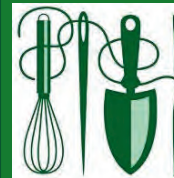
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MARKET**

**2nd FRIDAY OF
EVERY MONTH
9am until 1:30pm**

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SHORT-STAY

CAR PARK

Fresh local produce

Managed for the Community by
Rotary Club of Towcester
Reg. Charity No. 1059631

Rotary Towcester “UNITE FOR GOOD”

Hello from the New President of the Rotary Club of Towcester

As of July, I am honoured to take on the role of President of the Rotary Club of Towcester. This year's theme, "Unite for Good," inspires me to invite residents from the new estates in Towcester to collaborate with existing community members from Towcester and the surrounding villages. Together, we can work for the betterment of our community.

Rotary's Role in the Community

Our club actively participates in local, national, and international projects, partnering with other Rotary clubs and charities. We have school representatives who promote a variety of competitions for all age groups, with a special focus on primary-aged children, encouraging them to hone their skills and showcase their potential.

In the past, our talented young people have achieved success at local, district, and national levels. With the support of our members and corporate partners, we also aid children and young adults in the district through our involvement in RYLA (Rotary Young Leaders Award). These courses are designed to foster interpersonal skills, such as teamwork and cultivating positive mindsets essential for life.

Upcoming Events

Throughout the year, we will support several events, including the beloved "The Last Night of the Proms" in February and the "Towcester Midsummer Music Festival" in June. Additionally, on the second Friday of each month, we manage the Towcester Farmers' Market at Sponne Shopping Arcade, promoting locally sourced products and supporting local artisans. More events can be found on our website and Facebook page.

Join Us!

We are continuing to grow and welcome new members who are interested in joining our efforts to give back to the community. Our activities go beyond fundraising; we also host regular social events where we can unwind and enjoy each other's company.

John Sidwick

President 2025/26

The Rotary Club of Towcester and District

Website: www.towcester-rotary.org.uk

Facebook: @TowcesterRotaryClub



Rotary News

2025 continues to be another busy year in the Rotary calendar. Following on from a successful 'Last Night of the Proms' in February, the Club continues to manage the Towcester Farmers' Market in Sponne Arcade on the 2nd Friday of the month, with an array of locally based artisans and food producers.

Towcester Rotary and the Town Council, with assistance from the main sponsor, The Mill Brewery, delivered another successful Towcester Midsummer Music Festival, now in its 23rd year, which showcased an extravaganza of local talent from all ages and for all tastes from primary school choirs to care home choirs and musicians of all ages in between. The event also headlined the Studio Stompers and the ever-popular Lincoln Noel Jazz Trio.

In March, the Rotary Club assisted Steven Challen by providing the sixth ambulance and medical equipment to be sent to Ukraine in support of much needed supplies for the civilian population. This was financed by the Club from last year's participation in the F1 Grand Prix at Silverstone.

Local fundraising has also enabled the Club to support a number of local charities and organisations: SNYE, Blake House, the Toy Bank to name but a few. The Club believes in supporting local organisations that rely on funding from external sources, but this is not only for organisations, but also individuals in need of that little bit of extra help.

Membership of the Club has increased with a number of individual new members, but also the introduction of Corporate Members – Whittlebury Park, The Mill Brewery, Brook House Care Home, Able Assist and SpecSavers Towcester. Their support has been a welcome boost to the Club's ability to achieve its goals.

In the coming months, the next event will be supporting SNYE at their Activity Day, on Friday, 29th August on the Recreation Ground with the running of the Rotary Duck Races. Rotary Santa has also woken from hibernation and is preparing for his visits to Towcester later in the year.

So, Rotary in Towcester is alive and kicking thanks to the support of all the community.



For further information visit the Club's website www.towcester-rotary.org.uk or send an email to secretary@towcester-rotary.org.uk



Far beyond the Ferris wheel by Neil Meridith

Flags and canvasses of coloured tents ruffled in the wind. In one such ruffling Marcus Owen, his cheeks streaked with candyfloss, ambled into a deranged corridor of glass. Wider than the starlit sky, his eyes strained to the rims of their ten-year-old sockets. He froze in a ballooning distortion of mirrors. His disbelief saw Nana Jones headless with an infinite neck, all bow-legs and bosom. Laughter filled his lungs even as his own features were madly disfigured. As the mirrors passed in a staggering sequence, Marcus slowed almost to a standstill to extract every ounce of fun and made repeated visits to the house of glass. His ribs ached with joy as Nana Jones longed for breath, the comfort of rest in a tea stall and the revels of cake.

As if predestined, Marcus looked up and marvelled at the lights of a Ferris wheel burning in the night. Its structure, white as a skeleton, loomed like a giant. Nana Jones urged common sense as her grandson was seated and locked into the wheel. He promised to comply as she waved and nursed a nervous lemon drizzle. Rising from the fair, Marcus drank the darkness, his senses stunned with unravelling space and the all-fixing spell of stars. He seized it all in a secret mind and took it to his soul. He nurtured dreams of travel beyond his knowing, beyond the time of man, and knew descent was coming, but was stronger for the climb. Her chest pounding, Nana Jones thanked the wheel owner as he unbuckled Marcus and returned him to Mother Earth. She sensed an astronaut in need of something homely and bought him an ice cream. Smiles secured a successful landing, though a taste for thrills still fired him.

Marcus pleaded with Nana to risk the rifle range and the ghouls of a ghost train. Still reeling from the wheel, she knew she would need more than tea to meet such terrors and firmly declined. Marcus could see her fatigue and steered away from argument. Before leaving, a grandson gazed back at a Ferris wheel and wondered where the years would take him.



The Writers' Club meets at 7pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Saracen's Head. For more details contact Mike Gascoigne michaeltgascoigne@gmail.com

TOWCESTER TOY BANK SEEKS VOLUNTEER ELVES TO HELP CONTINUE SUPPORT FOR LOCAL FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS

Towcester Toy Bank (TTB) was set up in 2020 by mother and daughter, Annie and Katrina, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic that left many families struggling to provide gifts for their children due to job losses and/or illness, for example.

In light of the ongoing rise in living costs for families, the Christmas Toy Bank has become an annual initiative. In 2025, we will celebrate our sixth year. In 2024, we provided support to over 100 families referred by local schools, churches, social workers, and Family Centres; fulfilling 250 children's gift bags—nearly three times the amount completed in the first year.

The Towcester Toy Bank elves are very busy planning ahead for Christmas 2025, with the continued support of the Rotary Club and Whittlebury Hall. Last Christmas, with the amazing support of our fantastic community, the 1,000th Christmas gift bag was delivered to a local family.

On behalf of all the families for whom the Toy Bank has made a difference, we share our enormous gratitude to everyone in our community who has already contributed their time and/or resources. Whether you volunteered as an elf to help pack gift bags, donated wonderful toys, purchased a Towcester Community Larder raffle ticket, or supported our JustGiving page, we truly appreciate your generosity.

As we continue to support local families, we are always looking for more volunteers. If you're interested in making a difference and becoming part of the team, we would love to hear from you. Your involvement would be greatly valued and truly impactful, particularly for the Elf Rota, and to help pack the children's gift bags. Look out for our adverts and JustGiving page from September onwards or get in touch via the contact details below.

Annie & Katrina
Facebook: [@towcestertoybank](https://www.facebook.com/towcestertoybank)
Email: anniesimpson2957@gmail.com





Discover ABILITY

YOUR COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE

ABILITY is a not-for-profit bus service, offering safe transportation across West Northamptonshire and North Oxfordshire.

Founded in 2019 to address the decline in bus services, it's grown from 800 journeys to 36,000 by 2024, promoting independence and community connections.

The team are here for you, if you need to travel somewhere give us a call.

The good news is that we are based just outside Towcester, near Greens Norton.

Do you fancy going on one of our day trips out, as we have trips out to garden centres, pub lunches, out of town retail parks plus many more places of interest. Meet new friends and visit some lovely places as we head off for an enjoyable day, we can even pick you up from home if you would like.

Beyond transportation, ABILITY creates friendships and reduces loneliness, fostering confidence and happiness in our passengers. It represents more than just a journey; it serves as an essential bridge to a connected community.

The fleet includes 14 minibuses and 2 wheelchair-accessible vehicles. Coverage now extends to Banbury, Bicester, Brackley, Daventry, Milton Keynes, Northampton, and Towcester. At ABILITY, we offer a variety of services designed to suit your needs, including:

- Day trips organised to popular destinations
- Shopping services to local towns or supermarkets
- Accessible direct travel for medical visits and funerals
- Group travel for your local community group

Whether it's a weekly shopping run, a visit to a garden centre, or transportation to an important medical appointment, each journey we provide supports individuals in maintaining their independence.

Our services are designed to be straightforward and user-friendly. We provide different service levels tailored to meet your needs, including pickup and drop-off at your home or a bus stop, priority booking for day trips and more.

Our Day Trips and Shopping service is offered for a small annual fee. Alternatively, for our Accessible direct travel and group travel contact our team and a rate will be provided based on mileage and driver availability.

To connect with one of our friendly and knowledgeable team members, please call us between 9am and 2pm. For enquiries outside of these hours, our voicemail facility is available.



01327 604123
admin@abilitycic.org.uk
www.abilitycic.org.uk

ABILITY (Northants) CIC
Grafton Suite
Caswell Science Park
Towcester NN12 8EQ

Facebook: ABILITY Bus Service



Care from the heart

AT BROOK HOUSE

Our care home is located in the historic market town of Towcester, just a short drive west of Northampton. Our community offers the very best for those needing that extra bit of support in later life, as well as those to live well with dementia.

Life at Brook House begins with a warm welcome the minute you walk through the door into the bistro and lounge. Our stunning purpose-built home features a hair salon, cinema, private dining room, as well as a library. There are comfortable lounges for relaxation and entertainment, and plenty of spaces to receive visiting family and friends. Our beautiful accessible patio gardens enjoy a lovely sunny aspect, and for those keen to venture out there are regular trips to the local shops, cafés and nearby places of interest.

Types of care | Residential • Dementia • Nursing

Types of stay | Permanent • Respite • Day Care



“

One of the best things about my job is knowing that our residents are living their best life, seeing their

smiles, and knowing we are looking after them. Everything we do at Brook House is from the heart and it is not a job, but a passion. We are building a home together - team and residents.

”

Rhannon

Rhannon Crofts, Home Manager

ACH1177

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Towcester Foodbank was there!

As part of The Trussell Trust anti-poverty charity, we were delighted to be lobbying at Westminster as part of the Guarantee our Essentials campaign. [Photo above]

More than 700 representatives from communities across the UK came together with celebrities to encourage policymakers to take steps towards an Essentials Guarantee. This would ensure that Universal Credit is fit for purpose, making it unnecessary for people to have to use a food bank.

Jacob Forman, Director at Epping Forest Foodbank, said: ***"We have not asked our MPs for the impossible. Instead, we have shared our vast experiences to highlight the actions that can genuinely change the life circumstances of the people we see every day for the better. As politicians sit on their benches, I hope our words resonate with them and encourage them push for a stronger social security system that ensures everyone can afford the essentials."***

Foodbanks from across the East Midlands region, from Lincolnshire down to Towcester, were represented.

Welcome to the Foodbank



We were delighted to welcome WNC Councillor Adrian Little to the Foodbank in May. Adrian is one of three members for Towcester and heard about the Foodbank from the Town Crier!

Recently elected, Adrian was eager to understand the challenges faced by some of our Foodbank guests. Thank you for your support, Adrian.

Community Law Service

We have recently engaged Community Law Services to help support our guests and work with them on their financial, benefits and housing concerns. Guests should expect the same level of service they would have received from Citizens' Advice Bureau who previously provided support.



**01604 621038 Lines are open
10am - 2pm Mon - Thurs
10am - 1pm Fri
enquiries@communitylawservice.org.uk**

After Covid, Emma struggled to return to school and her mum gave up her job to look after her.

Without her mum's income, money was tight and there were often days in the month when there was no food in the house.

Towcester Foodbank was able to help ensure that the family had enough to eat until Emma had finished school and her mum was able to return to work.

Towcester Foodbank Contact Details

Address:	Riverside Centre , Islington Road, Towcester NN12 6AU
Telephone:	07724 832043 (during working hours)
Opening Times:	Tuesday 12 – 2pm, Friday 10.30 – 12.30pm
Website:	www.towcester.foodbank.org.uk
Email:	info@towcester.foodbank.org.uk
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/towcesterfoodbank
Instagram:	www.instagram.com/towcesterfoodbank

Towcester Foodbank is registered charity number 1157338. Registered in England & Wales



Registered Charity No.1059995
www.ageuknorthants.org.uk

Age UK Northamptonshire honours Eddie Lumsden and welcomes new Gardener

Age UK Northamptonshire is grateful to the family and friends of Eddie Lumsden for their kind donation to the charity. His daughter Laraine [second from right] called in to the day centre in Towcester at the end of May to present the cheque for £200 in memory of her late father.

"My Dad, Eddie, thoroughly enjoyed coming to the day centre at Leeson Court. He used to look forward to every Monday and Thursday, knowing he was going to have a great time with whatever activities they had planned, whether it was arts and crafts, singing, dancing or playing games," says Laraine.

"I would personally like to thank Aimie, the Day Centre Coordinator, and Linda, Elaine and all the staff and volunteers for being so kind and caring. I know my dad was very happy spending his time here."

Aimie said "All of us here miss Eddie terribly. Eddie was an incredible man with a heart of gold. We feel honoured that we got to meet him and spend time with him; we have lots of happy, lasting memories of him."

Age UK Northamptonshire is pleased to introduce a new gardener covering Towcester and surrounding villages. Sally-Ann Castle says "I've spent many years working in an office and I love gardening, so this change of pace really suits me. I like to feel I am making a difference to my clients and helping them to enjoy their gardens."

Find out more about Age UK Northamptonshire's services and support by visiting their website or call 01604 611200.



Retired? Stay active, stay fit, stay happy!

If you're no longer in full time work and want to make more of your spare time, Towcester u3a could be for you. There are plenty of opportunities to meet others to learn for fun, enjoy company and friendship.

What is the u3a?

It is a UK-wide network of learning groups, run by and for its members. In Towcester we have a thriving u3a providing a wide range of interest groups, as well as monthly meetings with interesting speakers, and opportunities for picking up old skills, learning new ones and meeting like-minded people.

u3a
Towcester

Registered charity number 1155428

What are the benefits of joining?

For a modest annual fee you can:

- Stay active, keep learning and have fun.
- Meet other people with similar interests.
- Learn new things, pick up old interests or share your skills.
- Enjoy theatre or garden visits and trips to interesting places.
- Hear from a variety of speakers at our monthly meetings.
- Access online learning, training and resources to inspire you.

New Members Meeting

10am-12noon, Friday 21 November at Towcester Town Hall
We warmly welcome you to join us for a coffee and a chat and find out more about the groups and activities on offer.

Find out more about how to **Live, Learn and Laugh**
at: www.towcesteru3a.co.uk or contact
membership@towcesteru3a.co.uk



ADVENTURE AWAITS!

Join the RAF Air Cadets

The RAF Air Cadets are a uniformed youth organisation that provides exciting opportunities for young people to learn new skills, try unique activities, and make friends. Your local squadron in Towcester is recruiting.

Wondering what it's like? To quote one of our current cadets: *"It's the best thing you'll ever do! If you join you get to go flying, gliding, shooting and much more! As an air cadet I've been able to gain qualifications in leadership and first aid. I've also really enjoyed learning about subjects as diverse as navigation, radio communications, and space."*

Many of our cadets have commented on how they have enjoyed and benefited from the leadership and teamwork training on offer. Everyone is taught how to brief and lead a team through a series of challenging exercises, developing useful life skills.

First aid is another essential skill that we teach. All cadets get to practise basic lifesaving techniques, and for those interested there are opportunities to attend more advanced courses to further their knowledge and expertise.

Other activities we take part in during our twice-weekly parade nights include fieldcraft, STEM challenges, and sport. Many cadets also choose to go away on camps, courses, and competitions.

But of course, the activities most of our cadets name as their favourites are flying and gliding! We regularly travel to RAF stations so that cadets can take control of an aircraft and earn their 'wings'. We also spend time learning about aviation and practising our skills on our very own flight simulator!

We are proud of our connection to the Royal Air Force, and wear our uniform with pride when we take part in parades and public events locally and further afield. We also get to visit RAF bases and learn about the work of our parent service, which is a fantastic opportunity for anyone considering a career in the armed forces.

If this sounds like it might be for you, and you're in year 8 or above at school, we are having an opening evening on Thursday 18th September. Please contact adj.1875@rafac.mod.gov.uk to register your interest.



Does your child struggle with reading?

If your child:

- struggles with reading and is falling behind at school
- complains of headaches or words moving about
- reads letters incorrectly or omits them
- follows the text with their finger

We may be able to help!

Schoolvision is a successful programme that identifies and treats early sight problems, often missed in a standard sight test, that can make reading and writing very difficult for some children.

Benefits of Schoolvision:

- improved classroom behaviour and attention
- increased reading speed and concentration
- increased self esteem & confidence
- reduction in headaches / migraines
- better school performance



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WHAT DO OUR MEMBERS THINK?

At our meetings we...

meet and make new friends, socialise, listen to interesting speakers, discuss relevant issues, laugh a lot, have fun and learn.

What are the best things about your WI?

Monthly meetings where we learn about things outside our comfort zone and catch up with old and new friends. Spin off groups where we can follow our hobbies/passions, Resolutions where we can learn, attend demonstrations, fight for causes we believe in alongside like-minded women as well as friendship, our president and cake.

What do you and your members enjoy and value the most?

Part of the Towcester community, Helping people, man-free zone and cake!

The WI is...

whatever you want it to be - a safe place to share with women. Great, friendly, a sisterhood, welcoming and inspiring.

If you had to describe the members of your WI in one word, it would be?

Individual, resilient, friendly, helpful.

Can you name one thing people might not know about the WI or do not expect from the WI?

Our campaigns and resolutions, and that you don't need to be retired to join.

What advice would you give anyone who is thinking of joining the WI?

Come and try! You will find us friendly, Don't be afraid, you get out what you put in and we all have individual qualities to offer.

In your opinion, how has the WI changed during the last 108 years?

It has become more inclusive as it has grown with the times. It was started for farm/rural women with a strong emphasis on cookery, and is now much more diverse, so you don't have to be a baker in order to join.

When thinking about the future of your WI, what are you looking forward to the most?

Bringing in younger people and new challenges as well as more CAKE!

HERE'S WHAT A NEW MEMBER OF WI SAYS:

As a new member of the Towcester Evening WI, joining in April, I have gained so much since doing so.

It really has given me something to look forward to since losing my husband after fifty-six years of marriage. This left me feeling very lost with no motivation or indeed confidence to face the world on my own.

Since joining the WI, I feel a new purpose in life. The ladies of the group have all been so welcoming. Within a few weeks, talking to other members in the same situation, the enthusiasm I once had has come back.

I look forward to each meeting and being part of the three other groups I have joined within Towcester WI - the Skittles, Craft and Chatter and the Gardening groups. I am enjoying them all so very much.

I was very lucky to have won the bursary from the WI at my first meeting. I just cannot wait to do the course I have chosen.

I am absolutely thrilled and thank you WI for bringing so much positivity into my life.

CHRISTINE LEES - June, 2025



Sponsored by

**TOWCESTER
MUSEUM**



Victoria Litherland, a Trustee of the Museum, recently met with some of the WI Gardening Team at Richmond Road to view the summer planting.

We are very pleased to announce that Towcester Museum is sponsoring the WI gardening enterprises for the coming year. These funds will be spent on maintaining and planting up the flower beds at the corner of Richmond Road.

TOWCESTER EVENING WI

Towcester Evening WI is a flourishing community. We meet every first Thursday evening of the month from 7:30pm to 9:30pm, usually at the Sawpits Centre, off Richmond Road. Our meetings feature inspiring speakers, WI business discussions, friendly conversations, and delicious tea and cake. If you feel this could be the right fit for you, please get in touch. New members are always warmly welcomed!

Upcoming Meeting Programme:

September - The Air ambulance

October - Northamptonshire place names

November - The agony and ecstasy of a Canal holiday boater

December - Women in blue

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President - Sue Williams 07769967532
sue@williamsfarmingpartnership.co.uk
Secretary - Carol Merry carolmerry1221@gmail.com

Do you need transport?
or Fancy a trip out somewhere?
then give us a call

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NEW BUSES FOR LOCAL ORGANISATION

Spring is here, time to get out and about!

We have just taken delivery of four new buses, taking the fleet size to 14 buses.

So if you are in need of a bus service, please call 01327 604123 office hours 9-2pm.

Providing 4 great services in your area

Providing a regular shopper service, taking passengers to their local town on specific days of the week, give us a call to find out more.

shopper service

Pre-bookable day trips, visiting places of interest, including garden centres, retail parks, larger towns and pub lunches.

day trips service

Group Hire for community groups, hire a bus with a driver and take your group on a day trip of your choice.

group travel

Our latest service is a car service, available to take you to your own destination, funerals, medical appointments etc

car service



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LITTLE
BORROWERS
PLAYTIME

Little Borrowers Playtime, formerly known as Towcester Toy Library is a voluntary-run community group holding play sessions for you and your children aged under 5. We offer a spacious environment, a wide selection of toys, sit- and ride-ons, and a dedicated area for babies. All our toys are also available for hire for a small charge.

Towcester Youth & Community Centre
Islington Road, Towcester, NN12 6AU
Every Thursday from 9.30am – 11.30am
throughout the year including school holidays
Entry fee is £2.50 per family
which includes drinks for you and your children.

Please view our new website at:

www.littleborrowersplaytime.co.uk

A warm welcome awaits.



renew169

A quiet shared space in Towcester
where it's OK not to be OK



Our drop-in service is open every
Monday-Thursday 10am – 3pm
No booking necessary
– just come as you are!



In addition to our drop-in service,
we offer the following sessions each week

Tuesday

Lunch Club 12.00pm
Craft session 1.00pm

Wednesday

Knit and Natter 10.00am
Stroll and Soup 12.00pm

Thursday

Sandwich Club 12.00pm

Friday

Grief, Comfort and
Coffee 10.00am-11.30am

Monthly Events

Creative Nights – Every 3rd Wednesday from 7.00pm-9.00pm
Repair Café – The last Saturday of every month 10.00am-12.00pm

Come in and have a chat or take part in an activity!

Sign up for
our newsletter



beaurl.com/im4esg



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[justgiving.com/7RenewWellbeingCafe](https://www.justgiving.com/7RenewWellbeingCafe)

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our website



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Being part of an active community

In May, Renew169 Wellbeing Café started a new Community Garden, thanks to the Tove Valley Centre giving us the use of their allotment space and poly tunnel. It is a place for people to join together, make new friends, learn new skills, enjoy some exercise in the open air and support each other, and the charity, through sharing the work, seeds, plants and also to raise funds by selling the plants and produce we grow.

The team, led by Head gardener Madeline, prepared the space by rotovating and tidying the plots ready for planting up. Over following few weeks, a steady group of volunteers transformed the space from an overgrown, barren patch to the start of a thriving garden, with flowers, vegetables, herbs and fruit canes all starting to grow and flourish.

A couple of months on from the start, we can see the positive change we've made to the garden. The fruit and vegetables are coming along nicely: Tomatoes, both Cherry and Beefsteak varieties, Cauliflower, Runner Beans, Beetroot, Onions, Sweetcorn, Broccoli, Peppers and Courgettes are all growing.

The compost bins have been cleared, repaired and ready for use again, the herb beds brought back to life and the poly tunnel is now full of plants.

We have been overwhelmed by the generosity of the local community, donating pots and containers, compost, plants, seeds and tools to help get us started. This has helped us to raise money for the charity by selling containers planted up with shrubs and flowers, house plants, tomato plants and the early harvest from the soft fruit bushes.

The Community Garden is open for anyone that wants to do a bit of gardening and is at the Tove Valley Centre, located on Northampton Road, between the Shires Estate and the Tove Long Stay Car Park. It is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10.30M to 1.00PM so if you would like to come along and give it a try you will be made very welcome.

The Renew169 Wellbeing Café is a quiet shared space where it is OK to not be OK.

It is a safe space, located in the heart of Towcester, where people with emotional or mental health difficulties are welcomed, with an aim to reduce loneliness and isolation.

Visitors can be assured of a warm welcome and someone to listen. Attendees have the opportunity to take part in hobbies, crafts and activities, guided by the 5 ways to wellbeing, and enjoy the café space.

Renew169 Wellbeing Café is open to all, any age, gender or ethnicity – everyone is welcome.

Please consider donating using the QR Code below to help us continue our work - the team at Renew169 really appreciate it.



A big thankyou to Laura, one of our founders, who has just completed a 100mile walk of the South Downs Way and raised £2395 for Renew 169 in the process.



The Renew169 staff, volunteers and most of all our visitors really appreciate your support.

For more information about Renew169 please drop in or email Manager@renew169.org.uk



renew169

A quiet shared space in Towcester
where it's OK not to be OK



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TOVE BENEFICE

Towcester Went "Back to The Future" with St Lawrence Fete and Craft Fair This Summer

Thanks to the generosity of two local Towcester residents, this year, the St Lawrence Church fete was able to send visitors "Back In Time", with the aid of a beautifully restored Delorean car and 1980's BMX bikes. Did you manage to get a photo with Towcester's very own Doc Brown?



Circa 1100 adults and children passed through the beautiful Vicarage Gardens and St Lawrence Church on the hot June Sunday afternoon, helping to raise money to maintain the historic church buildings, and to continue the work of the church in the local community and beyond



The fete was full to capacity offering traditional stalls, a church full of creative sellers, and amazing cream teas in the Chantry House Garden. Lots of fun was had by the children on the ever-popular miniature railway, and with the addition of some new games.



Revd Paula and Revd Nigel got heavily immersed into the spirit of the event, both being great sports by taking their turns to get soaked in the stocks – another new addition to the fete. Revd Paula said "It was lovely to see so many people once again this year. Events such as this help to raise vital funds for the Church. Many do not realise that we are totally self-funded locally. Whilst we do apply for grants wherever possible, the church receives no income from the government, local authority or from the Church of England. Hence events such as this are vital in helping fund our costs and work of the Church in the community".



Revd Paula's husband Steve, who organises the event would like to thank all the volunteers, and supporters, for making the afternoon such a success again this year. He would also like to thank: Towcester Studio Band; Towcester Primary School Choir; Just Dance; and The Songbirds for their amazing and talented performances. Steve would also like to acknowledge those businesses and individuals who donated so generously with the many tombola and raffle prizes which helped with the fundraising, including: Waitrose for sponsoring the cream teas; Hartwell's Butchers; Tesco; COOP; J & A; Buckingham Railway; Fairytale Farm; The Riverside Hub; Old McDonalds Farm; Towcester Mill Brewery; John White Funeral Directors; and many more! Steve said "Without the support of all these generous donors and our volunteer helpers, what has now become a huge annual calendar event for the community would not happen".



Details of regular family activities and future events can be found on the Church and Vicarage noticeboards, Tove Benefice website, and by following the Tove Benefice on Facebook.

For all further information relating to St Lawrence Church and rental of the Chantry House function rooms, please contact 01327 350459

Vicarage Hymns and Pimms helped close the 2025 Towcester Music Festival

This year, St Lawrence Church offered up all of its buildings in support of Towcester Midsummer Music to help host more family friendly performances and activities. On Sunday 22nd June, Revd Paula hosted Hymns and Pimms in the beautiful Vicarage Garden, as one of the closing events for Towcester Midsummer Music. After the extreme heat of the weekend, cooler weather and hymns chosen by the community, offered a calming end to this year's festivities. It also gave the community the opportunity to explore the beautiful Vicarage gardens without the crowds of the following weeks' fete!

Revd Paula said "we have enjoyed being a greater part of midsummer music this year, hosting family friendly activities in the gardens, and matinee performances for those who do not wish to go out in the evening".



Ian Sanders



It is with great sadness we share the news that Ian has passed away, just two weeks after so generously sharing his beautifully restored Delorean at the Fete. Ian's family have said he hugely enjoyed bringing his pride and joy along for everyone to see, and we loved working with him to create such a wonderful memory and spectacle in Towcester. As Ian soon visits St Lawrence for one last time, our thoughts and prayers go to all of Ian's family.



My name is Jane Jakes, I am part of the ministry team in the Tove Benefice, and work alongside the clergy. I was delighted to be invited to write the article on behalf of St Lawrence's Church, for this edition of the Town Crier.

The parish church of St Lawrence sits unobtrusively in the heart of Towcester, just along from the Town Hall and the Market Square. It has stood there since the 15th Century, a visible Christian presence in the community.

But I wonder how many of Towcester's residents (recorded as 11,542 in the 2021 census, and continuing to grow) have ever been inside? As you stroll round Towcester; pop into the Co-op for a pint of milk; stop for a coffee in one of the cafés; or hope to find a bargain in a charity shop; do you ever consider visiting the church?

Since joining the ministry team, I am often in St Lawrence's during the week and am surprised by just how many people do call in: former residents of Towcester back for the day and wanting to visit their old church; people interested in historic churches, pleased to see a history leaflet just inside the door; a member of the church returning a book from the sharing library; or someone coming in to find the peace and sanctuary that only a church can offer

St Lawrence Church is there for everyone – the residents of Towcester and anyone else who would like to visit. You don't have to belong to the church or have ever stepped inside a church before. It is open every day during the hours of daylight; it is open because visitors are welcomed and expected.

So why might you want to step inside? Perhaps curiosity, having learnt that it is open and visitors are welcome?

Perhaps because it is an historic building and that interests you? Perhaps you would like to find a quiet place to rest awhile, away from the noise and busyness of this modern world? Perhaps because you would like to be in a building where prayers have been said for hundreds of years and add your own?

Matthew 11:28 "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Throughout the generations, people have taken to God, their celebrations, their sad times and all their ordinary times. You may like to do that too; just sit in the quietness of an empty church, feel the peace that only a place of prayer can evoke and share with God all that you are thinking and feeling.

It is your church; everyone is invited to spend time there, alone or at any of the Sunday services. As the former archbishop of Canterbury William Temple said: *'The church is the only society that exists for the benefit of those who are not its members.'*



Wildlife on our doorstep

by Peter Warden

There's a new animal disease making its presence known. Known as the Usutu virus (USUV), it primarily affects blackbirds and is transmitted by mosquitoes. Currently, the disease is limited to urban areas and larger towns, but as our climate continues to warm, there's a possibility that it may spread more extensively.

Precautions to Prevent Disease Spread

It is essential for us to take steps to prevent the spread of the disease.

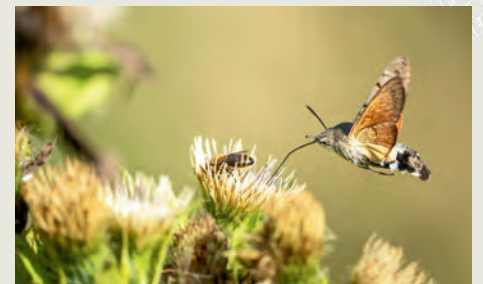
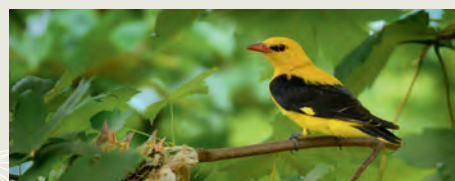
- **Bird Baths:** Empty and refill them every few days to stop mosquito larvae from developing.
- **Water Storage:** Ensure lids are fitted on water butts, turn over bins and wheelbarrows to avoid water accumulation, and clean out gutters to minimize mosquito breeding habitats.
- **Feeder Maintenance:** As previously mentioned regarding the prevention of Trichomonosis, which has severely impacted our greenfinch and chaffinch populations, be sure to clean and disinfect your feeders regularly. Sweep the area beneath the feeders, and if possible, change their location periodically.

Lastly, there's no need to panic; human cases of USUV infection are quite rare.

Talking about mosquitoes, I've just returned from a rail trip to France. The holiday focused on wildlife in the La Brenne region, located near Tours. This relatively flat area is dotted with numerous lakes, originally created by monks for fish farming. The abundance of lakes contributes to a rich variety of wildlife.

Each time we stopped at a site and stepped out of the mini-bus, we were greeted by the melodies of nightingales, the calls of cuckoos, and the coos of turtle doves. These sounds would have been familiar in our own country less than a century ago.

Another bird we frequently heard was the Golden Oriole. Slightly smaller than a jackdaw, it boasts a striking yellow body and black wings. However, you may have noticed I mentioned we heard the oriole rather than saw it; this bird is notoriously elusive, revealing its presence only through its flute-like song. While it has bred in the UK, it is likely now extinct.



As I pen this article, the Hummingbird Hawkmoth will be on the wing. Thanks to its lengthy flight season, you'll still have the opportunity to spot it on sunny days, as it is active during daylight hours. This moth is quite widespread, providing a good chance of encountering it. True to its name, it mimics a hummingbird in flight.

Its orange-brown hindwings and underside are noticeable as it swiftly flits between plants, hovering to feed on the tubular flowers of various species, including: Viper's Bugloss, Red Valerian, Phlox, Jasmine, Buddleias, Petunia, and Lilac.

We have observed this remarkable moth here at Malthouse Court, and it is one of the 45 species of butterflies and moths we have documented.



Towcester & District Photographic Society

Back in January, we entered the GB Cup – a competition for UK registered camera clubs. Images are of a very high standard, with those judged the best published in a virtual catalogue. This year, we had two acceptances and a string of near misses, with the following images published amongst the judges' best:

Waxwing with Berry by Anne Gray (*below*)
Gentoo Penguins in the Driving Snow (*top*)



We enjoy our friendly annual head-to-head with Olney Camera Club, and we were able to avenge last year's defeat with a 340-337 victory this year. The open theme enabled a wide range of entries from abstract through architecture, aeronautical to nature and once again it was an enjoyable evening. Kudos to Kevin Adams of TDPS who was awarded "best image on the night" with his Republic P47D Thunderbolt. (*right*)

Recent programme highlights have included Jonathan Vaines' "The Little Print Show", Keith Millard's "Image Creation – Inspired by the Impressionists", Andy Sands' "Secret Britain" covering British bird, mammal, insect, fungus & slime mould subjects that are more secretive in nature, and our internal colour vs mono member led evening – where members presented pairs of the same image in colour and mono – was really instructive for all. A number of club members will join the fabulous Andy Sands on a workshop in the Autumn, learning from a real maestro of macro in the field, adding to the increasing number of practical events and workshops we are organising, including the recently concluded Osprey hide trip to Rutland.

In terms of the regular programme, a couple of upcoming programme speaker highlights are :

Seascapes

by Kevin Pigney

15 October 2025 via Zoom

Reality is Overrated

by Catherine Knee

12 November 2025 in person

We are happily welcoming new and returning members, all of whom are made very welcome within a friendly group and less experienced members are well supported. Why not come and join us?

As your local camera club, we enjoy the fun and camaraderie of in-person meetings every other Wednesday evening – good friendships form through membership of TDPS. We aim to provide 'something for everyone'. Our website provides programme information and member galleries at

www.towcesterphoto.co.uk

The Society is happy to answer enquiries.



www.towcesterphoto.co.uk

Follow us on Facebook too
www.facebook.com/groups/717208911681719/

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TCS HARMONIES FOR HOPE

TOWCESTER CHORAL SOCIETY

At the end of June, we held our amazing summer concert in St Lawrence's Church, with our special guests, the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir. We sang our way around the British Isles, and a little further afield, and the audience enjoyed joining in with some pieces as well as excellent interval refreshments!

TCS decided to use the proceeds from the raffle to show our support for the Tove Benefice Ukraine Aid Effort. TCS members donated the prizes for the amazing hampers, and Steve Challen and his team sold the tickets. The raffle raised over an amazing £1,000 for the appeal to help fund the latest ambulance and equipment that is being sent to Ukraine.



In September, the choir will start its rehearsals for the Christmas Concert. This will be held on Saturday 13th December at 7.30pm in St Lawrence's Church, Towcester, so save the date now! Watch out for the next edition of the Town Crier, which will have the full details of what we'll be performing (it's still being finalised as this goes to press)- but expect special pieces performed by the choir and instruments, traditional carols, and, of course, audience participation!

Tickets are £15 for adults and £7.50 for under 18s. Your ticket price will, as always, include your programme and refreshments. Please buy your tickets in advance from our online ticketing facility at <http://towcester-choral-society.sumupstore.com>

Please note our concerts can be oversubscribed, so we cannot guarantee that you will be able to obtain a ticket on the day.

It's going to be another fantastic evening, and we hope to see you there.

www.towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk



FREE Out There Youth Groups in Towcester for school years 7-13
Bringing LGBTQ+ young people together to connect, have fun and access support

Every Tuesday (term time)
 6:30-8:00pm

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NN12 6AX

For more info, contact:
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or call 07585 737482
www.thelowdown.info

FREE

Age 5 - 11 years old
Tuesday 26th August - Friday 29th August
9:30am-12:30pm at Tove Valley Centre

Family BBQ on Friday 29th 12:30pm-2:00pm

Book a place at:
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For more info email: youth@tvbf.co.uk

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All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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...and why we have chosen Towcester
for our newest office location.



WHITE HORSE YARD



We believe where you work shapes how you work. That's why the team at Point of Difference Workspace Ltd are thrilled to announce the opening of our newest office at White Horse Yard in Towcester - a space designed to inspire productivity, collaboration, and success.

Why Towcester?

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A workspace that works for you.

Our White Horse Yard location has been carefully curated to combine professionalism with a fresh, modern vibe. Whether you're a start-up in need of an office, or an established company seeking a satellite location, we offer flexible solutions tailored to suit your needs.

If you would like to find out more, please get in touch. We would love to show you around. And if Towcester isn't quite what you're looking for, we also have offices in Aylesbury, Banbury and Bicester.

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e: hello@pointofdifference.co.uk
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Visit our website and view the 360 personal tour. Scan the QR tag.

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MUSIC FROM STAGE AND SCREEN

7pm Saturday 13th September
St Lawrence Church

We're dusting off a playlist of stage and screen classics for our autumn concert.

Gather the whole crew and join us for a night filled with well-loved tunes and see how many you recognise.

Leave those dragons in their lairs and get ready to be shaken, not stirred... Do we need to say more? It's set to be a Wicked night!

Tickets £10pp available on the door or by scanning the QR code.

TOWCESTER
STUDIO
BAND



**Towcester
Studio Band**

**MUSIC FROM
STAGE AND SCREEN**

Learn to Play

Looking back, this summer we have played at no less than twenty local events, - fêtes, beer festivals, classic car rallies, farmers markets, Towcester Midsummer Music ... It's been a great summer. We've loved entertaining you.

But we can't look back for long because September means one thing ... the launch of a new beginners' group!

Did you know that learning a musical instrument is great for children? It can help confidence, communication, cognitive development and... IT'S FUN.

Playing music brings a lot of pleasure to children while helping them in so many ways. If you have a child aged from 7 to 10, there is still time to register for a place in our 2025 beginners' group.

Practice is on Wednesday evening in Towcester at the Band Hall. Tuition and instruments are provided free of charge. Please contact us on 07377809187 at towcesterstudioband@gmail.com. We look forward to welcoming them.



Website: www.towcesterstudioband.co.uk
Email: towcesterstudioband@gmail.com
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[‡]This illustration is based upon a person aged 75 purchasing a Homewise Home for Life Plan at a 30% reduction on the lowest value one-bedroom apartment. Price relates to Penrith. The cost may vary depending on the customer's circumstances, and property criteria. Homewise terms and conditions apply, visit homewise.co.uk/information or call 0800 084 1150.

SONGBIRDS

Singing for the Soul



In June, Songbirds had a really great time performing at Towcester Midsummer Music Festival. It's always a lot of fun and we have enjoyed learning some new songs including: A million dreams (from The Greatest Showman); Don't be so hard on yourself (Jess Glynn); Hold on; Symphony (Clean Bandit); These days; What about us (Pink). There's something for everyone. Perhaps you saw us at The Mill or at Towcester Church Fete and thought you might like to join our group.

This is what one of our newer members wrote recently:

"I joined Songbirds in summer 2024 having moved to Towcester for work after graduating university. I hadn't sung since school but looked to bring music back into my life regularly and to meet some new people. I came across Songbirds on Facebook and thought I'd try it out... I've been most weeks since!"

"Not only have I rediscovered my love of singing, but I also get the chance to laugh and interact with some wonderful, incredible women. If you're new or old to Towcester (and whether you're new or old yourself!) I would strongly recommend this relaxed, fun and community-feeling choir."

In September, as the new term starts, we will be back learning more new songs and it is definitely the best time to join. You don't have to audition and it's not necessary to be able to read music, you just need to be able to sing in tune. You will definitely be made to feel welcome.

Many people feel that they might not be good enough but you really shouldn't worry. Kat, our ever enthusiastic musical director, is planning some vocal technique exercises during our sessions next term so we will all get the chance to work on our skills. Knowing Kat, it will be great fun and we will all improve.

We meet (term time only) at Nicholas Hawksmoor School on a Thursday evening between 7.45 - 9.15pm. The evening is always filled with a lot of laughter as well as great singing. We try to provide a supportive atmosphere where we all help each other as we learn new songs. A great way to make new friends whatever your age.



For more information

Facebook - <https://facebook.com/SongbirdsTowcester>

Instagram - @songbirdstowcester



PROBUSS LADIES LUNCH CLUB

We are an organisation for retired women that meets on the first Thursday of each month at the Saracens Head in Towcester for lunch, followed by a guest speaker.

We aim to foster fellowship and connection while learning from the diverse range of speakers we invite.

NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

If you're interested in experiencing our lunches, you can attend as a guest initially.

For more information, please reach out to:

- President, Denise Rowe at serendipity.rowe@yahoo.co.uk
- Vice President, Bron Kenny at bronnkenny@gmail.com

Shingles Vaccination

Who's eligible?

If you have had chickenpox, your chances of developing shingles is one in four.

Over 50s with a severely weakened immune system.

65s and over.

Getshinglesready.co.uk



Towcester Writers' Group

All are welcome to join us.

We meet in the Oak Room at the Saracen's Head at 7pm on the fourth Wednesday of the month.
(This may change in the Winter)

Our aim is to explore ways of encouraging creativity, while making writing an enjoyable and life-enhancing pastime.

For details contact Mike Gascoigne
michaelrgascoigne@gmail.com



Meet new friends and have fun
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Raffle - Outings

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Towcester Town Crier
Quarterly Community Magazine

WINTER ISSUE
Out NOVEMBER 2025

Submissions Deadline
25 SEPT 2025



Sponsored by
TOWCESTER HOMES

Youth Football Towcester Town FC 2025 Tournament a Triumph

Towcester Town FC's annual six-a-side tournament, sponsored by Towcester Homes, took place at the Recreation Ground, Islington Road, on 7th and 8th June 2025, attracting over 100 teams from Northamptonshire and nearby counties.

The event had a vibrant atmosphere and delivered an exciting weekend of football for players from Under 7s to Under 16s. Teams from Under 9s upward competed for the prestigious Cup and Plate trophies, with Deputy Lieutenant of Northamptonshire, Miranda Wixon, presenting medals on Saturday, and Towcester Town's Mayor, Rachel Dando L'Olive, on the Sunday.

Delicious BBQ food from Brad's Banquets was in high demand, and the food and drink and refreshments stalls did a roaring trade too.

Lisa Samiotis, Chair of Towcester Town FC, expressed gratitude to the coaches, volunteers and participating teams: *"The team spirit, skill and sportsmanship were exceptional. Feedback from coaches, players and parents has been overwhelmingly positive."*

The tournament remains vital to funding TTFC's grassroots football programmes, with all proceeds reinvested into player development and club initiatives.

As a fully volunteer-run club, TTFC welcomes community support. Local businesses interested in sponsorship can contact clubchair@towcestertownfc.co.uk

Photos courtesy of Nick Holder and Leo Samiotis

Towcester Town FC need you!

We are excited to announce the creation of a brand-new women's team, and we want you to be part of it!

All abilities and levels of experience are welcome, whether you've played before, are returning to the game or trying it out for the first time.

- Fully qualified and experienced coaches
- Training on Thursday nights at the rec during summer
- Matches on Sundays from September
- Ages from 16+

We are also recruiting players for the following age groups:

- U10s (year 5 from September)
- U11s (year 6 from September)
- U13s (year 8 from September)
- U14s girls (year 9 from September)
- U15s girls (year 10 from September)

For more information or to register your interest, email teamenquiries@towcestertownfc.co.uk





West Northants set to welcome the Women's Rugby World Cup!

With the countdown underway for the Women's Rugby World Cup England 2025 kicking-off in August, excitement is sweeping across the host nation in anticipation of what will be the biggest and most accessible celebration of women's rugby ever.

Across six weekends from 22 August to 27 September, fans will have the chance to watch the world's 16 best teams and the biggest stars of the game compete at eight locations across the length and breadth of the country, culminating in a grand finale at the world's largest dedicated rugby union venue, Twickenham Stadium, London.

Fans from West Northants and beyond will have a golden opportunity to watch the world's number one ranked team and hosts, England, in action at Northampton's Franklin's Gardens on Saturday 30 August.

More than 400,000 tickets are available for the 10th edition of the pinnacle women's event with prices ranging from £5 to £95 across the tournament. Over 60 per cent of tickets are under £25 and children's prices are available for every match, including the knockout phase. Accessible tickets are also available for all matches.

Make sure you don't miss out on being part of England's sporting event of the year! For all the latest ticketing news and information Visit www.tickets.rugbyworldcup.com and keep your eyes peeled on the WNC website and social media channels for more announcements and events in the lead up to the main tournament!

WOMEN'S RUGBY WORLD CUP 2025 THIS ENERGY NEVER STOPS

WOMEN'S ENG25

NORTHAMPTON MATCH SCHEDULE FRANKLIN'S GARDENS

IRELAND	V	JAPAN	SUN 24 AUG 12:00 BST
SOUTH AFRICA	V	BRAZIL	SUN 24 AUG 14:45 BST
ENGLAND	V	SAMOA	SAT 30 AUG 17:00 BST
IRELAND	V	SPAIN	SUN 31 AUG 12:00 BST
ITALY	V	BRAZIL	SUN 07 SEP 14:00 BST
FRANCE	V	SOUTH AFRICA	SUN 07 SEP 16:45 BST



A Call for Safer Streets in Towcester

Why a 20mph speed limit is the right move

by Martin Johns

The streets of Towcester have long been places of connection and community, but they should also be a haven of safety. Unfortunately, the reality of higher vehicle speeds often disrupts this vision, creating an environment that can be both hazardous and noisy, diminishing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike. As residential areas across the UK continue to embrace slower speed limits to improve safety and air quality, Towcester cannot afford to lag behind. It is time we take action to make our roads safer for all.

A statutory 20mph speed limit throughout Towcester would represent a significant opportunity to enhance the town's quality of life. Such measures have proven effective in other places, reducing accidents and paving the way for healthier, more vibrant communities. Imagine a Towcester where children can walk to school without the fear of speeding traffic, where cyclists can use our streets with ease. Lower speeds are not just a matter of safety; they are a matter of equity, ensuring that everyone—whether on foot, bike, or behind the wheel—can navigate our streets without undue risk.

Moreover, the benefits of a 20mph limit extend beyond safety. Studies have shown that slower speeds lead to reduced air pollution and traffic noise, creating a calmer and more pleasant residential environment. These improvements align perfectly with the town's aspirations to be a thriving and welcoming place, where residents and visitors alike can enjoy Towcester without the intrusive roar of speeding vehicles.

Towcester has the chance to be more than an attractive market town; it has the chance to be a model for road safety and community-forward planning. Let us seize this moment to say, "Enough is enough." Let us declare that safety, peace, and well-being are non-negotiable values that must shape the future of our streets. A statutory 20mph speed limit is not an inconvenience—it is an investment in Towcester's future, one that ensures we leave a legacy of care and responsibility for generations to come.



Tows Hockey Players Achieve International Standing

THREE TOWCESTRIAN HOCKEY PLAYERS REPRESENT WALES IN SPAIN

Towcestrian Hockey Club's Emily Bell, Amy Hansen and Jo Griffiths represented Wales in the 2025 World Masters Hockey European Championship in Valencia, Spain.

Their performance shone during three selection trials that took place over the winter. The three players were delighted to be selected to play for Wales and made their international debut at the European Championship on 20 June.

Amy and Jo are in Wales Women's over-40s and their team went on to come second overall. Furthermore, Jo won Player of the Match in a game against the Alliance Team, which is made up of players from around the world.

Midfielder, Emily played for Wales Women's over-35s and won Player of the Match in a game against Germany. Although Wales lost 3-1 they pressed on to play four more games within the tournament.

This is an admirable achievement for these three women, who train and play for Towcester Club on top of their day jobs.



From L to R Jo Griffiths, Amy Hansen and Emily Bell

ENGLAND HOCKEY TEAM TRAILBLAZERS FROM TOWCESTRIANS HOCKEY CLUB

England hockey players, Emma Olifent and Isabel Bromilow, from Towcestrians Hockey Club, run on to pitches in international matches this summer.

Goalkeeper Emma and midfielder Issy are both national players in their age group categories.

From 1–3 August, Emma will defend England's goal against Scotland, Ireland and Wales in the over-50s Four Nations Women's tournament in Glasgow. Fellow players in the know at Towcestrians confidently agree with this selection, particularly as Emma has played in World Cups in New Zealand, South Africa and Spain since first appearing in the World Masters team in 2018.

Another hidden gem has been playing at Towcestrians since 1991, and joined the England squad in 2019. This year, Issy is giving it some welly for England's over-65 squad in a string of matches.

She's making her first appearance in England's Masters Team LX in July's International Grand Masters Hockey Festival in Nottingham. The LX team will face Belgium, the Netherlands, Argentina, the USA, Scotland and Alliance (a team made up of players from around the world).

Issy has also been invited to play for Australia Southern Cross, in the Spirit of Masters competition run in conjunction with the European Cup in Nottingham this August. This could be interesting, as she's a reserve for the England team playing in the European Championships, also in Nottingham, during the same period.

The hundreds of children and adults who play at Towcestrians count themselves incredibly lucky to have international hockey players for England, and other nationalities, in their club. Some even help to coach the children – so watch out for talent from Towcester coming up through the ranks.



Individual shots of Emma and Issy in their England kit.

TOWCESTER & HULCOTE TRAIL

Northamptonshire offers a surprising variety of landscapes from the rolling hills in the north, to the scenic vistas and amazing woodlands in the south. If you add the Grand Union Canal with its many towpaths and quaint little villages, that are secreted in history, it is no wonder that they call this county the "Hidden Cotswolds".



A Walk Through Time and Tranquillity

Take a step back in time, and into nature, with a delightful circular walk from Towcester to the charming hamlet of Hulcote. This route, created by Adventure Geek, is just over 4 miles and blends countryside calm with historical intrigue, making it the perfect morning or afternoon escape.

Starting in the Heart of History

Begin your journey from the Tove Short-Stay Car Park in Towcester, one of the oldest continuously inhabited towns in the country. If you haven't yet visited Bury Mount, we recommend making time to explore this mini-mountain and its sweeping stone timeline, which tells Towcester's 2,000-year story, from Roman roots to coaching town fame.

Through Woods and Fields to Hulcote

The walk leads you out of town via a secret archway beside a chestnut tree, opening into peaceful woodland and open fields where sheep often graze. Before long, you'll find yourself stepping over stiles and into the tiny hamlet of Hulcote, which forms part of the Easton Neston Estate. The estate is linked to the architect Nicholas Hawksmoor, and you'll spot his influence in Hulcote's hexagonal Gothic-style cottages, built in the early 19th century with distinctive chequered brickwork.

Ducks, Fords & Hidden Lanes

After weaving through the village, the route continues past quacking ducks, a charming wooden footbridge, and a shallow ford, ideal for a summer paddle or a reflective photo moment. A peaceful farm track and a brief stretch along the A43's safe walking path eventually return you into town via a shaded woodland path.

Did You Know:

- Hulcote once housed a Victorian school and has strong estate roots.
- The Easton Neston estate was home to the influential Fermor-Hesketh family.
- Towcester features in the Domesday Book and was once known as Lactodurum in Roman times.

Fancy a Drink After Your Walk?

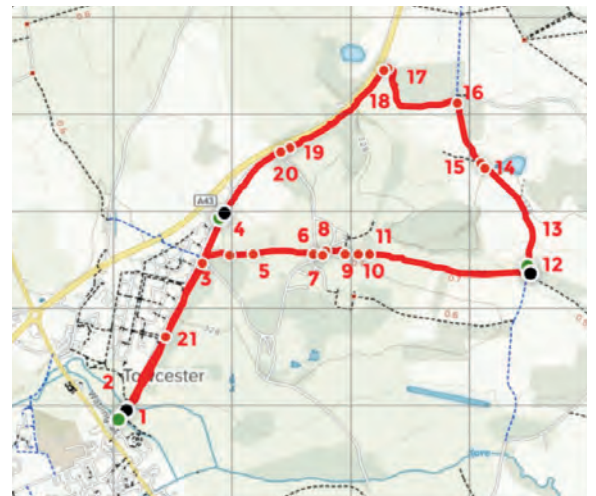
Towcester Mill Brewery, located just minutes from the end of the walk, is an ideal finishing point. With a large beer garden, rich local history, and award-winning brews, it's a favourite with locals and visitors alike.



Distance: 4.6 miles / 7400 steps

Duration: Approx 1hr 45min

Difficulty: Flat/Easy



Join the #AGPhotoChallenge

This walk's challenge is to capture a reflection in the ford – and share it on social media using #AGPhotoChallenge!

Download this walk

www.adventuregeek.co.uk/AlltrailsAG11

Turn-by-turn photos, instructions and GPX files are available with the map download.



Check out our latest guided walks:

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Contact: Julia Doherty – 07855 522027 or email julia@adventuregeek.co.uk for more information



Watling Street at the time of the Motorbike Grand Prix in the early 1980s

Preserving Towcester's Visual History

Our archive contains a remarkable number of photographs of the town, with many of the photographs dating from the 1900s and later. These have been used in our publications and quite a few are available on the 'Towcester History and Photographs' Facebook Group, which has now been going for more than a decade.

The Facebook site is run in collaboration with the Society and has a good following. It has attracted more than 5000 members and the Facebook statistics indicate that more than 33,000 people saw a post by regular contributor, Paul Howard, containing pictures of the weekend of the Motorbike Grand Prix in the town centre taken about 1980 (see illustration). Without a doubt, posts such as Paul's help so many people reminisce about the town, get enjoyment, and quite often link up with Towcester people they used to know. It is a sad fact the many of the photographs we hold come to us devoid of crucial details such as the dates they were taken or the photographers who captured them—a result of the information being lost or never having been recorded at all.

Good local photographs are the key to getting public interest. However, as we delve further into the past, the visual record becomes increasingly sparse, with the earliest photographic examples in our collection dating to the 1860s and most historic drawings of the town are no earlier in date. This lack of early visual documentation creates a challenge when trying to bring the fascinating stories of Towcester's early history to life. While the town's history is rich with compelling narratives and significant events, the absence of contemporary illustrations, drawings, or paintings from earlier periods makes it difficult to present these stories in a way that captivates and engages the public. Without visual aids, these accounts are harder to connect with, and key moments in Towcester's past risk being overlooked or underappreciated. Modern photographs of historical buildings and artefacts offer some insight, but they can never fully convey the atmosphere and character of bygone eras.

We are always keen to hear from members of the public who might have photographs of Towcester that they wish to donate or will be willing for us to copy and make use of on Facebook etc. In the first instance please send details to tdlhs@mkheritage.org.uk

Visit the Towcester History and Photographs Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/128512377223461>

Brian Giggins,
Chair, Towcester & District Local History Society



TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Forthcoming Talks

No meeting in August

The Great Fire of Northampton

by Ruth Thomas

**Wednesday 10 September 2025
at The Sawpits Centre**

Local Historian, Ruth Thomas, will be talking to us about the great fire of Northampton when on September 1675 almost 75% of Northampton was destroyed. Destroying three quarters of Northampton, it was one of the most disastrous events in the history of the town.

Edgar Mobbs – A Rugby Icon in the First World War

by Graham McKechnie

**Wednesday 8 October 2025
at The Sawpits Centre**

Graham is the Sports Editor at BBC Radio Northampton and Club Historian for the Saints. Tonight he will recount the life of Edgar Mobbs, a superstar of rugby who captained both Northampton Saints and England, and many of his team-mates who also went to war.

Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month (except August) at 7:30pm at The Sawpits Centre, Towcester. All are welcome, and there is a small fee for visitors. Members can also access the meetings by Zoom.

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Thursday Evenings

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Beginners - 7:45pm

Next Steps - 8:45pm

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TOWCESTER MILL BREWERY TRIUMPHS AGAIN AT AWARDS



Richard Burgham (centre), Chair of CAMRA Northamptonshire, presented brewing director John, alongside brewer Aidan (right), at the beginning of June

The spring saw Towcester Mill Brewery pick up two awards, much to its delight!

In April, it was announced by CAMRA that the Mill's Tap Room had been awarded the prestigious 'Pub of the Year' award from CAMRA Northamptonshire. The pubs judged were all those in the county who are in the current 2025 Good Beer Guide and who were nominated by CAMRA members. Out of the nine shortlisted pubs across all of Northamptonshire, each pub was judged against criteria such as beer quality, their service and welcome, community focus, cleanliness and other factors which encouraged them to make a repeat visit. Now, the Mill will be pitted against each of the county winners from Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire to find the regional winners – watch this space!



At the end of May, **Towcester Mill's Black Fire** was awarded another accolade, having won the 'Strong Stouts' category at the 2025 Northampton County Beer Festival at Becket's Park. CAMRA Northamptonshire held its annual round of judging of the County's beers where over 40 judges took part in sampling 60 beers from the County's brewers. The judges followed CAMRA's guidance on judging the beers against the various styles, and Black Fire won its category!



WHAT'S ON
AT THE MILL

12:30pm & 2:30pm Saturday 13th September
FREE HERITAGE OPEN DAY EVENT

"Beer & Buildings"

Talk by Brewing Director, John Evans

5pm Sunday 14th September
FREE HERITAGE OPEN DAY EVENT

"Gunpowder, Treason and Sub-Plot"

Talk by Philomena Liggins

8pm Tuesday 23rd September

Poppy Appeal Charity Quiz

for Royal British Legion

Tickets £3pp

8pm Saturday 4th October

Oompah Band Night feat. Studio Stompers

Tickets £10pp

12-4pm Sunday 19th October

Record Fair - Free entry

8pm Thursday 30th October

Towcester's Comedy Club

Headlining Markus Birdman & Darryl Purvis

Tickets £16pp

For more info and to book, visit

www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk



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TOWCESTER & DISTRICT OPEN DAYS

12 - 21 September 2025



St Lawrence Church, Towcester



Towcester Museum



Chantry House, Towcester



Church of St Mary, Easton Neston



Church of St Michael, Bradden



Heritage Trails



Towcester Mill Brewery



St Bartholomew's, Greens Norton



National Trust Stowe Gardens



Weedon Depot Visitor Centre



St Botolph's Church, Slapton



National Trust Canons Ashby



St John the Baptist, Plumpton



Crusader Canal Tours, Blisworth



Vintage Bus Tours



... and MORE!



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Northamptonshire
CULTURE · TOURISM · HERITAGE

**Local Visitor
Economy
Partnership**

Recognised by

VisitEngland

Opening times and more venues at
heritageopendays.org.uk



REGULAR EVENTS IN TOWCESTER

TOWCESTER COUNTRY MARKET

9-11:30am, Thursdays

Local produce from bakers, growers, and makers, plus refreshments.

The Sawpits Centre, Richmond Road

LITTLE BORROWERS PLAYTIME

(Formerly Towcester Toy Library)

9:30-11:30am, Thursdays

Under 5s £2.50 per family

Towcester Youth & Community Centre

AGE UK WALKS

11am, Mondays

Gentle 30-minute walk & friendly chat around The Watermeadows

Meet at The Forum

TOWCESTER FARMERS' MARKET

Second Friday of the month

Outdoor market of independent local stalls and producers.

9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park

TOWCESTER FOODBANK

12noon-2pm Tuesdays

10:30am-12:30pm Fridays

Riverside Centre, Islington Rd

TOWCESTER COMMUNITY LARDER

4:15-6pm Wednesdays

10-11:15am Thursdays

Discounted & free surplus food

£10 annual membership

Riverside Resource Centre, Islington Rd

TOWCESTER COMMUNITY FRIDGE

10am Mondays & Wednesdays

4pm Fridays

FREE surplus food rescued from local supermarkets & businesses

Towcester Methodist Church

RENEW169 WELLBEING CAFÉ

Open 10am-3pm Mon to Thu

10-12 Repair Café last Sat of the month

TOWCESTER HANDMADE FAYRE

Saturday, 6 Sept, 4 Oct, 1 Nov, 6 Dec

Artisan craft fayre. Products made and sold by local artists and makers.

9:30am-4pm Towcester Town Hall

TOWCESTER CRAFT COLLECTIVE

Saturday, 27 Sept, 18 Oct, 22 Nov, 13 Dec

Craft and gift fair

10am-3:30pm Towcester Town Hall

TOWCESTER YOUTH CLUB (SNYE)

Wednesdays term time

5:30-6:30pm Ages 10-12 £2pp

7-8:30pm Ages 13-15 £2pp

Towcester Youth & Community Centre

TOWCESTER REPAIR CAFE

10am-12noon Last Saturday of the month

Renew169 Wellbeing Café

TOWCESTER BUSINESS BUZZ

10am-12noon Fourth Thursday of the month

Steam Room, Towcester Mill Brewery

OUT THERE YOUTH GROUP

Tuesdays 6:30-8pm term time

LGBTQ+ club for ages 11-16

The Barn, Bransons Lane

What's On in Towcester AND NEARBY



AUGUST 2025

Tue 5th : SNYE HOLIDAY SESSION

10am - 3pm Towcester Youth & Community Centre

Free (Booking required) for 10-12yrs - see page 2

Fri 15th : VJ DAY 80th ANNIVERSARY

Tue 19th : SNYE HOLIDAY SESSION

10am - 3pm Towcester Youth & Community Centre

Free (Booking required) for 10-12yrs - see page 2

Sun 24th : UKRAINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mon 25th : AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

Tue 26th - 29th : MONSTERS STINK HOLIDAY CLUB

9:30am - 12:30pm Tove Valley Centre

Free activity club 5-11yrs + family BBQ @12:30pm on 29th

Fri 29th : SNYE PLAY AND ACTIVITY DAY

11am - 3pm, Recreation Ground, Islington Road

Music, games, sports, crafts & more fun activities

Free Entry for all the family & friends

Sat 13th : HERITAGE OPEN DAY @ THE MILL

12:30 & 2:30pm Towcester Mill Brewery

"Beer & Buildings" Talk. Free Entry. Booking essential.

Sat 13th : MUSIC FROM STAGE & SCREEN

Towcester Studio Band Concert

7pm St Lawrence Church £10pp

www.towcesterstudioband.co.uk

Sun 14th : HERITAGE OPEN DAY @ THE MILL

5pm Towcester Mill Brewery

"Gunpowder, Treason & Sub-plot" Talk.

Free Entry. Booking essential.

Thu 18th : RAF AIR CADETS OPEN EVENING

See page 15 for contact details

Tue 23rd : POPPY APPEAL CHARITY QUIZ

8pm Towcester Mill Brewery £3pp

www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk

Thu 25th : TOWN CRIER DEADLINE FOR ISSUE 209

OCTOBER 2025

Thu 2nd : NORTHAMPTONSHIRE PLACE NAMES

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

Women's Institute

Sat 4th : OOMPAH BAND NIGHT ft STUDIO STOMPERS

8pm Towcester Mill Brewery £10pp - Booking essential

www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk

Wed 8th : EDGAR MOBBS - RUGBY ICON OF WW1

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

History Society Talk

Mon 13th : TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

7:30pm Towcester Town Hall

Wed 15th : SEASCAPES BY KEVIN PIGNEY

Photo Society Talk (via Zoom) - see page 23

Sun 19th : RECORD FAIR

12-4pm Towcester Mill Brewery

Free entry

Thu 30th : MILL COMEDY CLUB

Headlining Markus Birdman & Darryl Purvis

8pm Towcester Mill Brewery £16pp - Booking essential

www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk



SEPTEMBER 2025

LEARN TO PLAY A BRASS INSTRUMENT

Starting on Wednesdays, sign up for FREE kids lessons with Towcester Studio Band. See page 27 for details.

Thu 4th : THE AIR AMBULANCE

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

Women's Institute

Mon 8th : TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

7:30pm Towcester Town Hall

Wed 10th : THE GREAT FIRE OF NORTHAMPTON

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

History Society Talk



Elves sought for Christmas Toy Bank - See page 10

Thu 6th Nov : CONFESSIONS OF A CANAL BOATER

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

Women's Institute

Fri 21st Nov : USA NEW MEMBERS MEETING

10am - 12noon Towcester Town Hall

Wed 12th Nov : REALITY IS OVERRATED

Photo Society Talk (Silverstone village) - see page 23

Thu 4th Dec : WOMEN IN BLUE

7:30pm Sawpits Centre

Women's Institute

Sat 13th December : CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Towcester Choral Society

7:30pm St Lawrence Church (More details in next issue)



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THORNTON

OUTSTANDING

CSI Inspection Report
May 2024

EXCELLENT

ISI Inspection Report
October 2022



For girls aged 3 to 18 years old.

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