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Spring what’s on guide
Daventry Calling is a quarterly magazine with the next issue due out in the Summer. We’re always keen to hear what you think about the magazine and any suggestions you have for future editions. Please contact us at news@daventrydc.gov.uk or call 01327 871100

You can also read Daventry Calling online at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/daventry-calling

Daventry Calling is available on request in large print, audiotape or in Braille.

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Many of you may be aware of the national challenges facing Local Government around the financing of Health and Social Care, as demands upon the system continue to increase due to a larger population who, on average, are living longer.

Our Council has been recognised nationally as one that is happy to lead change over many years and with our partners in Northamptonshire is looking to find a sustainable way forward which offers a good deal for our residents. Currently in our County the Sustainability and Transformation Plan identifies an NHS cost gap rising to £230m by 2020/21 unless action is taken. Personally I am not in favour of adding substantial increases to Council Tax, as being proposed by some other local authorities to attempt to cover their increasing costs in this area, as this is not a sustainable solution and places an unfair burden on local tax payers.

I would personally prefer to see maybe a small increase in national taxation or National Insurance to cover the additional costs. Whilst as a Council we play an important prevention role in the Health Agenda, we do not see Local Government re-organisation – with the formation of, for example either one or two unitary authorities to replace our existing councils – as a sustainable solution.

Whilst we are the billing authority for your Council Tax we only receive 9% of the total bill which, on the average Band “D” tax, equates to £2.56 per week. We deliver, according to the District Council Network, 86 out of 137 essential local services. The reality of any proposed new Unitary(s) Council(s) set up would be that you, the Daventry District Council Taxpayer, would continue to pay more Council Tax year on year and receive – in my opinion – far less for your money then you do now with respect to what we currently offer.

Other things for example, like free parking, may well disappear as potentially a countywide body may implement charges everywhere as part of their corporate policy and the amount of grant funding available pro rata for our District would very likely decrease. The answer to this ongoing local government funding conundrum is a decision for Central Government but we will continue to lobby in the best interests of all our District residents to ensure they get the best value possible whilst maintaining our individual locality.

Our local Council has led for years on our bold economic, employment and regeneration plans and it was pleasing to see recently that in terms of employment we sit well above the national average, with plenty more new jobs in the pipeline. I recently had the privilege to open the superb new £13m state-of-the-art Daventry Campus of Northampton College, which we played our full part in delivering, alongside this ever-improving College and other partners such as SEMLEP with Government funding. This will be a fantastic learning environment for students’ post 16, helping them to gain local employment opportunities and in turn help those businesses grow in the years ahead. I am also delighted that the new high quality Daventry Hill School Special Academy is open which will again provide top class facilities for local students who require specialised teaching. The recent sad news of course was the announcement of the closure of the Daventry UTC where I am aware that a number of students really benefited from their time at this excellent facility. We and NCC are working with the Education Funding Agency and the Regional Schools Commissioner to hopefully facilitate the opening of a new annex of an existing successful secondary school to help improve the overall Daventry offer.

With the Government’s agenda fully set on building more homes we are certainly playing our part in attempting to ensure that sustainable high quality developments are being built across our District. We have always advocated and work hard with community groups where possible to highlight the importance of getting good new facilities out of new developments to service both the existing and new residents of those areas, as seen for example with a new doctors surgery in Brixworth on the back of a Barratts Development.

Councillor Chris Millar
Leader - Daventry District Council

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The Tour returns: Find out about Daventry District’s involvement in a national campaign to get half a million people out and about tidying up their communities. Page 13

What’s on this spring: Our guide to events and activities taking place across Daventry District in the coming months. Pages 14-16
A disabled Daventry resident who received support from Care & Repair to install a level-access shower in his home is urging others in the same position to contact the service.

Brian Millar was having difficulty getting in and out of the bath until his eldest son and daughter contacted the service, which is based at Daventry District Council.

Caseworker Amy Waddingham visited Brian and advised the level-access shower be installed. She was then able to assist him in applying for a Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG), which provides up to £30,000 to help people with a disability make necessary adaptations to their homes.

He received £5,000 to cover the cost of the work, and was also given assistance to choose a suitable contractor.

“The workmen who came to do the job were brilliant,” said Brian.

“I have nothing but praise for them. I thought there was going to be a lot of disruption, but there wasn’t. Any time I wanted to use the bathroom they just stopped work while I used it, which I didn’t think was going to be possible.

“There’s no way I could have afforded it without the grant. To have all the work done for me was brilliant. I had nothing to worry about.

“I would urge anyone in the same position as me to contact Care and Repair. Don’t be afraid - just go for it!”

To find out more about Care & Repair visit www.daventrydc.gov.uk/CareandRepair, email careandrepair@daventrydc.gov.uk or phone 01327 871100.

Voluntary and community groups with ideas for projects are invited to contact Daventry District Council for funding.

The Council’s Community Grants Scheme provides funding for a range of projects, from capital building schemes to one-off events or to help pay for training and volunteer expenses.

Dozens of groups access the funding each year, helping to pay for new play areas, village hall refurbishments, community events and more.

Capital grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 are available for groups planning building projects, to fund up to 50% of the total project cost.

Groups can also access up to £500 to help fund one-off events, and up to £1,000 towards small items of equipment, training and volunteer expenses.

The grants are open to voluntary and community groups but exclude local authority activities such as those of schools or parish councils as well as religious bodies where the monies will be used for religious purposes or religious buildings.

Applications and guidance notes as well as further information and eligibility criteria can be found at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/communitygrants.

For more information contact Tim Cantwell at Daventry District Council on tcantwell@daventrydc.gov.uk or 01327 871100.

Come along to a committee meeting

All the meetings listed right start at 6.15pm and take place at the Civic Offices, in Lodge Road, Daventry.

All meetings are open for the public to attend. For more information visit www.daventrydc.gov.uk/meetings, email governance@daventrydc.gov.uk or phone 01327 871100.

To listen to an audio recording of a meeting, visit www.daventrydc.gov.uk/audiorecordings.

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Council moves to safeguard red phone boxes

Daventry District Council (DDC) has opposed plans to remove iconic red telephone boxes from villages across the District.

BT contacted the Council with proposals to remove 49 phone boxes from around Daventry District, 16 of which are the traditional red ‘K6’ telephone boxes.

After consulting parishes and other interested individuals, the Council has objected to the removal of all 16 red telephone boxes on the grounds that they are important to the District’s heritage. It has also applied to Historic England to grant the majority of them listed status to help protect them in the future.

DDC has agreed for BT to decommission some of them, provided they are adopted by the local parish councils for other purposes.

The Council also agreed to the removal of 21 modern phone boxes proposed by BT, but objected to the other 12, either because call levels suggest there is still demand for them, or because they are situated in areas where mobile phone reception is poor.

Councillor Alan Hills, Daventry District Council Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Leisure, said: “Red phone boxes are iconic features in many of our villages. They form part of our District’s distinct heritage so we believe they should be kept and protected, whether that be as working phone boxes or for other uses such as information centres or for housing defibrillators.

“There is clearly still demand for a number of the modern phone boxes that BT were also proposing to remove, so we felt it important to protect those too.”

A British cultural icon

Red phone boxes are instantly recognisable internationally as an iconic design symbol of 20th century British architecture.

The red K6 boxes were designed by the renowned architect Sir Giles Gilbert Scott in 1935, to commemorate the silver jubilee of King George V. The K6 was the first red telephone kiosk to be extensively used outside London, and many thousands were deployed in virtually every town and city.

In recent years a number of K6 phone boxes have been adopted by Parish Councils across the country and used as book exchanges, housing for defibrillators and even an art gallery.

The 16 K6 red phone boxes in Daventry District which the Council has moved to protect are in: Charwelton, Church Brampton, Cold Ashby, Coton, Cottesbrooke, Hanging Houghton, Holdenby, Long Buckby, Newnham, Nobottle, Old, Onley, Sibbertoft, Spratton, Staverton and Winwick.

Village outreach project is on the move

An outreach project which provides support and advice on a range of issues is returning to villages in Daventry District.

South Northamptonshire Volunteer Bureau’s Village Network vehicle will be touring the District on Wednesdays between March and June, offering guidance on everything from money to welfare services and volunteer opportunities.

There will be free basic computer lessons and support with job-seeking. People are also urged to take a recent energy bill along with them for an opportunity to find a better deal on their energy bills.

Find out more information at www.snvb.org.uk

Visit the vehicle on Wednesdays 8 March, 12 April and 3 May at:

- Spratton: 10-11am Holdenby Rd/Orchard Close.
- Spratton: 11am-Midday Brixworth Rd/High St.
- Creaton: 12.10-1.15pm Violet Lane near the Green.
- Guilsborough: 2-4pm High St near the shop.

And on Wednesdays 22 March, 26 April, 24 May and 21 June at:

- Great Brington: 10.30-11.30am, Main St near Post Office.
- West Haddon: Midday-1.45pm, High St near Post Office.
- Long Buckby: 2-4pm, Coop car park, off The Banks
Will you be voting in this spring’s elections?

County elections take place on Thursday, 4 May 2017. Here we focus on everything you need to know about this year’s elections.

Northamptonshire County Council elections

There are 57 electoral divisions across Northamptonshire, which will each return one county councillor for a four-year term of office.

Seven of those 57 electoral divisions are in Daventry District: Moulton, Long Buckby, Brixworth, Braunston & Crick, Woodford & Weedon, Daventry East, and Daventry West.

Make sure you’re registered

You need to be on the electoral register to vote. The deadline for registering in time for this year’s May elections is Thursday, 13 April 2017. However, the process to register to vote takes longer under the Individual Electoral Registration system so we suggest you try and have your application to us by Thursday 6 April to ensure inclusion on the register.

If you are registering to vote for the first time you can do this online at www.gov.uk/registertovote - you will be asked for your date of birth and National Insurance Number. These details are checked against government records to help make sure that registrations are genuine. These details will be kept confidential.

If you have recently moved or you are not sure if you are registered, you should contact Daventry District Council (DDC) Electoral Services on 01327 871100 or email us at electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk

How to vote….

...In person

You can vote at your designated polling station, from 7am to 10pm on Thursday, 4 May.

Please ensure you check your poll card for the correct address – this will be on your poll card that will be sent out to you a few weeks before the elections. There are a few changes to polling stations this year so make sure you check your poll card before you leave to vote.

You will also be able to view a list of locations at www.daventrydc.gov.uk or phone 01327 871100 for more details. If you lose or forget your poll card you will still be able to vote without it, but it is easier if you have it with you.

...by post

If you are 18 or over and on the electoral register, you can apply for a postal vote. A postal vote may be arranged for one election, indefinitely or for a specific period. You will need to complete a Postal Vote Application Form, which can be requested by calling 01327 871100. It then needs to be sent to DDC’s Electoral Registration Officer by 5pm on Tuesday 18 April, 2017.

Postal vote packs are sent out about 10 to 15 days before polling day. Once you’ve received your postal vote, mark your vote on the ballot paper and make sure you send it back so that it arrives by close of poll (10pm on election day). If it arrives later than this, your vote won’t be counted.

...by proxy

Voting by proxy means that you can appoint someone you trust to vote on your behalf if you are unable to get to the polling station, for example if you are working away, on holiday abroad, or fall ill and are unable to get to the polling station.

Anyone can be your proxy as long as they are eligible to vote in that type of election and they are willing to vote on your behalf. A proxy cannot vote for more than two people unless they are relatives.

You will need to fill in an application form that can be requested from the number below and then sent to DDC’s Electoral Registration Officer by 5pm on Tuesday 25 April, 2017. If an elector falls ill after this date they may be able to apply for a proxy vote up to 5pm on May 4. However, this would only be for emergency illness or last minute business travel and would have to be attested by a doctor or manager.

To request an application form call 01327 871100, or email electoralservices@daventrydc.gov.uk

Find out more at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/elections
Making plans for the future of our District

Residents, businesses and landowners are being encouraged to get involved in a major planning initiative this spring to help shape the future development of Daventry District.

Daventry District Council is currently preparing important planning policies providing detailed guidance to help decision making.

When work began on the policies in February and March last year, there was an early opportunity for people to give their views on the issues and challenges facing their local communities as part of the Issues and Options Consultation.

Having considered all this feedback, the Council is now preparing draft policies and will invite people to have their say on them in the coming months.

The policies aim to aid decision making on:
- Rural and urban housing growth
- The rural and urban economy
- Sustainable development
- Infrastructure and climate change
- Protecting and enhancing the natural, built and historic environment
- Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling showpeople development.

The plans follow on from the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, which sets out the strategic approach to development in Daventry District up to 2029, such as overall housing and employment requirements.

Councillor David James, Strategic Planning Portfolio Holder said: “These documents will play an important role in guiding the future development and growth of our District and ultimately inform planning decisions.

“The involvement of residents and businesses has been crucial from the very beginning and we were encouraged with the response to the Issues and Options consultation last year.

“Now we have reached the next stage of drafting policies, we will soon be consulting on them and would encourage as many people as possible to give their views in the forthcoming consultation.”

To find out more about the policies and the next stages for public consultation, visit www.daventrydc.gov.uk/planning-policy

Review of conservation areas underway

Work is also moving forward on a fresh review of the district’s conservation areas.

Daventry District Council is currently working on conservation area appraisals for Moulton and Harlestone.

They form part of a wider review of some of Daventry District’s 24 conservation areas – sites considered worthy of preservation or enhancement because of their special architectural or historic interest.

Designating a conservation area puts in place tighter planning controls for anyone seeking permission to alter or demolish a building, or carry out work to trees, in order to maintain the special interest of the area.

As well as reviewing existing conservation areas to see if any boundary changes are required, the case for some new conservation areas will also be considered.

Find out more information at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/ConservationAreas
Major projects set to move forward in 2017

Progress continues to be made on a number of developments in Daventry. Daventry Calling looks at some of the major projects that will be taking shape in the town in 2017.

Site 1 Leisure development

Work is progressing on proposals for a new cinema in Daventry town centre, on land north of High Street, also known as Town Centre Vision Site 1.

DDC’s development partner Henry Boot Developments Limited (HBDL) is working closely with Royal and Derngate on moving the proposals forward, including layout plans for the site, scheme costings and discussing the heads of terms that could make up a future development deal.

The organisation, which runs the acclaimed Errol Flynn Filmhouse in Northampton, has also been seeking residents’ views on what they would like to see as part of the development.

DDC approached Royal & Derngate while working with HBDL to look at ways to rework the development proposals for Site 1. The site received planning permission in 2014 for a cinema as part of the Mulberry Place retail development, however that scheme is no longer commercially viable and options for a smaller, leisure-focused development are being explored.

Established in Northampton in 2013, the Errol Flynn Filmhouse offers a unique and affordable experience of mainstream and independent films, with comfortable seating, a bar and quality refreshments. Possibilities for bringing a similar experience to Daventry are being investigated for commercial viability.
Focus On

Site 5 Retail scheme

The planning application for a retail scheme at land in the Chaucer Way/Waterloo area of Daventry is due to be determined later this spring.

DDC’s development partner Henry Boot Developments Limited (HBDL) submitted the application for the area, known as Site 5 in the Daventry Town Centre Vision.

Detailed planning permission for a food hall-style store and retail units is being sought alongside outline permission for a family restaurant, a fast food restaurant with a drive-through, and a hotel.

The site would also include around 380 parking spaces.

The site originally received outline planning permission in 2014 for a superstore with a petrol station but the scheme had to be revised after supermarket operators began shelving plans nationally for new stores on that scale.

A separate planning application will also be submitted for a McCarthy and Stone retirement housing complex on the site of the former Danetre Vauxhall garage.

Phoenix Youth Centre

Families and young people can look forward to a state-of-the-art sports and community facility at the Phoenix Youth Centre in Daventry.

Work on the centre, in Ashby Road, is due to be completed by the summer, with the new-look facility set to offer a wide range of activities and opportunities for young people in Daventry District for generations to come.

It will feature an extended gymnastics hall with foam pits and floor-level trampolines, which will also help those with disabilities participate in activities.

The larger area will allow for a wider range of equipment as well as improved audience space for competitions and festivals, while new toilets and changing areas will be fully-accessible to wheelchair users.

The centre is also benefitting from a complete renovation and modernisation, with better changing facilities, improved insulation, a new roof for the main hall and more efficient heating and lighting.

DDC has worked with The Phoenix Youth Centre team in order to complete the project, which also has support and funding from Sport England and Landform.

Daventry Canal Arm

Proposals for the Daventry Canal Arm have moved forward with the scheme being granted planning permission.

Further work to explore funding options for the 2.6km stretch of waterway is being carried out after DDC’s Planning Committee voted in favour of the application.

The Daventry Canal Arm, which would connect the nearby Grand Union Canal to Daventry town centre, is part of the Council’s vision to encourage visitors to Daventry and contribute to major regeneration and development of the area.

Its ultimate aim is to deliver a waterfront area near to the town centre, providing a destination for boaters and shoppers and attracting additional visitors and businesses to the town.

“This council has a clear Vision to Develop a Better District and we are bringing this Vision to life thanks to an ambitious growth agenda for Daventry which has seen us work with our partners to enable development, improve educational and community facilities and boost our local economy. We will be taking this further forward in the coming financial year.”

Councillor Colin Poole, Daventry District Council’s Economic, Regeneration and Employment Portfolio Holder
Shoppers are being asked to support
a campaign to reduce pigeon
numbers in Daventry town centre by
not feeding the birds.

Daventry District Council (DDC) has been
tackling concerns in recent years over
the growing number of pigeons creating
a mess in the town centre. As well as
looking unsightly, bird droppings carry
disease and can erode stonework on
buildings as well as blocking gutters.

Birds of prey were introduced in October
2015 to deter pigeons from the town
centre and while this had some success,
pigeon numbers remain an issue.

A further falconry programme
is being considered this year,
alongside other measures.

But limiting their food
source is the only way to
significantly reduce
pigeon numbers, which is
why the Council is asking people to
support the campaign by not feeding
them.

New signs have recently gone up in
problem areas such as Bowen Square
and Foundry Place, warning people not
to feed the pigeons.

Leaflets are also being produced to raise
awareness of the issue, and DDC is also
warning that anyone who leaves food
for the birds in the town centre faces a
£75 littering fine.

Councillor Mike Warren, Health and
Housing Portfolio Holder on
Daventry District Council,
said: “The pigeons in the
town centre are a pest
whose faeces damage
buildings, cause an
unsightly mess, spread
disease and attract rodents.

“People who feed the pigeons
may not think they are doing
any harm, but by providing
them with a food source,
they are encouraging more to
flock to our town centre. Only
by denying them that food
source will we see a serious
reduction in numbers.

“That’s why we are asking for the
support of our residents in this – please,
do not feed the pigeons. Enforcement
action is always a last resort, but we have
and will continue to take action if we
witness anyone feeding pigeons in the
town centre.”

**Warning over fines**

A woman was fined £75 after she was
captured feeding pigeons in Daventry
town centre.

It was issued after she was seen pushing
a trolley from which she produced
handfuls of bird nuts to throw to the
pigeons that had gathered around her
in Bowen Square.

When a DDC enforcement officer
approached the lady, she admitted she
knew it was an offence.

And when it emerged she had
previously received a warning from the
Council for doing the same thing, the
officer issued a fixed penalty notice,
which the lady accepted and paid.

**Food dropped in public areas is
classed as littering which attracts a
£75 fine in Daventry District.**

**Why pigeons should not be fed**

It results in all year round
breeding, causing overcrowding in
roosting sites and allowing disease to
spread quickly within the flock.

It destroys their ability to fend
for themselves and leaves them
dependent on humans. Pigeons are
wild birds, capable of searching out
their own natural food supply.

It attracts rats and mice, which take
any uneaten food.

It results in faeces in busy public
areas used by children and adults,
with risk of disease. Without food
supplied by the public, pigeons will
disperse and their numbers will reduce
naturally over time, without the need
for other methods of control.
Communities invited to spring into action for litter heroes campaign

Daventry District residents are invited to become litter heroes by joining a national campaign to get half a million people out and about tidying up their communities.

Backed by anti-litter charities including Keep Britain Tidy, the Great British Spring Clean campaign follows on from last year’s Clean for the Queen initiative, when 250,000 people took part in litter picks across the country.

This year’s campaign has a super heroes theme, with people urged to become litter heroes by volunteering a small amount of their time during the month.

Many organisations support the clean-up, including the Women’s Institute, the National Trust and the RSPCA, as well as a range of businesses.

Daventry District Council (DDC) has also been involved by encouraging and supporting groups and individuals who want to ‘do their bit’ to help clear up the litter that blights our streets, parks and open spaces.

The Great British Spring Clean centred on a weekend of litter picking activity from March 3 to 5, when DDC supported communities to hold litter picks.

However the Council has litter picking kits available for community groups or individuals to use all-year round.

The kits include litter pickers, high-vis tabards, heavy-duty gloves, and litter bags with loops to assist litter picking. DDC can also provide forms to assist with risk assessment, insurance, and health and safety guidance, as well as arrange for any rubbish collected to be picked up and disposed of by its waste and recycling contractor.

The kits are offered as part of the Council’s ongoing Clean up my Community campaign, which takes a proactive approach to addressing environmental crimes across the district.

The Council funds a Clean and Green co-ordinator at Daventry Volunteer Centre, who helps communities organise litter picks, and the network of volunteers taking part in DDC’s innovative spray painting scheme to reduce dog fouling is also growing.

Councillor Jo Gilford, Environment Portfolio Holder on Daventry District Council, said: “Last year’s Clean for The Queen campaign was a great success so we are pleased to support the 2017 initiative and we would encourage as many groups, individuals and organisations in Daventry District to take part.

“The national profile that these events attract encourages volunteers to help, but we do not view them in isolation. They are part of a wider programme of work carried on throughout the year with the support of our volunteers and partners in order to make our communities cleaner and greener.”

Find out more about the Great British Spring Clean at www.greatbritishspringclean.org.uk or visit www.daventrydc.gov.uk/CleanUpMyCommunity

Get involved

Organise a litter-picking event in your community with our how-to guide:

1. **Think of a grot-spot:** It could be a village green, your local park or another public area.

2. **Contact the Council for support:** We can supply litter-picking kits on a first-come, first served basis and provide you with a risk assessment. Phone 01327 871100 to reserve the kit.

3. **Have fun but be safe:** Litter-picks can be a great way to meet other members of your community. Inform and instruct volunteers before you start and make sure everyone is aware of the health and safety issues.

4. **Bag it and leave it:** If you’ve followed step 2 you will have agreed with us a suitable location to leave the rubbish you collect so it can be picked up by our waste and recycling contractor.

5. **Share your success:** Please take pictures and share them with us so we can spread word of your success. Tweet us @DaventryDC, like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/DaventryDistrict or email sjohnson@daventrydc.gov.uk
People are being encouraged to support a new scheme to help elderly, vulnerable and isolated people in our communities.

Daventry District Council (DDC) is working with Northamptonshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) to develop Good Neighbour Schemes across the district.

Their aim is to offer practical help to older people, whether it’s collecting a pension or a repeat prescription, walking the dog, getting a lift to the shops, or just changing a light bulb.

Moulton Parish Council has agreed to become the first pilot parish to set up this scheme and will be launching it in conjunction with the opening of the village’s new Community Centre this April.

Schemes are also being set up in Braunston, Ashby St Ledgers and Crick, while talks to develop additional schemes in other villages across the district are in progress.

Residents of those villages who can spare some time to help are encouraged to sign up as volunteers.

Good Neighbour coordinators are also needed, to help recruit new volunteers and match people who need help with volunteers in the area who are willing to give that help.

The idea of the Good Neighbour Scheme came out of consultation workshops towards developing DDC’s Ageing Well Strategy, which gathered the views of people living across the district in order to identify key issues.

Councillor Alan Hills, Portfolio Holder for Community, Culture and Leisure, said: “The consultation identified a number of key priorities for older people, including the importance of being able to maintain an independent lifestyle, access to welfare and benefits advice, and the availability of help with gardening and household chores.

“The Good Neighbour Scheme would seek to meet these priorities, giving elderly and vulnerable residents someone in their village that they can contact in times of need. Whether it be help with dog walking, shopping, using a computer, or putting people in touch with professional or voluntary support services, the aim is to give a helping hand to those who need it, in order to allow them to maintain a good quality of life.

“This is an excellent scheme that has proved very successful in other areas of the country and I would ask anyone who feels they can offer even a small amount of their time to consider volunteering.”

Support and guidance is on offer to all Parish Councils, residents’ groups or other kinds of community organisations in Daventry District that are interested in starting a scheme.

For further information, contact Daventry District Council on 01327 871100 or Northamptonshire ACRE on 01604 765888.

Well for Life Roadshows

District residents can gain advice and information on improving their health and wellbeing at a series of roadshows taking place across the district in the coming months.

Daventry District Council is working in partnership with the Daventry & District Forum, First for Wellbeing and Northamptonshire ACRE to offer the free events.

They will feature a variety of promotional stands offering advice and information on a wide variety of subjects, from adult learning to welfare and health, sports, leisure and relaxation. There will be free gifts, fun activities, refreshments, homemade cakes and a chance to enter a raffle to win a hamper.

The first will be held at Ravensthorpe Village Hall on Wednesday 26 April. Further events are being planned in Everdon on the 15 June, Clipston on the 12 July and Moulton in September.

Further information on times and locations will be published at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/ddf

First for Wellbeing is a free health and wellbeing service open to anyone who lives in Northamptonshire. Find out more at www.firstforwellbeing.co.uk
Focus On

Top cycling race to return as Daventry secures prestigious Grand Depart

Elite cyclists and their support teams will descend on the town for the start of the first stage of Britain’s leading professional women’s cycle race, on the morning of Wednesday, 7 June.

The prestigious Grand Depart traditionally attracts thousands of spectators, offering businesses, residents and community groups throughout the District an opportunity to benefit.

It is also hoped that hosting such a premier sporting event will inspire more people, particularly girls and young women, to take up cycling and other sports.

This will be the fourth time Northamptonshire has hosted a stage of the Women’s Tour, a five-stage event which attracts some of the best female cyclists in the world.

Last year’s race saw thousands of people across the District gather to cheer the riders on, with commentators on ITV4’s highlights package praising the fantastic level of support shown.

Spectators lined the roads at the two climbs at Newnham Hill and Naseby, while hundreds more gathered on London Road, New Street and Eastern Way in Daventry as the tour visited the town for the first time.

The race also saw crowds at Stowe IX Churches, Farthingstone, Preston Capes, Newnham, Norton, Whitlon Locks, Little Brington, Great Brington, East Haddon, Ravensthorpe, Coton, Guilsborough, Naseby, Kelmarsh and Arthingworth.

Hosting the Grand Depart is a chance for Daventry District to further capitalise on the excitement generated last year, not only boosting businesses but inspiring people in our district to take up sport and exercise.

Daventry District Council is working with its partners including Northamptonshire County Council, Everyone Active and event organisers Sweetspot on preparations for the event.

A series of community events will be organised around race day, with local schools, businesses and community organisations all invited to play a part. There will be opportunities for district villages along the route to get involved too, once the details of the stage have been confirmed.

Councillor Alan Hills, Daventry District Council’s Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder, said: “We’re delighted and honoured to be hosting the Women’s Tour’s prestigious Grand Depart in Daventry.

“Last year’s race received an amazing reception and support from our local communities and showcased our beautiful District to a worldwide audience.

“I would urge people to come along and watch this year’s event, which is set to draw even greater crowds, bring a real economic boost to our businesses and encourage and inspire more people to take up cycling and get active.”

Find out more at www.lovedaventry.com/WomensTour or at www.womenstour.co.uk

A global spotlight

The Women’s Tour attracts some of the biggest names in professional women’s cycling, including last year’s winner Lizzie Deignan (nee Armitstead), a silver medallist for Team GB at London 2012.

Deignan’s fellow Team GB star Emma Pooley, Olympic gold medallist Marianne Vos, current Olympic champion Anna van der Breggen and Northamptonshire’s Hannah Barnes have also competed.

It is one of the events on the UCI Women’s WorldTour – the world’s leading series of races for professional women cyclists – and as such attracts a global audience.

Action from last year’s Women’s Tour was seen by more than 1.6m viewers around the world, with coverage shown on ITV4 in the UK, Fox in Australia, L’Equipe in France, and NBC Sports in the US.

Hundreds of thousands more people engaged via social media, while the official website of the tour - www.womenstour.co.uk - received 650,000 views.

On the ground, the Northamptonshire stage attracted an estimated 80,000 visitors, more than half of which came from outside the county. Around 10,000 people visited Northampton to watch the start of the race, which overall brought an estimated £1.6m into the local economy.

The Northamptonshire stage will kick-off this year’s race, which takes place over five days, between Wednesday 7 and Sunday 11 June.

More details, including information about individual stages, will be published as they are confirmed at www.womenstour.co.uk
Events in Daventry District

Monday 13 March
Fly a Flag for the Commonwealth
Join a flag raising ceremony to mark Commonwealth Day at the Twinning area at the top of London Road in Daventry, from 2pm.

Saturday 18 March
Fundraising Barn Dance at Barby Village Hall with live music by the Glorishears, in aid of the Barby Church Trust at 8pm. There will be a licensed bar and tickets cost £10, including supper, from Jan Middleton on 01788 891968.

Sunday 19 March
Wedding Fair at Kelmarsh Hall from 11am-3pm. See what a country house wedding looks like and meet a range of suppliers. More at www.silverlinings.co.uk

Wednesday 22 March
Daventry & District Forum host a free public forum event at Moulton Village Hall from 2-4pm, featuring guest speakers and information stands. More at www.daventrydc.gov.uk/ddf

Sunday 26 March
Mother’s Day event at Canons Ashby open from 1pm-4pm with a range of arts and crafts to make gifts for mum. More at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/canons-ashby or on 01327 861900.

Wednesday 29 March
Have A Go Restoration Experience at Kelmarsh Hall (1pm - 3.30pm) offers the chance to go behind the scenes and get hands on with the current restoration project at the Hall. Pre-booking is essential. More at www.kelmarsh.com or on 01604 686543.

Tuesday 4 April
Mini-Adventure at Daventry Country Park. See back page for details.

Wednesday 5 April
Gardener’s Question Time at Thornby Village Hall at 7.30pm with Dale Coleman. For more details phone 01604 743860.

Monday 10 to Thursday 13 April
Easter Tray Gardens at Canons Ashby from 11.30am-3pm each day. Families can create their own miniature tray gardens to take home. More at www.nationaltrust.org.uk/canons-ashby

Tuesday 11 April
Mini-Adventure at Daventry Country Park. See back page for details.

Easter Weekend 14-17 April
Easter Fair in the old gas works car park, in Brook Street, Daventry, running from Good Friday (14 April) through to Easter Sunday. Times will be published at www.lovedaventry.com/whats-on once confirmed.


Kelmarsh Country Fair at Kelmarsh Hall offers an action-packed weekend of activities on Easter Sunday and Monday (16 and 17 April). Buy tickets at www.kelmarshcountryshow.co.uk

Antiques and Vintage Fair at Lamport Hall from 10am-4pm on Easter Sunday and Monday (16 and 17 April) showcases a range of furniture, books, military memorabilia and jewellery. More at www.lamporthall.co.uk or on 01604 686272.

Easter Egg hunt and bonnet competition at Daventry Country Park on Easter Sunday. See back page for details.

Beautiful bluebells
An ancient woodland with a mix of common and sessile oak, lowland birch, sweet chestnut and sycamore, Everdon Stubbs really comes to life in the spring with the arrival of its famous bluebells.

Wind your way through woodland trails surrounded by a beautiful carpet of blue. The nearby Badby Woods is another lovely spot to enjoy these beautiful spring flowers.
What's on

Saturday 22 April
St George’s Day Parade through Daventry Town Centre. More details will be published at www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk once confirmed.

Sunday 23 April
St George’s Day Lunch at Hellidon Village Hall run by Hellidon’s Millennium Spinney trustees. Lunch is available from midday at a cost of £5 per person, followed by a treasure hunt at Shepherds Spinney with prizes on offer, and afternoon tea at a cost of £2.50 per person. Phone 01327 262023 for more.

Sunday 30 April and Monday 1 May
Art, Craft and Design Fair at Lamport Hall from 10am-4pm, an opportunity to pick up unique handcrafted products and design tips. More at www.lamporthall.co.uk or on 01604 686272.

Saturday and Sunday 6/7 May
Althorp Food and Drink Festival designed to champion and showcase the finest food and drink available, the event features talks, tastings, demonstrations and live music for people of all ages to enjoy. More at www.spencerofalthorp.com or on 01604 770107.

Sunday 14 May
Moulton Village Fun Run kicks off a week of activities for Moulton festival week. Entry details are posted in the village and on www.moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk

Saturday 20 May
Moulton Village Festival featuring activities for the whole family throughout the day, including a carnival parade, competitions, stalls, Morris dancing and more. Further details will be posted in the village and on www.moultonnorthants-pc.gov.uk

Spring Bank Weekend 27-29 May
Annual Crick Boat Show & Waterways Festival at Crick Marina. See panel for details.

Festival of Country Life at Lamport Hall on Sunday and Monday, 28/29 May, from 10am-5pm each day and featuring craft and antiques stalls, a food hall, refreshments, entertainment and displays. Find out more at www.lamporthall.co.uk or phone 01604 686272.

Tuesday 6 June
Daventry District and South Northants Funding Fair at Towcester Racecourse from 10am to 3pm. Drop-in event for local community groups looking for help finding funding.

Wednesday 7 June
The Women’s Tour comes to Daventry District. See page 13 for details.

Saturday 10 June
Daventry Motorcycle Festival returns to Daventry town centre, starting at 10am with the mass ride-in and featuring displays, stalls and more. More at www.daventrybikefest.co.uk

Sunday 11 June
Spratton Mini Festival and open gardens event, featuring live music in St Andrew’s Church from midday to 5pm, a refreshments marquee selling Pimms and pasties from Saul’s of Spratton, afternoon teas in the church, stalls, an exhibition and raffle, plus gardens to look around.

Crick Boat Show returns

The Crick Boat Show and Waterways Festival is expected to attract more than 25,000 visitors when it returns to Crick Marina from 27-29 May.

The event will feature more than 250 exhibitors from across the canal world, offering a fantastic day out for all the family. There will be dozens of boats to look round, free boat trips, live music, children’s activities, a real ale marquee, and a large variety of food and drink stalls.

Organised by Waterways World in partnership with the Canal & River Trust and Crick Marina, it opens from 10am-6pm every day except Monday 29 May, when it closes at 5pm. Evening entertainment runs from 7.30pm to 11.30pm.

Ticket prices start at £12 per adult if booked in advance, or £15 on the day, while senior citizens and concessions are £10.80 in advance or £13.50 on the day. All children aged 16 and under go free.

Camping and mooring spaces are also available but must be booked in advance.

For more information and to book tickets, visit www.crickboatshow.com, call 01283 742970 or visit www.facebook.com/crickboatshow

If you would like to include forthcoming events in the District in Daventry Calling please email news@daventrydc.gov.uk

Please note that due to distribution schedules, some areas of the district may receive Daventry Calling later than the date of some featured events.

Discover more days out at www.lovedaventry.com/whats-on
Enjoy a cracking time at Daventry Country Park

Youngsters are invited to spend a fun morning hunting for chocolate hidden around Daventry Country Park this Easter.

The free Easter Egg Hunt and Bonnet Competition takes place at the park, off Northern Way, on Easter Sunday, 16 April.

The event gets underway with the Easter Bonnet Parade at the Visitor Centre at 10.30am. Children are invited to design colourful bonnets for the competition with prizes on offer for the most colourful, most creative and best themed.

Then at 11am children will be invited to pick up trail sheets from the Visitor Centre to join the free Eggsplorer Trail, which will be followed by a chocolate hunt.

Families wishing to take part are encouraged to fill in and cut out the coupon opposite and bring it with them to speed up the registration process.

Councillor Alan Hills, Daventry District Council’s Community, Culture and Leisure Portfolio Holder, said: “The Easter Egg Hunt and Bonnet Competition is a great tradition at Daventry Country Park and the event always proves very popular. Families have great fun taking part and of course it’s completely free to attend, so please join us for a fantastic morning at the park.”

Children invited to join Mini Adventures

The park is also hosting two mornings of activities for children in the run-up to Easter Sunday.

The Mini Adventure events take place on Tuesdays April 4 and April 11 at 10am on each of the days at a cost of £2 per child.

Register for our Easter Egg Hunt

Please complete and bring this coupon along to take part in the Easter Egg Hunt at this year’s free Easter event at Daventry Country Park, Sunday 16 April, 2017.

Name(s): .................................................................
Age(s): .................................................................
Postcode: .................................................................

Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we have a legal duty to protect any personal information we collect from you. We do not pass on your details to any third parties and this form will only be used by Daventry District Council to keep a record of registration to the Easter Egg Hunt.

Easter sports camps on offer at leisure centre

Youngsters can join in a range of sporting activities at Daventry Leisure Centre during the Easter holidays.

Daventry District Council’s leisure partner Everyone Active has organised sports camps at the centre in Lodge Road, Daventry, on weekdays between Monday, April 3 and Thursday, April 13.

Offering a range of different sports, the camps are aimed at children aged 5 to 12 years and cost £13 per day, with discounts available for those booking for the entirety of the camp.

Youngsters participating in the camps can also book a place in the Connections Club, which offers a variety of games and activities from 8.30am to 10am and 3pm to 5pm - before and after the sports camps. The sessions cost £2.40 per club.

For more information phone 01327 871144 or visit www.everyoneactive.com/daventry