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"Burbage Parish Council has been grateful for the support of The Local Rock for more than 16 years"

The Local Rock team does more than just provide space for the Council to promote its work maintaining and enhancing facilities across the parish, it takes a genuine interest in the Council's efforts on behalf of the community. When The Local Rock heard recently that trees planted by the Council to mark the platinum jubilee of the late Queen Elizabeth II had been vandalised, it made space on a page just as the magazine was going to print, to allow the news to be included at the earliest opportunity. It is this shared concern for the community that makes the Parish Council and The Local Rock such good partners.



The Local Rock

Parish Councillors in Burbage plead for people to respect their environment following damage to trees planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy

Here in Burbage, we may not have a tree as iconic as the Sycamore Gap tree, but sadly it seems we do have people with the same mentality to destroy simply because they can.

As councillors, we work hard to create an environment that all residents can be proud of. In 2022, we Open Space to commemorate the 70 year reign of our late Queen, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Since then, our staff have carefully tended these young trees, ensuring that the sun and rain did not cause them to fail. For the past four years—a successful nurtured them and helped them thrive.

Over the weekend, however, a mindless act of vandalism destroyed one of these trees and left another well have boasted to friends about what they had done; each damage to them, it cannot be undone. A tree has been planned to mark the Queen's remarkable reign.

Each year, our community gathers around the Christmas lights. These traditions would not be possible today if, back in the late 1950s, someone had sapling.

We may never discover who was responsible for this act. However, it is possible that parents or grandparents live with that knowledge. Perhaps, years from now, a grandchild asks, "Why are there only 60 trees here when the Queen reigned for 70 years?" Will they be as proud to explain the real reason?



Councillor Bob Bennett, Chair of Burbage Parish Council, and Councillor David Daves, who championed the Queen's Green Canopy project in the parish, stand next to one of the damaged commemorative trees.

We rely on the whole community to respect and support the steps we take to create lasting memorials and improve our shared environment. By raising caused but also to prevent any further acts of vandalism of this nature.

In response to this incident, Parish Councillors are discussing with officers from Hinckley and Bowthorpe Council the possible installation of covert CCTV cameras within the park. The aim is not only occur, but more importantly to act as a deterrent and protect the trees and facilities that belong to the whole community.

These trees were planted not just for today, but for future generations. They stand as a living memorial to a remarkable reign and as a reminder that the decisions we make today shape the environment we leave behind. It is our collective responsibility to ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy.

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Park Life Reads Returns



Park Life Reads returns to Nuneaton's Riversley Park on Saturday 1 August, from 10am to 4pm.

Join Warwickshire Libraries' annual festival for a day of family-friendly activities celebrating nature and creativity in one spectacular day!

Working with Nuneaton Museum & Art Gallery, the event will bring an exciting mix of activities both outside in the park, and inside the gallery.

There will also be free ice cream on a first come, first serve basis while stocks last.

Activities will include: Bouncy Castle, Soft Target Archery, Author Q&A with Ross Montgomery, Face Painting, Giant Puppet Show, Slime and Potion-making, Meet Bluey, Petting Zoo, DesiBlitz Bus, Art and Craft Activities, Sword Combat Fighting, Reiki, Hand and Arm, and Head Massages, Storytelling, Bubble show, Henna Art. The event forms part of Warwickshire Libraries 2026 Summer Reading Challenge, Read to the Beat!

The music-themed challenge from The Reading Agency encourages children to discover the joy of reading through rhythm, creativity and storytelling. As part of the National Year of Reading, families are being encouraged to make reading a key part of their summer.

Children can sign up at Nuneaton Library and take part by reading books, collecting rewards and joining a packed programme of free activities. This year's offer includes interactive

workshops with Warwickshire Music, inclusive dance sessions led by Anjali Dance Company, electronic music-making experiences through 'Build the Beat' workshops, and weekly Summer Reading Challenge Clubs.

All Summer Reading Challenge activities are free, with many events available to book online.



Choosing the Right Flooring for Your Home

When it comes to updating your home, flooring is one of the biggest decisions you'll make. It influences the look, feel and practicality of every room, so taking the time to choose the right product can make all the difference.

With so many options now available, homeowners are no longer limited to traditional carpets or wooden floors. Luxury Vinyl Tile (LVT) has become increasingly popular thanks to its realistic wood and stone designs, impressive durability and low maintenance, making it ideal for busy family homes. Modern carpets continue to offer exceptional comfort, warmth and sound insulation, while laminate and vinyl flooring provide stylish, practical solutions for a wide range of budgets.

The secret to choosing the right flooring isn't simply following the latest trends—it's selecting a product that suits the way you live. A hallway or kitchen may benefit from a hard-wearing, water-resistant floor, while bedrooms and living areas often call for the warmth and comfort that only a quality carpet can provide. Considering factors such as foot traffic, pets, children and maintenance requirements will help ensure your flooring continues to look its best for years to come.



That's where local expertise can prove invaluable. Independent retailers often offer a level of personal service that larger chains simply can't match, taking the time to understand your needs and recommend products that genuinely suit your home and your budget.

At Symmetry Flooring Limited on Weddington Road in Nuneaton, customers can explore an extensive range of carpets, LVT, laminate and vinyl flooring from many of the industry's leading manufacturers. The experienced team offers honest advice, free measuring and quotations, professional fitting and a friendly, no-pressure approach that has helped build a strong reputation throughout Nuneaton and the surrounding areas.

Whether you're refreshing a single room or planning a complete home renovation, investing in quality flooring is an investment you'll appreciate every day. Taking the time to seek expert advice, view products in person and choose the right solution for your lifestyle can ensure beautiful results that stand the test of time.

If you're planning your next home improvement project, why not visit the Symmetry Flooring showroom and discover how the right flooring can transform your home?



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What's In Guide

SAVE THE DATES



Burbage Farmers Market

Held on the 1st Saturday of every month. 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 15 August 2026

Burbage Gardening Club

To include The Burbage gardening Club Dahlia Championship at Hastings High School, St. Catherine's Close, Burbage, LE10 2QE. Sections - Floral art, cut flowers, pot plants, fruit and vegetables, homecrafts, photography, young exhibitors, handicraft and art. Admission free to public at 4:30pm. Bar and refreshments available. Show contacts Bob Gwynn 07583 371804 email showmanager@bgclub.uk or Trevor Allcoat 01455 613119. This year's charity is LOROS Hospice.

Saturday 8 August 2026

Cadeby Fete & Fun Dog Show

Held at Market Bosworth Rugby Club on Cadeby Lane, starting at 2pm. Fete admission will be £1 for adults, with accompanied children free, plus free on-site car parking. Entries to classes for the popular dog show cost £2 each. There will be the traditional stalls and side-shows, including Cadeby pre-loved clothes and jewellery, white elephant, home-made cakes, books and games, a raffle with a top prize of £100 cash, and teas served in the clubhouse, where the Rugby Club will also be running a bar. All money raised will help to keep Cadeby Church well cared-for and open daily for all.



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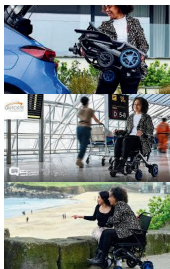
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Working Together for Hot Weather Safety

During the recent hot weather Warwickshire Fire and Rescue Service, Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire Search and Rescue have been proactively working together to ensure high visibility in local communities, delivering targeted water safety activity aimed at reaching both young people and families.

Across all activity, partners have been reinforcing simple but life-saving advice in an emergency: call 999 immediately, encourage the person to float on their back, and throw something that floats to help them reach safety.

Members of the public are also being encouraged to use what3words to provide an exact location to emergency services.

Alongside face-to-face engagement, partners have been using digital channels, including Snapchat, to reach communities and young people with vital safety messages. A water safety video has also been created demonstrating what to do if you get into difficulty in the water.



The video can be viewed here: <https://bit.ly/4w8VWAu>

Education has also been a key focus. In Nuneaton, 480 primary school pupils were reached through water safety assemblies, helping to build awareness from an early age.

Alongside water safety, partners have also been sharing advice on preventing wildfires during dry conditions, staying well in warmer weather and looking out for vulnerable people, ensuring a joined-up approach to community safety.

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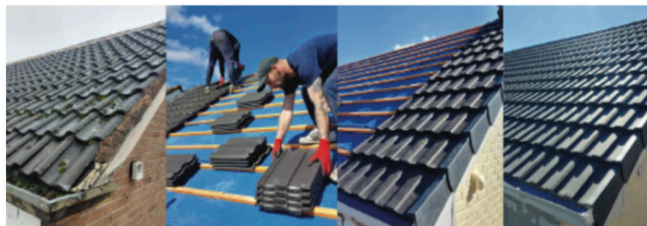
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Mayor Announces Civic Appeal



The new Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Cllr Colin Cape, has launched his Civic Appeal - The Guardians Grow Charity.

A number of fundraising events will take place for the charity over the next 12 months.

Cllr Cape said: *"As Mayor, I chose The Guardians Grow Charity for my Civic Appeal because it provides a safe hub and advocacy for the people of the borough in their time of need."*

"Offering one-to-one and group-based support, Guardians Grow tackles a variety of personal issues in our communities, including domestic violence, homelessness, addictions, financial hardships, and mental health."

"This charity has been at the centre of community support in the borough and will continue to provide vital care for the residents of Nuneaton and Bedworth."

Located in Abbeygate Shopping Centre, Nuneaton, Guardians Grow started as a small

community group in 2016 and became a registered charity in 2020, working to remove social and economic issues throughout the borough.

Across the two sites in the Abbeygate Shopping Centre, Margaret's and the Iris Project, residents can expect to find a variety of support activities tailored to their needs.

Margaret's offers a trauma-informed service, where experienced staff and volunteers offer trusted advice, advocacy, and support to help people feel valued and connected.

The Iris Project provides information, guidance, advocacy, and a space for survivors to connect and reclaim their strength through creativity and purpose.

There are plans to open a third site, The Dragons Crumb, which has grown out of the charity's journey in delivering more than 6,000 food parcels during the Covid pandemic.

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Special Award for Special Nurse



An exceptional Nuneaton nurse has received a very special award.

Elderly Trauma Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS) Joanne Benson is the 2026 winner of the Michelle Norton Award.

It is presented each year on International Nurses Day at George Eliot Hospital to recognise outstanding compassion, leadership, and commitment to patient-centred care.

The award was created in memory of Michelle Norton, a much-loved and highly respected nurse whose legacy continues to inspire colleagues, and presented by her family.

Joanne is described as *“an outstanding example of what excellent nursing looks like” and someone whose impact on patients, colleagues, and the wider service is “truly remarkable.”*

She is known for delivering care that is clinically

skilled, safe, and deeply human. Colleagues highlighted how she takes the time to truly listen, offering comfort, reassurance, and dignity during some of the most vulnerable moments in a patient's life.

Joanne is also celebrated for her commitment to nurturing the development of others, supporting students, newly qualified nurses, and experienced colleagues alike.

Joanne receives an extraordinary amount of positive feedback from patients and families, who praise her calm presence, clear communication, and genuine compassion.

Her nomination concluded: *“Joanne is the nurse you would want to care for your own family and the colleague you are grateful to work alongside... she is truly deserving of this recognition.”*



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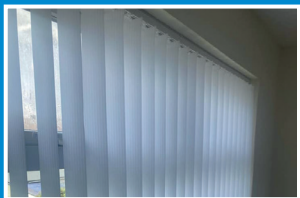
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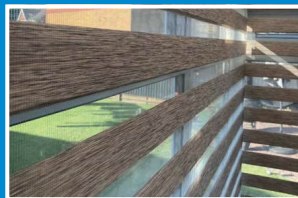
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Classic Vehicle Meets are Back

They're back! Hinckley town centre is once again playing host to classic cars and vehicles – this year with an exciting change.

The popular Classic Vehicle Meets have returned for three special evenings – the first having taken place on Wednesday, 18 June.

And for 2026 there is a brand new earlier start time. The events now run from 4pm to 8pm, giving families and vehicle owners an extra hour to enjoy the spectacular displays.

Taking place in the Market Place, the gatherings feature a wonderful collection of classic cars, vintage vehicles and modern classics.

One further event is scheduled for 20th August 2026.

Organisers introduced the earlier start time following helpful feedback from participants and visitors.

The extra hour allows enthusiasts more time to

showcase their cherished vehicles.

It also enables families and visitors to make the most of the relaxed atmosphere during the warm summer evenings.

Visitors can explore a wide range of vehicles and meet the passionate owners who look after them.

The meets provide a fantastic opportunity for people to share stories, exchange knowledge, and celebrate motoring heritage.

The events have become a highlight of Hinckley's summer calendar, attracting spectators from across the region.

The gatherings also help to support local businesses by creating a vibrant atmosphere in the town centre.

Admission is completely free for both exhibitors and visitors who wish to attend.

Whether you own a classic vehicle or are just looking for a great day out, everyone is welcome.



Daniel The Jewellers Competition Winner

Congratulations to Mrs Winters of Nuneaton for winning the competition. Thank you to James the owner of Daniel The Jewellers based in Abbey Gate Centre, Nuneaton for picking the winner. James was overwhelmed by the response of competition entries he received. Thank you to everyone who entered!



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Local GP Launches Book to Help with Mental Health

A locum GP living in Hinckley has written and released a book about dealing with mental health struggles.

DR Sarah Mayo launched the book, called 'Images of Hope for Your Mental Health: Finding Diamonds in the Darkness' and published by YouCaxton Publications, at a special event at The Epicurean on Hinckley's Castle Street.

Whilst working as a junior doctor, Dr Sarah Mayo experienced a severe mental health crisis. As part of her recovery, she found visual images to be both accessible during the darkest moments and helpful in glimpsing a better future.

Sarah has successfully used these images to help countless patients and has put this wealth of experience into the book.

Written in her trademark informal and chatty style, she combines numerous hand drawn images with practical advice.

Using these images, she is able to bring a glimmer of hope in the darkness.

In short, easy to read sections this book neatly fills the gap between expansive self-help books, and books that just explore a single image, forming a toolkit of ideas and themes that you can refer back to time and again – everything your GP would like to say, but doesn't have time for in a 10-minute consultation!

Images of Hope for Your Mental Health



*Finding Diamonds
in the Darkness*

Dr Sarah Mayo

Edited by Marina Dudenhoefer

Dr Sarah Mayo is a locum GP working in west Leicestershire, and also works as a clinical ADHD specialist. She lives in Hinckley, with her husband, daughter, cat and black dog.

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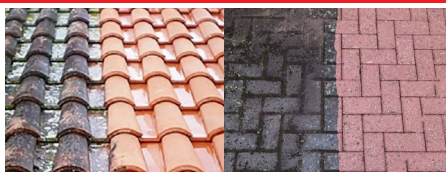
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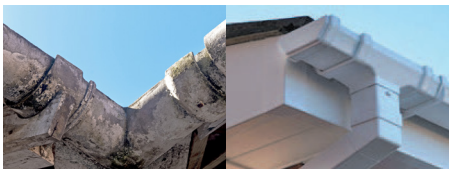
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Jet Propelled with Kimberley House Riding for the Disabled

13 young people who attend the Kimberley House Riding

RDA



for the Disabled (RDA) weekly sessions, were invited by The Mount RDA group to ride Jet, their electric horse or equestrian simulator as it is formally known. Jet can operate via a range of programmes so 3 of the more experienced members rode a walk and trot dressage test while others new to riding in recent months were able to experience a canter. Some chose to ride in the sea, others through a zoo or in the woods which required concentration and the ability to steer Jet around obstacles and through arches.

All were able to concentrate for their 15 minute ride and managed the physical exertion too. For some, whose physical ability is limited, riding at trot and canter for 15 minutes is a significant achievement. There were some wobbly legs afterwards. On their return to riding at the horses at Witham Villa improvements in the young people's balance and position in the saddle was noticeable.

The Mount Group RDA are based at Almond Equestrian, Baggrave Hall Estate, Hungarton, Leicester and Kimberley House would like to thank Di, their coach, Alex and the other volunteers there for their efforts to make it such an enjoyable day for all. Funding for the ride came from one of the volunteer's employers. Claire Haywood's nominated the RDA and Smurfit Westrock the leading global paper and packaging solutions provider donated £2,000 to the group. This funding has also enabled the group to purchase new hats and boots so that the riders meet safety requirements.

Up to 15 young people attend the group weekly in term time, learning to ride and some basic horse care. They are aged between 12 and 18 years and attend either Ash Field Academy in Leicester, a school for pupils who have a range of disabilities which can be combined with one



or more needs of a sensory, communication, learning, medical or behavioural nature or Fusion Academy in Barwell for young people with autism and/or communication and interaction needs who do not have a learning disability.

The Kimberley House Group are based at Witham Villa Equestrian Centre in Broughton Astley and the RDA Committee are very grateful to Verity Saul and her staff there for allowing the use of their indoor school and hiring the horses and ponies. The group could not function without the 25 volunteers who help make the sessions a success.

If you are interested in volunteering the group meets on Thursdays between midday and 3pm in the school term. Many volunteers only commit to one of our sessions during those hours. Experience of horses is not necessary as training is given. For more information please contact Sarah Smith sarah.smith68@icloud.com

During the year many of the young people have taken part in Special Olympics competitions. These are confidence boosting and provide a target to work towards in their riding.

Sarah Smith Chair of Kimberley House RDA said " *It has been a successful year with a marked increase in the confidence of the young people, not only in their riding but in the interaction with the horses and the volunteers.*"

Town Hall Doors Open for Business

Did you know that the front doors of Nuneaton Town Hall are now open from 9am to 4pm Monday to Friday?

Where possible, customers will now have access to in-person support without a pre-booked appointment.

However, if the matter requires specialist support or cannot be handled during a walk-in visit, then an appointment will be arranged to ensure residents receive the relevant help they require quickly.

Cllr Mike Bannister, Portfolio Holder for Finance, Enabling Services and Communities, said: *"We are pleased to announce that we are opening our doors to the residents of our Borough. The previous hours did not provide*



enough flexibility for residents to access face-to-face support, causing frustration amongst the public. We believe these changes will provide more opportunity for the public to seek support."

If you would like to pre-book prior to your visit, appointments can be made by contacting our Customer Services team on 024 7637 6376.




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