

THE RUDD

A joyful night for Ruddington!



It's been a great year for our village at the Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards, with two winners from Ruddington and a total of four shortlisted.

Organised by Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC), each year these awards celebrate the area's most dedicated volunteers, businesses, organisations and environmentalists, as well as the best of its health and wellbeing, sport, and food and drink sectors.

The gongs were handed out in 10 categories during the annual showcase celebration event at Rushcliffe Arena in West Bridgford, held on 30th November 2023.

Ruddington's first winner was Mark Pinks for 'Volunteer of the Year'. This was in recognition of his outstanding contribution to village life, including as a governor at St Peter's Junior School (where he established an after-school computer club), a former Ruddington Parish Councillor, and an NG11 Foodbank volunteer.

Mark is also a key member of Ruddington Village Community Partnership, helping to organise events such as the Ruddington Village Market.

Typically, and with his usual modesty and commitment, Mark was very busy volunteering at the first night of the Ruddington Christmas Market and so did not attend the ceremony himself. The award was collected by Deborah Edis and Chris Pinks on his behalf.

Secondly, Helen Tooth's Joyful Jukebox – which she brings to Ruddington for Bloomin' Dementia's fortnightly Music in Mind sessions in the Village Hall and also the Green Memory Cafe at Rushcliffe Country Park – won the 'Health and Wellbeing' category this year.

Also in the top three for their categories were 11-year-old village resident, Megan Stacey, who was shortlisted for 'Sportsperson of the Year', and volunteers from the Wednesday Morning Coffee Club in St Peter's Rooms, who were shortlisted for the 'Community Group of the Year' award.

RBC's Leader, Cllr Neil Clarke, led the praise to all those shortlisted for an award and to the many local sponsors who supported the accolades. He said: "Many congratulations to our shortlisted nominees all of whom are so deserving of this recognition whether volunteering or leading by example in their chosen field.

"Also thank you to E.ON and all sponsors. Your support is hugely appreciated and for the roles you play in our communities."

You can find details of all the Celebrating Rushcliffe 2023 winners and runners up at www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/news-area/winners-and-nominees-commended-at-the-celebrating-rushcliffe-awards-working-with-eon/.

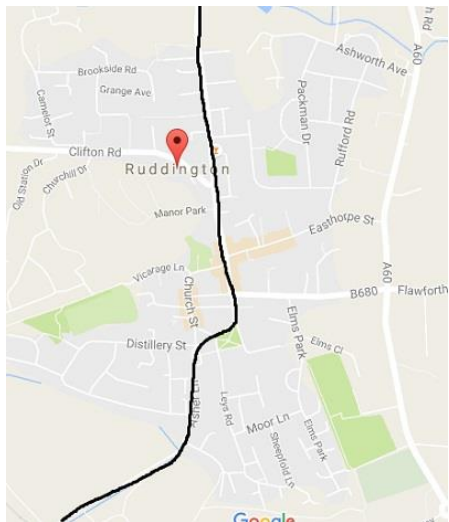
Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info

Christmas tree shredding reminder

If you've asked the Parish Council to collect and shred your Christmas tree, our Groundstaff team will collect it as follows:

- On **Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th January**, we'll collect trees from houses on the Clifton Road side of Wilford Road, High Street, The Green and Asher Lane (i.e., to the left of the black line shown on the map).
- On **Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th January**, we'll collect from houses on the Loughborough Road side of these streets (to the right of the black

line).



Don't forget to leave your tree outside by 7.30am on the day of collection!

If you've forgotten to book a collection, don't worry. You can take your tree to be recycled at West Bridgford Recycling Centre on Rugby Road. You'll need to pre-register your vehicle with the tip, but booking slots aren't needed. Find out more at www.veolia.co.uk/nottinghamshire/recyclinginformation.

Raise money for Macmillan with your Christmas treat tubs

Come January and many of us have fast-emptying (or already empty!) tubs that were once brimming with festive treats such as chocolates, biscuits and crackers.

These could just be placed in your recycling bin with other suitable materials and collected by the Borough Council as normal. But why not make a difference this year and raise money

for Macmillan Cancer Support with every tub you recycle?

The pub chain Greene King – a long-time supporter of Macmillan – is running a drop-off scheme called Tub2Pub for all your empty treat tubs. You can leave them at any Greene King-run pub, restaurant or hotel, after which they'll be taken to a plastic reprocessing centre, shredded and sold on to plastics manufacturers to make new products. All monies raised from the sale of the tubs will be given directly to Macmillan Cancer Support.

Our nearest Greene King establishments are The Nottingham Knight on Loughborough Road, The Wolds next to Asda in West Bridgford, The Test Match in Gordon Square, West Bridgford, and The Meadow Covert on Alford Road in Edwalton. You can find a full list and map of all Greene King's pubs, restaurants and hotels at www.greeneking.co.uk.

Simply take your clean, empty tubs along and leave them with a staff member or at the welcome station between **Monday 1st January** and **Thursday 11th February 2024**.

Alternatively, Barbara Breakwell has kindly offered to collect tubs on Ruddington residents' behalf and deliver them to Greene King. You can contact her on creativemedia@virginmedia.com to arrange to drop off your tubs.

With thanks to Barbara Breakwell

Business Christmas Window Display Competition 2023

This competition is now in its 10th year and what brilliant window display ideas from our local businesses!

Our judges remarked on what a tough competition it was for them this year, so keep bringing your amazing ideas to life and brightening up our village for the festive period.

The winners:

- **1st – Perkins Hardware** (pictured). What a worthy winner with Rudolph and his blinking red nose taking centre stage in the window.



- **2nd – Zing Interiors.** Glittery bling on a big scale.
- **3rd – Lesley Cree Opticians.** Lovely way to frame (pardon the pun!) their windows, which shone so brightly in the dark hours.

Highly commended:

- **Eleven** – Fabulous grinch-themed display.

- **Jaspers** – Another grinch window but where's the rest of him?

- **Tomlinson Estates** – Very clever and amusing idea to post 'unique Christmas properties' for sale, with Santa's going for a snip at £1,000,000!

The Parish Council thanks everyone for their support with this fun competition, which will be back for 2024.

Cllr. Mrs Marion Pell

Police update from Inspector Tim Cuthbert

Our Neighbourhood Inspector for Rushcliffe, Inspector Tim Cuthbert, has given us his latest update.

"Some crime related updates for you to start with. We continue to see a reduction in shop theft since the summer.

"At its peak, there were over 100 shop theft incidents in Rushcliffe in one month. However, thanks to a sustained effort from the team and some innovative crime prevention work by the shops themselves, we're currently only seeing around 30 incidents a month. We will, of course, continue our efforts to tackle theft into the New Year.

"The increase in theft of motor vehicles using keyless technology is a concern. In the last six weeks, we've put on additional night time dedicated patrols, both in plain clothes and uniform, as well as gaining the support of the

Operational Support Department and their 'interceptor' teams in the area.

"As a result, these incidents have reduced significantly, but I'd still urge people with keyless entry technology on their vehicles to consider purchasing a Faraday pouch or box to keep your keys in.

"I attended a Rural Crime community meeting recently along with Councillors, the PCC and Chief Inspector Collings, who leads on Rural Crime for Notts Police, and we discussed challenges facing the rural community in Rushcliffe.

"Whilst we've seen a huge 50% reduction in rural crime this year following the successful prosecution of a specific group, we're not complacent. It was a superb event to attend and listen to those previously impacted by rural crime issues, and discuss how we plan to tackle them.

"We're also due to be provided with new specialist 4x4 vehicles to tackle rural issues.

"Another event I was pleased to attend was the fantastic Celebrating Rushcliffe Awards held at the Rushcliffe Arena in November.

"It was a humbling evening highlighting so much of the voluntary work that goes on across the area and, whilst there were so many nominations deserving of recognition, my personal congratulations go to Nicola Brindley,

who won the Pride of Rushcliffe award for her tireless work supporting the victims and families impacted by domestic violence through the Tara's Angels charity.

"Having met with our partners recently, I've now revised our Rushcliffe Policing Priorities for the coming quarter. They will be:

- Keyless car thefts
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in East Leake
- Metal theft in remote locations.

"We'll be putting plans in place to tackle all the above, and I'll report back on progress.

"Last month saw the sad and untimely passing of PC Scott Redgate, an officer who worked the majority of his service in Rushcliffe on response and beat teams in the area.

"Many of you will have met him and known him, and no doubt remember him for his sense of humour and larger than life personality.

"He'll be greatly missed by the teams based in West Bridgford and Cotgrave.

"Finally, I'd like to wish a Happy New Year to everyone in Rushcliffe from myself and the Rushcliffe Neighbourhood Policing Team.

"Thank you for your continued support to keep Rushcliffe a safe place to live, work and enjoy."

Nottingham Shakespeare Company presents Romeo & Juliet

Experience the thrill of love and tragedy

The Nottingham Shakespeare Company (NSC) is thrilled to unveil their latest masterpiece: a riveting production of Shakespeare's timeless tragedy, *Romeo & Juliet*.



Following the resounding success of their summer 2023 hit, *Much Ado About Nothing* (pictured), NSC returns to captivate audiences with a dynamic 90-minute rendition that promises to be an unforgettable rollercoaster of emotions.

Blending the classic tale of star-cross'd lovers with NSC's trademark edge-of-your-seat action, this production explores gender roles in a fractured society, dancing between passion and obsession, love and sexuality, life and death.

Romeo & Juliet takes to the stage with a contemporary flair under the direction of founding NSC member, Cat Prescott, who's making her Shakespearean directorial debut.

She says: "This is the play that made

me first fall in love with Shakespeare; I hope our audiences feel that same passion and enthusiasm as we reach beyond the classic 'boy meets girl' narrative. I can't wait to share my interpretation of this iconic tale."

Unveiling fresh talents: a stellar cast

NSC proudly introduces a new collection of exceptionally talented actors, featuring singer/songwriter, Emily Ashberry, and rising star, Harriet Cadman, as the eponymous couple.

The fiery Tybalt and provocative Mercutio are brought to life by Ken Ogborn and Laurence James-Davis, respectively. Michelle-Louise Wright and Toni Tailor-Bird make a triumphant return as Capulet and Friar Laurence, while Nottingham performance artists, Elliot Mattingley and Alex Chalk, shine as Benvolio and the Nurse.

With Stage Combat Lead, Olivia Newton, and Director, Cat Prescott, also taking to the stage as Lady Capulet and Montague respectively, this ensemble promises thrilling surprises and enchanting performances.

Romeo & Juliet is coming to Ruddington Village Hall on Wilford Road at **7pm on Thursday 15th February 2024**. Tickets cost £15 or £10 for concessions, plus booking fee. You can book online [here](#). For more information about the play, including all performance dates and times, please visit <https://nottinghamshakespeare.co.uk/romeo-%26-juliet>.

Zac Ladkin

Zachary Ladkin, a 22 year from Ruddington, recently returned from the USA after representing Great Britain in the official World Wushu Championships (Chinese Martial Arts and Kung-fu), organised by the International Wushu Federation (IWUF).

This biennial signature event is the highest competitive level within the sport, and includes the world's top professional athletes from Asia, Europe, Africa, Pan America and Oceania.

The 16th World Wushu Championships (WWC) were held from 16th to 20th November 2023 in Fort Worth, Texas. The event attracted nearly 1,500 participants from 80+ countries and 20,000 to 30,000 spectators.

Zac performed admirably in his first appearance on the world stage and finished one event in 17th place – beating many full time professionals from around the world and scoring higher than any previous GB debutant.

Having trained from the age of five, it was a dream come true for Zac to be selected for the national team at WWC and represent the nation. He now has his sights set on representing GB in the European Championships, set to be held in Sweden this year.

This will be followed by the 2025 World Championships in Brazil, where he hopes to improve on his fantastic

showing at the WWC in 2023. If you'd like to take a look at his performance, the whole event can be streamed on YouTube via [WUSHU TV live](#).



You can find out more about Wushu and the IWUF at www.iwuf.org.

Anyone interested in sponsoring Zac is asked to please contact zacharyladkin@hotmail.co.uk.

Paul Ladkin

Cost of living support reminder

The continued impact of food, fuel and energy prices is impacting every one of us. Rushcliffe Borough Council are helping residents, week in week out, with advice and support in the face of these challenging times.

The Council's cost of living webpage provides a round-up of local advice and support, whether for food banks, warm spaces, managing money or debt, benefits, housing, and other types of residential support.

Please visit www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/benefits/cost-of-living/ to find out more.

Ruddington Diary

Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 23rd January 2024

Commencing at 7.30pm. All meetings open to the public; you can share your views on any agenda item.

Events in January 2024

Tuesday 2nd January

Ruddington Methodist Church Women's / Men's Fellowship Programme – 2.30pm, £2 Fish & Chip lunch followed by a short talk on holidays by Maggie Spencer. Refreshments to follow

Saturday 13th January

Borough Councillors' Surgery – 10.30am to 12.30pm at St Peter's Rooms.

Regular events

Every Monday

Nappuccinos – 10am to 11:45 am at The Hub, 62 Musters Road. A group for parents and carers with babies aged under 1. Coffee, cake and chat.

50+ Fun Fitness/Zumba Gold with Erika – 10am & 11am at the Village Hall. First class free. Call 07967 190 442, email erikazumba@hotmail.com or visit www.50plusfunfitness.co.uk for info

Ruddington & District Choral Society – Term time only – 7.15pm St Peter's School. Further info: www.ruddingtonchoral.com.

First & third Mondays of the month

Ruddington Card Making & Craft Group – 10am to 12 noon at St Peter's Rooms. Tuition, most materials and refreshments included for £3.50 fee. Newcomers welcome, no experience is necessary.

First & fourth Mondays of the month

Heat'n' Eat – 12.30pm to 2pm at St Peter's

Church. Two course hot meal with soft drink. £1 per person. Booking essential, via Eventbrite Heat n Eat Ruddington. Email ruddoffice@gmail.com if you have any dietary requirements.

Third Monday of the month

U3A General Meeting – 2pm at the Methodist Church. Speaker, information about interest groups and a cuppa.

Every Tuesday

Swing into Shape – 60+ class, 11am to 11:45am at the Village Hall, Wilford Road.

Ruddington Community Choir – 8pm to 9.30pm at the Methodist Church.

Alternate Tuesdays

Ruddington Library (termtime only) – 10:30am to 11am. Under 5s activities: Rattle Roll & Rhyme, Storytime & Craft.

Every Wednesday

Coffee Club – 10 am to 12 noon at St Peter's Rooms. For over 55s.

The Ruddington Pantry – 12:30pm to 1pm at St Peter's Rooms.

Renew Café – 2:30pm to 4pm at The Hub, 62 Musters Road. Arts, crafts and games.

Ruddington Shotokan Karate Club – 5:30pm to 7:45pm Ruddington Village Hall, Wilford Road. Come and see us for a chat or have a go; first lesson free. Contact 07986 858 608 or email SenseiRSKC@outlook.com.

Easy Living Yoga – 6.30pm to 7.30pm at the studio above Unit D, Compound Strength & Conditioning. £10 per class or £40 for a 5 class pass. 20% discount for gym members. Accessible to all. Book online at <https://easylivingyoga.setmore.com>.

Every other Wednesday

Bloomin Dementia – Music in Mind by The Joyful Jukebox. 10:30am to 12 noon at the Village Hall. Singing & dancing. Free.

Second Wednesday of the month

Women's Institute – 7:15pm at St Peter's Rooms. **10th Jan: 'Qigong' – Caroline Chandler.**

Last Wednesday of the month

Ruddington Gardener's Association – 7pm at The Hermitage. **31st Jan: A Peep At My Plot with members' photographs**

Every Thursday

Coffee Morning – Ruddington Library 10:30am to 12noon (small donations for refreshments).

After School Drop In – Ruddington Library (term time only.) 3:45pm to 5pm.

Youth Work Sessions (term time only) – 6:15pm to 8:15pm at The Village Hall. For Year 6 pupils. 50p per session. Sports / games, arts & crafts, cooking. For more info, please visit www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/youthservice.

Every other Thursday

Framework Church - 11am to 12:30pm in the Chapel at the Framework Knitters' Museum. A relaxed and informal group meeting.

First Thursday of the month

Hearing Aid Clinic – 10am to 11am at St Peter's Rooms in the Committee Room. Visit the website at www.hearttogether.org.uk for more info. **4th January 2024, 1st February.**

Third Thursday of the month

Ruddington Rhythm – 8 pm, The Cottage Hotel, Easthorpe Street. All styles of music. £3 entry. Free raffle. Contact Ron on 07850 770 477 for more info.

Alternate Fridays

Ruddington Library at 2pm - Ruddington Writers (contact Trevor Jones); Crafty Chatter (Bring your own projects – small donation for refreshments.)

Every Saturday

Methodist Coffee Morning – 10:30am to 12 noon.

Soccer Schools - 11am to 12 noon at Jubilee Playing Fields. Open to all children in Reception and Year 1. First session FREE for new players then £5 per session. Run by Ruddington Village FC in association with Score Football Coaching.

Second Saturday of the month

Rushcliffe Wildlife Watch – 11am to 1pm, meet outside Education Room, Rushcliffe Country Park. Sessions cost £2-£3. Email rushcliffewatch@nottsswt.co.uk for details

Alternate Saturdays

Family Lego Club – 10:30am to 12 noon at the library.

Every Sunday

Ruddington Shotokan Karate Club – 10.30am to 12 noon at Ruddington Village Hall, Wilford Road. Come and see us for a chat or have a go; first lesson free. Contact 07986 858 608 or email SenseiRSKC@outlook.com.

The Ruddington Pantry – 4pm to 4:30pm at St Peter's Rooms.

Spiritual Light Centre – 6:30pm to 8pm at St Peter's Rooms, Church Street. Divine service with a visiting medium. Healing during service. Refreshments afterwards.

First Sunday of the Month

Coffee & Cake – 10:30am to 12 noon, St Peter's Rooms. Call Sylvia & Derek Sanderson on 0115 984 3523 for more details.

Bravo to the Breakers!

A popular Ruddington inn has beaten off some stiff competition to win this year's vote as the 'Best Pub in Rushcliffe'.



The annual awards are run by Rushcliffe MP, Ruth Edwards, who again conducted a public poll on her website before announcing the results to celebrate Small Business Saturday.

Having come second in 2022, this year The Frame Breakers on High Street triumphed over runners-up, The Bull's Head in East Leake and The Air Hostess in Tollerton, as Ruth's constituency's very best public house. Sophia's in Keyworth won the accolade of Rushcliffe's best independent shop for 2023.

Our MP revealed: "This year's competition was bigger than ever and goes to show how much these small businesses, which have all been voted for by you, mean to people all across Rushcliffe."

Ruth called into the pub personally during a visit to Ruddington Village Christmas Market to present the winner's certificate to The Frame Breakers' owner, John Noble, and

manager, Dave Frankie, who've also received praise for their humanitarian aid trips to war-torn Ukraine.

John said: "We'd like to thank all our customers who voted for us to allow us to win this prestigious title. We couldn't do this without you. Thank you so much for your continued support and custom, week in and week out.

"We'd also like to acknowledge all the pubs in Rushcliffe and all they do to help keep our industry alive! Rushcliffe certainly does have some fantastic venues."

John concluded: "Ruddington is such an amazing village and I'm so grateful to be part of it. It's definitely the place to be!"

Graham Wright via RUDDINGTON.info

Slimmers lose 306 stone

Altogether, the members of the Ruddington Slimming World groups are now 306 stone lighter than they were a year ago.

Members, who attend the group every week, follow Slimming World's Food Optimising Eating Plan created by the organisation's team of expert nutritionists. This encourages them to fill up on satisfying foods such as pasta, rice, potatoes, lean meat and fish, pulses, and fruit and veg.

Two female members that attend our groups have lost 11 stone and 9 stone respectively, whilst two male members have lost 5 stone each.

One of them said: "Filling up on lots of satisfying foods means you're never hungry, so I've never felt as though I was on a diet. Before I joined Slimming World, I thought losing weight meant going to the gym and counting calories. But now, I know it's about making healthier choices about food and becoming a bit more active."

"Reaching this milestone as a group just proves the huge changes we've all made to our lives, whilst for some people who've lost big amounts of weight, it may have even saved their lives."

"It's brilliant to celebrate together as well, because that's how we've been losing weight – together. Every week, we support and encourage each other and share tips and recipes, and on top of that, we have a lot of fun."

"The support and inspiration we get from our Consultant, Yvonne, has also been integral to our success. She's lost 10 stone herself and understands the ups and downs of slimming, so she can offer us help and advice based on her own experience. Without her, I don't think we'd have achieved nearly as much."

Yvonne said: "I'm delighted my members have lost weight so beautifully. It's made a big difference to their lives and to their whole families' lives, and all of them are happier and healthier now. I just want to help people make real changes for life –

there's no better job satisfaction than that!"

Yvonne Tompkin

Editor's note:

You can find out more about Yvonne's weight loss journey and the Ruddington Slimming World groups at www.slimmingworld.co.uk/group/350201.

Co-op Local Community Fund cheque presentation

The three beneficiaries of the 2022-2023 Local Community Fund have now received their money, courtesy of donations from Co-op members shopping at the Ruddington Co-op



They were Ruddington & District U3A, The Ruddington Pantry and 1st Clifton Scout Group, all pictured above.

Please see our article in the December edition of The Rudd for more details about this year's beneficiaries and how to become a Co-op member so you can donate every time you shop.

Or, sign up online and select your chosen beneficiaries now at <https://coop.co.uk/membership>.

With thanks to Graham Wright, via RUDDINGTON.info

Green light for £4 billion East Midlands devolution deal

Residents across Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham will get the chance to vote for the first-ever East Midlands Mayor in May 2024, after councils gave the go-ahead to devolution for the region.

In a meeting held on 7th December 2023, Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council each approved plans to create the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA), which will come into existence next spring.

The four councils also agreed to the drawing up of new legal regulations needed to create this new authority.

EMCCA is set to bring in around £4 billion of funding for the region, alongside devolved powers for transport, skills and adult education, housing, the environment and economic development.

Ben Bradley MP, Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council said: "I'm proud we've taken this final and definitive step to bring the necessary powers and funds needed to improve the lives of the people of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

"Devolved powers will result in better life outcomes for everyone: more investment in skills and jobs, and more control to deliver improved public

transport.

"It will give the East Midlands a platform and powers to bring lasting benefits and change lives for generations."

Plans for East Midlands devolution are similar to those already in place in other mayoral regions, like the West Midlands and Greater Manchester.

The East Midlands devolution deal, agreed with Government ministers last summer, will see Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham benefit from a £1.14 billion investment fund.

Other areas with devolution deals have been able to make their funding go even further and have greater impact by leveraging significant private sector investment.

A public consultation on East Midlands devolution, carried out between November 2022 and January 2023, showed strong support for the plans among local residents, businesses and community groups.

In October 2023, the Government announced around £1.5 billion in transport funding for the East Midlands Mayor.

Thanks to devolution plans, the East Midlands has also been invited to establish an 'Investment Zone', which will attract £160 million of support over 10 years, with tax incentives for businesses that will help boost

economic growth right across the region.

It's estimated that the East Midlands Investment Zone will also unlock hundreds of millions of pounds in private investment, potentially creating thousands of jobs.

The Government will continue to work with the EMCCA and other partners to co-develop the plans for the East Midlands Investment Zone, including priority development sites and specific interventions to drive cluster growth, ahead of final confirmation of the plans.

£18 million has already been awarded to the area during devolution negotiations, which is being spent on improving local housing, transport and skills provision.

Further investment for the region would also be provided through annual Whitehall budgets and spending reviews.

The Government now needs to take the proposed EMCCA deal before Parliament, as this is the first of a new type of combined authority and therefore requires new legislation.

If this is passed in the coming weeks, it will come into force by March 2024 – meaning the EMCCA will officially come into existence.

The inaugural election for the first East Midlands Mayor will take place on 2nd May 2024.

Online bootcamp for new businesses

Are you looking to start your own business?

The Nottinghamshire Start-Up Bootcamp can help you transform your idea into a business.

The workshops are each led by an experienced business trainer, who'll guide you through the nuts and bolts of starting and running a successful business.

The two-day online workshop has dates available each month, running until March 2024.

To access this programme, please register your interest by emailing enquiries@nbv.co.uk or calling 0844 887 2568.

To book a place online, please visit the NBV website at <https://nbv.co.uk/training-and-events/>.

The project is funded by the UK government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and delivered locally by NBV Enterprise Solutions.

Ruddington Pantry update

During November 2023, the Pantry received 742.1kg of donations.

734.4kg were redistributed to 854 people locally and 7.7kg were disposed of.

A total of 14.80 tonnes has been diverted from landfill to date.

Free Business Accelerator support programme



Businesses across the Borough can benefit from a new Rushcliffe Accelerator project that provides them with free access to support such as 1-2-1 mentoring, training workshops and grant guidance.

Rushcliffe Accelerator is funded by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and East Midlands Chamber.

It signals a new era of local, place-based support for businesses in Rushcliffe and will help local businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, as well as invest in Research & Development and take steps to decarbonise.

The Rushcliffe Accelerator business support programme is delivered by East Midlands Chamber and offers:

- Training, including action planning workshops, and webinars in areas such as finance, HR and digital.
- Access to finance, including support with grant funding applications and growth vouchers for specialised consultancy and training.

- Continuation of support from the Rushcliffe Digital High Street Programme. This offers high street businesses advice from a business adviser on how to increase footfall, attract new customers, and access workshops on topics such as e-commerce, using social media as an online shopfront, and improving customer journeys through social content.

- A team of locally based advisers and specialists, employed by the Chamber, who'll offer high-intensity growth implementation support to businesses to create new jobs or exploit technology to improve performance. Diagnostics will be assessed, and a Business Action Plan produced, through the Balanced Scorecard strategic management system model.

Rushcliffe Borough Council Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Business and Growth, Cllr Abby Brennan, said: "We're excited to continue to work with East Midlands Chamber on this new accelerator programme, which provides a wide range of support helping businesses to start, sustain, grow and innovate.

"Businesses can find out more and sign up online at the D2N2 Growth Hub website:

[www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/managing-people/developing-skills/financing-training-skills-development/rushcliffe-accelerator/.](http://www.d2n2growthhub.co.uk/grow/managing-people/developing-skills/financing-training-skills-development/rushcliffe-accelerator/)"

Main building work completed on new heritage railway carriage shed

Last push to raise the remaining funds

A brand new railway carriage shed has been built at the Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre, protecting priceless heritage for the future.

Contractors have been working at the Ruddington site since September 2023 and have now completed the main structure (pictured opposite whilst under construction). The remaining work to lay a polished concrete floor is expected to take place early in 2024.

Andy Fillingham from Great Central Railway (Nottingham) said: "The new building is looking very smart. We've worked with two local companies, Intelligent Fabrications and Now Build, and the team has kept the project on time despite the storms in October.

"With sidings laid inside the building, it won't be long before we're better able to protect passenger carriages from the weather and vandalism."

£40,000 of grant funding has been awarded to Great Central Railway (Nottingham) Ltd (GCRN) from Rushcliffe Borough Council.

It comes from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF), part of the UK Government's Levelling Up agenda to provide funding for local investment. Additional funds came from two

supporting charities: the East Midlands Railway Trust and the LNER (GC) Heritage Trust.

Andy Fillingham added: "Before we can fully commission the building, we need to raise additional funds to install a roller shutter door and electrics inside the new building.

"We've already raised £9,000 from supporters, so we're over halfway to the target. We're grateful to have had support from so many people."



When the concrete floor is installed, the building can also be used as a venue to expand the popular range of events that already take place at the Nottingham Transport Heritage Centre. It will be a key asset for the heritage line when this is reconnected to the other half of the Great Central Railway in Leicestershire.

Donations to the Carriage Shed fund can be made online at <http://Inergctrust.org>, which is the website of LNER GC Heritage Trust, a charity supporting the Great Central Railway (Nottingham).

Local scheme of validation – have your say



Rushcliffe Borough Council has reviewed its local scheme of validation for planning applications, which sets out what's needed to accompany planning applications when they're submitted.

All Councils are required to produce a local list of requirements, to support the national requirements which are mandatory for all applications. The local requirements list supporting information which the Council considers necessary to allow it to properly consider a proposal and reach a speedy decision.

The list will tell service users like agents, developers and applicants what's required for each type of planning application, from a simple house extension to a large development of several hundred houses, or a major industrial or retail unit.

As part of the adoption process, the Council must carry out a period of consultation, which is now open until **Wednesday 17th January 2024**.

You can find out more at <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/about-us/about-the-council/policies-strategies-and-other-documents/accessible-documents/local-scheme-of-validation/> and have your say by emailing planningandgrowth@rushcliffe.gov.uk.

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