# Towcester Town Crier

Your FREE community magazine produced by Towcester Town Council

Issue 210 SPRING 2026 Town Hall, Towcester



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+ Paulerspury Players Pantomime 18-21 Feb
+ News & events from primary schools
+ Spring Concerts
+ Volunteer Opportunities
+ Community Group News
+ Church news
+ Support Services
+ Local Walk
+ *and more . . .*

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**
*for Towcester*
**7-9pm Monday 2 March 2026**
*(See page 2 for more details)*

COULD YOU HELP DISTRIBUTE THIS COMMUNITY MAGAZINE TO YOUR NEIGHB OURS?
WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS, PARTICULARLY FOR NEW HOUSING ESTATES
PLEASE CONTACT enquiries@towcester-tc.gov.uk

YOU ARE INVITED TO THE

# ANNUAL TOWN MEETING



**Every parish holds an annual meeting for electors to receive reports from their parish council about its activities over the previous 12months.**
**Local representatives from police, community and volunteer organisations are also invited to share their updates.**
**Come along to find our more about your town.**

**AGENDA**

- **WELCOME BY THE TOWN MAYOR**
- **TOWN COUNCIL UPDATES**
- **POLICE LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE**
- **LOCAL ORGANISATIONS INFORMATION**
- **Q & A SESSION**
- **NETWORKING & REFRESHMENTS**

## 7PM - 9PM
## MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2026

## THE SAWPITS CENTRE
**RICHMOND ROAD NN12 6EX**
WHAT3WORDS///UNIT.HUTS.SOLUTIONS

**HOSTED BY TOWCESTER TOWN COUNCIL**
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:
01327 350995
ENQUIRIES@TOWCESTER-TC.GOV.UK

MEET THE TOWN MAYOR
ABOUT THE TOWN COUNCIL
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
BUILD COMMUNITY RESILIENCE
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
GET TO KNOW YOUR TOWN
MEET COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS
SHARE IDEAS
UPCOMING EVENTS

# A WORD FROM THE MAYOR

### *2025 - the year of changes at the Town Council*

*2025 was a period of change for the Town Council. In May, we bid farewell to long-serving councillors and welcomed new members at the onset of the new council term. Later in the year, we were pleased to welcome Cllr Tolley and Cllr Dallyn, who were co-opted onto vacant seats. Sadly, we also mourned the passing of our longest-serving councillor, Peter Allen. He was a cherished member of the community and a devoted public servant for over 40 years, who will be deeply missed.*

*At the end of 2025, after 22 years of dedicated service, the Town Clerk, Elizabeth Cox, made the difficult decision to leave the Town Council. Members and staff would like to thank Elizabeth for her commitment and contribution over many years and wish her every success in her future endeavours.*

*We also said goodbye to Office Administrator, Rhianna, and wish her well in her new job.*

*More recently, on 12th January we welcomed Cllr Theo Morris. However, due to the resignations of two councillors, we still have two vacant seats on the Town Council.*

### *Do you have what it takes to join our team and serve our community, either as a councillor or officer of the council?*

*Look for the adverts within this publication or our website to find out more about becoming a town councillor:* ***https://www.towcester-tc.gov.uk/be-a-town-councillor/*** *or view our current job vacancies here:* ***https://www.towcester-tc.gov.uk/job-vacancies/***

### *Annual Town Meeting*

*All Towcester residents are invited to attend the Annual Town Meeting. This is your opportunity to find out about the Town Council's activities over the previous 12 months and to ask questions and put forward ideas. There will also be representatives from other local organisations and opportunities to get more involved in your local community. I look forward to seeing you there.* ***7pm, Monday 2nd March 2026 at The Sawpits Centre.***



Cllr Rachel Dando LOHive

**Towcester Town Mayor 2025-6**

**Facebook @TowcesterMayor**

*Fundraising for:*

NMPAT Towcester

**Towcester NMPAT Music School**

Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary

**4:15pm Wednesdays**

Open to all aspiring musicians

Scan to donate

## IN MEMORY OF COUNCILLOR PETER ALLEN



### A Champion for Towcester

It was with deep sadness that we learnt last November of the death of Councillor Peter Allen, a much liked and respected local representative who gave his time selflessly to serving our community and represented the town as Town Mayor in 1995/6. Not only was Peter an active town councillor for more than 40 years, he also served as a trustee of Moor Field Alms houses in the town and other charities.

Peter was renowned for his unwavering commitment, compassion, and tireless advocacy for the needs of residents. His positive spirit, friendliness, helpfulness and genuine kindness touched the lives of many.

Those who knew Peter will retain many happy memories of him. In the past, when health and safety rules were 'more flexible', Peter with his head for heights and sense of humour would scale scaffolding inside the town hall to put up Christmas decorations. Allegedly other councillors would wheel the scaffolding around with Peter at the top! He always had a can do, practical approach to helping in his community.

Peter's interests extended far beyond the council, as with his passion for the countryside, for birds, trees and wildlife in general. When a developer wanted to cut costs, which would have led to damage to water courses through Towcester water meadows, it was Peter who led a campaign that won the day.

Peter will be greatly missed by colleagues, friends, and many residents alike, who will remember him for his friendship, sense of fun, warmth, integrity, and the difference he made in his adopted town. Our thoughts are with his family and close friends.

Please join us in remembering and celebrating his life of service.

**Memorial Service**

**2pm Monday 9th February 2026 St Lawrence Church**

and afterwards from 3pm at The Sawpits Centre for light refreshments

# TOWN CLERK

Full-time, Towcester
37 hours per week
**£58,523k to £72,307k**
(NJC SCP 46 to 54)

**FIND OUT MORE & APPLY**

towcester-tc.gov.uk/
job-vacancies

**Towcester Town Council is seeking an experienced and motivated Town Clerk to act as the Council's Head of Paid Service and Proper Officer.**

Key Responsibilities:

- Ensure the efficient administration of Council business and provide professional, impartial advice to Members.
- Lead the organisation with strong strategic direction, fostering a positive and collaborative team culture.
- Oversee daily operations, finances, staffing, assets, and compliance with all legislation.
- Prepare agendas, support Council and committee meetings, and ensure decisions are implemented effectively.
- Manage risk, health & safety, data protection, and organisational policies.
- Lead communications, community engagement, and key projects aligned with Council priorities.
- Act as the Council's principal representative and main point of contact.
- Ideally CiLCA qualified

If you like the sound of this challenge, have experience in working for local government or similar community focussed organisation, we would like to hear from you.

A relocation package may be available for the right candidate.

**Deadline for applications: Sunday 15th March 2026**

# WE ARE HIRING - JOIN OUR TEAM

## HAVE YOU GOT WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR?

**We are seeking an enthusiastic, competent, organised and proactive person to join our small team of staff, to become responsible for the day to day administration of Towcester Town Council's office at the Town Hall.**

The successful candidate will be used to working under pressure and able to deal effectively with residents, customers, staff, councillors and visitor enquiries, both in person, by email and over the phone.

Applicants should have strong attention to detail, with a proven track record in developing effective working relationships and communications across a range of stakeholders, be a team player along with possessing the ability to work on their own initiative. Education to GCSE level or equivalent (including maths and English) and computer literacy are essential.

**Deadline for applications: Friday 20th February 2026**

**Interviews w/c 2nd March 2026**

# OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

Full-time on site
37 hours per week
**£27,694 - £29,064**
(NJC LC1 SCP 10 to 13)

**FIND OUT MORE & APPLY**

towcester-tc.gov.uk/
job-vacancies

# TOWN COUNCIL NEWS

## BRACKLEY ROAD CEMETERY



**Garden of rest shelter to be replaced**

Visitors to Brackley Road Cemetery may have noticed that the wooden shelter and seat in the old garden of rest was in a very poor state at the end of the 2025 and has now been removed.

It will be replaced by a brand new shelter later in spring when the weather has improved.

We apologise for any inconvenience in the meantime.

## NEW CHATTY BENCHES

**its good to talk**

Chatty benches are popping up all over the country to help combat loneliness and bring people together. Colourful signs added to existing benches let everyone know that by sitting on them you're happy to chat with whoever joins you.

So, following a request from a resident, who also kindly sourced the signs, we have installed 'Chatty Bench' signs on one of the seats outside the Chantry House on the market square, and a seat on the Recreation Ground.




## JOB VACANCIES

**TOWN CLERK**
Full-time, Towcester
37 hours per week
£58,523k to £72,307k
(NJC SCP 46 to 54)
*Deadline: 15th March 2026*

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**
Full-time in person
37 hours per week
£27,694 - £29,064
(NJC LC1 SCP 10 to 13)
*Deadline: 20th February 2026*

Scan the QR code or visit **https://www.towcester-tc.gov.uk/job-vacancies/** for more details and to apply.

## TOWCESTER TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
**Monday 9th February 2026**
***Towcester Town Hall***

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
**Monday 13th April 2026**
***Towcester Town Hall***

**ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**
***(for electors in Towcester Parish)***
**Monday 2nd March 2026**
***The Sawpits Centre***

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**
***(Incorporating MAYOR MAKING)***
**Monday 11th May 2026**
***Towcester Town Hall***

**FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
**Monday 9th March 2026**
***Towcester Town Hall***

All electors in the parish of Towcester are welcome to attend Town Council meetings. Agendas are published a few days before each meeting. Dates are subject to change. See our website for all committee dates, times, venues, agendas & minutes.

## 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 Richard Dallyn
Cllr John Godwin
Cllr Martin Johns
Cllr Innes Macaulay
Cllr Theo Morris
Cllr David Reed
Cllr David Tarbun
*Vacant Seat*

**Mill Ward**
Cllr Charles Askew
Cllr David Carmichael
Cllr Jim Lynch
Cllr Stewart Tolley
Cllr Miranda Wixon
*Vacant Seat*

## TOWN COUNCIL STAFF

**Interim Town Clerk**
Deborah Jewell

**Communications & Events Officer**
Lizzi Bucklow-Holt

**Facilities & Operations Officer**
Mark Onley

**Office Administrator**
*Vacant*

**Contact details**
Towcester Town Hall,
86 Watling Street East,
Towcester, NN12 6BS
01327 350995
towncouncil@towcester-tc.gov.uk
**www.towcester-tc.gov.uk**

**TOWN CRIER INFORMATION**
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**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**

*Produced by R1 Print & Design*

Become a Councillor

## Ever thought of becoming a Town Councillor? Your Town Council Needs You!

As a councillor representing your community you will help keep it a great place to live and work. You will be supported in your role and will be expected to undertake training. You should be comfortable working electronically. You should have a positive outlook and a can-do attitude and be willing to work as part of a team.

The Town Council consists of 16 elected members who serve for a four-year term, with the Town divided into two wards: Mill Ward and Brook Ward, representing residents from Towcester and Wood Burcote. Full Town Council meetings are normally held in the Town Hall on the second Monday of each month and the attendance of members of the public is welcomed.

The Town Council has a broad range of responsibilities, which include the maintenance of the town's green spaces, allotments and play areas, including the St. Lawrence Churchyard, the Recreation Ground, Belle Baulk, The Shires and the Cemetery on Brackley Road. It manages three premises: The Town Hall, Towcester Youth & Community Centre (as Trustees) and The Sawpits Centre (formerly Towcester Library) which serve as venues for a variety of local clubs and organisations. It is also formal consultee on all planning applications relating to Towcester.

As representatives of the first tier of local government and the closest to their communities, local councillors are best placed to engage with their residents and find out what the real local issues are and how to overcome them.

Local councils welcome and are committed to the inclusion and recognition of all regardless of race, culture, ability, ethnicity or gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, marital status, religious affiliation, and socioeconomic status.

To become a Councillor, you must:

- Be a UK or Commonwealth citizen; or be a citizen of the Republic of Ireland;
- Be at least 18 years old
- Be an elector of the local council; or in the past 12 months occupied land or other premises in the area the local council serves (as owner or tenant); or work in the area the local council serves (as your principal or only place of work); or live within three miles of the local council boundary.

Town Councillors are expected to attend Full Council meetings on the second Monday of each month and must sit on a minimum of at least one committee (noting that the Resources/Planning Committee usually meets twice each month), up to all four committees.

We recommend that you browse the Council's website, observe Full Council Meetings and read the Minutes from previous committee meetings, which should give you an understanding of the discussions held.

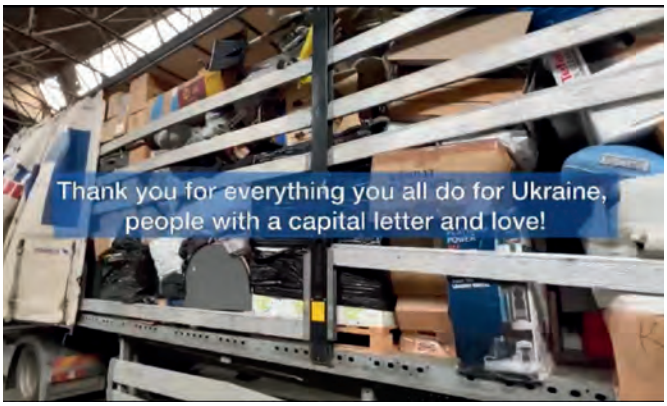
For more information on the roles and responsibilities of a Councillor, please visit the National Association of Local Councils' website **www.nalc.gov.uk**

Want to be a councillor? Please contact the Town Clerk at **towncouncil@towcester.gov.uk** who will be happy to give advice and assistance.



# 4 YEARS OF LOCAL SUPPORT
















BAMK UK Help Ukraine










**It is hard to comprehend that this Spring it is 4 years since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine.**

On 1st March 2022, St Lawrence Church opened its doors to the West Northants area, collecting and sorting some 20 tons of humanitarian aid in just 4 days. Since this time the St Lawrence / Tove Benefice team have not stopped with their support efforts, mostly focusing on identifying unwanted or expired medical and rehabilitation items that could be put to good use in Ukraine, but would have otherwise gone to landfill in the UK.

- 50+ tons of aid collect, sorted and delivered to Ukraine, including the entire contents of 2 local Care Homes sent help Ukrainian Hospitals
- Delivered 1.6 tons of aid to a refugee centre in Poland
- Delivered 10+ vehicles to Ukraine – including donation of 7 ex-NHS ambulances full of aid
- Funded 2 mountain therapy trips for Veterans and Bereaved Families
- Assisted with the twinning of Towcester with Zhydachiv, near Lviv

When delivering ambulance no.7 in Lviv last October, the continued efforts and commitment of lead volunteers / drivers Steve Challen and Alex Donalsdon were recognised when Ukraine-Mother Aid founder Tetiana Rudnik presented each with Ukrainian Government Charitable Activity medals.

Aside from donating ambulances, the team are hugely dependant on other volunteer groups who provide shared UK aid transport to deliver larger volumes of aid. This comes with dependencies, and just a few weeks before Christmas "Operation Ukraine Christmas Presents" was put at risk, with three promised lorry pickups being cancelled. However, Christmas was saved by local legend and hero Craig Cartwright, who on his day off (and just 12 hrs notice) took a van load of presents and aid to Brighton, and transferred them to a vehicle leaving for Ukraine the next day. By the end of that same week, the presents were distributed to orphans in Kharkiv, 1900miles away in eastern Ukraine, by Brighton team driver, Harry. Additional presents donated by Lucie from Towcester C of E Primary School, and food donations from Towcester Community Larder, were also loaded on an Ambulance being driven out to Kyiv by Milton Keynes aid team, Help Ukraine BAMK. Community team work at its best!

Covering the cost of transportation of aid to Ukraine is becoming ever more difficult, and sadly going forward, aid can only be accepted by appeal when transport is available. Please do get in touch if you are able to assist with UK / EU transportation physically or financially. 01327 350459

Supported by:

# Towcester CE Primary School Achieves Gold Healthy Schools Award



## A Celebration of Two Years' Dedication to Children's Health and Wellbeing

After two years of dedicated work, Towcester CE Primary School is proud to announce that we have been awarded the prestigious Gold Healthy Schools Award. This achievement reflects our whole-school commitment to promoting healthy eating and building lifelong skills for our children and families.




## Recognition from Public Health

Following her Quality Assurance visit, Michelle Bloyce, Healthy Schools Officer for Public Health, praised our approach: "Staff and leaders have worked strategically to link assemblies, curriculum, and external partnerships, creating a truly holistic approach. The school's commitment to families through cooking clubs, parent-child sessions, and community allotment plans shows that this is about building skills and confidence for life. Towcester CE Primary is growing into a genuine community hub and stands out as a flagship school for this kind of work." Deborah Mbofana, Public Health Principal, added 'All I can say is that your school is a role model for this work – the breadth and the embeddedness are great. From the champions to the food showdown, to the parent 'hot drink to go' morning - it is all so fabulous and so needed.'



## Pupil Leadership Making a Real Difference

At the heart of our success has been our enthusiastic team of Healthy Eating Champions. These young leaders have taken ownership of promoting healthy choices across our school, distributing fruit at snack time and even harvesting pears from our school pear trees for morning snacks. As one of our Champions proudly shared: "I love being a Healthy Eating Champion and giving out the fruit from the wheelbarrow." This simple statement captures the joy and pride our children feel in helping their peers make healthier choices.

## Engaging Families in Healthy Living

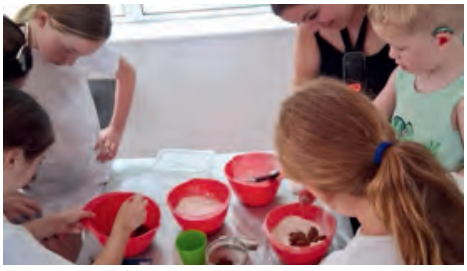
We've extended our healthy eating initiative beyond the school gates through our weekly 'Little Chef Club' in collaboration with the Food Bank and termly parent and child healthy snack making sessions. These have proven incredibly popular with families. One parent commented: "It's amazing you offer this experience in school," whilst an enthusiastic child asked: "Can we do this every week please?" These sessions have created valuable opportunities for families to learn together and build confidence in preparing nutritious food.



## Building Skills for Life

Every child (from Reception to Year 6) in our school has now learnt to cook a complete healthy main course meal, and this programme will continue every year introducing increasingly complex skills and techniques. We believe that teaching children to cook is teaching them an essential life skill that will benefit them for years to come.



## Remarkable Results

The impact of our initiatives has been truly impressive. Fruit consumption among our pupils has risen from 33% to 77%, vegetable consumption has increased from 23% to 54%, and salad consumption has jumped from 14% to 47%. Additionally, 79% of children have used the fruit barrow, with 62% reporting that they're eating more fruit as a result.

## Looking to the Future

We're not stopping here. The school continues to work with the Food Bank and Towcester Food Larder, alongside Buttons pre-school, to start a 'Grow, Cook, Eat' Programme. We have exciting plans for a community allotment on the school site, which will further strengthen our links with the local community and provide even more opportunities for children to understand where their food comes from.

This Gold Award represents not just an achievement, but a commitment to the ongoing health and wellbeing of our children and families. We're incredibly proud of what we've accomplished together and look forward to continuing this important work.

**Towcester C of E Primary School | Islington Road | Towcester | NN12 6AU**
Tel: 01327 350332 | Email: office@towcester.pdet.org.uk
Web: www.towcesterprimary.northants.sch.uk

# Local amateur dramatics group partners with Towcester Mayor to raise funds for children's arts, food support and community services

Paulerspury Players will bring their 2026 pantomime Aladdin to Northamptonshire this February, with this year's production backed by the Towcester Mayor in support of local charities. The pantomime will raise funds for children's education, early-years learning, food support and the upkeep of vital community spaces, ensuring that every ticket sold directly benefits families across Paulerspury, Towcester and surrounding villages.

For more than three decades, Paulerspury Players has combined community theatre with meaningful local support. Each year, proceeds from ticket sales are donated to local organisations and initiatives2, including education, arts and community services. This year's beneficiaries include programmes that help children access music and performing arts, support families facing food insecurity and maintain key village facilities. The group's volunteers, performers and production team work year-round to ensure the pantomime continues to support causes that matter to residents across Paulerspury, Towcester and the surrounding villages.






Paulerspury Players' directors Alec Wagner, Tracey Wagner and Emily Rigby said: "Our pantomime has always been about more than the performance itself – it's a way for the community to come together, celebrate local talent and support the services that so many families rely on.

"We're incredibly grateful for the Mayor's support this year, particularly as one of our beneficiaries is the Towcester Mayor's Charity. With additional matinee performances and a production that our cast and crew have poured their hearts into, we hope even more people will join us, enjoy the show and help us continue to make a positive difference locally."

The Mayor of Towcester, Councillor Rachel Dando L'Olive said: "Paulerspury Players are a brilliant example of how grassroots groups can strengthen a community. Their commitment to raising funds for local charities – including the organisation I'm supporting this year as Mayor, the Towcester Centre of the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust – makes a real and lasting impact.

"I'm delighted to support their 2026 pantomime and I encourage residents to come along, enjoy the performance and help contribute to the organisations that support our town and its families."

PAULERSPURY PLAYERS proudly presents ...

Aladdin

by Alec & Tracey Wagner

Looking for a magical night out Feb 2026?

Aladdin and the rest of the Twankey family are flying back to Northamptonshire - and they're bringing a genie, a lamp and a whole lot of laughs. From toe-tapping tunes, dazzling costumes and jokes for all the ages, it's the perfect family night out during half-term.

Whether you're six or sixty, there's something for everyone - and it's one of the most affordable nights out around.

And your ticket does more than just entertain

Every ticket sold helps support vital local causes. This year, proceeds will go to:

- **Towcester Food Bank**, helping families in need across our community
- The Towcester Mayor's chosen charity, the **Northamptonshire Music & Performing Arts Trust**, supporting music and arts for young people in the local area.

So when you laugh, cheer and shout "He's behind you!", you're also giving back. Now that's a happy ending.

Tickets on sale from 1st December

Wednesday 18 - Saturday 21 February 2026
Paulerspury Village Hall
£10 Adults / £7.50 Concessions

*Evenings at 7:30pm | Saturday matinees at 12pm and 5pm*

Call **01327 811 578** or **08458 334 910**,
or visit **www.paulerspuryplayers.com**

South Northants Youth Engagement



*Photo shows Claire Farrar and Amelia Spalding receiving the High Sheriff's Award on behalf of SNYE*

### Stronger Youth, Stronger Community

SNYE continues to go from strength to strength with its award-winning youth clubs which run on Wednesdays during term time at Towcester Youth and Community Centre. Our junior session takes place from 5.30pm–6.30pm for young people aged 9–12, offering a friendly space to socialise, try new activities and build confidence. Our older group for ages 13–16 meets from 7.00–8.30pm, where attendees can enjoy games, sports, arts and crafts, and our popular tuckshop. All sessions are run as drop-ins and cost just £2, helping us keep the clubs accessible to as many young people as possible.

### New Year, New Clubs and New Website

A new 16+ group is now open in Towcester, giving older teens and young adults a dedicated space to connect and access support. We have also launched detached youth work across the local area, engaging with young people directly within the community. Plus, our brand-new SNYE website is now live, so take a look for the latest updates!

### Award Winning Youth Provision!

We are extremely proud to have been awarded the prestigious Northamptonshire High Sheriff's Initiative Award. This is in recognition of the outstanding contribution the Towcester Junior Youth Club made to the county in 2024 and was only made possible by our team of skilled and dedicated youth workers. The Annual Awards, hosted by Northamptonshire Community Foundation, were a chance to celebrate the incredible work carried out by committed volunteers and community organisations across all four corners of the county.

### Volunteer With Us

SNYE is always looking for new volunteers; even helping one evening a month can make a huge difference.
Volunteers become part of a supportive team and receive access to free training.
We are also grateful for any donations that support the running of our clubs.
For more information check out our social media pages: **https://linktr.ee/snye**

*Thank You!*












ABILITY

## BRINGING COMMUNITIES CLOSER THIS SPRING

As spring blossoms across Northamptonshire, ABILITY continues to do what it does best- supporting people in Towcester to stay active, independent, and engaged in everyday life. For many residents, the service offers a simple and reliable alternative to traditional transport, making shopping, appointments, and social outings easier for every passenger.

For Towcester passengers, the Towcester Shopper Service, running on Monday and Wednesday mornings, is an important part of the week. The service provides transport into Towcester Market Place and Northampton Town Centre, with convenient stops at well-known supermarkets and high-street shops. Whether it's collecting groceries, attending medical appointments, or enjoying a browse around town, passengers can rely on a service shaped around their needs.

With spring just around the corner, ABILITY's day trips give Towcester members even more ways to enjoy the season. Visits to local garden centres, Milton Keynes, Bicester Village, Stratford-upon-Avon, and retail parks remain firm favourites, offering the chance to socialise, explore, and make the most of the brighter days out.

Memberships are simple and flexible, with three levels costing between £15 and £55 per annum depending on individual needs, with single and joint options available. Bronze is a great-value choice using local bus-stop pick-ups. Silver offers the same as bronze, with priority booking, boarding assistance, and walker storage. Whilst Gold provides the complete experience, including guaranteed seats, house pick-up and drop-off, and shopping assistance to the front door.

All options allow travel to be stress-free and tailored to each person. Whether it's a weekly shopping trip or a day out further afield, ABILITY is here to support Towcester residents this spring with friendly, reliable transport that makes a real difference. ABILITY looks forward to welcoming new members on board.

To find out more, become a member, or see where ABILITY could take you next, visit www.abilitycic.org.uk or call 01327 604123.

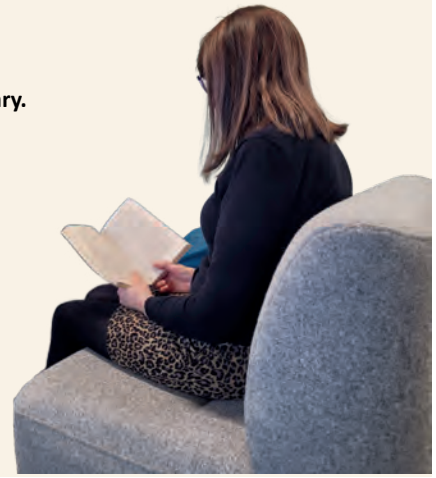



# Read-a-Thon Success

**Towcester Library held an all-day Read-a-Thon on Saturday 24th January.** This gave customers the opportunity to curl up with a book and make their way through their TBR (To Be Read list).

There was a prize of £50 worth of National Book Tokens given to the person who read the most pages read during the day. This will give an avid reader a chance to top up their bookshelves. This prize was kindly donated by our Friends of Towcester Library group.

We attempted to reach an ambitious goal of 5000 collective pages read! Thank you to everyone who contributed. We hope this event encouraged some locals to visit the library and enjoy all it has to offer. For our all future events, please visit our Facebook page or the library website.



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN
Registered Charity No. 1034548

COMMUNITY
CAMPAIGNING
FRIENDSHIP
LEARNING
FUN!

## Step into 2026 with Towcester WI as we enjoy fresh plans, friendly faces, and local adventures

*I write this in the depths of a winter freeze made all the more special by the terrific blue-sky days, when getting out and enjoying our countryside has been real food for the soul.*

*Thoughts go back to WI business and plans for events in this coming year of 2026. Of course we will have our regular monthly meetings every first Thursday of each month. We will be enjoying a range of speakers ending our WI year in February when we will be entertained by Brian Giggins on the history of Towcester pubs. We are lucky to still have a lot of pubs in Towcester, and I can truthfully say, as a local, I have drunk in most of them. March will bring us to our AGM when we have a talk and demonstration on CPR by Fay and Andy Tennet, in line with last year's resolution. Also, the next (2026/7) committee will be formed, hopefully with some fresh faces and new ideas. April is somewhat of a secret as it is being organised by the members, giving the committee a rest. The month of May brings our resolution meeting when we discuss and vote on a good cause which we will support through this year and beyond.*

*Other events planned are a residential weekend at Staverton Park Hotel either walking and cold-water swimming or crafting as well as eating, drinking, chatting and generally relaxing. We have been challenged to see how much money we can make starting with a £10, so do look out for any community events we may be doing. Members will be competing in the County quiz in April; it is time we beat Silverstone! Our craft and skittles groups will be crafting and competing, and you will as always see evidence of our gardening group around the town.*

*We are always looking to welcome new members so if you are interested, please do contact us.*

### 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!

**For more details, please contact:**
**President – Sue Williams 07769967532**
**sue@williamsfarmingpartnership.co.uk**
**Secretary - Carol Merry carolmerry1221@gmail.com**






### TEWI Gardening Club

Towcester Evening WI has planted a flowering cherry tree on the green space at the corner of Buckingham Way and Swinneyford Road. Thanks go to Bell Plantation Garden Centre for helping to supply the tree for us and to Alan Muxlow Garden Design for providing the manpower to plant the tree. We look forward to seeing the blossom in spring and the deep red leaves in the autumn.

Meanwhile, we are pleased to report that the Town Council has now taken over the maintenance of the 50 trees the WI planted at Saxon Fields in 2021.




## Clients at Age UK Northamptonshire's day centre were thrilled to receive an unexpected Christmas visitor!

Day Care Co-ordinator Aimie Boyd is grateful to Defor and Friends Donkey Hire for bringing along their well-behaved donkey to Leeson Court on Monday 15th December. The extra special guest made a dramatic entrance from behind a curtain - to the astonishment of everyone who said they were expecting a jovial man in a red and white suit.

The visit by Defor (yes, really) topped off a fabulous Christmas party where clients and staff alike had taken part in a carefully crafted Pantomime "reading performance", with everyone, including Aimie and her team, being kitted out in Pantomime accessories.

Irene (pictured in mouse ears) was very proud of herself for getting up to dance. She said it had been years since she last danced and she used to love dancing but lost her confidence.

"Irene was thrilled we encouraged her and were there to support if she needed it, but her courage grew like her smile," says Aimie.

Let's hear a round of applause for Linda, driver Tom and Helen (pictured) for also getting into the Panto spirit and making the day so enjoyable.

And another big thank you to Arnold Thomson of Towcester for bringing in festive gifts. Everyone was delighted to meet Paula, Tilly and Nell. Glenn (above: third from left) said "Well, that's marvellous isn't it, thank you."



Contact Age UK Northamptonshire on 01604 611200 if you'd like to join us on Mondays and Thursdays or visit www.ageuknorthants.org.uk

Northamptonshire age UK
Let's change how we age

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



## Towcester Transformed into Christmas Hide-and-Seek by Local Care Home

A local care home chose a novel way of spreading Christmas cheer. The team at Brook House Care Home hid Christmas bells around Towcester for locals to find as a way of spreading festive joy ahead of Christmas.

The bells were hidden throughout the town for people to find and were made by residents at Brook House. These tokens could then be exchanged for a beautiful reindeer toy at the home.

Community Relations Manager Emilia Gajewska said: "The team and residents at Brook House really wanted to do something special to spark joy in our community. The residents had so much fun creating the bells and thinking about the best places around Towcester for them to be hidden."

One resident commented, "We wanted to spread a little happiness over Christmas and make everyone in Towcester smile."

Brook House provides day, respite, dementia, residential and nursing care in Towcester.




**Brook House Care Home**
0808 281 5107 | www.ariacare.co.uk
WaterLane Towcester Northamptonshire NN12 6HR

BROOK HOUSE
ARIA CARE





Towcester Foodbank
Ending Hunger Together

## Welcome to 2026!

Well, where on earth did 2025 go?

It was certainly a whirlwind year for your local Towcester Foodbank, with a massive move to new home in the middle of the year.

I'm delighted to tell you that the new premises in the Riverside Centre are a big improvement on our previous arrangements. Particularly so for our band of merry helpers, who can now work in relative comfort without wearing their coats, hats and gloves!

***"Thank you so much for the voucher. I went today and was overwhelmed with the kindness, generosity and cheerfulness of all the donors and volunteers. Such an enormous help to us."***

## Looking Forward

What big challenges do we face for the year ahead?

Our priority is always ensuring that the people of Towcester and the surrounding villages are supported with food supplies when times are hard. We also help them with cleaning products for the home and personal hygiene items, all of which are difficult for us to source without dipping into our very limited cash reserves. So, if you can help with those items, it will be a really big help.

The other big cost for your Foodbank is the help we provide through the Community Law Service. The presence of professional support during Foodbank sessions is a great help to ensure that people get good advice when it comes to managing debt, dealing with housing issues and access to appropriate benefit entitlement.

We will be looking to the community for one or more business sponsors to ensure that we can continue to offer that support to local people. If you think you or someone you know might be able to help, please get in touch!

***"I went to the foodbank today, thank you! It was amazing and I am eternally grateful. I was also given a Christmas Hamper with loads of supplies for Christmas, which is another pressure off. So, thank you so much for organising that – I can't tell you what a difference it makes. Although I was completely mortified going there, the volunteers were so kind and not remotely 'judgey' and it made me a bit emotional."***

## Your help makes a difference

All of the supermarkets in Towcester support the Foodbank with donation bins located near the exit.

Your Foodbank also provides basic hygiene products such as washing powder, nappies, washing-up liquid, deodorant and shampoo, but stocks are running low. Please consider donating these items for the Foodbank during your weekly shop.

---

community law service
northampton & county

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

## 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

# Wildlife on our doorstep

by Peter Warden



*Wood Mouse: © Mark Hows*

**There's a mouse in the house!**
We have a furry visitor in the house. It took a fancy to a bowl of muesli that we left out overnight. It is a common misconception that house mice (Mus musculus) are the most frequent visitors in our homes. From my perspective, wood mice (Apodemus sylvaticus) are actually more prevalent. They have a uniquely shaped clavicle (collar bone) that allows them to get through small holes and thus gain entry to our houses, usually in winter.




*House Mouse: © Mark Hows*

*My thanks to Mark Hows of the Cambridgeshire Mammal Group for allowing me to use his photos of the Wood Mouse and House Mouse*

While living in Greens Norton, a wood mouse unexpectedly appeared in the living room, washing its whiskers on the hearth. Typically nocturnal, its presence during the day was unusual. Their large eyes enable them to do this. After a lengthy chase, it was caught in a paper bag that contained drying poppy seeds. When releasing a mouse, it's important to do so as far away as possible, as they can navigate back "home" over some distance.

Wood mice can be a nuisance indoors, but they are attractive creatures. They leave a scent trail of urine to navigate, which unfortunately, out in the wild, can be visible to birds of prey.



*Batman Fly: © Whiteway from Getty Images*

**Batman Fly**
This year, I haven't added many species to my local wildlife list, but I did spot the batman fly (Mythropa florea), identifiable by its unique markings on its thorax. Despite its name, identifying this fly can be tricky due to varying markings. Look out for it on open faced flowers like daisies, keck or campions. Its larvae, known as "rat-tailed maggots," live in water-filled rot holes in trees, extending their rear whip-like appendage to the surface for oxygen.

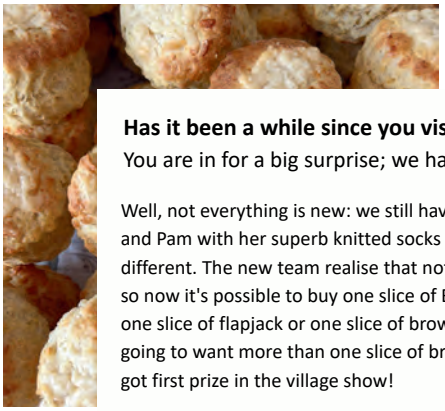
Often found in leaf-filled ponds, you can also create a suitable habitat for larvae in a shaded area using an old bucket or a plastic bottle with a hole cut out the side and positioned near the ground on a tree. Remember to add water and leaves.

**Changing migratory patterns**
The Glossy Ibis (Plegadis falcinellus), once mainly a Mediterranean bird, has been spotted in increasing numbers in the UK, especially during winter. Breeding attempts have been made and at the end of August ten birds were reported from five sites. By early September, a significant influx was noted, with large flocks reported in various locations, including Cornwall, Avon, Oxfordshire, London, Norfolk and parts of Ireland.

In Northamptonshire, three Glossy Ibises were observed in November at Summerleys Nature Reserve (not far from Earls Barton). This reserve is a key wetland site, though it requires parking fees for non-members of the local wildlife trust. For visiting details, check the Trust's website for "Summerleys."
**https://www.wildlifebcn.org/**



*Glossy Ibis: © Rafael Minguet Delgado from Pexels*



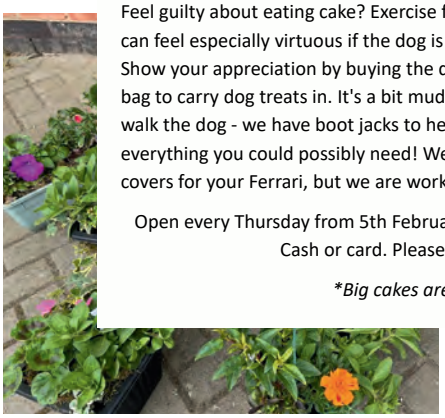
**Has it been a while since you visited Towcester Country Market?**
You are in for a big surprise; we have a new team and new products.

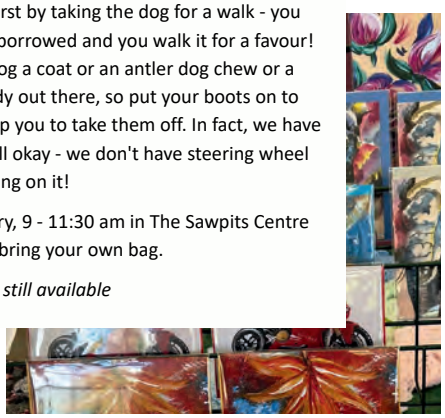
Well, not everything is new: we still have Betsy and her yummy marmalade and Pam with her superb knitted socks and gloves but everything else is different. The new team realise that not everyone wants to buy a whole cake*, so now it's possible to buy one slice of Bakewell Tart, or one Eccles Cake, or one slice of flapjack or one slice of brownie. Although, to be honest, you are going to want more than one slice of brownie because this is the brownie that got first prize in the village show!

Feel guilty about eating cake? Exercise first by taking the dog for a walk - you can feel especially virtuous if the dog is borrowed and you walk it for a favour! Show your appreciation by buying the dog a coat or an antler dog chew or a bag to carry dog treats in. It's a bit muddy out there, so put your boots on to walk the dog - we have boot jacks to help you to take them off. In fact, we have everything you could possibly need! Well okay - we don't have steering wheel covers for your Ferrari, but we are working on it!

Open every Thursday from 5th February, 9 - 11:30 am in The Sawpits Centre
Cash or card. Please bring your own bag.

**Big cakes are still available*





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**9:00 to 11:30 am**

**Every Thursday**

**The Sawpits Centre**
**Richmond Road NN12 6EX**

New producers welcome






# Celebrating our Volunteers

**At the heart of Towcester's Renew169 Wellbeing Café is a dedicated team of volunteers whose warmth, commitment and compassion make a genuine difference to the local community. More than just a café, Renew169 is a welcoming space where people can pause, connect and feel supported — and it is the volunteers who bring this vision to life.**

Each week, volunteers give their time to prepare refreshments, welcome visitors, and create an atmosphere that feels friendly and inclusive. Whether greeting someone new at the door, serving tea and homemade cakes, or simply offering a listening ear, their role goes far beyond practical tasks. For many visitors, the café is a place where they feel seen, valued and understood, sometimes during challenging moments in their lives.

The volunteers come from a wide range of backgrounds and ages, united by a shared desire to help others. Some have personal experience of wellbeing challenges, while others simply want to give back to their community. This diversity helps shape the café into a non-judgemental and supportive environment, where conversations flow naturally and connections are formed.

Renew169 Wellbeing Café volunteers also work closely with organisers to ensure sessions run smoothly and safely, helping signpost visitors to further support when needed. Their reliability and teamwork allow the café to remain a consistent and trusted presence in Towcester.

Above all, the volunteers embody kindness. Their time, empathy and enthusiasm are the foundation of the café's success, transforming a simple cup of tea into a moment of comfort and community. Towcester Renew169 Wellbeing Café stands as a powerful reminder of what can be achieved when people come together with a shared purpose — and its volunteers deserve heartfelt recognition for the difference they make every day.

If you have some spare time and would like to join our team of volunteers, in the Café itself, our Community Garden or the monthly Repair Café, then please contact Jemma, our manager, by email at **manager@renew169.org.uk**

For more information and to see our range of events and activities, please check out our new website by scanning the QR code or visiting **www.renew169.org.uk**

Scan this QR code to donate directly to our JustGiving page. The Renew169 staff, volunteers and most of all our visitors really appreciate your support.




renew169

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

*Registered Charity Number: 1196631*










# 2025 Poppy Appeal Remarkable Success!

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION TOWCESTER

For the Remembrance Season in 2025, a small team of individuals came together to support the Royal British Legion and develop the town's commemoration of this important period in our nation's calendar.

Not only did the team repair the poppy cascade for the Garden of Remembrance and decorate the Market Square and St Lawrence Church, but they also invited retailers and businesses in the town centre to take part by providing them with recycled poppy wreaths and local stories of the great wars and Towcester service men to create window displays.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those businesses who took part, with a special mention to Jane Docking who helped us with this initiative. We hope to grow this project next year and would welcome any stories of local service men and women from any conflict in the world to include in such displays.

We were then asked to take part in the St Lawrence Christmas Tree Festival and so created a Poppy Christmas Tree. All this was achieved by a very small team with big ambitions! We would like to expand the displays in the town next year – perhaps with some post box toppers, a telephone box topper and more bunting in the town centre. But we can't do this without your help. Please contact us if you have any ideas, time or stories to help us. We would really appreciate it.

And of course, we can't finish without thanking the individuals in the community, including members of the Craft Box and Krafty Kats and Yardley Gobion Craft Group, who knitted and crocheted poppies for these displays and to sell for the Poppy Appeal: without them we would not have accomplished any of this.

Apparently we are now known as the Poppy Fairies!

---

The recent Poppy Appeal set a new record, thanks to the generosity of Towcester residents and nearby villages.

With our QR code donations finally confirmed in January, I am thrilled to announce that we have exceeded last year's total of £27,200, achieving an impressive **£31,603!**

Our branch covers several villages, including Silverstone and Paulerspury. These villages raised over £3,500 through small businesses and volunteers. However, most funds came from Towcester, with contributions from shoppers at Waitrose, Tesco, and the High Street, plus nearly 100 local outlets.

Additionally, local schools contributed nearly £2,500.

Thanks to all the volunteers, especially my fellow Rotarians, who delivered and collected poppy merchandise and cans to and from many retail outlets.

Organising the Appeal involves ordering, distributing merchandise, coordinating volunteers, and managing collections. It's all worthwhile when we see the impact on the Royal British Legion's beneficiaries.

To receive RBL support, one must have served or be a veteran's dependent. The RBL distributes over £100 million annually, with the Poppy Appeal contributing about 50%. Your donations during the Appeal truly make a difference.

**David Reed - Poppy Appeal Organiser**
**dreedsfm@sky.com**





*A drawing of the inscription*

*The tile – the inscription is finely scratched on the right side*

# UNUSUAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DISCOVERY

The exhibition at Northampton Museum on **'A History of Northamptonshire in 100 Objects'** which ends on Sunday 22nd February, was one on the best exhibitions that I have seen on the County and the accompanying book on the exhibition will grace my bookshelves for a long time. The book emphasises that the objects were selected to tell ***'a'*** County History but not '***the***' County History, which would be far too complicated to create. The time depth of those objects on display ranged from a 174-million-year-old Screw Pine fossil to 2012 'graffiti style' artwork from Northampton that became known as the 'Binty Chicken'.

Towcester was not neglected. I was delighted that the exhibition included a Roman Limestone Floor Tile that was recently discovered a short distance north of Towcester. This was a far from normal discovery as the tile had small unique markings scratched into it in three columns which do not match any known language or alphabet. The suggestions put forward for these markings were:

1. They were a form of tally system with each symbol representing things being counted.
2. They were produced by an illiterate person practicing writing.
3. They were a form of magical writing known as 'Charaktêres' that appear to have been invented by the person who drew them. Perhaps they were written to create a magical charm or put a curse on someone during a early stage of the development of Lactodotum. A lead roman curse tablet was found in an archaeological evaluation on the Watermeadows about 30 years ago.

Finds such as this are of particular interest to those members of the History Society who are interested in the early history of the town, notably the rise and fall of the Roman town of Lactodorum. As so often happens, archaeological finds leave us with more questions than answers. The lack of wear over the possible Charaktêres suggests that this was a piece of stone tile which was left over from a floor being laid, or more likely, was a piece of tile that had broken away from the floor. This was used by a local person, perhaps a partially educated slave or a labourer, using an iron nail, or similar, to make a tally of work done or to summon magic on someone who has caused them trouble! It is rare for us to have something so tangible to link us to an individual who lived in the area over 1900 years ago but frustrating that at present we have no way of knowing what that person was actually doing!

*Brian Giggins,*
*Chair, Towcester & District Local History Society*

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



## TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## Forthcoming Talks

**Warrior Women - English Civil War 1642-51**
*by Stephen Barker*

**Wednesday 11 February 2026**
**at The Sawpits Centre**
This talk looks briefly at six women who took part in the fighting, undertook spying missions and negotiated deals with politicians. It also touches briefly upon treatment of the wounded, widows seeking compensation from Parliament and political activists.

**Towcester in photographs in the 90s**
*by Paul Howard*

**Wednesday 11 March 2026**
**at The Sawpits Centre**
A chance to look back at Towcester 30 years ago. Come along for an evening of reminiscing and share your memories of those days. Before this talk will be the History Society AGM

**Virginia Bradford - From Silent Screen to a Field in England**
*by Andy Tennet*

**Wednesday 8 April 2026**
**at The Sawpits Centre**
The ever-popular Andy Tennet returns, this time with the story of Virginia Bradford, a silent film actress who led an amazingly colourful life. From starting off as a reporter, a young starlet of Hollywood and at the end of her acting career moving to England and living in Tiffield for a while. Come along and hear about her many adventures including several husbands!

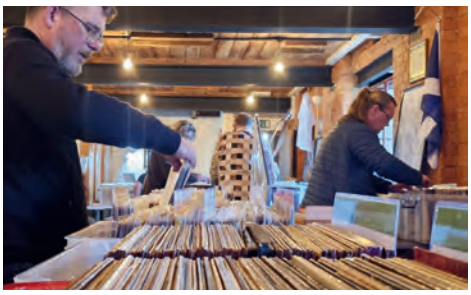
*Our meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month (except August) at 7:30pm at The Sawpits Centre, Towcester. All are welcome, and there is a small fee of £5 for visitors. Members can also access the meetings by Zoom.*

TOWCESTER MILL *Brewery*
*Tap Room & Shop*

# SPRING EVENTS *at the Mill!*



**NEW SpeedQuiz**
Fancy a new style of quiz, using your phone or tablet instead of pen and paper? This is the original smartphone pub quiz, where the fastest finger wins! Grab a few friends, or even work colleagues, for a social night with a difference; great team building and great fun for family and friends! Just £2pp. Always on the third Tuesday of each month in the Steam Room on the first floor.



**Record Fair Returns**
Towcester's Record Fair is back for 2026, following two great fairs in the spring and autumn last year. With half a dozen stallholders, the fair will take place on Sun 22 Mar, from 12pm-4pm. There will be music too from the Mill's very own vinyl DJ, Mister Trevor, during the afternoon. Free entry.



**NEW Poker League**
Calling all poker players! Towcester now has its very own Poker League, in conjunction with Royal Sharks Poker. These poker nights run twice a month, on the first and third Wednesday. Each time you play, you'll earn points - the top ranked players at the end of the season will qualify for an additional game, to play for bigger cash prizes and trophies! Sharpen your skills, track your progress and rise through the ranks with exciting local tournaments, all while keeping tabs on your stats. Experience preferred.



**St George's Day BeerFest**
Celebrate St George's Day with even more choice of beer at the Mill! An additional eight English beers will be available at the Festival Bar in the Turbine Room on top of the Mill's own beers in the Tap, with live music during the Festival and street food across the three nights.

*For more details on any of these events - and more! - go online to* ***www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk*** *or visit their socials on Facebook and instagram*




*Thursday 5th February - Saturday 14th March*
**SIX NATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026**
*All games showing at the Mill in the Steam Room on the first floor*

*8pm Thursday 26th February*
**LIVE COMEDY AT THE MILL**
*headlining Keith Farnan & Rob Rouse*
*Tickets £16pp*

*12-4pm Sunday 22nd February*
**RECORD FAIR**
*Free entry*

*Saturday 21st March*
**BREWERY TOUR**
*Tickets from £15pp, includes one pint of TMB beer and one TMB beer tapas board*

*8pm Thursday 26th March*
**LIVE COMEDY AT THE MILL**
*headlining Chris Washington & Paul Tonkinson*
*Tickets £16pp*

*Thursday 23rd - Saturday 25th April*
**ST GEORGE'S DAY BEERFEST**
*From 5pm on Thursday - Free entry*

*Saturday 25th April*
**BREWERY TOUR**
*Tickets from £15pp, includes one pint of TMB beer and one TMB beer tapas board*

*Early booking! | Saturday 16th May*
**ANNUAL BREWERY CYCLE SPORTIVE**
*Bookings to be made via www.letsgovelo.co.uk/sportives*

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| SHOP | EVENTS




VISIT OUR AWARD-WINNING 18TH CENTURY TAP ROOM

# The Roselle String Quartet from the Royal College of Music set to perform a classical concert of Emilie Mayer and Beethoven in Towcester this spring!

My name is Elizabeth Rowland, though many people know me as Lizzie. I am the violist of the Roselle String Quartet, and I am delighted to be bringing my ensemble to Towcester for this special concert, which has been kindly supported by The Rotary Club of Towcester and the Towcester Community Grant Fund.

Following the success of our performance two years ago, I am thrilled to be returning to Towcester to present another evening of live classical music - this time with a string quartet comprised of friends and fellow students from the Royal College of Music in London.

Having grown up in Towcester, my passion for music was nurtured through Sponne School's Music Department and the Northamptonshire Music and Performing Arts Trust. In 2020, I began studying music performance at the Royal Welsh College of Music & Drama in Cardiff under Professor Alex Thorndike, graduating in 2024 with First Class Honours.

Highlights included performing with the BBC National Orchestra of Wales and singing in the BBC National Chorus of Wales at the BBC Proms. I am now pursuing postgraduate studies at the Royal College of Music in London with Professors Jonathan Barritt and Simon Rowland-Jones, where I maintain a busy performance schedule and plan to continue my career in the city after graduating.

Proceeds from the ticket sales of this event will be put towards funding the postgraduate studies of members of the group.

Don't miss this opportunity to experience the beautiful sound of a live string quartet. Join the Roselle String Quartet for an evening of exquisite classical music. We look forward to seeing you there!

Please book through the official ticket site at
**https://roselletowcester.eventbrite.co.uk**
or at the door (cash accepted).
Tickets are by donation.



## ROSELLE STRING QUARTET
## A CLASSICAL SPRING CONCERT

**7pm Saturday 7th March 2026 | St Thomas More Church, Towcester**

**Tickets by donation. Pay on the door or book via https://roselletowcester.eventbrite.co.uk**




Our recent Christmas concert was a resounding success, delighting a full house with a rich and varied programme of festive music. The evening opened with Vivaldi's Gloria, performed with radiant energy, setting a joyful tone that carried through the night. The choir's bright harmonies and the trumpet's crisp accompaniment captured the exuberance of Vivaldi's masterpiece beautifully.

A highlight of the evening was Will Todd's Jazz Carols, featuring a warm, velvety double bass played by Natasha Thompson bringing a smooth swing to familiar melodies. The blend of jazz rhythms and traditional carol tunes proved irresistible, earning smiles and tapping feet throughout the audience.

The programme continued with Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols, its lush harmonies and evocative folk melodies filling the hall with a sense of timeless English warmth. The solo lines were sensitively delivered, weaving seamlessly through the rich orchestral texture.

No Christmas concert would be complete without audience participation, and this one was no exception. Traditional carols were sung with true gusto, uniting performers and listeners in festive spirit. As the final notes faded, the applause said it all — a joyful celebration of music, community, and Christmas cheer. Thank you to all who came along and to those who helped.

## Towcester Choral Society | Easter Concert
## 7:30pm Saturday 28 March | St Lawrence Church

Join Towcester Choral Society and the Nene Sinfonia for a glorious evening of music on Saturday 28th March 2026. The concert features Puccini's Messa di Gloria, a vibrant and lyrical work bursting with operatic passion, alongside Elgar's deeply moving Cello Concerto, performed by a guest soloist. Together, these masterpieces promise an evening of drama, beauty, and reflection — the perfect celebration for Easter. The concert will take place in St Lawrence Church, Towcester at 7.30pm with full orchestra and chorus. A memorable night of uplifting music not to be missed! Tickets available from **www.towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk/events**









### ONGONIG CONSTRUCTION WORKS AT OLD TIFFIELD ROAD

We would like to thank the residents of Towcester, especially the local community in the vicinity of Old Tiffield Road, and any customers visiting Tesco's and Porsche etc. for your patience while we had a traffic light system operational as part of a S278 Highways permitted scheme to form a new entrance to the Towcester Park development. The works are now complete, but we are mindful that the traffic control system may have disrupted some of the public who visit this area of Towcester and for that we apologise.

Also, as part of the works, parking restrictions have been introduced as per a safety audit. Whilst there is less available parking, it should be noted that deliveries to the various businesses can now be undertaken in a safer manner due to no congestion within the turning points.

Our works are due to be complete in February which consist of 14 units and again, we thank the residents of Towcester for their patience & cooperation.

*Matt Cooper*
*Parkway Construction*

# *Happy New Year from*
# TOWCESTER STUDIO BAND



## Welcome to New MD

We are delighted to announce the arrival of our new Musical Director, Ian Knapton, who joined us in January. Ian has decades of experience in the brass band movement as a musician and conductor.
He is full of ambition and plans for the band. It looks like an exciting year ahead!



## Thank you Towcester

And finally ... a huge thank you to everyone who supported us last year, particularly at Christmas. You donated so generously as we played carols in town, and you joined in with such gusto at our wonderful Christmas concert at St. Lawrence Church.
It is a privilege to be Towcester's Studio Band. We couldn't do it without you.




## Spring Concert - 25th April 2026

We are looking forward to seeing you at our first concert of the year. Reserve your place now and join us for an evening of music to put a spring in your step. (Pun intended!]



Website: www.towcesterstudioband.co.uk
Email: towcesterstudioband@gmail.com
Facebook: @towcesterstudioband

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND
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# Faith: A Way Through Challenging Times

When people experience difficult, or very challenging times they may think - What did I do to deserve this? Responses given to those experiencing difficult or very challenging times can include phrases such as:

1. Everything happens for a reason,
2. You just need more faith,
3. God never gives you more than you can handle,

These phrases, I would say, can lack depth and, in reality, can be really unhelpful. What is, for instance, the implication for someone who is broken by what life has thrown at them? What is more helpful – is the assurance that God is with us, whatever the situation, however bad, and God will accompany us forwards, assuring us that we don't have to do everything in our own strength.

When tragedies occurred in Jesus' time, and we can read about them in the gospel, Jesus knew questions like; What did they do to deserve that? were on people's minds when they came to tell him horrible news. For instance, on one occasion Pilate had slaughtered some Galilean Jews - and making it worse - he did this terrible act while they were offering their sacrifices in Jerusalem. It's Jesus who asks the questions on everyone's minds: Is it because those Galileans were worse sinners than other Galileans that this happened to them? Did they do something to deserve such an awful death?

Jesus gives the very clear answer: **No**. Or when the tower of Siloam fell and eighteen people were killed, crushed because they stood in the wrong place at the time, is that because they were sinners? Jesus says **No**. Does God allow tyrants to kill people or tsunamis to drown people because they've done something to deserve it? **No**.

Human beings can have the persistent thought that somehow what people get in life is what they deserve – that there must be a connection between the sorts of people they are and the bad or good things that come their way in life. Well, says Jesus, that is not how it works. Sometimes we do suffer as a direct result of some wrong we have done, some bad decision, some action we've neglected to take and we suffer the consequences. Abuse your body, and you will likely suffer the consequences. Maltreat a friend, and you may damage your friendship. The negative consequences of our actions can be clear.

But we still find it difficult to understand when good people suffer. Yet, we really shouldn't be so surprised. Jesus was nailed to the cross. Bad things do happen, even to God's son. Christian faith is no magic protection against tragedy. The cross is the symbol of the Christian faith– the cross, where an innocent man died as a criminal. The Christian faith does not give us a way around tragedy. Faith gives us a way through tragedy and challenging times.

The Rev'd Greg Roberts



Rotary Towcester 45 ANNIVERSARY 1981-2026

# Serving All Year Round



**2025 is behind us, and we anticipate a bustling 2026.**

This year marks a significant milestone for the Rotary Club of Towcester, which was founded in 1981 under the guiding principle of **"Service above Self".** Since its inception, the Rotarians of Towcester have raised thousands of pounds for local charities and organisations, focusing especially on causes that support the youth of Towcester and its surrounding areas. The club has also contributed to national and international projects, notably assisting honorary Rotarian Steve Challen and the Tove Benefice in their efforts to aid civilians in Ukraine.




**Fostering Youth Talent**

The Club manages the annual Rotary Youth Competitions, offering Towcester's young talents a platform to showcase their skills in various fields, including music, writing, painting, photography, and environmentalism. The Club is even considering introducing a Young Chef competition.




**Recent Events and Future Plans**

25th October saw the Club organise a **Cycle for Polio** event at Towcester Leisure Centre, inviting volunteers and donations to support the fight against Poliomyelitis—a vital cause for Rotary. This event successfully raised enough funds to vaccinate over 2,700 children. A heartfelt thank you goes out to everyone who participated.

Looking ahead to 2026, the Club is excited to continue managing the Towcester Farmers' Market, a monthly community initiative run on behalf of WNC. By the time this message is printed, the annual **Last Night of the Proms** will have taken place at Whittlebury Park, showcasing the musical talents of the Sponne School Orchestra and Choir, supported by the Kidlington Concert Brass.

The Club will also sponsor an early spring concert featuring Roselle, led by Lizzie Rowland, an alumnus of NMPAT and Sponne School.

In June, we look forward to the annual Midsummer Music Festival, where the Rotary Club will play a management role, and in October, we are expecting the world-renowned **Cwmbach Choir** to return.

In March or April, the Club plans to host the Towcester Grand National and will hold an Easter Egg Hunt over the Easter weekend.



**Local Support and Initiatives**

In recent years, the Club's fundraising efforts have provided valuable support to various local entities, including:

- **Primary schools**
- **NMPAT & SNYE & other local youth organisations**
- **Junior Football & Junior Rugby Clubs**
- **Towcester Toy Bank**
- **Towcester Midsummer Music Festival**
- **Towcester Food Banks**
- **Blake House**

**A Heartfelt Thank You**

Christmas wouldn't be complete without our very own **ROTARY SANTA**, and we extend our sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to the Club's Charity Account.



The Club also actively supports the **Towcester Toy Bank** by providing storage space and helping with packing during the holiday season, and contributes to charitable initiatives such as delivering Christmas meals for the **Tove Benefice** and participating in the Royal British Legion **Poppy Appeal**.




During the 2026 Christmas season, we will bring back the Naughty Elf Competition, which debuted successfully in 2025, with five winners aged between 4 and 12. The final winner was chosen through a draw, but all participants received a prize.







**In conclusion**

We are a dynamic and active Club. If you want to learn more about Rotary, particularly in Towcester, and wish to get involved in supporting the local community, please visit our website at **www.towcester-rotary.org.uk** or consider joining one of our meetings. We typically meet on Thursday evenings at the Saracens Head. For more information, feel free to email us at **secretary@towcester-rotary.org.uk**



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## FONHS: A BIG-TERM OF FUN, FUNDRAISING & EXCITING PLANS AHEAD



It's been a brilliant term at Nicholas Hawksmoor, with pupils enjoying the Warrior Challenge, an in-school Winter Wonderland, and our much-loved Gift Sales where children chose presents for their loved ones. We also launched a monthly tuck shop — an instant hit with the children — and introduced pre-show drinks for families, alongside a hugely supported raffle.



Next term, we're kicking things off with a brand-new adults-only FoNHS Disco & Auction on Saturday 21st March, followed by our first ever mini music festival, HawksFest on Saturday 6th June. Thanks to early backing from Live Nation UK and SJM, we've started fundraising with real momentum.

We're now seeking local business sponsorship for these upcoming events.

If you'd like to support your community school, we'd love to hear from you.

A huge thank-you to Towcester Homes, UTS, and Hallett Brown for their generous sponsorship this term.

Interested in supporting any of our upcoming events? Please contact us using:

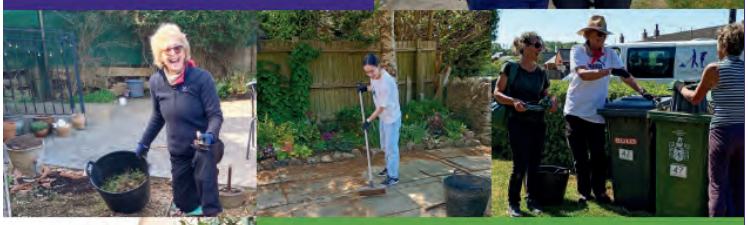
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Lunch Club 12.00pm
Craft session 1.00pm

**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!

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facebook.com/Renew169

justgiving.com/RenewWellbeingCafe

Head to our website
renew169.org.uk

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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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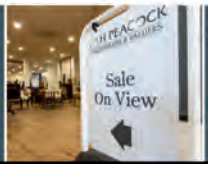
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Rotary Towcester

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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 bronkenny@gmail.com

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**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*
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# GREENS NORTON REVEALED

*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".*

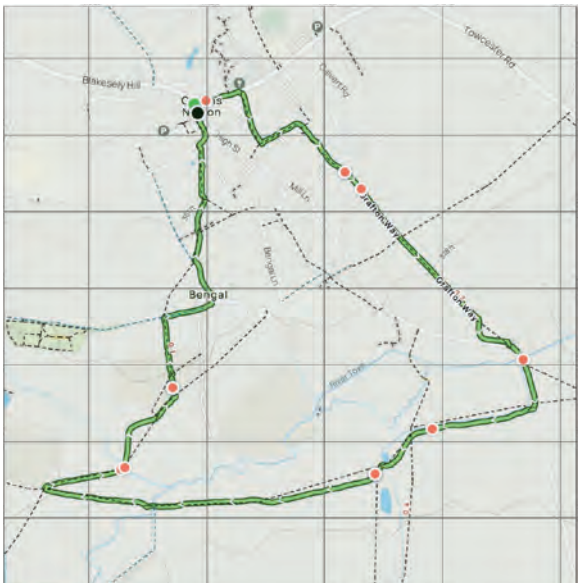
## Hidden Alleys, Meadows and Community Spirit

If you love discovering new places on your doorstep, then this walk is one for the list. This gentle 3-mile circular trail begins outside the lovingly restored Butcher's Arms pub, weaving through historic alleyways, open meadows, and the peaceful hamlet of Bengal, all while embracing the charm and community spirit that Greens Norton is known for.

**Distance:** 3 miles / 6000 steps
**Duration:** Approx 1hr 45min
**Difficulty:** Flat/Easy

### History under your feet

Our route begins with a stroll past the magnificent St Bartholomew's Church, whose spire proudly watches over the village. Greens Norton itself dates back to at least the Domesday Book and has a fascinating past linked to the Manor of Greens Norton, once held by prominent medieval lords . The hidden paths and little nooks you pass along the way whisper stories from centuries gone by.




### Alleyways, animals and open views

After passing the church, we meander through narrow lanes before emerging into classic Northamptonshire countryside, think hedgerows, meadows, and horses grazing lazily in the fields. Sheep are common companions on this walk, and the gentle landscape makes it a lovely route for an evening or sunny weekend morning. Just one thing to note, there are a few stiles, so it's best suited for small or agile dogs.

### A pub rescued by the community

The jewel in the crown of this walk has to be The Butcher's Arms. Not just your average pub, this historic building was rescued and reopened by locals in 2017, and it's now a thriving hub of the village. Whether you fancy a post-walk pint, a cosy lunch, or just a chat with locals, it's a brilliant place to end your stroll. Dogs are welcome too, both in the bar and the barn.



### Join the #AGPhotoChallenge

Each walk comes with a photo challenge — for this one, look out for the best 'hidden alleyway' shot and tag us on social media using #AGPhotoChallenge.

### Download this walk

www.adventuregeek.co.uk/Product/AG108
Turn-by-turn photos, instructions and GPX files are available with the map download.

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

# Towcester Hub Church

follow us

# 10:30am every Sunday

We are a family friendly, charismatic Church who would love to welcome you any Sunday morning.

admin@towcesterhubchurch.org.uk 07968 375023 towcesterhubchurch.org.uk

The Sawpits Centre
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## Accessing urgent dental care

The NHS has introduced a number of urgent dental appointments so those needing help can get seen quickly in a dental setting. So, what is an urgent dental appointment? And how do you get one?

If you have any of these seven dental conditions they should be considered for an urgent dental appointment:

**Severe toothache** - persistent and intense pain that cannot be managed with self-help advice and over-the-counter painkillers

**Dental abscess**- infection causing swelling, pain, and possibly fever

**Broken or knocked-out tooth** - trauma resulting in a fractured or completely dislodged tooth.

**Bleeding in mouth** following a dental procedure or an injury that doesn't stop bleeding

**Swelling** - significant swelling in the mouth or face that could indicate an infection.

**Fractured, loose or displaced fillings causing pain**

**Severe bleeding from gums**, or acute conditions affecting other soft areas of the mouth (such as cheeks or tongue) which require urgent treatment.




Some dentists will class other treatments as an urgent dental appointment, and these are at the discretion of the dentist.

If you have any of the conditions listed firstly contact your regular dentist about arranging a visit for urgent dental care. If you don't have a regular dentist, call NHS 111. NHS 111 will ask you a series of questions and if appropriate arrange an urgent dental appointment for you with a local dentist within 24 hours. It may not be your usual dentist.

If you're not sure about how serious your dental condition is, talk to your regular dentist or NHS 111. Delaying urgent dental care can lead to more serious, long-term complications, so it's important that you make the call right away.

Learn more about NHS Dental Services at https://www.icnorthamptonshire.org.uk/dental

# Towcester Christmas Toy Bank thanks the community

## on behalf of The families They supported for Christmas 2025

This year, Towcester Christmas Toy Bank (TCTB) supported over 171 families who were referred by local schools, churches, social workers and Family Centres, and we filled 319 children's gift bags, 50 more than requested last year and triple the number completed in our first year in 2020. Once again, we have been overwhelmed by the support we have received from our amazing local community, without which we could not have achieved this.

We would like to say a huge **THANK YOU** to all our supporters for your continued help and generous donations, with an extra thank you to the business and organisations that supported TCTB including:

- **Towcester Rotary Club** - toy storage and transporting of toys
- **Whittlebury Hall** - provision of conference room for the Elves' workshop
- **Community Larder** - raising funds from a raffle
- **Moorfields almshouses** - money raised at coffee mornings, plus Elves to help pack gift bags
- **Towcester Methodist Church** - donations of 60+ toys
- **Sponne School** - book collections
- **Mooch gift shop** - discounted puzzles
- **Popsy and Peanut** - donation of soft toys
- **Silverstone Hilton Garden Inn** - toy collections

We also wanted to thank **Tesco Towcester, Jackie Oliver's**, and the **Plough** pub and their wonderful staff for providing donation stations and promoting the toy bank.

Thank you to our elves and to everyone in our community who donated time and/or money, whether volunteering to be an elf to pack the gift bags, donating the lovely toys, buying a Towcester Community Larder raffle ticket or by donating to the JustGiving page. We couldn't provide for our families without you.

A final thank you to all the busy staff in our **local schools, Family Centres** and **Children's Services** who played Santa in ensuring that all the gift bags reached their destination in time for Christmas Day. We have appreciated you all, as have the families for whom you have made a difference.

Towcester Christmas Toy Bank was set up in 2020 by mother and daughter, Annie Simpson and Katrina Harris, 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. Following the continued increases for families in the cost of living, we decided that the Towcester Christmas Toy Bank will be an annual event, this being our sixth year. We are proud to be a part of this amazing community and wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful New Year.

***Support needed! Are you skilled at accounting or finance and want to support TCTB? As we continue to grow, we are developing a committee to help run TCTB and support the families and children we provide gifts for each Christmas? If you think you can help with a finance role, then we'd love to hear from you. This is a voluntary role. Please contact Annie for more information and to get involved!***

**Annie & Katrina**
**Facebook: @towcestertoybank**
**Email: anniesimpson2957@gmail.com**

Towcester Toy Bank



# From the Watermeadows to your home

*Turning little moments into lasting artwork*



The places you walk, play and laugh together become the backdrop to your family's story. Those everyday moments, captured with care, don't fade as the years quietly move on.

Whether outdoors in the Towcester Watermeadows or within the calm of our studio, we create relaxed portrait sessions that turn these days into lasting artwork.
Artwork your family lives with.
Artwork your children grow up beside.

**Spring sessions now booking.**

MIRANDA WALTON
PHOTOGRAPHY

3rd Floor Towcester Mill | Chantry Lane | Towcester NN12 6YY
01327 228553 | hello@mirandawalton.co.uk

# What's On in Towcester
AND NEARBY

## COMMUNITY SERVICES IN TOWCESTER

**TOWCESTER COUNTRY MARKET**
*9-11:30am, Every Thursday (Except Jan)*
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 FOODBANK**
*12noon-2pm Tuesdays*
*10:30am-12:30pm Fridays*
*Riverside Centre, Islington Rd*

**TOWCESTER COMMUNITY LARDER**
*4:15-7pm Wednesdays*
*10-11:15am Thursdays*
Discounted & free surplus food
£10 annual membership
*Riverside 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
10-11:30am Grief, Comfort & Coffee
10am-12 **Repair Café** last Sat of the month
7-9pm **Craft Club** third Weds of the month

**TOWCESTER YOUTH CLUBS (SNYE)**
*Wednesdays term time*
5:30-6:30pm Ages 9-12 £2pp
7-8:30pm Ages 13-16 £2pp
*Towcester Youth & Community Centre*

**OUT THERE YOUTH GROUP**
*Tuesdays 6:30-8pm term time*
LGBTQ+ club for ages 11-16
*The Barn, Bransons Lane*

**TOWCESTER BUSINESS BUZZ**
*10am-12noon Fourth Thursday of the month*
*Steam Room, Towcester Mill Brewery*

## FEBRUARY 2026

Mon 9th : **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
*7:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Wed 11th : **WARRIOR WOMEN OF CIVIL WAR**
*7:30pm at The Sawpits Centre*
Towcester & District Local History Society Talk

Fri 13th : **FARMERS MARKET**
*9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park*

18th-21st : **ALADDIN PANTOMIME**
*Paulerspury Village Hall - £10 Adult £7.50 Conc*
Paulerspury Players (See page 10)

Tue 24th : **4th Anniversary of Invasion of Ukraine**

Thu 26th : **LIVE COMEDY NIGHT AT THE MILL**
Headlining Keith Farnan & Rob Rouse
*8pm Towcester Mill Brewery*
*Tickets £16pp www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk*

## MARCH 2026

Mon 2nd : **ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**
*7-9pm Sawpits Centre*

Sat 7th : **TOWCESTER HANDMADE FAYRE**
9:30*am-4pm Towcester Town Hall*

Sat 7th : **ROSELLE STRING QUARTET CONCERT**
*7pm St Thomas More Church*
£donation (See page 21)

Mon 9th : **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
*7:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Wed 11th : **TOWCESTER IN PHOTOS IN THE 90s**
*7:30pm The Sawpits Centre*
Towcester & District Local History Society Talk

Fri 13th : **FARMERS MARKET**
*9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park*

Fri 20th : **TOWCESTER HUNDRED**
6:30pm Towcester Town Hall
Northamptonshire Victoria County History Trust Event

Sat 21st : **ADULT DISCO & AUCTION**
Fundraiser for Friends of Nicholas Hawksmoor School
*fonhs@nhps.thlt.academy (See page 26)*

Sun 22nd : **RECORD FAIR**
*12-4pm Towcester Mill Brewery*
*Free entry*

25th : **TOWN CRIER DEADLINE FOR ISSUE 211**

Thu 26th : LIVE COMEDY NIGHT AT THE MILL
Headlining Chris Washington & Paul Tonkinson
*8pm Towcester Mill Brewery*
*Tickets £16pp www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk*

Sat 28th : **TOWCESTER CRAFT COLLECTIVE**
*10am-3:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Sat 28th : **EASTER CONCERT**
*7:30pm St Lawrence Church - £15 adult £3.50 children*
Towcester Choral Society (See page 22)

## APRIL 2026

Mon 13th : **FULL COUNCIL MEETING**
*7:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Wed 8th : **LIFE OF VIRGINIA BRADFORD**
*7:30pm The Sawpits Centre*
Towcester & District Local History Society Talk

Fri 10th : **FARMERS MARKET**
*9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park*

Sat 11th : **TOWCESTER HANDMADE FAYRE**
9:30*am-4pm Towcester Town Hall*

Sat 24th : **SPRING CONCERT**
*7:30pm St Lawrence Church - £10pp*
*(Kids free with two paying adults)*
Towcester Studio Band *(See page 23)*

Fri-Sun 3rd-5th : **ART EXHIBITION**
*10am-4pm Towcester Town Hall*
Towcester & District Art Society

Thu 23rd - Sat 25th : ST GEORGE'S DAY BEERFEST
From 5*pm Towcester Mill Brewery*
*Free entry*

## MAY 2026

Sat 2nd : **TOWCESTER HANDMADE FAYRE**
9:30*am-4pm Towcester Town Hall*

Mon 11th : ANNUAL **MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL Incorporating Mayor Making**
*7:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Fri 13th : **FARMERS MARKET**
*9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park*

Sat 30th : **CHORAL WORKSHOP FOR ALL**
*10am-4:30pm Towcester Town Hall*
Towcester Choral Society

## JUNE 2026

Sat 6th : **HAWKFEST**
Fundraiser for Friends of Nicholas Hawksmoor School
*fonhs@nhps.thlt.academy (See page 26)*

Sat 2nd : **TOWCESTER HANDMADE FAYRE**
9:30*am-4pm Towcester Town Hall*

Fri 13th : **FARMERS MARKET**
*9am-1:30pm Sponne Arcade Car Park*

Sat/Sun 13th/14th : **JUNIOR FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT**
*Towcester Recreation Ground*

Thu-Sun 18th-21st : **MIDSUMMER MUSIC FESTIVAL**
*www.towcestermidsummermusic.co.uk*

Sat 27th : **TOWCESTER CRAFT COLLECTIVE**
*10am-3:30pm Towcester Town Hall*

Sun 28th : **CHURCH FETE & CRAFT FAIR**
*12:30-4pm St Lawrence Church & Vicarage Garden*




*Dates & events may be subject to change.* Share your event with the community.
**SUMMER issue out May 2026 - Deadline for submissions - 25th March 2026**
*enquiries@towcester-tc.gov.uk*


LAUS SEMPER JESU ET MARIAE
JM
THORNTON
OUTSTANDING
CSI Inspection Report
May 2024
EXCELLENT
ISI Inspection Report
October 2022
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