TOWCESTER TOWN FC

6-A-SIDE YOUTH FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
U6'S --> U18'S

10TH & 11TH JUNE 2017
THE REC, TOWCESTER

BBQ - LICENSED BAR - REFRESHMENTS - ICE CREAM

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND ENTRY FORMS PLEASE EMAIL MARK.LLOYD68@OUTLOOK.COM

CHARTER STANDARD COMMUNITY CLUB
A Word from the Mayor...

I have not had this confirmed but I have been told that I am the youngest Mayor that Northamptonshire has ever had! I am very proud of this accolade but also surprised. I am not sure what it is that stops younger people from becoming more involved with their local community. I have found my time as a Councillor at times frustrating but overall very rewarding. I am looking forward to opening The Sawpits Centre before my term ends, which marks the end of a wonderful project that will provide a perfect venue for local groups to meet and the community to utilise. It is these results which make being a Councillor so rewarding.

This is the last Town Crier article I write as your Mayor and, as my term ends, I have begun to reflect on what it has meant to me. Firstly, I must say that the year has been far from easy. Juggling my duties day and night, along with a new full time job and my family life has been demanding. Without my wife the Mayoress’ support and patience, the year would have been impossible. Not only has she had to deal with Clara's first year and Emily becoming a school age child, she has also found time to come to events, keep me organised and help with my fundraising events. Thank you Catharine for all your love and help. I will miss Emily talking about Daddy's ‘necklace’.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow Councillors for helping me get through some tricky agendas and, of course, for allowing me the opportunity to absorb their knowledge and experience, and also the brilliant office staff, Liz and Melissa, for quite literally keeping the town running smoothly.

I would also like to thank those who have helped me raise an incredible amount of money for my chosen charities this year. Thanks go to the Midsummer Music Committee and all those involved in the event for putting together such an amazing weekend of entertainment which has helped to raise £2000 for two of my chosen charities; Charlie Stanger and all who attended the Charity Golf Day; Jackie Oliver and Co., Towcester for its kind sponsorship for the Mayor's Ball; Clayson Country Homes for sponsoring the Towcester Cookbook and to all the local businesses who have kindly donated raffle prizes throughout the year and agreed to sell the Towcester Cookbook. If I were to name them all it would be an extremely long list, so thank you. Last but most definitely not least, to all those who came to my fundraisers, the quizzes, that donned their masks for the Mayors Ball and who purchased the cookbook.

In my year it has become apparent that Towcester has an amazing sense of community and camaraderie. Be it supporting a local event or joining forces to fight for a common cause, the people of Towcester always come together when needed. I hope to see that sense of community grow further and find a way to welcome all the new residents of Towcester as the town expands over the coming years. So keep doing what you are doing. Keep supporting local groups, charities and inviting your Mayor to anything you have going on in the local area. I have enjoyed all the fantastic events I have been invited to, from school celebrations and 100th Birthday parties, to sporting events, musical events and many more. It has been a pleasure to join in with everything our community has to offer.

So I will sign off and leave your new Town Mayor and Consort to introduce themselves in the next edition. I hope you will give them your full support throughout their year by inviting them to your events and supporting their fundraising efforts. Thank you again. It really has been an honour and a privilege and I do hope to be your Mayor again one day... just maybe not for a few years.

David Tarbun
Town Mayor
Towcester Evening W.I.

The W.I. has successfully worked on yet another project with the Nicholas Hawksmoor School Student Council and South Northamptonshire Council (SNC).

We joined together to plant snowdrops “in the green” and natural primroses around the W.I. Centenary Tree by the Water Meadows in the town. Special thanks go to the SNC Landscape Officer, who taught the children and W.I. members alike, all about the plants and how they should be handled and planted; he was great with the children.

SNC Leader, Cllr Ian McCord said: “I was very glad to see the council Landscape Officer Brian Collins show the children the correct planting technique and share his stories of working on big estates. I hope memories like this will stay with the children and act as a constant reminder that they are truly part of the Towcester community.” Towcester Evening WI members hope that residents and visitors to our town will enjoy this planting for many years to come.

Please feel free to contact us should you require more information about your local WI.
Contact Barbara on 01327 352266 or Jennie on 01327 350968 or email towcesterwi@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/TowcesterEveningWI1971/
Read our blog: http://towcesterwi.blogspot.co.uk/

Towcester Methodist Church
There will be a concert held by the Salvation Army Songsters at the Methodist Church on Wednesday, 17th May at 7pm. A collection is to be shared between the Church and the Salvation Army. Admission is free and refreshments will be available following the concert.

Towcester Methodist Church Annual Summer Fayre
Towcester Methodist Church will be holding its annual Summer Fayre on Saturday 10th June from 10:30am. There will be a variety of stalls including books and toys, table games, raffle, tombola with a prize every time, white elephant, competitions, and cakes and savouries. Admission is free; all proceeds will go to church funds.

Towcester Methodist Church Anniversary Celebrations
On Sunday, 11th June the Methodist Church Anniversary Celebrations will begin at 10:30am, and will be led by Reverend Steve Mann, Superintendent. A Holy Communion will also take place. Everyone is welcome!
This will be the 15th Midsummer Music Festival. The Rotary, Centurions and Lions clubs of Towcester are combining once again to put on a weekend of ‘Music for All’, which will be hosted by the Mayor.

**in Towcester on Friday, Saturday and Sunday 16th, 17th and 18th June 2017**

**A date for your diary**

This will be the 15th Midsummer Music Festival. The Rotary, Centurions and Lions clubs of Towcester are combining once again to put on a weekend of ‘Music for All’, which will be hosted by the Mayor.

The Saturday event will be presented at no less than 11 separate locations, all within a short distance of the Market Place. This main event will be preceded on Friday night by music at The Bull Inn, The Plough Inn, The Brave Old Oak and Towcester Mill. On Sunday afternoon a special concert will be performed by the Towcester Rock School in the Town Hall. This is always popular and will start at noon. Admission for the Rock School performance will be by the programme or £2.50 at the door. The Rock School performance will be followed by 'Songs of Praise' at St Lawrence Church.

On Saturday, The Towcester Studio Band will herald the opening of the Festival in the Market Square by Town Mayor Sharon McMurray. The musical programme will generally run from 7.30 pm until, depending on the venue, 10.00 or 11.00 pm. The Saturday evening will reach its finale with a firework display from Bury Mount, starting at 10.30 pm.

Admission will be by programme and this will give admission to all of the venues – and there will be many choices. You will be encouraged to visit as many events as you like. There will be performances at different venues throughout the centre of the Town from local and visiting artistes. There will be the brass, choral, folk, rock, pop, guitar and harp instrumentalists and jazz bands. Many of the venues will serve food and drink.

**Appearing at Midsummer Music 2017**

Lincoln Noel Trio, Murphy’s Law, Jack Ward, Dr Busker, The Band ‘Isabelle’, Northants Music and Performing Arts Trust, Sponne School Musicians, Towcester Rock School, Towcester Choral Society, Craig Live, Towcester Studio Band, Junction 14, Syncopated Jazz

We will present music for the whole Town – and for our neighbours and friends in nearby villages - with plenty of car parking space available. Proceeds from this event will again go to local causes, which will be shown in the programme. Programmes will be on sale (£18 Family; £7 Adult; £5 Concession) at a number of locations from the end of May.

*This entertainment is designed for all the family so remember the dates 16th, 17th and 18th June and have a wonderful time!*
Old Towcester – Industrial Towcester

The Towcester area may not seem to have much of an industrial past but surprisingly it has a long history of small scale iron production. Iron-Age tribes living here over 2000 years ago knew that iron could be extracted from some rocks found in the sides of the valleys. Archaeological investigations near Syresham found evidence for the small cylindrical clay furnaces that they used. These were fired using locally produced charcoal and had air blown into them using hand bellows to produce a ‘bloom’ of iron. This was hammered whilst hot to remove impurities and create wrought iron; a practice which continued into the Roman period and beyond. Excavations in Swinneyford Road prior to the construction of the houses discovered stretches of the Roman Alchester Road close to the present junction with Link Way. A round-house dating from the early 4th century abutted this road and had evidence that its occupiers were involved in iron, lead and pewter working. Iron-slag from the nearby ditches strongly suggests that iron smelting was carried out there as well.

The re-founding of Towcester as a burh in 917 led to smiths being attracted to the town. They may have undertaken the skilled work of creating wrought iron from the blooms or used the iron to create tools or weapons. These men disappeared at the time of the Norman Conquest leaving Towcester much poorer. Slag has been found in some fields around Wood Burcote along with medieval pottery suggesting that some small scale iron production was being carried out locally. It is likely that this had ceased by Tudor times.

In the 1870’s some of the best iron in Britain was made in the field abutting the Tiffield Road on the north side of the A43. This was the site of Towcester Iron Works, a large brick building over three stories in height that contained three revolutionary gas-fired rotary iron-producing furnaces that were designed by Sir William Siemens. Towcester was chosen as it was close to the site of ‘a most valuable mine’ producing iron ore. Wheeler, a local builder, started constructing the furnaces for Siemens in 1873 or 1874 and completed the work in 1875. The iron ore in the mine appears not to have been as extensive as was thought and ore from the local quarries in Easton Neston was used. This was not quite up to standard so other higher grade ore needed to be imported as did the coal to produce the gas needed in the furnaces. Unfortunately (or perhaps fortunately) the rates of railway carriage were too high making the process uneconomic despite the good prices obtained for the finished product. On the 18th August 1877 the plant closed throwing a considerable number of local people out of work.

There is now little evidence for Towcester’s long iron-making past and the Towcester Iron Works on the Tiffield Road are largely forgotten about. If Siemens had succeeded in making the iron works successful how much difference would that have made to Towcester? Would the 20th century have seen our historic market town develop into an industrial town?
When long-serving Society Chairman Vivienne Baker stood down in March 2007, to serve as Mayor of Towcester, her deputy John Morris took over fully expecting to hand the role back when Vivienne’s civic duties ended. It was not to be because of ill health and now, a decade later, John has decided it is time for a change.

“I have had ten years enjoying the involvement,” he told the recent annual meeting. “I think this is the right time for a change with the Society very much involved with the local community in so many ways. Our programme of excellent talks is only a part of the work that takes in Towcester’s history, archaeology and day-to-day life.

That includes the chance to comment on planning applications within the town and we are grateful to South Northants Council for enabling us to work with them on this. When I took over we had a strong committee and I feel that with changes over the years and the arrival of new members we are now even stronger.

One of our committee members, Peter Jones, has taken over. He is fairly new to the Society but has taken a keen interest in all that we do.”

John will stay on the committee and remains as Chairman of the Towcester Area World War One Commemoration Committee which he initiated in 2013.

MYSTERY AND FUN IN OUR SUMMER PROGRAMME

Wednesday 10th May
Paul, a retired police officer, will tell us a story of murder, and a mystery yet to be solved. “The Blazing Car Murder” was discovered in Hardingstone Lane on 5th November 1930 and it turned out to have been committed by Arthur Rouse. Police believed that Rouse was trying to fabricate his own death when he picked up a hitch-hiker, knocked him out and then torched the car with the man inside. Rouse was convicted and executed; the victim’s identity remains unknown.

Wednesday 14th June
William Streatfield – A Gentle Man Don Martin
William, who was born in 1889, was a farm worker on the St. Clere Estate near Sevenoaks in Kent who could turn his hand to anything from mending his boots to shepherding. So, how did he find himself in a Siberian winter fighting Bolsheviks, despite being medically unfit for either combat or weather? His Grandson Don, a Society committee member, will tell the story of his extraordinary life.

Wednesday 12th July
Oooh Matron! A History of the ‘Carry On’ Films Steve Dimmer
Our mid-summer party for members and their guests and, along with the buffet and drinks, Steve will take us through the rise of this much-loved series. He will look at the lives of some of the main players as well as showing clips of the classic moments. If you have a funny bone this one is definitely for you.

Monthly meetings are held at the Riverside Resource Centre in Islington Road, Towcester, at 7.30pm. The entrance fee for non-members remains at £2. For further information call David Wilcock on 01327 351782 or John Morris on 01327 350297.
“An Evening with Tony, Ellis & Sukman”

On the morning of 25th April 2015, local businessman Tony McMurray was leaving Mount Everest base camp when his whole world literally shook around him. What he did not realise at the time was that he was up on the highest mountain in the world during the 7.8 magnitude earthquake which hit Nepal killing 9,000 people, and injuring more than 22,000.

As an ambassador for The Alzheimer’s Society, and a fundraiser for more than 10 years, Tony had placed the charity’s flag beneath the 29,000 foot peak the day before in honour of his mum who suffered with the condition. During the harrowing days that followed, Tony and his team experienced the highs and lows of evacuation from a natural disaster on the highest mountain range in the world. A good friend, Ellis, who Tony met up with at base camp, and was further up the mountain when the quake struck, was nowhere to be seen. Tony and his team had to rely on the skill and courage of local lead Sherpa, Sukman, who himself did not know if his own family members were alive further down the mountain. The good news is that 4 days after the devastation all 3 men came back together in what was an emotional reunion.

On leaving Nepal in May 2015 Tony made a promise to his Sherpa, and good friend, Sukman, that he would one day visit the UK. During last year, Tony progressed plans to fulfil that promise and, in December 2016, he made an emotional telephone call to Sukman, who at the time was with his family in their village that is still ravaged by the quake. He told him he was coming to the UK in the summer of 2017 as guests of Tony and his wife Sharon. He could meet the people who wanted to thank him so much for bringing their man home. Tony said of Sukman’s journey to the UK “I have had to provide a number of personal documents in order to support Sukman’s stay in the UK, and all is now set for an emotional week of reunions and lots of sight-seeing for him.”

2017 promises to be an exciting year in the McMurray household. Tony’s wife, Town Councillor Sharon McMurray, who owns a number of businesses in the town including the Counting House B&B in Brackley Road and the Towcester Tea Rooms, is to be Towcester’s new Mayor in May. Sharon said “I am looking forward to meeting the man we now call ‘superman’ Sukman. We have booked the week off work and promise to show him as much of what the UK has to offer as we can. Sukman’s one week stay will start with a special ‘Evening with Tony, Ellis and Sukman’ and will finish with him attending my first Mayoral Charity event in the Saracens Head on June 10th.”

The ‘Evening With’ is scheduled to start at 6pm on Sunday 4th June at the Saracens Head in Towcester. The evening will bring Tony, Ellis and Sukman together for the first time since the Quake in 2015. There promises to be a few surprise guests on the evening who we know will want to meet Sukman again. All three intrepid explorers will be up on stage in front of more than 70 people when each will tell of their own unique journeys to Everest in 2015 and what it was like to experience a quake on the highest mountain on earth. Sukman will also share with the audience the rebuilding work that has taken place over the past two years and how the funds raised on the evening will go towards further rebuilding his own village, of which 90% was destroyed.

Tony concluded “This will be a ticket only event as we expect to sell all 70 tickets on the night. The price we believe is good value at £15 and there will be cheese and port included, with the Saracens Head kindly providing the venue for free. Ellis will also be signing his recently published book, ‘Everest - it’s not about the Summit’, which is selling well on Amazon, with all profits on the night including book sales going towards helping rebuild Nepal”.

Those wishing to purchase tickets can do so via Sharon McMurray on 07792 189022 or at the Tearooms on 01327 358200. Alternatively Tony can be contacted directly on 07702 662098. If you know of anyone who is a fan of the hills, or who might find this story interesting, please pass on the contact details above.
Rotary Young Artist and Photographer Competition local winners

The Rotary Club of Towcester is delighted to announce the successful completion of the local stage of the Rotary Young Artist and Young Photographer competition. There were some fantastic entries from our local students and the finalists have been displayed in Towcester library.

The judges found it a hard decision to choose a winner for each – but they did and Florence Myhill of Nicholas Hawksmoor School won best Artist and Ruby Landymore, also of Nicholas Hawksmoor School, won Young Photographer.

The theme for both competitions was ‘Reflections’ and both winners demonstrated a full understanding of the theme as well as excellent technical interpretation and creativity in their chosen mediums. Both Florence and Ruby's winning works will be entered into the Rotary Young Artist and Young Photographer District Competition (covering Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire), which will be held in May this year.

The Towcester Rotary Club is delighted with these achievements and wishes them both much success in the District finals.

District Rotary Young Musician Competition Finals - Towcester success!

The Rotary Club of Towcester is absolutely delighted to announce that Emily Ramplin of Towcester Primary School came joint First in her Solo Vocalist category (6-10 year olds) and the Brass Quintet from Towcester Nicholas Hawksmoor School came First in their Instrumental Ensemble category (6-10 year olds).

Emily let up the lit up the room with her beautiful voice enchanting us all with "Castle on a Cloud" and "Zip-A-Dee-Doo-Dah". The Brass Quintet, composed of Katie Skey, Laura Punter, Pheobe Earnshaw, Charlotte Gautrey and April Williams, played two Beatles songs, "Yesterday" and "Yellow Submarine".

Our students competed with other entrants from Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire and Leicestershire at Leicester Grammar School on Sunday 19th March 2017. There was a plethora of talent and the Adjudicator, Gerard McChrystal (who is Professor of Saxophone at Trinity Laban Conservatoire and also teaches at the RWCMD in Cardiff, and Harrow Boy’s school in London), had a very challenging task in deciding who should be crowned the winners of each category.

The Rotary Young Musician Competition is an annual Rotary event and provides students with the opportunity to excel in their chosen musical area and also gain the precious life skill of performing live in front of an audience. The age groups are 6-10 year olds, 11-13 year olds and 14-17 year olds. Students can either sing or play an instrument.

For details of our other Rotary Youth Competitions please contact: secretary@towcester-rotary.org.uk. The Rotary Club of Towcester meets weekly at the Saracen’s head and is always delighted to welcome new members. Alternatively, please visit our website www.towcester-rotary.org.uk for more information.
Towcester C of E Primary School Summer Fete

At 2pm on Saturday 15th July 2017, the Friends of Towcester Primary School (FOTOPS) will open their annual Summer Fete. This 2 hour event promises to have a fantastic selection of stalls and an immense array of entertainment including pony rides, live performances and special guest appearances whatever the weather. The Bake Off competition will once again be open to anyone and can be entered in advance by emailing FOTOPS@hotmail.co.uk. It will be judged at the beginning of the fete and the fabulous entries will then be sold to the community. Also, one of the many highlights of the Fete for the past couple of years, the stocks, will be returning for 2017. Who is brave enough to have people throw wet sponges at them, and maybe for a large donation, a whole bucket of water?

FOTOPS (a registered charity) works solely to raise money for Towcester C of E Primary School and work very closely with the school to agree on what they should be raising money for. FOTOPS are currently working towards raising £10,000 for a Technology Hub for the school, and they are hoping that the Fete will give them a big boost towards their new target! The Headmaster said “Children are growing up in an ever-changing world, and we must, at schools, prepare them to enter this world with confidence. In order to achieve this, we should give them access to the latest technology in school all the time,” The school’s IT equipment is now outdated, and with the school’s population having grown by 130 pupils in five years, there is not enough devices for everyone.

The money raised will be used to buy modern IT equipment and enough devices for pupils to have hands on experience:
- Wi-Fi tablets for each pupil to do research in class individually – a class set of 30 tablets for KS1 and KS2.
- Laptops to be used throughout the curriculum with two sets enabling two classes access to the latest programmes.
- Following the great success of our after school club ‘Lights, Camera, Action!’ we would like to encourage prospective budding film makers/directors by purchasing high quality video equipment and editing software.
- To integrate technology in our learning, we are also looking to purchase a few High Definition microscopes, which will enable the pupils to use IT to discover the world around them.

The equipment will widen the already strong teaching and enable pupils to research and learn through faster and more consistent technology. It is our duty as educators, parents and the community to see that our pupils at the school get access to the best equipment and resources, so that they can develop fully and become world class citizens, and build their confidence and competence to take the next steps in their education once they leave Towcester Primary School.

Watch this space – and the Towcester Primary School website http://www.towcesterprimary.northants.sch.uk – for more information on this important campaign to help spread the word, donate or both!
Working together to reduce speeding in Towcester

Our Community Speedwatch
Towcester Neighbourhood Watch is responsible for administering Towcester Community Speedwatch, in partnership with the police’s Safer Roads Team. At its core is a dedicated team of 18 volunteers who have all been trained by the police.

Within Towcester there are 11 specific locations which the police have agreed are suitable for siting the speed camera. These include Northampton Road, Brackley Road and Springfields, which all have two sites, as well as Highfields, Buckingham Way and Vernon Road.

Our initial Speedwatch exercise in autumn 2015 was followed with a further campaign running between 16th May and 3rd August 2016. This more recent campaign, which comprised 32 sessions, resulted in the police sending letters to 132 offending motorists.

This year we have two campaigns. The first completed on 24th March comprising 15 sessions. It was notable that Northampton Road, from which 5 sessions were run, accounted for 62 of 77 offending motorists.

Police-run training sessions take place throughout the year. If you can spare an hour or so a week to join our team, please email nhw@safertowcester.com. Thank you.

Our VAS (Vehicle Activated Sign)
The Town Council decided in 2013 to deploy a VAS to build awareness of speeding in the town. Neighbourhood Watch volunteers support the initiative and maintain the VAS.

There are six main sites where the VAS is deployed (see below). All the sites are 30mph zones and are known for speeding. The VAS records the number of times a vehicle exceeds 33mph approaching the sign.

In addition, the VAS has been placed at five other sites in response to requests from the public and Councillors. The latest is in Sandyhome Road, in March 2017, which recorded 110 vehicles per day triggering the speed limit.

The figures shown below, taken since the inception of the scheme, are vehicles per day exceeding the above speed limits at the main sites:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014/15</th>
<th>2015/16</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brackley Road</td>
<td>1623</td>
<td>1350</td>
<td>1156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northampton Road</td>
<td>1131</td>
<td>989</td>
<td>Tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burcote Road</td>
<td>574</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>Tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highfields</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buckingham Way</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>187</td>
<td>Tba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfields</td>
<td>700</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>598</td>
</tr>
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It is encouraging to see that the VAS has been effective in raising speed awareness.
Throughout this year Towcester is celebrating 1100 years of the town’s history. We will be marking the year 917 during which King Edward the Elder (son of Alfred the Great) re-built the town’s defences and defeated the Danes at the first Battle of Towcester.

Towcester 917 aims to celebrate our town’s rich history, extend knowledge of our history, bring people and our community together, and make it fun. Two main events are planned for this summer. Other projects include the commissioning of a new piece of music for Towcester Studio Band which will be performed at a concert in the autumn.

**Walking Carnival Parade - Saturday 17th June**

A Walking Carnival parade to celebrate Towcester 917 will start from the Recreation Ground and Community Centre on Islington Road at 3pm on Saturday, 17th June.

Children from Towcester Primary School and Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School will join with other groups of young people in this colourful and fun event. The Walking Carnival will be headed by a giant dragon (an image chosen to represent the Anglo-Saxons led by Edward the Elder). Towcester Studio Band is expected to join the parade. The Carnival will parade through residential streets and finish back at the Recreation Ground by 4:30pm. Full details of the route will be advertised in the weeks before the event. Residents are asked to come out, wave and cheer-on the parade as it makes its way along the streets.

Festive Road, a community arts organisation is working with our local schools to put on the event. The Walking Carnival will be a prelude to events on the same day planned for the annual Midsummer Music Festival.

If your organisation wishes to get involved, there’s still time, so please get in touch. We also still need adults to help supervise the Carnival, please do contact us if you are free on the afternoon of Saturday 17th June.

To take part or help, please contact Martin Johns on 01327 352289 or via martin.johns@btinternet.com

**Saxon Fair - Sunday 23rd July**

On Sunday, 23rd July, a themed Saxon Fair will take place on the open area of water meadows between The Shires housing estate and the River Tove, off Northampton Road. There is plenty of free car parking close to the event area and there will be public toilets on site. **The whole event is free of charge.**
The Saxon Fair will have a range of attractions including: children’s workshops and activities, storytelling and music, cooking, archery etc. There will be a Saxon encampment with crafts such as weaving, coinage, leather working and weapon making on display. During both the morning and the afternoon there will be exciting battles / skirmishes between Vikings and Saxons, who will re-enact the first Battle of Towcester in 917.

The Saxon Fair includes food and drink stalls, entertainment including a flying display of Birds of Prey, as well as other static displays of interest to all age groups. Cotswold Archaeology (who have conducted a great deal of archaeology in Towcester in recent years) will have a display of finds and activities for children, including a mini-dig.

If as an individual, or your local organisation would like to be involved in this event please do get in touch. Volunteers are also needed for help on the day.

**Programme for the Day**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Saxon Fair and Saxon encampment opens to the public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>First combat re-enactment takes place between Vikings and Saxons</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Story telling in camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Spear wrestling, axe holding and other demonstrations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Birds of Prey display in the main arena</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Story telling in camp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Final battle / skirmish (lasting 30 mins)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Saxon Fair closes to the public.</td>
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</tbody>
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Towcester 917 is being generously supported by:

South Northamptonshire Council, Towcester Town Council, South Northants Homes, Councillor Chris Lofts’ ‘Empowering Communities Fund’, Jackie Oliver & Co. and Redrow Homes
A welcoming home serving the community, expressing God’s love for everyone

Fundraising for the Tove Valley Centre

The Tove Valley Centre will be a place of worship for the Tove Valley Baptist Fellowship as well as a modern community facility available for use by local groups in Towcester and the wider district. It will be located on the Northampton Road in Towcester, adjacent to the Shires housing estate and SNC car park. For more details about the Centre please visit www.tovevalleycentre.co.uk

24th June – 60’s/70’s Music with ‘Fynnius Fogg’ & Auction

Thank you to everyone who came to our Quiz Night on the 21st April, our first event of 2017. Our next event will be an evening of 60’s/70’s music with ‘Fynnius Fogg’ on Saturday 24th June from 7:30pm at Towcestrians RFC. Tickets are available from Coleman’s stationers or via the above website at a cost of £10. A licensed bar will be available and desserts can be purchased on the night.

Who is Fynnius Fogg?

Take a trip down memory lane and re-live music from the 60’s and 70’s with Fynnius Fogg. The former roller-skating pop group of the 70’s re-formed in 1991 and now perform free of charge to help to raise money for good causes. Over £600,000 has been raised for charity to date. They aim to re-create an authentic 60’s village hall experience where you can come and simply enjoy the music or dance along to your favourite classics. See their website www.fynniusfogg.co.uk for more information.

Auction

The auction on the night will include eighteen holes of golf for 4 guests at Whittlebury Park Golf Club, a gift voucher from Elizabeth Alexandra Beauty, with other exciting items and experiences to be announced on the night!

Future Events

Later in the year we will be hosting a Barn Dance with music by ‘Apricot Pie’ on Saturday, 23rd September from 7:30pm at Towcestrians RFC. Do keep an eye on the events page of the Tove Valley Centre website www.tovevalleycentre.co.uk and local press for further details. We look forward to seeing you!

Towcester Royal British Legion

The membership of our branch has been going through a state of flux over the past months. Several members have died or moved away but we have taken on a number of new members and, with the affiliation of the Army Cadets, Air Cadets and the 1st Towcester Scouts, it is looking very healthy at the moment. The Emergency Service Cadets (a joint project run by the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services) are also just about to be affiliated to our branch, so all of this will hopefully ensure its longevity.

As mentioned in earlier publications, meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at the Conservative Club, starting at 7:30pm. All are welcome; you do not have to have served in the Armed Services to become a member of the RBL. Some of the services provided by the RBL can only be offered to ex- or current serving personnel or their dependants, but that stipulation does not apply to anyone who would like to become a member. Why not pop along to our next meeting and see for yourself? You’ll be made very welcome.

DROP IN SESSIONS FOR TOWCESTER

There is a new “Drop In” service run by HQ and the County organisations. The Towcester sessions started in April and will now run monthly on the first Wednesday of each month from 9:30am to 11:30am at Towcester Library, located in The Forum.

David Reed, Membership Secretary & Poppy Appeal Organiser
dreddsfm@sky.com / 07970 597044 / 01327 352414
Towcester Mill Brewery

The beer garden season has begun...
As May arrives and spring gradually turns into summer, Towcester Mill Brewery is well and truly into beer garden season. With new beers to try and a third birthday to celebrate, now is the time to come and see for yourself what Towcester Mill Brewery has to offer!

May is the month of Mild and birthdays
May welcomes the return of the Brewery’s real ale, Maius, the Old English name for May. This is a mild ale, brewed specifically because CAMRA (Campaign for Real Ale) promotes Mild throughout May. Mild ales are black to dark brown to pale amber in colour and come in a variety of styles from warming roasty ales to light refreshing lunchtime thirst quenchers. Alcohol levels are typically low which is why Maius is the perfect pint for those lighter summer evenings. “Our Maius is a 3.6% ABV dark mild,” explained director, John Evans. “It’s a firm favourite, not just for CAMRA drinkers but all real ale loving fans!” The pump clip for Maius shows a deer, representing the mediaeval deer park that is said to have been near Wood Burcote.

May is also when the Brewery will celebrate its third birthday, having opened its tap room for the first time at The Mill in 2014. “We can’t believe how fast time has flown,” added John. “We have brewed around 500 brews in those three years, opened our new shop at Bell Plantation and our new pub The Royal Oak at Naseby. Our customers have become part of our extended family in that time so we will be having a BBQ on Saturday 20th May to celebrate. Come and enjoy our great ales and unrivalled beer garden!”

June is the month of Dads, music and Beer Day Britain
A new beer called Saxon Shield will launch at the beginning of June to celebrate the Towcester 917 event. Beer Day Britain, the UK’s national beer day held annually on 15th June, is a great excuse to celebrate Britain’s national alcoholic drink. “That evening Jenkinson’s Folly, a Towcester based folk duo, will be playing so combine the two and don’t miss out,” said director, Ray Hunt. “We will have a full line up of music acts for Midsummer Music on Friday, Saturday and Sunday so check out the details on posters and Facebook - it will be a weekend of music, food and great beer!”

And, if you’re looking for the perfect Father’s Day gift, then the Brewery’s shop is the place to go. Director, David Williams, explained, “We have bottles of beer, gift packs, beer hampers, brewery tour vouchers, annual memberships, as well as three hand pumps on site so when you’re browsing you can even have a pint! We can fill a number of different containers with the beer of your choice, from 1L bottles to a 72 pint firkin. Our 5L mini kegs are really popular as they are just a little bit different and make a great, unusual gift.”

July is the month for Crayfish Festival
Saturday 1st July is the first Crayfish Festival of the year at Towcester Mill Brewery, where Mark from Crayfish Capers (regularly seen at the Farmer’s Market) will be trapping crayfish from the Mill race and offering the most amazing paella dish for all to try. The Little Oven of Joy will also be providing its usual delicious wood fired pizzas with a one off special – crayfish pizza.

New summer opening times
The Brewery’s tap room is now open from 5pm Monday to Thursdays and from 12pm Fridays to Sundays. See our website for more detail.

For all bookable events go to www.ticketsource.co.uk/towcester-mill-brewery.co.uk
See our website www.towcestermillbrewery.co.uk and Facebook for more details
TOWCESTER SCOUT HALL - For Hire -

Towcester Scouts have a purpose-built building situated in the centre of the town – perfect for regular hire if you are a group or organisation looking for a new home late afternoons or early evenings.

Available on favourable terms, the facility boasts a large hall, meeting room, kitchen and cloakroom facilities.

Outside is further space and parking.

For further information, or to make enquiries, please telephone Jackie Oliver & Co. on 01327 359903.

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Glycolic Skin Renewal Peel

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Towcester Therapy Centre
01327 353544
TOWCESTER TIDY UP RESULTS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteered at the last Towcester Tidy up for all of their help and support over the 3 cleaning sessions. The Sunday morning session was cancelled due to bad weather.

I would particularly like to thank 1st Towcester Scouts who, together with Parents and Leaders, numbered 30 in total over the 3 sessions and also the Towcester Air Cadets, who came out in force on the Sunday afternoon session. All of those, plus our “regulars”, made it the most successful in terms of local volunteers ever.

During the three 2 hour sessions, the 92 volunteers collected 11 bags of glass, 20 bags of recyclable cans and plastics, and 36 bags of general rubbish, along with several other items which were too large to put into bags.

Obviously, by removing one of our sessions, the numbers of material collected was down when compared with previous Tidy Up sessions; nevertheless it was a great effort. The arrangement with SNC for it to collect all of the general rubbish, assorted items and sacks of recyclable material on the subsequent Monday morning worked very well.

We can never pick up every piece of litter across the whole town, but these joint efforts made a big difference to large parts of Towcester. The places cleared are where lots of people walk regularly and each time we perform a ‘Tidy Up’ session I naively hope that those people see how much cleaner the place is and put their next piece of litter in a bin, or take it home, rather than dropping it on the ground. I can but hope!

The next Towcester Tidy Up weekend will be in September; more details to follow. Let’s hope that we get even more volunteers to come along so that we can clear even more public spaces in Towcester.

If you are interested in helping Tidy Up Towcester in future then please contact me on dreedsfm@sky.com

Rotarian David Reed

Opening of The Sawpits Centre
(the former Towcester Library)

By the time of reading this, the Sawpits Centre will have been officially opened on 2nd May by the outgoing Town Mayor, Cllr David Tarbun.

The extensive refurbishment works have been completed and the Town Council is delighted with the results; it hopes residents of the town will be too!

The Town Council will now undertake the task of drawing together all of the expressions of interest received from those who would like to hire the premises. It’s hoped that the centre will be back in use from the end of May/ beginning of June.

If you, or your organisation, think you might be interested in hiring The Sawpits Centre and would like to view the premises, please contact the Town Clerk, Elizabeth Cox, on 01327 350995 or email towncouncil@towcester-tc.gov.uk.
The annual tournament, hosted by Towcester Town FC, is taking place on 10th and 11th June 2017 and will see in excess of 100 six-a-side teams from across Northamptonshire and Milton Keynes taking part at the Recreation Ground, Islington Road, Towcester.

The U8, U10, U12, U14 and U16-18s competitions will take place on Saturday and this will be followed by the U7, U9, U11, U13 and U15s on Sunday. To give younger players age five and six some match experience, there will be a special non-competitive session on the Sunday for players from TTFC’s Mini Kickers and other clubs.

There will be a BBQ offering breakfast rolls, burgers and hotdogs all day. Further refreshments including ice-cream, candy floss, sweets, teas, coffees and cold drinks will be available throughout the tournament. For the first time this year, we will also be offering some inflatable fun and an opportunity for children to have photos taken with replica championship and world cups.

Lisa Samiotis, Chair of TTFC, said: “Our tournament is always over-subscribed and its popularity is testament to the hard work of both the management team and the coaches that are responsible for its seamless organisation. Developing the skills and moulding the attitudes of young players is at the heart of grassroots football and our event is the perfect showcase.”

TTFC is solely run by volunteers and welcomes your support. If you are a local business that would like to learn more about TTFC, as it strives to improve and develop further, there are a number of sponsorship options available.

For more information, please contact towcestertownfcchair@mail.com.

**Towcester Town Football Club**

**Do you want to play football?**

**Come and give MiniKickers a try!**

Towcester Town Football Club’s MiniKickers is open to all children aged between 4 and 6 years old. Sessions take place on the all-weather pitch at Towcester Centre for Leisure on Saturday mornings from 9am-10am. A contribution of just £1 is requested per session to help cover costs.

MiniKickers is taught by qualified coaches and is an excellent way to introduce children to football whilst having fun. Children who are interested will have the opportunity to progress into TTFC’s Under 7s teams.

For more information please contact Samantha Hurrell at: towcestertownfc@secretary.net or call 01327 353284
Churches Together in Towcester

Jeff Mason, a Lecturer in Philosophy at Middlesex University, wrote: ‘Death has no subjective meaning at all. It will come to other people, but never to me. Of course, I know that I am going to die. Death means the end of my future. However, as long as I am alive, I will be living toward that future possibility of no longer having possibilities’.

If you were to ask a Christian ‘What is the Christian response to death?’ I’m sure you will get a variety of responses. To face the death of a close family member or a dear friend, or even thoughts about your own death can be a difficult task for anyone. I think it’s true to say that we tend to avoid thinking or talking about death unless it is absolutely necessary. During such a time people often think about the mysterious aspects of life, and most especially death. There are different types of questions that come to the mind as people start looking for answers.

Death was at the centre of life in the Middle Ages in a way that might seem shocking to us today. With high rates of infant mortality, disease, famine, the constant presence of war, and the inability of medicine to deal with common injuries, death was a brutal part of most people's everyday experience. The Bible offers us a variety of answers too; for instance, if I were to ask what word you associate with the word “death”, and if you were not familiar with Philippians 1:21 in the New Testament, which says, ‘For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain,’ I venture to say that the word “gain” would not come immediately to mind. We think of death as a terrible loss, not a gain. When author William Saroyan was within days of his own death from cancer, he issued this statement to the Associated Press: “Everybody has got to die, but I have always believed an exception would be made in my case. Now what?” No doubt he was speaking with his tongue in cheek, but he brought out what we all tend to think, that “somehow an exception will be made in my case.” Since it is unpleasant to contemplate, we put off thinking about it until it seems inescapable.

The Christian response to death is that the pain which the bereaved suffer is indeed profound; however, Christ’s death and resurrection maintains the significance of the death of a loved one and provides hope. The Church must not avoid or sanitise death like the culture around us. If we do not acknowledge the tragedy and horror of death we cannot minister to those who grieve. More importantly, if we act as if death is not significant, we cannot preach the Gospel of Christ to the nations. In the end, to ignore the importance of death is to trivialise the Cross. For God so loved the world that He gave us his Son, so that everyone who believes in Him will not die but inherit eternal life. (John 3:16)

Thank you for taking time to read this.

Reverend Pat Olivent-Hayes
Methodist Minister
Towcester, Brackley & Silverstone

Towcester Evening W.I. presents...Shackleton's Forgotten Men
Men and women both welcome to this Open Meeting with speaker Debbie Horsman

*Men wanted: for hazardous journey, small wages, bitter cold, long months of complete darkness, constant danger, safe return doubtful. Honour and recognition in case of success.*

Is this how Sir Ernest Shackleton advertised his 1914 Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition? Who volunteered? You will be surprised by the story of the forgotten men, given by a relative of one of the men.

The Open Meeting will take place on Thursday 1st June at 7pm for a 7.30pm start at the Conservative Club, Towcester. Tickets are £4 to include squash, nibbles and free raffle. A bar will also be available. Tickets are available from Barbara on 01327 352266 or Jennie on 01327 350968. Alternatively, please send us an email at towcesterwi@gmail.com. More details can be found on our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/TowcesterEveningWI1971/
June sees the return of South Northamptonshire’s greatest food and drink extravaganza - Towcester Food Festival.

There’ll be up to 100 stalls bursting with artisan produce, chef demonstrations, wine and gin tastings, a street food market and a free family circus. New for 2017, there will also be a Foodies Lounge, where visitors can hear talks from local producers about food and drink – along with some free samples.

One of the speakers will be drinks entrepreneur Laurence Conisbee who has set up the Wharf Distillery at Wakefield Country Courtyard in Potterspury. He will be revealing his innovative skill for making spirits from unusual foods with tasters of his Beetroot vodka!

Award winning butcher, David Baker, will be running a Steak School at the festival, dissecting a side of beef to reveal exactly where the best-known steaks are from and what you should look for when shopping for meat.

There will also be talk on foraging for food from local expert Richard Mawby and for the first time the festival welcomes best-selling author Hanna Sillitoe. Hanna, 37, spent nearly 20 years suffering a terrible autoimmune disease which made her skin break into hot scaly lumps which covered her whole body. Told by doctors there was nothing they could do, Hanna cured herself by radically changing her diet. She will tell her story in the Foodies Lounge and demonstrate one of her skin friendly recipes from her best-selling book ‘Radiant’. Hanna shed four stone in weight after embarking on her new diet, her skin cleared up completely and she is now the picture of good health.

Towcester Food Festival is a celebration of artisan food and drink and takes place at Towcester Racecourse on Saturday, 10th June and Sunday, 11th June, starting at 10am on both days.

There is entertainment for the whole family with live music lawns, a free family circus for kid big and small, and cookery classes for children.

Adult tickets are £6 in advance or £8 on the day. Family tickets are £16 in advance. Tickets are on sale at: www.towcesterfoodfestival.co.uk.

Towcester Food Festival is supported by South Northamptonshire Council as part of the council’s drive to support tourism and the local economy.

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**Towcester Choral Society’s Summer Concert**

*Songs of the British Isles collaborating with Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir Conducted by Helen Swift with Piper, Richard Jasper*

This wonderful concert will take place at Towcester Town Hall on Friday, 7th and Saturday, 8th July 2017. Tickets will be available nearer the time from Tickets@towcesterchoralsociety.org.uk. Alternatively, please telephone 01327 353314.

Please follow us on Facebook and Twitter @Towcesterchoral for more details.
Nicholas Hawksmoor Nursery Open Day

The Nursery attached to Nicholas Hawksmoor Primary School in Towcester is holding an open session on Wednesday 10 May between 9:30am and 10:30am to enable parents and children to have a look around its outstanding facilities.

Unusually for a nursery setting, it is headed up by a qualified teacher, Sarah Page, which gives the advantage of educational expertise. The Nursery also offers four qualified staff who dedicate their time to ensure all the children experience a warm and caring environment and have masses of fun while they learn. This high quality provision enables children to have a flying start at four!

The Nursery caters for up to 60 children between the ages of 3-4 years, as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and is open to all children wherever they live locally. It runs five morning or five afternoon sessions per week, with the additional options of lunch clubs and top up sessions, to ensure all children benefit from the 15 hours government funding.

For more information and to book your place, please contact the school on 01327 351466.

Best Kept Garden Competition 2017

Entries are invited from green fingered residents of Towcester for the ‘Best Kept Garden Competition 2017’. There are so many beautifully maintained private gardens in the town and taking part is very simple. Entries will be judged by the Town Mayor at the end of July and a prize and certificate awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. The only criterion is the garden must be in public view, i.e. not a back garden.

If you wish to enter your garden, or that of a neighbour or friend, please complete and return the form below to the Town Council Office by Friday, 14th July. We are hoping for a bumper number of entries this year!

Entry Form
Towcester in Bloom 2017 – Best Kept Garden Competition

Name: ..............................................................................................................................................

Address:...........................................................................................................................................

Contact No.:.......................................................................................................................................

Please complete and return to the Town Council Office, The Town Hall, 86 Watling Street East, Towcester, NN12 6BS no later than Friday, 14th July 2017.
Towcester Wildlife Trust Local Group

Spring/Summer Meeting/Events Programme
All meetings will be at Towcester Mill (unless stated otherwise) starting at 7.30pm. Donations of £2 will be gratefully received. Under 16’s receive free entry.

Monday 15th May - Chris Stratford and Paul Almond of Cherwell Vale DC Talk on the Future of Towcester Watermeadows
Chris and Paul will provide details of the results of the work by Environmental Consultants in formulating the planned developments for the Watermeadows.

Monday 19th June - Douglas Goddard talk on Butterflies of Northamptonshire
Douglas will give a presentation on his 30 years of recording butterflies of Northamptonshire, covering his experiences and the changes and trends in our butterflies over that period.

The July event will be an outdoor visit. Further details are to be confirmed.

Watermeadows Management Group
A meeting of stakeholders and other local groups met with the consultants to give their opinions on the current state of the area and suggestions as to how it may be developed better so that people other than dog walkers can enjoy the space. A further meeting to hear the suggested plans will be scheduled soon. Come to the May meeting to learn the results of their proposals.

New Equipment for Youth Groups
We have pond dipping and bug sweeping equipment and lots of ID charts for schools and youth groups to use. The equipment is available for use now and donations from participating groups, to cover general wear and tear, will be welcomed.

If you are interested in any of the above, or would like to know any other details about our local group then get in touch with David Reed on 01327 352414 or dreedsfm@sky.com

Appeal from residents in the town...
I have received the following appeals from residents in the town which I would like to relay:-

Dog Fouling
There is an increasing problem with dog walkers leaving dog waste and bags of dog waste along the bridle path; in particular the stretch that runs behind Rowan Close. Not only is this practice extremely unpleasant for nearby residents, increasingly so as the summer approaches, but also poses a danger to public health and that of other animals. Whilst the Town Council may consider requesting permission from Northamptonshire County Council to install an additional dog waste bin on the bridle path, there are almost 70 already in the town so please use them. I do appreciate that most dog walkers are extremely conscientious and those who are not are in the minority.

A43 Hulcote Junction
Those local to Towcester will most likely exit the Hulcote junction, at the top of the Shires Estate, with extreme caution but should be aware that one resident recently witnessed 4 cars in the central reservation waiting to turn right towards Northampton. For the benefit of all, please take care and observe the priorities at this junction.

Many thanks.

Elizabeth Cox (Town Clerk)
Towcester Rotarian Alex Cooke has successfully completed his 15-day motorcycle ride across southern India along with 15 other Rotarians from across the world. The ride, which started in January 2017, was part of the Centennial Celebrations of Rotary International and also a fund-raising event for children’s charities.

The ride has been an extraordinary example of the power of Rotary, not only because it has already raised in excess of $50,000, and because it has helped to spread the word about Rotary to those who were not aware of the organisation, but also in true Rotary spirit it has provided an amazing cultural exchange between the visiting Rotarian motorcycle riders and the local Indian Rotarians and people.

Alex’s final figure for his own fund raising for his two nominated charities, ProVision Asia (www.provisionasia.com) and Coram Life Education, Northants (www.coramlifeeducation.org.uk) is over £1,000 and will be split equally between the two charities. He would like to thank everyone who sponsored him.

The Rotary Club of Towcester meets weekly at the Saracen’s head and is always delighted to welcome new members. Please contact: secretary@towcester-rotary.org.uk or visit our website www.towcester-rotary.org.uk

Rotary donates to DISC

At the end of the Last Night of the Proms concert in February of this year, the Rotary Club of Towcester held a bucket collection and along with these monies kindly donated by those who came to the Proms, and some other funds from their Charity account – the Club was delighted to present the Chair of DISC (Disability Inclusive Sports Club), Dean Dixon, with a cheque for £500.

DISC meets on a Sunday afternoon at Towcester Leisure Centre and provides a variety of sports including trampolining, swimming, softball, badminton, archery, volley ball (and many other activities) for disabled people of all ages along with their families. DISC is totally reliant on donations to survive and as Treasurer Lynn McCallum says:

“The money raised will be used to cover the cost of providing coaches for swimming and other sporting activities such as football, badminton and trampolining at our Sunday sessions. It is only through the support of Legacy Leisure Limited, donations and fund raising activities such as yours that DISC is able to continue.”

You can find out more information about DISC on their web site: www.disc-northants.org
On Saturday 8th April, Towcester Mayor, David Tarbun, officially unveiled the new interpretation board in the Tove Wetland Pocket Park. The board shows what can be seen during different seasons across the wetland area of the park, and was designed by a local resident, Colette Jeffrey. The installation was a significant stage in the overall project.

The scheme to create the pocket park started back in April 2011 with preliminary talks with the local Pockets Parks Officer. After lots of meetings, discussions, grant applications, and a lot of help from other organisations, the installation of the board marks the end of the first phase of the Pocket Park project. This has included habitat works, pond digging, vegetation clearing, and the boardwalk and dipping platform installations. None of this could have happened without the help and assistance of Towcester Town Council, who own the land, and thanks must go to them for their ongoing support.

There is still much to be done, with plans in place, and funding being sought, for a second boardwalk. This will connect the other dipping platform in the pocket park to the pathway, and is needed to allow better, and safer, access to everybody. There will also be another interpretation board installed for the more formal half of the pocket park. There is always some light touch maintenance needed to ensure the area remains, and hopefully improves, for the local wildlife. One main goal was to improve the biodiversity of the site, and we seem to be achieving that at present. Even a Snipe and a Water Rail have been spotted in the park, which were great to see.

For more information, or to get involved, please contact Nick Holder at nickholder@btinternet.com or on 01327 352647.

Towcester Scout Hall Preschool
Registered Charity 1022961

Summer Fair
Saturday 24th June 2017
Towcester Scout Hall, Baden Powell Crescent

We are holding a Summer Fair at the preschool to raise funds and awareness of the service we offer to families with young children. It’s sure to be a fun event with stalls and activities. Please check our Facebook page and website for further updates.

Food and refreshments will be available.
All proceeds to go to Towcester Scout Hall Preschool.
**FORTHCOMING EVENTS IN THE TOWN HALL**

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**Towcester Produce Show**

Towcester’s 2017 Produce Show is to be held on Bank Holiday Monday, 28th August 2017, once again at the Town Hall. Put the date in your diary and come along to enjoy the fun atmosphere with categories for young and old alike, from cake making to vegetable animals; it’s all there.

Doors open to entrants between 9:00am and 11:00am to allow time to arrange their exhibits and will be reopened at 1:00pm, once the judging has been completed. Presentations to the lucky winners will be made by the Town Mayor at 3:30pm. Cakes and refreshments will be available on the day.

For more information please visit our website: - http://towcestershow.org.uk

**Watling Friends Presents...**

**ERIC KNOWLES**

“*What’s it Worth — The Bigger Picture*”

Antiques Valuer and TV Broadcaster

**Date:** Monday 23rd October 2017

**Venue:** Towcester Town Hall

**Time:** 7.30pm, doors open at 7pm

**Tickets:** £6 to include tea or coffee and cake

For information & tickets please contact:

Eileen Reid on 01327 323180 or
Pat Trede on 01933 557348

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**Towcester Town Crier** is published by Towcester Town Council and is open to contributions from all organisations and individuals in the town. The last date for advertising is 24th May and for copy 31st May 2017. We are now operating a strict deadline for advertising / copy and materials will not be accepted after these dates.

Copy should be sent to Elizabeth Cox / Melissa Yates at the Town Council Office (tel: 01327 350995; email: towncouncil@towcester-tc.gov.uk). For advertising, please contact Jim Lynch (tel: 01327 350899). Articles appearing contain the views of the person submitting the item and are not necessarily the views of the Town Council. The Town Council’s website address is www.towcester-tc.gov.uk.

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