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Thanks to their publicity, we have seen increased attendance and engagement from the community

We are incredibly grateful to The Local Rock Magazine for their outstanding support in covering our events. Their dedication to highlighting local talent and fostering community spirit has made a significant impact on our outreach.

The team's professionalism and enthusiasm shine through in their articles, and their ability to capture the essence of our events is truly commendable. Thanks to their publicity, we have seen increased attendance and engagement from the community.

We wholeheartedly appreciate The Local Rock Magazine for being an essential partner in our mission to celebrate and promote local businesses. Thank you for being a vital part of our journey



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Battling Brook Primary School surpasses fundraising target in memory of teacher

Pupils, parents and staff at Battling Brook Community Primary School in Hinckley have surpassed a fundraising target of £16,500 – raising over £25,000 – in memory of Jade Gilbert, a teacher at Battling Brook for over 10 years, who died in summer 2024.

In memory of Miss Gilbert, Battling Brook embarked on a 80-hour fundraising effort from 9th – 11th April where pupils, parents, members of the community and staff at the school racked up miles to circumnavigate the globe. Gilbert's Globetrotters, as they became known, achieved their goal and collectively cycled all 25,582 miles in under 80 hours.

The school wanted to organise something special to commemorate Miss Gilbert's life, so the school combined two of her biggest passions – aside from teaching – travelling and going to the gym. The money raised will go towards an onsite, 30-piece outdoor gym – 'Jade's Gym'.

Having surpassed the fundraising target, Battling Brook has organised for a contractor to fit the outdoor gym during the May half term.

The school partnered with Empire Gym in Hinckley, who welcomed staff and people across the area to the gym in extended opening hours to help the Gilbert's Globetrotters meet their target of over 25,000 miles.

In the evening of Thursday 10th April, pupils and parents took to Richmond Park in Hinckley for a group bike ride. Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, was asked by the school to fire the starting gun for the bike ride. Each lap of the park was 0.5 of a mile, with the riders managing to cover 849 miles on the evening helping to complete their circumnavigation of the globe.

Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, said *"It was a real pleasure to be asked by Battling Brook Primary School to start the big Gilbert's Globetrotters*



bike ride around Richmond Park in memory of Miss Gilbert, a dearly missed member of the team.

"Seeing the community come together through sport, getting fit and making a difference is really inspiring. From cycling over 25,000 miles to now having a 30-piece outdoor gym, this is a lasting legacy of fitness that will do Hinckley proud, all in memory of Jade.

"Well done to everyone involved in organising the event and to Battling Brook Primary School PTFA for running the refreshment station!"

In a message to everyone who supported their efforts, Gilbert's Globetrotters said *"As we all settle in to what an incredible achievement we have made, our thoughts turn once again to Jade. It is important to take a moment for her family and her gym community, who have been working tirelessly in the background too.*

"A huge, special thank you goes to every single person at Empire Fitness for their dedication in their mileage, staff working extended hours, donating to this amazing legacy and for Jade's family for their passion, time and support in helping us build this in memory of Jade.

"Jade will always be in our hearts, and now, a permanent reminder of Jade's gym on our school grounds will hold her in our thoughts daily."

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Bikes and Bunnies on Easter Egg Ride to Hospital

Over 150 bikers took part in a charity Easter egg ride recently, from the Triumph Motorcycle Factory, Hinckley, to Leicester General Hospital.

Many of the riders donned fancy dress, which included plenty of Easter Bunnies!

The 150 motorcyclists were joined by the Leicestershire and Rutland Blood Bikes and Leicestershire

Police who helped the impressive group of riders navigate the route to deliver the many Easter eggs and toys that had been collected for the children and young adults at Leicester General Hospital that are too poorly to be at home this Easter weekend.

Karen Knight, Triumph FVE manager said: *"This is the first group Easter Egg Run held from the Triumph factory in Hinckley and all the team were delighted to be part of the ride, alongside the Leicestershire and Rutland Blood Bikes, and Leicestershire Police.*

"Everyone showed such incredible



camaraderie. We've been working with Sarah Smullen, corporate fundraising assistant for the Leicester Hospitals Charity to make this happen and we're absolutely thrilled with the number of bikers that chose to come along and get involved".



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The sixth annual Burbage Scarecrow Festival takes place on **Saturday 17th & Sunday 18th May** with a theme of 'Burbage goes to the Circus!'

This popular event run by the Grove Road Schools' PTFA has become a firm family favourite with local businesses and residents alike taking up the challenge of creating a scarecrow or two! Come along and view these and vote for your favourite; with 1st, 2nd & 3rd place, and best road prizes up for grabs, it can all get quite competitive!

Plus, this year the PTFA are holding a spring fair on the Burbage CofE Infant School playing fields on **Saturday 17th May** from **1.00 - 4.00pm**.

This event brings together small local businesses offering crafts, cakes, books, sweets, jewellery, candles, and more, as well as stalls run by the PTFA for you to enjoy.

Local food retailers House Kitchen, Wigston Deli, The Wobbly Spout and Mr Cool Ices will be offering tasty food and drinks, and the kids can bounce to their hearts delight on the bouncy castle and inflatable slide!

The infant school choir, and year two maypolers will be performing in the arena, as well as

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With approximately 30 stalls this event, with **FREE ENTRY**, is not to be missed!

The PTFA extend their thanks to the following local businesses for their generous sponsorship; Body to Baby, Holiday Lounge, Sweet Pea & Snapdragon, Swim Station Swim School and Windsor St Dental.

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Prostate Testing Event a Huge Success

A prostate cancer awareness and checking event promoted by The Local Rock was a huge success when it was held in Hinckley earlier this month.

The Mary Forryan Centre, in Leicester Road, saw 167 men take a small blood test with a dedicated team of phlebotomists on Saturday, 12 April.

A spokesperson for organisers the Coventry and North Warwickshire Prostate Cancer Support Group said: *"The event was a poignant yet happy morning in memory of our chairman Brian Cooley, who sadly recently passed away.*

"His whole family were very helpful serving coffee, tea and biscuits throughout the morning.

"Also tested was the son of our founder member Brian Atkins, who also recently passed away."



Organisers said that a large majority of the men who attended had seen read about the event in The Local Rock.

They said: *"Very big thanks to The Local Rock for its amazing publicity.*

"The Local Rock's support towards awareness of prostate cancer and the annual testing events has been significant and we appreciate very much everyone's efforts.

"Thank you all most sincerely on behalf of Coventry and North Warwickshire Prostate Cancer Support Group."

Prostate support meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in Broad Street RFC, Binley woods, Coventry CV3 2AY.



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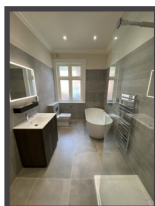
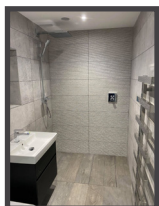
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You Don't have to be a Librarian to Volunteer at the Library

Looking to help your local community by volunteering? Well, Burbage Community Library is always looking for volunteers to help – but that doesn't mean you have to be a librarian!

There are plenty of other behind the scenes jobs that might suit you.

For instance, volunteers Mike and Phil recently cleaned and revarnished the famous Friendly bench.

There are plenty of jobs that need doing, from watering the bench plants, gardening and general maintenance and helping to sort the books in the second-hand bookshop.

In fact, there will be a **'Gardening Party'** on Saturday 26th April from 10am to 12ish.

A library spokesperson said: *"If this is your thing, you'd be most welcome to come along and join the gang."*

Burbage Community Library is a Registered Charity (No. 1165707) and completely self-funding. Established in 2016, the library is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation entirely managed and run by local volunteers, including the Board of 10 annually appointed local Trustees.

The library is set within its own gardens, including a flat paved area that leads directly to the Wheelchair-Accessible Main Entrance.

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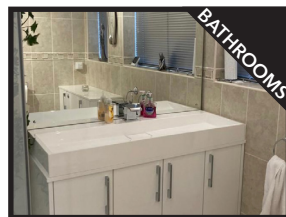
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Peaceful Paddocks for Autistic Children

Stoney Stanton is to be home to a new nature-based care farm to support the needs of autistic children.

The project, which aims to provide activities for young people with the neurological condition, has been given the green light by Blaby District Council.

Peaceful Paddocks, at Fossefield Farm, Stoney Stanton, has also been designed to help children at risk of exclusion from school.

Documents submitted to the council by Brian and Hazel Sutton said Peaceful Paddocks would support children who struggle with being in a classroom, have suffered trauma and anxiety, and those with an education and health care plan (EHCP).

The application said Peaceful Paddocks was designed to cater for up to 10 children between the ages of five and 18 at any one time.

The development would include a log cabin to provide *“educational and welfare facilities”* and a new stable and tack building.

The scheme could also offer short sessions for adults with learning difficulties and dementia, the LDRS said.



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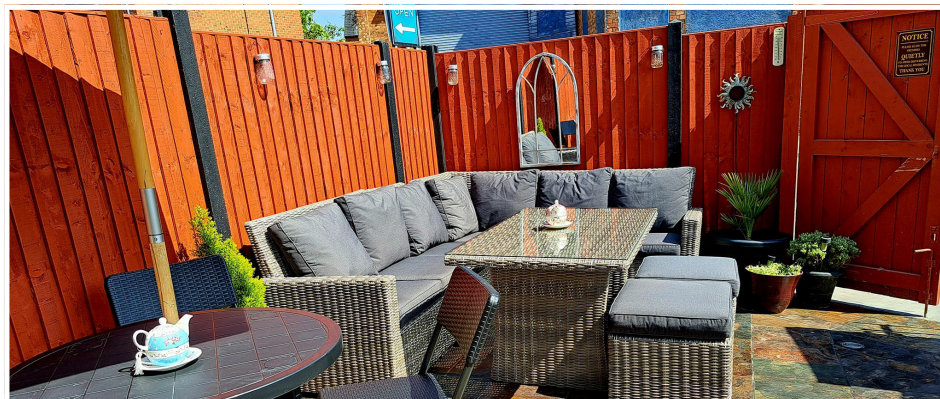
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Quizzing for Good Causes Every Month



If you like to take part in pub quizzes and raise money for a range of charities at the same time then you can do just that on the first Thursday of every month at Hinckley's Speakeasy Bar, on Druid Street.

The most recent in April saw 12 teams enter and raise more than £100 for Cats Protection, with a quiz themed around Easter, April Fools and Only Fools and Horses, with quiz master Terry West dressed up as Del Boy!

Landlady Marni West said: "Thank you to the

12 teams that came to our Monthly Charity Quiz last Thursday where you all raised £110 for the Cats Protection!"

"Our next Monthly Quiz is on Thursday 1st May, where you'll be helping to raise donations to Macmillan Cancer Support.

"Thank you to everyone once again that came and we'll see you on the 1st May! Toodle-pip!"

Entry is just £2 with all proceeds going to the charity – and there are even free chips laid on!



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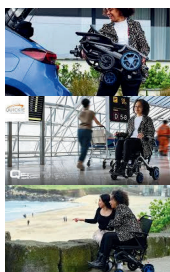
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Pub's message to Protect Ducks and Swans

Management at a waterside Burbage pub have shared a message to customers asking them not to feed bread to their fellow duck and swan guests.

The ducks and swans are a popular attraction to visitors at the Lime Kilns pub, on Watling Street.

But bread can actually be a danger to water birds. For ducks it can cause Angel Wing, making their feathers grow too quickly, resulting in muscles becoming strained and difficulty flying.

For swans, bread can cause fatal gut and heart disease.

Bread is also bad for the water environment, causing pollution, allowing bacteria to grow and attracting rats.

The bread also causes algal bloom which can get into lungs and kill birds.

Water birds much prefer foodstuffs like lettuce, peas and sweetcorn.

In a message to customers, the Lime Kilns has said: *"Please do NOT feed the water birds bread!"*

"We have special food available for the Swans and Ducks in the garden."

"So come up and grab a pot (all we ask for is a



donation) and enjoy a pint whilst you feed the majestic birds!"

"Let's look after our wildlife."



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Celebrating NHS Excellence in Leicestershire

Nominations are now open for patients, service users, carers, and staff to honour extraordinary individuals and exceptional teams from Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust.

Angela Hillery, chief executive of LPT, said: *"We are incredibly proud of our staff and volunteers."*

"These awards are a chance to recognise and thank them for the outstanding commitment and compassionate care they provide to the people who use our services across Leicestershire."

"If you have received care from any of our community health, mental health, or learning disability services, whether in children and families' services, adult services, or older people's services, we encourage you to take the time to nominate those who have made a difference to you."

Judges will be particularly interested in nominations that reflect LPT's values of compassion, respect, integrity and trust.

The following four categories are open for



nominations from the public:

- Delivering Exceptional Care Award
- Volunteer of the Year Award
- Unsung Hero of the Year – Compassion Award (a special award presented by LPT's CEO/Chair)
- Excellence in Patient or Service User Involvement Award

Nominations are open until 5pm on Monday 12 May 2025 with winners announced at a awards ceremony on the evening of Friday 26 September 2025.

Nominations can be made on the trust's website at www.leicspart.nhs.uk

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Villages and Towns to Celebrate VE Day Anniversary

May will see local communities across our region celebrating the 80th anniversary of VE Day with street parties and beacon lighting ceremonies.

The historic anniversary, commemorating the end of the Second World War in Europe, takes place on Thursday 8 May, and celebrations are being planned across the country across the weekend from Thursday 8 to Sunday 11 May. Leicestershire County Council waived the usual fee for closing roads in order to hold events, to help support communities and groups who wanted to organise events.

In Shilton, on Thursday 8 May, a beacon on Castle Mound will be lit, with people asked to arrive for 9.15pm.

On the same evening Barwell Parish Council is inviting people to join them for the first lighting of the newly erected Beacon in Kirkby Road Park.

Entertainment, including wartime music, and refreshments including food stalls will be available.

And in Burbage residents are invited to pack a picnic and join a celebratory street party to mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day, on Sunday May 11, on Grove Road.

The event, with live music, will run from midday to 4pm, with a road closure between the junctions of Twycross Road and Love Lane to be in place between 10am and 6pm.



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Classic Vehicle Meets Rev Up for Summer in Hinckley



Classic car enthusiasts and the local community are invited to join us for a series of exciting Classic Vehicle Meets this summer in Hinckley. These free events will take place on Thursday evenings, providing a fantastic opportunity for car lovers to showcase their prized vehicles, connect with fellow aficionados, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of our town.

****Event Details:****

- Classic Vehicle Meets
- Thursdays 5pm to 8pm on 19 June, 17 July, and 21 August
- Market Place, Hinckley
- Free admission for all attendees

Join us as we celebrate the beauty and craftsmanship of classic cars, from vintage models to modern classics. Each meet promises an evening filled with stunning vehicles, camaraderie, and the chance to share stories and experiences with other car enthusiasts.

Whether you're a classic car owner or simply a fan, these events are the perfect opportunity to appreciate automotive history and culture.

Don't miss out on the chance to be part of this exciting summer series in Hinckley. Mark your calendars and get ready to enjoy an evening of classic automotive excellence!

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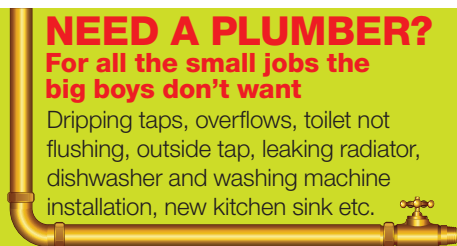
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