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# 15 Years Serving Our Communities



With Easter now upon us it's also time for us to celebrate what has been a fantastic start to 2026 here at The Local Rock magazine.

Not only that, we are also very pleased to be celebrating our 15th Anniversary of our Hinckley edition.

That's 15 whole years of serving Hinckley, bringing you all of the latest news, events and local businesses that you know you can trust every week.

We have been passionately supporting our town and its events for all of those years, as well as supporting the area's many charitable, community and voluntary organisations.

And this celebration comes hot on the heels of us also marking 16 fantastic years of our Villages edition.

We had a huge reaction to our competition from Sketchley Grange Hotel – an exceptional response with the entries and the lucky winner will be announced soon.

Our new competition is with Daniel's Jewellers in Nuneaton, with one lucky winner set to receive a £100 voucher to spend in the store.

We are now looking forward to a busy and beautiful Spring, with our gardens finally coming into bloom along with the birds chirping away – it really does make everyone feel a lot better in themselves.

If you are looking to brighten up your homes and gardens, then we have a variety of local trustworthy businesses

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advertisers to ensure that we are giving you the very best in the community and feel proud to serve all of you in our local and surrounding areas.

We will be advertising all forthcoming events that are coming up in the next few months, so please keep an eye out for them – right here in your Local Rock.

The Local Rock would like to thank all of the distribution team.



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# Spring Into Easter with the Bunny Hunt

It's time to throw ourselves wholeheartedly into Easter in Hinckley, with the return of the much-loved Easter Bunny Hunt in the town centre throughout the Easter break!

Just pick up a clue guide and follow the trail, starting from Cineworld, to find the bunnies in 10 business windows throughout the town centre.

At the end, submit your completed form to enter the FREE Prize Draw to WIN one of the following great prizes:

£50 town centre gift voucher!

A LARGE Milk Chocolate Easter Egg!

Family Cinema Passes for 4 at Cineworld!

A round of Mini Golf at The Birdie Bunker!

The Easter Adventure is fun and free of charge and you can even take advantage of free town centre parking in selected town centre car parks

on Easter Saturday, 4 April.

Shoppers visiting Hinckley will be

able to park for free in the following car parks: Trinity Vicarage (LE10 0BU), Lower Bond Street (LE10 1QU), Holliers Walk (LE10 1QW).

And parking is free in all council run car parks on Bank Holidays and Sundays throughout the year which includes Good Friday (3 April) and Easter Monday (6 April).

You can collect a Bunny Hunt Clue Guide on the day from any of the following locations: Cineworld in The Crescent, Hinckley Library, Lancaster Road, Clarks, 8 Castle Street, and Holiday Lounge, 8 Station Road.



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# Laurence's Heart Shaped Run for Dad

Laurence Denis, from Hinckley, has completed a 62-mile run in the shape of a heart to honour his dad, who passed away from heart disease two years ago.

The 32-year-old completed the challenge in just under 13 hours on Sunday 22 February at the town's Queen's Park.

It is one of several challenges Denis has set himself to raise money for four different charities in the UK, with this particular run dedicated to the British Heart Foundation.

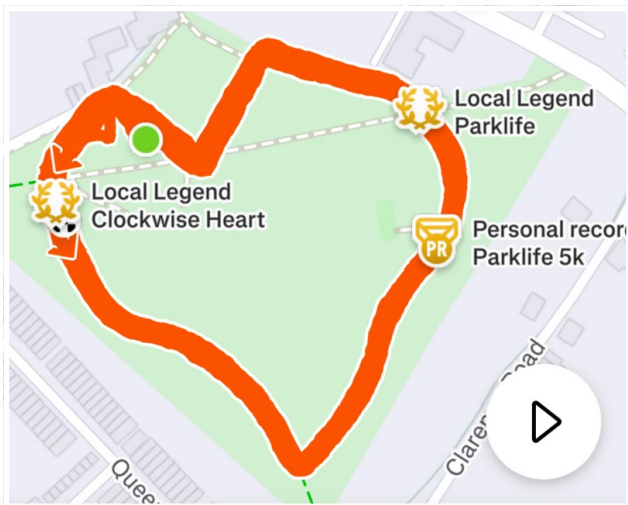
Laurence had walked the route beforehand to ensure it was a heart shape on his running app. Every lap he ran was equivalent to half a mile.

Laurence said running has been a huge part of his journey of coping with grief.

He started running after his mum passed away from neuroendocrine cancer in 2020 and founded the weekly running club, "Lets Run Den," in Hinckley.

He said: "If I can inspire people to get out there and empower them to start running - that's definitely my biggest achievement."

Laurence's next challenge is running from John



O'Groats to Land's End in May.

He has raised £1,795 from a variety of fundraising events so far, and plans on splitting the total between four charities after he finishes his final challenge in May.

The charities are Neuroendocrine Cancer UK, Birmingham Children's Hospital, the British Heart Foundation and Mind.

Paula Scaife, East Midlands fundraising manager for the British Heart Foundation said: "We are so grateful to Loz for taking on such an incredible challenge and helping fund our lifesaving cardiovascular research."

"It is thanks to the dedication of people like Loz that the BHF can keep powering groundbreaking research to save and improve lives."

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# New Season for Hinckley Historic Museum

Visitors to Hinckley's historic, volunteer-run Museum can enjoy fresh displays, hands-on experiences, and a warm welcome from the team who recently achieved a 100% rating from Visit England.

This year's programme introduces a range of engaging displays, including:

The English Civil War – a new feature offering a taste of 17th-century life;

100 Years of Hinckley Rotarians – celebrating a century of community service;

Footwear Heritage – showcasing ballet shoes crafted by Earl Shilton-based Suffolk Pointe.

The museum's ongoing exhibitions bring Hinckley's industrial past to life, especially its renowned knitting and hosiery heritage. Volunteers have restored historic knitting machines to working order, offering live demonstrations—and even the chance for visitors to try the machines themselves.

One of the museum's key volunteers, John Chinn, was recently honoured with a Making a Difference Award for his outstanding contribution to preserving local history.



Entirely run by volunteers, the museum highlights the industries that shaped Hinckley's national reputation, from knitwear to boot and shoe manufacturing. The team also received a Making a Difference Award at the town's recent ceremony, recognising their commitment to creating an inviting and informative attraction.

Visitors can also enjoy the museum's charming secret garden, filled with cottage-style blooms, and relax with homemade cake and a cuppa in the cosy tea room.

The museum will be open from 4 April to 31 October on Fridays, Saturdays and Bank Holiday Mondays, from 10am to 3.30pm.

For more information visit: [www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk](http://www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk)

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# Dr Luke Evans MP Secures Ministerial Meeting Over HMO and Asylum Housing Concerns

Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, has secured a meeting with the Immigration Minister after raising concerns in Parliament about the increasing use of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) and the placement of migrants in communities across the constituency.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Dr Evans raised concerns about the number of properties, particularly in Hinckley, being converted into HMOs and the impact this is having on local communities. He also highlighted concerns around migrants being moved from hotels into houses within communities.

Dr Luke has previously raised the issue with the Home Office and with local councils after many residents contacted him about the growing number of HMO conversions in the area.

There have been issues raised both locally and nationally about the way Serco are implementing changes under the Labour Government and the framework by the Home Office.

During the exchange in Parliament, Immigration Minister Alex Norris, the Minister for Border Security and Asylum, agreed to meet Dr Luke to discuss the concerns and the wider issue of how asylum accommodation is being dispersed across communities.

Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, said *“I have been contacted by many residents who are concerned about the increasing number of properties being converted into HMOs in Hinckley and the wider area. There are real questions about how these properties are being used and the impact on our communities.”*



*“I have raised these concerns with the Home Office, with our local councils and with Serco, but many residents feel their voices are not being heard.”*

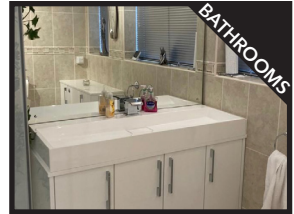
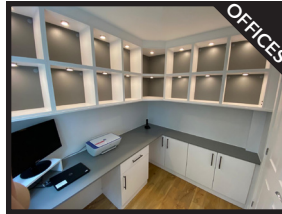
*“That is why I took this issue directly to Parliament. I am pleased the Minister has agreed to meet with me so that I can raise the concerns of our community directly and push for greater transparency around how these decisions are being made.”*

*“Our community deserves answers, and I will continue to press the Government and those responsible to ensure local concerns are properly addressed.”*

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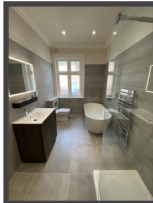
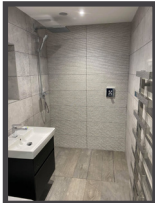
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# Hinckley NWSLC Open Sessions a Success!

By Sophie Chamberlain

NWSLC Hinckley college held an event where pupils who were thinking about joining the college had an insight into what their choice of course involved, on Saturday, 7 March.

This event involved a large variety of options that the college provides and offered taster lessons to ensure that the pupils were happy with the courses they have applied for.

Not only is it 15-16 years olds who come to these sessions, but also 18 year olds and upwards.

Carrie-Ann Abdulai who is the vice principal in higher education and programmes for adults and senior campus leader, says that the most important thing that these taster lessons offer is the opportunity to meet other people and to ensure that they are comfortable when they start in September.

As well as taster lessons for pupils' there was also some staff around to offer a bit more information regarding English and many other subjects.

During the day, we visited the photography room where James Cunliffe was teaching a

## NWSLC

NORTH WARWICKSHIRE AND SOUTH LEICESTERSHIRE COLLEGE

group of pupils the dark room technique which is a 200 year old process in photography. The pupils were shown a demonstration on how they use the equipment

and listened to an explanation on how to use it correctly and safely.

Liv, who is 16 years old, explained that she chose this course so she can get further education in photography due to taking it for her GCSE's.

Next we visited the performing Arts session, where they were taking on a teamwork activity where they had to interact and communicate with one another. This helps to improve their friendship and how comfortable they feel.

Maya, who is 18 years old, says that she chose this course due to enjoying drama in GCSE's and that in the future she would like a job to do with theatre production and/or backstage.

Another one of the pupils, Lewis, aged 15, expressed how he volunteers backstage for a theatre.

At the end of all the sessions everyone was more comfortable in the college and were also locked into which course they wanted to partake in.

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charnwood tree services

# Martin Page

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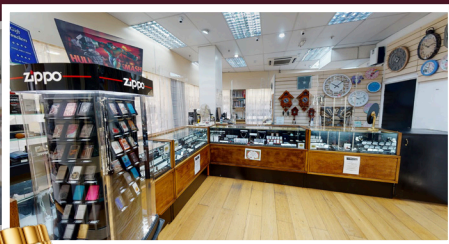


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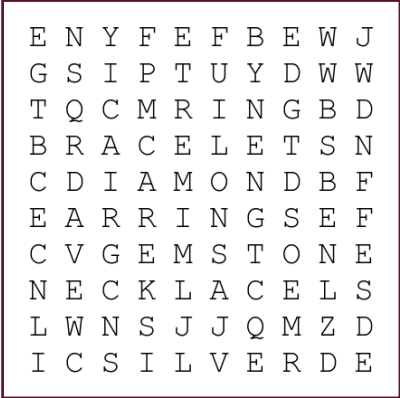
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Thanks to our friends at Daniels The Jewellers, simply find the 8 words shown below and mark them on the wordsearch to be in chance of winning £100 to spend in-store at Daniels The Jewellers.

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**\*POSTAL ENTRIES ACCEPTED ONLY\***

Please send all competition entries to: The Local Rock, 8 Hawley Road, Hinckley, LE10 0PR

**CLOSING DATE:**

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup>  
March 2026

Name: .....

Address: .....

\*Winners will receive confirmation from The Local Rock

.....

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# Enjoy up to Half Price Bus Travel this Easter



Here's some good news for Easter – if you fancy venturing out into Leicestershire's many wonderful towns and villages, or into the city, you can get up to 50 per cent off bus travel in the county from Monday, 30 March to Sunday, 12 April.

Families and groups can enjoy up to 50 per cent off Group and Family Day Tickets across the commercial bus network when boarding in Leicestershire.

Passengers using the FoxConnect on-demand service will get 10% off every journey.

It's up to 5 for £5 on select routes across Leicestershire County Council's supported services network, where up to five passengers can get on board for £5.

Ann Carruthers, Director for Environment and Transport at Leicestershire County Council, said: "These offers are a great way to encourage people to use the bus and explore Leicestershire; meet-up with friends or take some time to shop.

"Our county has many destinations and attractions that can be accessed by bus, and I would encourage families and residents to take advantage of the offers. The promotions show a real collaboration between the council and the local bus operators which supports the residents of Leicestershire, our bus network and our local economy"

Passengers are encouraged to check the ticketing options for the bus operator they choose to travel with.

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**Email [info@localrock.co.uk](mailto:info@localrock.co.uk)**

✂ Cut me out to keep

# What's In Guide

## Burbage Farmers Market

Held on the 1st Saturday of every month. April one is on the 4th Easter Saturday. May is on 3rd May, Bank Holiday weekend and we have live entertainment provided by the Burbage Arts & Community Festival which is running then. Then the following subsequent first Saturdays of every month up to and including December, 2026. Location Burbage Methodist Church Carpark and Windsor Street, Burbage.



## Saturday 25 April

St George's Day Celebration & Scout Parade



## Saturday 2 - 4 May

Burbage Scarecrow Festival  
Let's go to the movies

## Saturday 16 May

Music in the Mead (Julie Sings)



## Saturday 6 June

Proms in the Park



SUPPORTED BY THE LOCAL ROCK Email your event to [info@localrock.co.uk](mailto:info@localrock.co.uk)

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# BikerDown – a Crucial Free Course in Hinckley for Bikers

Many motorcyclists ride in groups or pairs, so when one is involved in an accident the first person in attendance will often be a fellow biker.

BikerDown is a FREE course for bikers, giving an awareness of the dangers at crash scenes, how to deal with casualties and how to increase visibility.

It will be taking place at Hinckley Fire and Rescue Station on Tuesday, 14 April, from 7pm to 10pm.

The course will be presented by a fully trained member of the Firebike team and will include:

**1. Accident Scene Management** - On-scene management advice and personal safety, for a biker who comes across an RTC involving a motorcyclist. Covers initial considerations, including own thought process to assess most appropriate action in order to protect themselves and other road users, an order of actions and instruction on management of resources available (i.e. other witnesses). Information they should gather to assist attending Emergency Service *Personnel*.

**2. First Aid for Motorcyclists** - Trauma and mechanism of injury; Snatch rescues; Why when and how; Basic life support; CPR; Managing spinal injuries and crash helmet removal – when and how.

**3. The Science of Being Seen** - Conspicuity, how effective hi-viz clothing really is; Use of conspicuity clothing and hi-viz aids; Phenomena such as motion camouflage and looming; Pre-ride checks

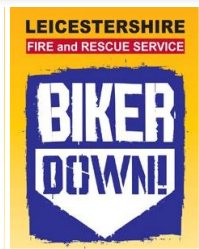
If you enjoy riding a motorcycle then this course is a MUST! It will give you knowledge and skills that you can use if you come across a road traffic collision, and the potential to make a real



difference and save lives.

It's FREE and on completion you will receive a certificate and a motorcycle first aid kit.

To book a place visit:  
<https://leics-fire.gov.uk/events/2026/04/biker-down-hinckley-fire-station1>



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## COMPETITION WINNER

Ben from Sketchley Grange Hotel & Spa came in to choose the winner of the Traditional Afternoon Tea For 2 with full use of the leisure and spa facilities and a 25 minute treatment each.



(All worth £120.00).

**Congratulations to our Winner**  
**Mrs Harper from Bulkington**

Thank you to all of the entries for the competition, we were overwhelmed with the response for this competition.

The Local Rock



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