Pride of Gedling Awards



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Gedlin **Borough Council**

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2020

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Award

Gwen Woolley

Gedling X

4 Winter 2020

Serving people Improving

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Leader's column

Welcome to the winter edition of Contacts. In this issue, we have highlights from our Pride of Gedling Awards that recognises the very best residents and businesses in our community. The 2020 awards were very different to our normal, glamorous event at the civic centre but the nominations were as strong as ever. We held the event online and, thanks to the power of technology, we were able to have an event which reached more people than ever. The awards were due to take place in March, but the pandemic halted our plans. It was great to be able to have the awards 'virtually' and I was delighted to award Mick Garton with the Lifetime Achievement Award, he has worked tirelessly for his community for over 20 years and was a deserving winner. You can read more about our winners on pages 14-19.

As we sent this magazine to print, we were half way through a second national lockdown and I really hope that by the time you are reading this, we are now out of lockdown and the rates of infection are continuing to decrease. We are not out of the woods just yet and I urge everyone to continue to follow the rules and remember, wash your hands, stay two metres apart and wear a mask. If we all do this, we will continue to reduce the rates of infection. There's more information about the coronavirus support available to residents and businesses on page 5.

I wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and let's hope that the new year brings us some brighter news.



Councillor John Clarke is the Leader of Gedling Borough Council. You can contact him in writing at the Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU or by emailing cllr.john.clarke@gedling.gov.uk

*Please note all information in this issue was correct at the time of writing but may be subject to change

Cabinet Members



Cllr John Clarke Leader of the Council



Cllr David Ellis Responsible for Public Protection



Clir Henry Wheeler Responsible for Housing, Health and Well-being



Cllr Gary Gregory Responsible for Community Development



Cllr Michael Payne Deputy Leader Responsible for Resources and Reputation



Cllr Jenny Hollingsworth Responsible for Growth and Regeneration



Clir Peter Barnes Responsible for Environment



Cllr Viv McCrossen Responsible for Young People and Equalities

For a full list of the Cabinet's responsibilities visit www.gedling.gov.uk/councillorsmeetings

Christmas him bin collection changes

If your bin is due to be collected on any of these Christmas dates please make sure it's put out before 6am. We will take a maximum of 2 extra bags of black bin waste over the festive period between 28th Dec - 8th Jan and if you have extra recycling, please leave it in cardboard boxes next to your bin.

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Sign up for bin reminder emails at www.gedling.gov.uk/reminder

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FEEDING GEDLING FUND

HELPING TO TACKLE CHILD HUNGER

£10,000 raised for Feeding Gedling fundraising campaign

We're supporting the campaign spearheaded by footballer Marcus Rashford to provide food to families over school holidays.

The council is backing the Manchester United and England striker's campaign to provide meals to young children during half term who would normally receive free school meals.

The campaign has been backed by Arnold Foodbank and the charity, HOPE Nottingham, who manage several foodbanks in the area.

The council set up a fundraising page, with the aim of raising £10,000 to help provide meals and support families during school breaks, including the upcoming Christmas holiday. Councillors kick started the appeal by providing \pounds 4,350 to help reach the target as quickly as possible.

The money, raised in just a matter of days, has already gone on to help provide meals for a number of families in need who have contacted the council.

In Gedling, over 2,500 school children are eligible for free school meals. Any families who are currently receiving free school meals and need some support can call the council on 0115 901 3901 and they can organise for the delivery and or collection of food from their nearest foodbank.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

At the time of going to print, we are currently in the National Lockdown that is due to end at the beginning of December. Due to the changing nature of the restrictions and tiers, this may have changed since we went to print so please check our website if you want to know about the latest restrictions. There are a number of support mechanisms in place to help residents and businesses during the pandemic.

TEST AND TRACE SUPPORT PAYMENTS

As part of its response to Covid-19 the Government has introduced the Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme, designed to relieve some financial pressure to those on low incomes who cannot work from home and who have tested positive for Covid-19. You can apply for a Test and Trace Support Payment of £500 if you are in receipt of benefits or can show that you are in financial difficulties due to self-isolating. Visit our website **www.gedling.gov.uk/coronavirus** for details.

BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Government has announced a second wave of Business Support to provide cash grants for businesses that have been affected when entering Tier 2, Tier 3 and National Lockdown restrictions. For information about all of the financial support available to businesses, visit

www.gedling.gov.uk/support-business



MOBILE TESTING UNITS

Covid-19 Mobile Testing Units (MTUs) have been deployed at Richard Herrod Centre in Carlton, and at the Druid's Car Park in Arnold as part of or work to make it easier to be tested. Plans are in place to create more long term units, please check our coronavirus pages online for the latest information. At the time of going to print, the government had announced plans for mass testing in Nottinghamshire but details had not been published.



CCTV upgrade for busy Mapperley road

Four CCTV cameras across Plains Road, Mapperley, have been upgraded after Gedling Borough Council invested £17,240 replacing old equipment with new digital cameras, all of which are monitored and operated from the council's CCTV room in partnership with Nottinghamshire Police.

The upgraded cameras provide a much clearer image than the previous equipment, which had been in place for a number of years.

Over recent years, the face of Mapperley Plains has changed significantly, as more businesses have opened and the hospitality and nightlife economy of the area has increased, with a number of bars, restaurants and takeaways spread out across the area.

The cameras, which help detect, deter and prevent crime, also assist officers in supporting communities with safety matters and offer reassurance to businesses, workers and visitors.

COVID MARSHALS SUPPORTING THE BOROUGH

Covid Marshals have started patrols across the borough, providing support and advice for residents and businesses and helping with any enquiries or concerns they may have.

The marshals with be following their three E's – engage, explain and encourage. They will offer advice on best practice and will be working to provide communities with regular updates on government legislation. They will be operating in the borough's high streets, parks and open spaces. They will have the powers to issue on the spot fixed penalty notices to people who actively and repeatedly do not follow the government guidance.

Marshals will also be working with businesses to ensure track and trace QR codes are in place where needed and that appropriate social distancing and health and safety regulations are being followed.



Giving for Gedling

Giving for Gedling is a scheme set up by the council to support vulnerable people during the coronavirus outbreak, coordinate offers for help from volunteers and communities, and to act as a directory for services in the borough.

A webpage has been set up to promote ways residents and businesses can contact the council for assistance, apply for funding grants and sign up to volunteer programs, as well as providing useful links to community groups, mental health support and educational resources. The webpage, which is updated regularly with new information as the schemes evolve, aims to signpost users to the local support available at a time when many businesses and charities are operating in a reduced capacity or offering limited services.

To find out more about the scheme, to register your interest in volunteering or to request additional support such as getting essential supplies, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/givingforgedling or call 0300 500 80 80



Sign up to be an NHS Volunteer Responder

The NHS Volunteer Responders scheme, set up to assist vulnerable people affected by Covid-19, is seeking new members in parts of England, including here in Gedling Borough.

Running alongside existing local volunteer networks, responders are there to help local communities and vulnerable residents as well as supporting anyone who needs to self-isolate as a result of the virus. They deliver food, medication and other essentials to people's homes, and also support NHS organisations with goods deliveries.

The programme has so far supported 800,000 requests for help through the generosity of 360,000 volunteers all across the UK.

The app-based scheme enables volunteers



to mark themselves on or off duty depending on their availability, making it easy to fit volunteering around other commitments.

For more information and to sign up go to www.nhsvolunteerresponders.org.uk/l-want-to-volunteer

Gedling Lotto update

The first draw of our community lotto took place in September and it now has over 350 players and is raising over £16,000 per year for local good causes.

The Gedling Lotto has already had hundreds of winners and is now supporting over 40 local causes. In November, it had its first £250 winner after a lucky player chose four correct numbers. Players can win a jackpot of up to £25,000.

Set up to support community projects in the local area, Gedling Lotto operates on the principle of raising money within the community for the community. We empower local good causes to raise money in a fun and effective way.

In a time of shrinking budgets and increased community need, Gedling Lotto enables people to support the causes they care most about, helping good causes to connect with their supporters.

A ticket for Gedling Lotto costs £1 per week and 60p will go directly to good causes!

If you are a good cause and want to raise funds or if you want to play the lotto visit www.gedlinglotto.co.uk



New outdoor seating area at Gedling Country Park

A new outdoor seating area has been installed at Gedling Country Park following feedback from customers.

The area is available to all visitors to the park and the café to use and pets are welcome in the new outdoor area too.

The area can accommodate up to 36 people but due to the coronavirus pandemic, this is limited to 18 people in line with social distancing measures. The seating area also features a new raised decking area with handrails.

The site was developed by Broxap Ltd and took around four weeks to complete.

The seating area cost \pounds 107,000 and is fully funded by contributions from nearby developers through Section 106 contributions.

The park has had a number of new investments including, most recently, the installation of two new viewing platforms on the north and south of the park that boasts views of Lincoln Cathedral, St Mary Magdalene Church in Newark, Gunthorpe Lock, and Belvoir Castle. It also opened a new 100-space car park doubling the capacity of the parking area.





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Four council parks win Green Flag Awards

Gedling to

Gedling Country Park, Arnot Hill Park, Burton Road Jubilee Park and for the first time, Bestwood Country Park, joined a record number of parks and green spaces collecting a Green Flag Award in 2020.

Arnot Hill Park retains the award for the 14th consecutive year and Gedling Country Park for the 5th year in a row. Burton Road Jubilee Park received the award for the 6th time and Bestwood Country Park has received the award for the 1st time since the management of the park was taken over by Gedling Borough Council.

The Green Flag Award scheme, managed by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for their management across the United Kingdom and around the world. Keep Britain Tidy Chief Executive Allison Ogden-Newton OBE said;

"This year, more than ever, our parks and green spaces have been a lifeline and we know that millions of people have used them to relax, meet friends, exercise or simply escape for a short time. It is testament to the incredible dedication and hard work of parks staff and volunteers that, despite the challenges that went along with record numbers of visitors, Gedling Borough Council has achieved the highest international standards for four of their parks, demanded by the Green Flag Award."

The four parks in Gedling Borough join over 2,000 sites across the country in collecting the award for 2020.

For more information about our parks visit www.gedling.gov.uk and search 'parks'.

Selective Licensing

The council has launched a consultation to expand a scheme that gives them powers to make privately rented homes better for people to live in. The scheme, known as Selective Licensing, makes it mandatory for landlords to have licences for each of their private rented properties. The scheme was successfully piloted in Netherfield and the consultation is asking for views to expand it to Colwick, Carlton Hill, Daybrook and Newstead Village.

The licence requires that landlords meet a minimum standard of accommodation for residents. The council will work with landlords and residents to improve properties but where necessary use the licensing conditions and enforcement powers to bring about improvements.

Selective Licensing can be applied in areas where there is deprivation, high levels of antisocial behaviour, crime and poor housing conditions. The licensing will give the council's Environmental Health team powers to do more when landlords are not taking steps to deal with issues relating to property standards.

The Netherfield pilot scheme was a success with 662 landlords applying for a licence. Over 86% of properties inspected by the council were found to contain hazards that required work to protect the health and safety of the tenant. 32 properties inspected had imminent hazards around areas such as fire safety and inadequate fire protection or detection, which all required immediate action. The scheme also improved partnership working with Gedling Borough Council and Nottinghamshire Police

to reduce anti-social behaviour and make residents feel safer where they live. Two landlords received civil penalty notices for failing to apply for a licence.

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Consultation on the new scheme runs until January 2021 and, if approved, would not start until mid 2021, though this could be affected by the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Landlords and residents can have their say by visiting www.gedling.gov.uk/haveyoursay





£74,000 improvements for Carlton park

Onchan Park will have a host of new equipment thanks to external funding.

Refurbishments include a brand new multi-use games area, suitable for playing football, basketball and cricket, table tennis tables, new floor surfacing, an additional entrance from Onchan Avenue and an improved footpath suitable for disabled park users and pushchairs to give access to the new facilities.

Improvements can be made thanks to £74,450 grant funding from FCC Communities foundation, a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by waste and resource management company FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund.

The funding bid was made jointly by Gedling Borough Council and The Friends of Onchan Park, a local residents' community group who help look after the park. The local community were also involved in consultation on how the park will be managed. Works are planned to begin in December 2020 with the park expected to open in February 2021. Ambitious plans for former mineral line

The council is looking into ambitious plans to turn an old railway line in Netherfield into a cycling, walking and tram route. A new 3.5 kilometre greenway from Netherfield to Gedling Country Park could be created on the former railway mineral line near Netherfield, having been designated a potential cycle and walking route in the council's development plan.

Support from partners at Nottinghamshire County Council, Network Rail and Nottingham City Council would be needed, but a feasibility study suggests that there are many positives for residents if the route was to be created. The route could benefit residents' health and well being and improve connectivity within the borough and the city whilst reducing car traffic. The greenway would connect six existing parks and open spaces along the route to create a green network between Gedling Country Park and Netherfield.

The study also highlighted the potential for a tram extension next to the route, which could see transport links improved further but these proposals are part of a separate study and would need input from Nottingham City Council who are responsible for tram delivery across the Nottingham area.

The mineral line is also historically significant and would be used to highlight the borough's rich heritage including its links with the former Gedling Colliery, now the council's flagship Gedling Country Park.

Officers from Gedling Borough Council will continue to work with partners from Nottinghamshire County Council, Network Rail and Nottingham City Council to provide more details about a design, consult with residents and prepare a business plan for the project.

Gedling Access Road: Works accelerate through 2020



From excavating and moving almost 120 Olympicsized swimming pools worth of earth to protecting the habitats of a number of species, works on the Gedling Access Road (GAR) have accelerated through 2020.

On 6 January 2020, works on constructing the site compound began and almost 12 months later, the project is well and truly 'on the road' to its completion in Autumn 2021.

Since starting, excavation works off Lambley Lane have seen a whopping 300,000 cubic metres of earth moved north-west to Mapperley Plains where a bank is being constructed, new highways drains have been installed to move surface water into nearby lagoons and the River Trent and a new traffic signal-controlled junction has been completed where Burton Road meets the A612.

New highways drains have also been installed to drain surface water into nearby lagoons and the River Trent once the road opens, but perhaps the most visible success is the works on the new traffic signal controlled junction for the Gedling Access Road where Burton Road meets the A612. The new junction is now in its final stages, with resurfacing works and the installation of the new permanent signals currently taking place on site.

The GAR team recently completed a conservation exercise to trap and safely move Great Crested Newts to help create safer and more sustainable habitats and while you might think that a project of this kind is just about constructing a new road, there are also a number of ecological and environmental benefits to the local area.

Ecological considerations include the construction of amphibian tunnels, a new bat house at Glebe Farm, bat 'hop overs' and badger fencing.

It's not just motorists who will benefit once the construction is complete, as there will be a threemetre-wide pedestrian and cycle path along the whole length of the route to encourage sustainable transport in the area and special provisions are also being made to ensure that there is easy access to Gedling Country Park. So, what's in store as we look towards 2021? You can expect to see kerbs taking shape along the route, as well as the construction of three new roundabouts and surfacing.

Thank you to all residents surrounding the construction sites and motorists who have been travelling through the area for their continued patience and understanding.



Campaign to make our schools plastic clever

Two environmental campaigners from our borough, Amy and Ella Meek aka Kids Against Plastic are launching a new initiative to reduce plastics in Nottinghamshire schools.

Gedling Borough Council has been working with Amy and Ella as part of our commitment to become a Plastic Clever Council, and they have asked for our support to help spread the word of this child-led campaign and encourage parents and pupils to ask their schools to sign up to this great initiative and work towards achieving Plastic Clever School status.

On registration, schools will be given free resources, including posters, worksheets and digital content that will guide them to success. Schools will also receive a certificate, celebration poster and a signed book from the Meek sisters once they have reduced their use of single-use plastics and become a plastic clever school.

The scheme is completely free and any schools who want to take part can register by visiting www.kidsagainstplastic.co.uk/do/plasticcleverschools



Pride of Gedling Awards 2020



At the beginning of November, we held our first ever 'virtual' Pride of Gedling Awards.

The awards were due to be held at the council's civic centre in March but were postponed due to the ongoing pandemic. Instead, we decided to arrange for the awards to be presented online and we invited all of the nominees and sponsors to attend virtually. The show was also streamed on our council Facebook page which, at the time of print, had been viewed over 2,500 times.

The nominees for this year's awards have all improved the lives of individuals in their communities or have gone above and beyond their duties in their professions. Any community is about the people who make it and through these awards, we honour those individuals and groups who make Gedling Borough such a special place to live.

Over the next few pages, we are very pleased to reveal the winners of this year's Pride of Gedling Awards alongside information about why they were chosen.

You can find out more about the awards and watch the show in full by visiting

www.prideofgedling.co.uk



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

If you would like to support next year's awards and become one of the award sponsors, email advertising@gedling.gov.uk



AWARD SPONSORED BY KEEPMOAT HOMES



AWARD SPONSORED BY FRANK KEY

Business in the Community Winner

Gedling Road Co-operative

Over the last four years, Gedling Road Co-operative have supported several community projects and contributed over £15,000 towards Gedling Country Park.

The Friends of Gedling County Park have successfully applied to them for several fundraising initiatives including the new environmental trail, which includes rare indigenous trees and artwork that is a great walk away from the beaten track for park visitors. The funding has also supported the new nature trail, which gives young people the opportunity to walk around the park and find the several wooden animal sculptures to help them learn about the wildlife and eco system in the park.

The Co-operative has also supported many community groups across the borough and have donated thousands to local charities as well as donating gifts to children at the QMC hospital over the Christmas period.

Runners up - Lesley Greaves Estate Agents and BKS Martial Arts



Mick Ball

Mick is lovingly known as the Rocket Man at Gedling Play Forum. For the last 16 years, he has volunteered there between two and four days a week, helping young people with a host of craft activities, most notably, his renowned rocket making sessions.

Mick, who is the vice-chair of the forum, also takes part in a number of other duties at the centre, including making contacts with suppliers, collecting resources, gardening, preparing activities and supporting other volunteers with his vast array of experience.

His enthusiasm and love for this role is very clear. He loves the challenge and does not flinch at getting involved in every aspect of the job. He is an amazing man who never stops giving back to his local community.

Runners up Sarah & Andy Musson and Ann Whitfield



The Environmental Hero **Winner**

Kirsty Oswell

We are all getting better at being more sustainable and then there is Kirsty. Over the last two years, she has transformed how Richard Bonington School recycles. Her passion for recycling has improved the recycling rates and reduced the residual waste by 25%.

Kirsty has listened to the concerns of the school children and helped them to recycle and has inspired them to make a real difference.

Kirsty's work is changing how families with children at the school recycle, even some of the staff have are now better educated about what can or cannot go in the recycling.

At a time when it is imperative that we do more to protect our planet, Kirsty is a leading light and her contribution to raising awareness of climate change is invaluable.

Runners up - Madeleine Wells and Pete Smith



AWARD SPONSORED BY GEDLING EYE

Winner

Young Person Wi

Dylan Barker

Benjamin Neal

What should have been a family day out turned into a matter of life and death for this young hero. Benjamin was on his way to Thorpe Park with his parents when a car in front of them stopped on the M25. An 86 year old man was having a heart attack. The Police had arrived but that did not stop Benjamin, a trained First Aider, from taking action. He carried out CPR on the gentleman and help support the Police to use a defibrillator.

Benjamin's courage and calmness during a very dramatic moment was exceptional. He learnt his training as a Nottingham Sea Cadet and he is also a member of St Johns Ambulance where he volunteers regularly on weekends to help others.

This truly heroic act to help someone in need is something that Benjamin and his parents should be very proud of and he is an inspiration to young people.

Special Judges Award - Danny Andrews-Duggins Runners up - Cullen Morathorta, Adam Ali and Olivia Lowe



Heritage Brought Alive

Putting together the entire history and heritage of a borough is not an easy task. Where to start? Well that's exactly what this group of volunteers had to do when they agreed to steer this project to bring alive the heritage of Gedling Borough.

Their dedication, enthusiasm and leadership abilities, as well as countless hours of their own time, ensured that the project was a great success. They produced a booklet, video, website, tourism leaflet, heritage festival as well as several walks, talks and film showings attended by over 1,000 people.

This project has raised awareness of the rich heritage of Gedling and will have a direct contribution to an increase in visitors to the area. These volunteers truly demonstrated what it means to sacrifice their time and skills for the benefit of others, without any thought of financial gain.

Special Judges Awards - The Village Lunch and Arnold Foodbank

Inspirational Healthy Lifestyle Winner

Joseph and Cath Warren from Breathe Easy Gedling

Joseph and Cath Warren have worked very hard to help and support people with lung conditions through the Breathe Easy support group in Arnold. They help arrange meetings and outings for members and the group is getting stronger due to their determination and hard work.

This year, the Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Sandra Barnes recognised the importance of their work by choosing them as one of her chosen charities whist fundraising across the borough.

Despite his own health issues, Joseph has shown true determination to help others and with over 30 attending each meeting, held at the Arnold Methodist Church, the work of this fantastic couple is making a real difference to people's health and improving their quality of life.

Runners up Margaret Hilton and Gedling Park Run





AWARD SPONSORED BY KEEPMOAT HOMES

Overall Pride of Gedling Winner

Gwen Woolley

This award is given to someone who has gone above and beyond for people in their community and has stood out from all of the exceptional nominations we have already seen, showing that they are indeed the Pride of Gedling.

This year's Pride of Gedling winner, Gwen Woolley, has been a part of many different organisations over the last 30 years, mainly Carlton Silver Band (which successively became Carlton Brass Band, Carlton Brass Training Band now under the name of Burton Joyce Community Brass).

She has taught hundreds of people, young and old, to play both brass and woodwind instruments, from recorders and clarinets to cornets and basses, providing tuition at no financial reward to herself, purely for the joy of seeing them progress and gain confidence in their playing.

In the early '90s she first became part of Carlton Silver Band, when her daughter Susan wanted to learn to play. She taught Susan to play the cornet and her daughter says 'without my Mum's tuition, patience and knowledge I wouldn't be a brass teacher with Inspire today."

She fell in love with teaching and decided to continue her studies and took up musical training at Clarendon College.

Currently she takes pupils from 3 years to 90 years old, and always successfully teaches them how to play a note and progresses them towards their own personal goals.

She also volunteers for other organisations, playing the piano at the U3A as well as helping out with meeting and events, the Netherfield Walking Group and is Membership Secretary of the Netherfield and Colwick Senior Citizens' Club and more.

Congratulations to Gwen on winning this year's Overall Pride of Gedling Award sponsored by Keepmoat Homes.

Mick Garton

This year's lifetime achievement award was given to someone who has invested over 20 years into his local community through football. Mick Garton is the Chairman of Carlton Town Football Club and his work for the club, the local community and local businesses was recognised at the awards.

The Leader of Gedling Borough Council, Councillor John Clarke introduced the award and it was supported by endorsements from the Carlton Town Football Manager, Tommy Brookbanks and club president Roger Smith, who both sent in videos to congratulate Mick on receiving this prestigious award.

Mick has proudly held the role of Chairman at Carlton Football Club for nearly 20 years. When he joined, he quickly made his mark, changing the name from Sneinton Football Club to Carlton Town to recognise the club's location in the borough. He has helped the club win several promotions and trophies throughout his time as chairman and, despite the devastating effect of COVID on the club, his enthusiasm has not dropped to keep the club progressing.

Mick commented on the Carlton Town Football Club website about winning the award saying:

"To take my place alongside some fantastic people who won awards on the night is something I am very proud of.

A football club of our standing desperately needs a local council who get our role in the community and this Council certainly does that and their support particularly during this awful pandemic has been vital to helping ensure we have a future.

I would like to thank Tommy and Roger for their kind words and Council Leader John Clarke and his team for putting me forward for this award."

You can watch the awards in full by visiting www.prideofgedling.co.uk



AWARD SPONSORED BY GEDLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

Achievement

Winner

Lifetime

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Parked cars and bin collections

With many of us are spending more time at home at the moment, this also means more cars and vehicles parked on streets and side roads during the day too.

We've also seen an increase in the number of times our bin lorries can't get down roads to collect residents bins due to badly parked vehicles blocking access.

We know a lot of things are far from ideal at the moment, but by parking considerately you'll help us collect bins on the first try, causing less disruption for residents.

If you're not sure what day your bin collection is, sign up to our bin alert email reminders, sent to you the night before your collection is due www.gedling.gov.uk/reminder

Safety update for all Gedling taxis

Gedling Borough Council has introduced a new QR code security feature, on all taxi and private hire vehicle plates as well as all driver badges to make it easy to verify that licences are genuine and valid.

The QR codes, which are being rolled out across all future licence applications and renewals can be accessed using any smart phone camera which has a QR reader. The code will take the user to a secure website that will show them the vehicle and driver details, expiry date of the licence and verify the licence is valid.

The QR codes are being introduced as an added security measure, making it easier for licencing officers to check licences are valid, while offering an additional layer of peace of mind for passengers to know the vehicle and driver they are using are correctly licenced. It will also make it more difficult for taxi licences and plates to be counterfeited.



Carlton Cemetery Remembrance Garden

A new remembrance garden has opened at Carlton Cemetery, offering additional cemetery facilities for local residents to use and providing another space for contemplation.

The garden, completed in October, is now open for visitors to the cemetery on Cavendish Road, Carlton and includes a new memorial wall with paths, benches and an area for people to sit peacefully.

The garden was created by the Lindum Group, who were appointed to create a suitable design that would welcome residents coming to the cemetery to visit loved ones.

The garden cost £260,000 and is part of the council's plan to provide a sustainable remembrance garden environment that is attractive for local people to use.

It has been a challenging structural landscaping project that included dealing with a significant site slope, but a new accessible footpath to allow wheelchair use has been created.

Areas to scatter ashes have also been created, and a 'Remembrance' wall, that acts as a retainer for the positioning of 'urns of ashes' and 'memorial plaques' has been installed.

The garden will be developed further with a proposed columbarium and a remembrance tree that will allow mourners to place memorial leaves with their loved ones details on them, on the tree, as a way to remember and mark their passing.





Conservation in Bestwood and Lambley

Reviews have been carried out on conservation area appraisals for Bestwood and Lambley.

These appraisals identify the architectural and historic interests of the conservation areas and highlight the specific qualities that contribute to the need for them to be protected and enhanced.

The purpose of a conservation area is not to prevent development but instead manage any changes in a way which preserves and enhances the conservation area without harming its special character and appearance.

As part of the review, the boundaries of both conservation areas have been reassessed and a number of changes made.

The updated appraisals have been created with valuable input from Bestwood and Lambley parish councils and Lambley Local History Society and take into account comments received from the local communities as a result of a consultation carried out in July and August.

To view the updated appraisals visit www.gedling.gov.uk/conservation

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A warmer home this winter

The Warm Homes Hub offers residents of Gedling the opportunity to upgrade their heating system this winter. The Hub provides free first time gas central heating including a free connection to the gas mains if you need it. Upgrading will save you a significant amount of money on your annual heating bills plus make sure your home is always warm and cosy.

A central heating system will also provide you with instant hot water from taps in your kitchen and bathroom at all times of the day. To make sure you receive the greatest benefit from your new heating system they will also make sure your loft and walls are fully insulated – if anything needs to be topped up they will do this for you free of charge.

To apply for the scheme and for more help and tips on staying warm this winter, please visit www.warmhomeshub.com or call 0115 985 300 to speak directly to the team.



Helping everyone to have a healthier life

Gedling leisure centres closed temporarily on 5 November as part of the national lockdown. Hopefully by the time you read this, they have already re-opened.

The benefits of activity for mental health as well as physical fitness were highlighted during the Covid-19 pandemic and our leisure centres saw lots of new faces, as well as returning members, in their gyms, classes and pools when they re-opened in July.

The pool at Calverton Leisure Centre re-opened in September, following a £50,000 refurbishment of the changing rooms. There are more showers, private cubicles and new benches as well as new sinks, urinals, hand and hair dryers. The pool offered public swimming, 1-2-1 lessons, aqua aerobics and parent and toddler sessions and hope to do so again when they re-open.

Children's swimming lessons returned, with limited numbers and

safety measures in place. Watch the video for more information www.gedling.gov.uk/swimminglessons and call Arnold or Carlton Forum leisure centre to book a block of lessons when the pools are welcoming swimmers again.

We will soon be bringing Les Mills Body Pump classes to Carlton Forum, Redhill and Calverton Leisure Centres! The famous barbell, all body workout classes tone bodies without building muscle and are bound to be really popular. Visit the website when the centres have re-opened to find out when your nearest centre will be holding classes, or give them a call.

All sessions must be pre-booked via the Gedling Leisure app, online or by calling the relevant leisure centre. For more information on re-opening dates, safety measures and how to book activities, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure

Waste and Recycling

All I want for Christmas is ... for you to recycle

At Christmas we have extra waste and recycling so it's important to know what goes where. Every year we get an increase in contaminated waste, this is where a recycling bin contains waste that it shouldn't have. When this happens, the entire lorry load can be turned away from the recycling plant. So, in the tradition of Christmas, here's the naughty and nice list and yes, we will be checking it twice.

Nice list 🗸

You can recycle

- Plastic bottles without the lids
- 🖌 Cardboard
- Envelopes
- Rinsed food tins
- Drinks cans
- 🗸 Aerosol cans
- Cardboard tubes

Naughty list 🗙

You can't recycle

- X Carrier bags
- **X** Foil food trays
- Shiny and glittery wrapping paper
- **X** Bows and ribbons
- Shiny and glittery cards
- X Old toys
- **X** Polystyrene
- **X** Bubble wrap
- Dirty takeaway pizza boxes

For a full list of what's naughty and nice visit www.gedling.gov.uk/a-zwaste

Real Christmas tree collections

You can now use our Christmas tree collection service once the festivities are over. Instead of taking your tree to the tip, or trying to stuff it in your garden waste bin, for just £5 we will come and collect your tree from your home.

The service, available to all residents, will start from 6 January until 20 January. All you need to do is visit our website or call our Customer Services team and provide us with your name and address and we will give you a date to leave your tree outside (don't forget to take the decorations off) and we'll come to collect it and take it away to be recycled.

The Christmas tree collection service is subject to availability. To book, call 0115 901 3901 or visit www.gedling.gov.uk/tree-collection

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Bulky Waste Amnesty returns

The Bulky Waste Amnesty will return again this winter, with large "bulky" items collected from residents, free of charge, for a limited number of bookings.

Ordinarily in our winter issue of Contacts magazine we bring you all the details you'd need to make your booking, but things are a little different this year due to the ongoing Coronavirus pandemic. We will still be operating the free bulky collections but with ongoing local and national changes taking place at the moment, dates for running the collections are currently unclear.

As we move forwards we'll know more about when we can launch the scheme and will share this information across our social media accounts and in our latest news emails.

Sign up to our emails at

www.gedling.gov.uk/keepmeposted or follow us on social media to find out when the free collection period will take place this winter.









Affordable homes for Colwick

Work is underway on an affordable housing development in Colwick. The development, on Vale Road, will be made up of one, two and three bedroom properties, with 23 of the homes available for shared ownership and the rest as Affordable Rent.

Housing provider Longhurst Group, which owns and manages more than 23,000 homes across the Midlands and East of England, is delivering the 44 affordable properties in Colwick.

One of Gedling Borough Council's main priorities is to provide more new homes and to specifically identify opportunities to create affordable homes on brownfield sites such as the one in Colwick.

The work has started on the site and they are expected to be completed during 2021.













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Youth Mayor



Following the successful term of the council's first ever Youth Mayor, Abigail Hutchison, it was announced that the role this year will be passed on to another member of the Gedling Youth Council.

We spoke to this year's elected Youth Mayor, Muhammad Ebadullah Malik and asked him to say a few words about his plans for the year and what he hopes to achieve for young people in the community.

"Hi, my name is Muhammad Ebadullah Malik and I am proud to be the second Youth Mayor for Gedling.

In my Term as Youth Mayor, I would not only like to be a role model for young people in Gedling but would also like to help create opportunities for young people in order to further develop our future generations to come.

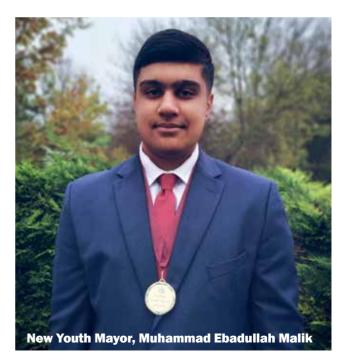
I hope that I can live up to everyone's expectations and will try to make the most out of this role for the better of our community."

Muhammad was appointed as the new Youth Mayor in September 2020 and will continue to work with the rest of the Gedling Borough Youth Council to highlight important issues for young people across the borough.

The outgoing Youth Mayor, Abigail Hutchison, also had a few words to say about her time in the role;

"I had the honour of becoming the first-ever Youth Mayor of Gedling, a position which allowed me to not only continue and advance my work in the community that I had previously done as an avid and active member of my local Youth Council, but one which also enabled me to meet the influential and inspiring people across my district as well as do what I can to make a change.

I can say with 100% confidence that the upcoming Youth Mayor of Gedling, Muhammad Malik will not only be an outstanding representative for our council but will also do everything in his power to ensure Gedling continues to be an environment in which young people like myself are proud to be a part of."



Mayor's News

Due to the pandemic, I have not been able to take part in the normal duties as Mayor but I am very pleased to announce that, thanks to your contributions, we have raised enough money for one of my chosen charities, the Nottingham Hospitals Charity, to purchase a Resmon Pro device. The device will be given to Nottingham Children's Hospital to help the children who are there with illnesses relating to problems with breathing. I am so happy that we were able to fund this equipment even with all of the issues going on around us, thank you to everyone who helped us make this happen.

I was also very pleased to be able to take part in this year's Remembrance commemorations albeit in very different circumstances to usual. In line with the government's guidance, I was able to visit several of our memorials and lay a wreath to remember those who lost their lives so that we could have our freedom. Although we could not all be there together, it was still a very poignant occasion and I am sure that next year we will all be able to attend and show our respects.

I'd like to say a warm congratulations to all of the winners and runners up at this year's Pride of Gedling Awards. It was fantastic to hear so many incredible stories that really showed just how great our borough is. I must give my personal congratulations to Breathe Easy group who won the Inspirational Healthy Lifestyle Award. As one of my chosen charities this year, I know first-hand just how committed they are to helping people get back to health and I was delighted that their work was recognised in this way.

Thank you all and have a safe and peaceful Christmas







We must keep on protecting each other. HANDS SPACE FACE