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Hospital Celebrates South Asian Heritage

July was South Asian Heritage Month – and hospital staff, community leaders and guests gathered at the George Eliot Training and Education Centre (GETEC) to celebrate the diverse cultures, histories and contributions of South Asian communities.

The event embraced this year's theme - Unity in Diversity - and celebrated the contributions of colleagues from South Asian backgrounds who bring skill, compassion, and dedication to their roles.

Guests included Mr Om Parkash Gurung MBE, a respected community leader who encouraged colleagues to view their backgrounds and experiences as strengths.

The Mayor of Nuneaton and Bedworth, Cllr Colin Cape, reflected on the strength that comes from bringing together people with different experiences and perspectives, particularly during times of challenge and change.

Director of People, Sara MacLeod said: *"Our NHS has always been built on diversity from its earliest days with colleagues from South Asian backgrounds playing a vital role in shaping our services."*

"Colleagues from South Asian backgrounds are making a difference at every level in delivering excellent clinical care, supporting patients and families at some of the most vulnerable moments of their lives."

The celebration featured performances that brought the theme of Unity in Diversity to life. 'Nepali Cheli' comprising nurses Champa Rai, Sangita Rai, and Manika Limbu, performed a traditional Nepalese dance, while 'Natya', made up of Arya Babu, Arathy Sasi, and Mydhilly Manmadhan, delighted the audience with an



energetic Bollywood performance.

The event also provided an opportunity to recognise colleagues who consistently go above and beyond for patients and their teams. Cavell Star Awards were presented to Sangita Rai, Champa Rai, and Neelimabindu Gudapati in recognition of their compassion, dedication, and outstanding contribution to nursing and patient care.



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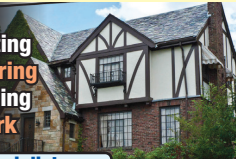
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Weekend and Bank Holiday Booking at Judkins Tip

A new hybrid booking system is now in place at Nuneaton's Judkins Household Waste Recycling Centre.

The new approach is designed to make visits more reliable and reduce avoidable queuing at the busiest sites and times, while keeping access as flexible as possible for residents.

The change is informed by a county-wide customer survey, which received over 2,400 responses from residents sharing their experiences and preferences. Of the 2,400 survey responses received, 49.4% supported some form of booking, 44.5% did not support booking and 6% had no preference.

Cllr Darren Cheshire, Warwickshire County Council's Portfolio Holder for Environment, Heritage and Culture, said: *"We want to thank the 2,400 residents who took the time to share*



their feedback during the recent trial. We have listened closely to your views and looked hard at the data. What became clear is that a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't work for our diverse county.

Booking at Judkins will now be required on Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holidays.

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Statement on Unitary Councils

Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council, North Warwickshire Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Warwick District Council and Warwickshire County Council have responded to the Government's decision to create two unitary councils for Warwickshire.

Under the decision, one unitary council will cover the north of Warwickshire, including North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth, and Rugby.

The six councils said: *"We note the Government's decision to create two unitary councils for Warwickshire.*

"We recognise that councils across Warwickshire have held different views on the best structure for local government in the county.

"All six councils have a history of working well together and have been praised by Government for being an area where cooperation is high. We remain committed to continuing to work together constructively and responsibly as we move into the next stage of this process.

Nuneaton & Bedworth United to Achieve



"Our shared priority is to make sure residents, businesses and communities continue to receive the services they rely on, and that the move to the new councils is managed carefully and in the best interests of Warwickshire.

"There is now important work to do. We will work closely with Government, partners, our staff and councillors to support a smooth transition and to help shape the best possible future for local services."

Wistow Maze Competition Winner

Congratulations to the lucky winner Mrs Humphreys of Stoney Stanton, who was delighted at winning the Wistow Maze competition and is looking forward to exploring her day out with her grandchildren. We received an exceptional amount of entries. Thank you to everyone who entered we will be bringing you another competition very soon. The Local Rock 



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Hot Weather Hitting Farmers

The recent spate of heatwaves have impacted our lives in a number of ways – and a local farmer says it has reduced milk production, creating challenges for the industry.

Charles Goadby, who runs Manor Farm near Nuneaton, said the recent heatwave had affected both his dairy herd and arable crops.

He said yields from cows that would normally produce about 40 litres of milk a day had fallen to 32 litres during the hottest weather.

Production had since recovered, Goadby said, to about 35 litres a day, but remained below normal levels.

"Farmers are paid on a set price," he stated, "and we have no say in that. We're price takers, not price makers, so we're just losing money.

"When we're having drops in production, this heat is hitting us in the pocket hard."

The hot, dry conditions have also affected arable farming, with crops drying out more quickly than usual.

Goadby said some harvesting had taken place overnight to help retain moisture and avoid the



hottest part of the day.

"Farmers are very good at adapting to change, it's what we've done for generations. But without the support and without the fairness and the returns to enable us to do that, it's going to be hard.

"We're up for the challenge. We just need the backing from government."

A DEFRA spokesperson said: *"This government is backing our hard-working dairy farmers with new regulations put in place last year to improve fairness and transparency across the supply chain so that businesses can flourish.*

"If farmers feel that their contracts are not compliant, they should contact the Agricultural Supply Chain Adjudicator."


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Breast Friends on Tour

People are being urged to 'line the streets' when the 'Breast Friends on Tour 2026' hits Nuneaton this week.

After the success of the first event last year, members of the Nuneaton Acorns Women's Institute (WI) and friends will once again take to streets around the St Nicolas Park area.

They will be wearing decorated bras and t-shirts in support of the new breast care unit at the George Eliot Hospital.

Megan Woods-Powell lost her mum Debra to breast cancer when she was just 13 years old and she is one of the driving forces of the event.

"The breast care unit at the George Eliot Hospital provided incredible care and support throughout her treatment, and this walk is our way of giving something back while helping other local families affected by breast cancer."

"We'd love the local community to come along, cheer the walkers on, wave, clap, and help create a fantastic atmosphere around the route."

"The encouragement will mean so much to everyone taking part and raising funds for a cause close to many hearts."

The route starts and finishes at The Acorn Pub,



taking in the Crows Nest, Attleborough Arms and Chestnuts Club, before returning to the Acorn.

To help keep everyone spread out, one group will complete the route in reverse.

"Whether people are walking in memory of a loved one, in support of someone currently affected by breast cancer, or simply to support a fantastic local cause, everyone is welcome."

The tour will run from 6pm until 11pm on Friday 7 August.

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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.



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

Dear Sirs, We may not have a tree as iconic as the Spire in Salisbury, but surely it seems we do have a right to the same tranquility to enjoy simply because they can.

As councillors, we work hard to create an environment that is pleasant for people to live in. In 2022, we had all residents vote for planting 70 trees in the Earl Shilton and Queen's Green Canopy. The 70-year vision of our town, one that will be carefully looked after by young trees, did not come from us. For the past four years—a crucial period in the life of a young tree—they have successfully nurtured them and helped them thrive.

Over the weekend, however, a significant act of vandalism destroyed one of these trees and left another badly damaged. Whoever carried out this act will have hurtened to friends about what they had done: neither they were even encouraged to do it, but only because it was a crime to be punished. A tree has been lost, and with it, part of the realisation of the 70-year vision to mark the Queen's remarkable reign.

As councillors, we are committed to the vision of the Queen's Green Canopy and will continue to work with the community to ensure that the trees planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy are protected and maintained for the benefit of the community.



Councillor Bob Houghton, Chair of Burbage Parish Council, and Cllr Mark Easton, Chair of Earl Shilton Parish Council, who champion the Queen's Green Canopy project in the parish, stand in front of one of the damaged trees in the park.

We rely on the whole community to respect and support the vision we have to create lasting memories and improve the environment. By raising awareness, we hope to encourage the community to take steps to protect the trees and the environment. We cannot but also be proud to present my further act of vandalism of this nature.

In response to this incident, Parish Councillors are discussing with officers from the Earl Shilton and Bosworth CCTV cameras within the park. The aim is to not only identify those responsible but also to highlight the damage done, but more importantly, to act as a deterrent and protect the trees and facilities that bring life to the whole community.

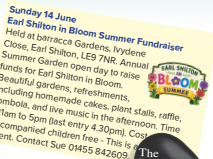
These trees were planted not just for today, but for future generations. They stand as a living memorial to a remarkable reign and as a reminder that the decisions we make today shape the environment we leave behind. Let us work collectively to ensure they remain for future generations to enjoy.

"A huge shout out from the volunteers at Earl Shilton in Bloom to the amazing team at Local Rock Magazine!"

"As a small charity, we don't have spare funds for marketing, so their support has meant so much to us. They kindly included details of our Summer Fundraiser in two editions leading up to the event, helping us reach so many more people.

They've been so friendly and supportive to deal with throughout the process, and we really can't thank them enough.

We certainly won't hesitate to ask for their help again in the future. Thank you for supporting Earl Shilton in Bloom!"



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Dr Luke Evans, Member of Parliament for Hinckley and Bosworth, said

"A massive congratulations to the whole team at the Local Rock who are celebrating 15 years of keeping us informed and entertained!"

"I'm grateful for the support they have shown me since I became your MP and, on behalf of our community, I'd like to thank everyone at The Local Rock who works hard each week to ensure the very best magazines are distributed to thousands of homes across our area.

"We all know the value this magazine brings, telling local stories to local people. In this day and age, the chance to tell stories about our community is so important and the popularity of the Local Rock reflects that!"



The Local Rock

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What's In Guide

SAVE THE DATES

New Classes at BVC

Warwickshire Floristry Workshops' local floristry tutor Sally Evans is expanding her popular programme at Bulkington Village Centre with a brand-new five-week Introduction to Floristry course.

The new sessions will run on Thursday afternoons from 1pm to 3pm on the following dates: 3 and 17 September, and 1, 15 and 22 October.

Learners will explore how to get the best from supermarket flowers, care and conditioning of floral materials, techniques for creating arrangements in floral foam, how to identify a wide range of flowers and practical tips and insider tricks.

The course fee is £60 for five weeks, and

participants are required to source their own materials.

To book a place or request further information, please email FloristryWorkshops@hotmail.com

Another new class coming to BVC in September are Dance Workshops where you will learn choreographed dance routines every couple of weeks.

If you loved dancing as a kid or fancy trying a new hobby this could be the activity for you!

Contact Faye Lindsey for more information
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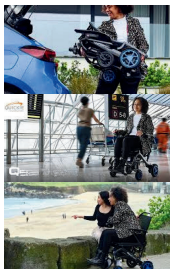


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Good News for The Cock at Sibson

For decade upon decade The Cock Inn pub in Sibson was a much-loved destination of choice for residents of both Hinckley and Nuneaton.

Famous for its stories of highwayman Dick Turpin using it as a hiding place filled the place with romance and history, making it an ideal 'date' venue.

Now, restoration work to bring it back into good repair is now under way, marking a welcome step forward for the historic building.

The work follows Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's decision to grant listed building consent for repair works and follows pressure from the Council and local residents to see the building brought back into use.

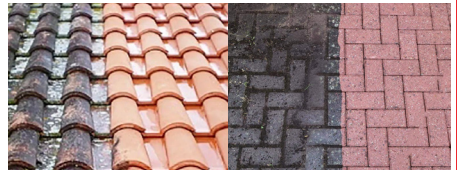
Contractors appointed by Star Pubs, the building owners, began internal works earlier this week. A new listed building application is expected to be submitted shortly for further works to ensure the building's long-term preservation.

The news follows a strong show of local support, with more than 2,500 residents signing a petition presented to Full Council in April calling for the historically significant pub to be renovated and reopened.

Council Leader Stuart Bray said: *"It is very encouraging to see work now under way at The Cock Inn. This is an important building for Sibson and the wider area, and these repairs are a significant step towards securing its future. We know how much this pub means to the local community, and the council has been committed to working with Star Pubs and doing all it can to support its preservation and help bring it back into use."*



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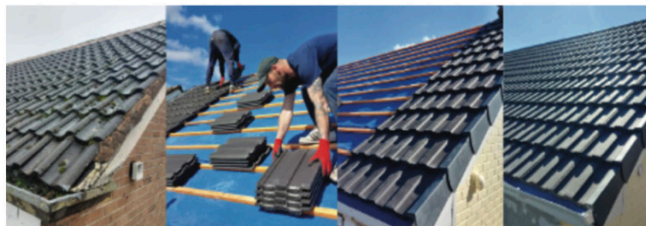
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BUILD THE BEAT



Young people are invited to step into the world of electronic sound with a hands-on Sound Exploration Workshop at Nuneaton Library on Friday, 7 August from 10.30am to 11.30am.

The Build the Beat: Sound Exploration Workshop is part of the Warwickshire Libraries Summer Reading Challenge.

In this session, participants will experiment with how sound works, using synthesisers, computers, and digital tools to explore the building blocks of music and audio.

Rather than focusing on structured music-making, the workshop encourages playful discovery, investigating how sounds are created, shaped, and transformed.

Children will have the opportunity to: Explore waveforms, rhythms, and textures; Experiment with sampling and digital instruments; Use their voices creatively, including trying out a vocoder; Discover how soundscapes and electronic music can be built from scratch; Create simple beats, loops, and rhythms.

All equipment will be provided, with audio

experienced through over-ear headphones to support focused listening.

These sessions are for:

- Encouraging creativity, curiosity, and hands-on experimentation by giving children the freedom to explore how sounds are created, changed, and combined using synthesisers, sampling, digital instruments, and their own voices;
- Developing digital music and audio skills through creating beats, loops, rhythms, and soundscapes, helping participants build confidence with music technology and electronic sound production'
- Inspiring and supporting children with their Summer Reading Challenge journey.

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