

Issue 66 Winter 2024

# contacts



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## A whale of a time at Gedling Country Park



## Bin calendars

We've listened to residents and we are pleased to announce that printed bin calendars will return this year. Due to ongoing budget constraints, a decision was made to stop printing the calendars last year but after careful consideration and feedback from residents, we are bringing them back and you should receive yours shortly.

As well as telling you the days that your different bins will be collected, the calendar also contains important information about what you can and cannot put in your recycling bin, which helps reduce contamination and increases recycling rates.

We are also offering an online calendar and we have over 20,000 residents signed up to receive email bin reminder alerts, great if you forget to check the calendar or if your collection is affected by bank holiday changes.

For more information about your bin collections visit  
[www.gedling.gov.uk/rubbish](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/rubbish)

## Cabinet Members



**Cllr John Clarke MBE**  
Leader of the Council



**Cllr Michael Payne**  
Deputy Leader Responsible  
for Corporate Resources and  
Performance



**Cllr David Ellis**  
Portfolio Public  
Protection



**Cllr Jenny Hollingsworth**  
Portfolio Sustainable Growth  
and Economy



**Cllr Henry Wheeler**  
Portfolio Lifestyles,  
Health and Wellbeing



**Cllr Marje Paling**  
Portfolio Environmental  
Services (Operations)



**Cllr Viv McCrossen**  
Portfolio Climate Change  
and Natural Habitat



**Cllr Kathryn Fox**  
Portfolio Life Chances  
and Vulnerability



**Councillor Lynda  
Pearson**  
Portfolio Communities  
and Place

For a full list of the Cabinet's responsibilities  
visit [www.gedling.gov.uk/councillorsmeetings](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/councillorsmeetings)

# Leader's column

Welcome to the winter edition of Contacts, in this edition we have a number of great stories and updates about the work being done by Gedling Borough Council to serve our residents and improve lives.

We are a listening council and following feedback from residents about our decision to stop issuing paper bin calendars, we have decided to bring them back and you should be receiving them shortly. We are having to make very difficult decisions to keep our budget balanced but we realise that removing the paper calendars made it difficult for some people to know when to put their bins out.

We have some really exciting updates about plans to improve leisure provision across the borough on page 17. Our most comprehensive review shows that we need new leisure centres in Arnold and Carlton and we hope now that we can tap into some much needed funding to make it happen.

We have published our Annual Report and the details are on page 14. The report shows the work done by the council over the last 12 months and I am very proud of the achievements we have made against a difficult time for councils and their budgets.

And finally, it's Christmas soon and we always look forward to hosting the Christmas lights switch on events around the borough and this year we have been able to get some funding to make them bigger so make sure you come along to one of the events being held around Gedling.



**Councillor John Clarke** MBE 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](mailto: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



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## Having trouble reading this?

**Please email**

**[communications@gedling.gov.uk](mailto:communications@gedling.gov.uk)**

**if you need it in large print,  
audio or another format.**

# Ambition Arnold - your responses

A consultation about ambitious plans for Arnold Town Centre has had over 600 responses, following the launch of Ambition Arnold over the summer.

The consultation was about our vision for Arnold Town Centre and residents and local businesses took part.

The council was awarded £150,000 from the One Public Estate programme to support feasibility studies to see how Arnold Town Centre could be improved. The money is being used alongside a further £200,000 from existing budgets to create a business plan, surveys and design works that will bring to life the vision of a revitalised town centre.

## Results from the survey showed that:

- 92% of people agree that the town centre is in need of investment.
- 87% of people agree that a more diverse range of shops would attract more people to the town centre.
- 87% of people agree that there should be investment to improve the pedestrian area to make the town feel safe.
- 77% of people agree that expanding the health, leisure and swimming facilities in the area is important.

The council will use the results to address key challenges and lay out the groundwork for securing external funding after two unsuccessful attempts to bid for Central Government Levelling Up funding for the area.

Gedling Borough Council is working with consultants Willmott Dixon to create a vision that will focus on economic viability, deliverability and future sustainability.

Acknowledging the valuable input of local retailers and users of the town centre, the proposal targets possible new attractions, dilapidated and empty buildings, and other improvements. Building on past successes like the council's award-winning £5 million AMP building on Front Street, which is now home to seven new small business startups, the vision will plan for investment across all areas of the town centre.

The vision prioritises accessibility, inclusion, and community pride, aligning with the council's vision for a vibrant town centre.

In line with the council's commitment to Net Zero by 2030, the proposal focuses on green spaces, cycling routes, public transport enhancements, and EV charging facilities.

You can find out more at  
[www.gedling.gov.uk/ambition-arnold](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/ambition-arnold)





# ncha Sherwood House

Choosing the right residential care home is a big decision, whether it's for you or for a loved one.

At Sherwood House we have a strong, committed, enthusiastic team of staff who take pride in creating a 'home from home'.

In the pretty village of Linby our beautifully refurbished period home has been fully modernised to meet varying needs including; mobility issues, physical disabilities and lack of confidence to live independently.

Whether you're looking for long-term accommodation or short-term respite care. Sherwood House offers a warm welcome to all.

Call us today to find out more about how we can help care for you or your loved one.

- ☎ 0115 666 6748 and quote CONTACTS
- @ sherwoodhousemanagement@ncha.org.uk
- 🌐 www.sherwoodhouse.org

We also  
offer  
**RESPITE**  
care



Top 20 awards  
carehome.co.uk

# BRUNCH WITH SANTA

at Cafe 1899  
Gedling Country Park

£13 per  
child

10-11.30am

7, 8, 14, 15, 21,  
22 & 23  
December

Join Santa in a magical grotto for a Christmas brunch party! As well as meeting Santa, receiving a present and enjoying brunch, children can write a letter to Santa and post it in the special box, the elves will whisk it off to the north pole and a reply will be waiting for you when you leave.



## New for 2024: Santa Paws!

14, 15 & 21 December, 9-9.45am  
£7.50 per dog

Christmas is not just for children!  
Bring your pooch to meet Santa,  
receive a gift and have their photo  
taken with him.

To book, call: 0115 926 1388  
Find out more at  
[www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson)



# Christmas lights switch on

The Christmas lights in Arnold Town Centre will take place on Friday 22 November at The AMP, Front Street.

This year's event is being run in conjunction with AMP-Live Events.

Every year, thousands of people attend the switch on, where you can watch entertainment provided by local schools and community groups, singing traditional Christmas carols and enjoy street entertainment. Nearby shops will be staying open later this evening too, helping you to support local businesses while you do some Christmas shopping.

Festive markets will also take place outside The AMP building and run for four Saturdays, starting from 30 November.

For more information about this year's event, visit [www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson) where you can also find out about Christmas switch on events near where you live.



## Recycle your Christmas tree

You can use our Christmas tree collection service to recycle your real Christmas tree, 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 £7 we will come and collect your tree from outside your home.

We will recycle the tree, so not only are you saving yourself time, you are also helping the environment.

The service, available to all Gedling Borough residents, will run in January and you can book your tree collection from 2 December.

**To book, call 0115 901 3901 or visit [www.gedling.gov.uk/tree-collection](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/tree-collection)**





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**WILLMOTT DIXON**

SINCE 1852

# Thousands attend Arnold Summer Fair

The Arnold Summer Fair, sponsored by Willmott Dixon, took place in June at Arnot Hill Park and was attended by over 5,000 people. The event was a free day of family fun, events, workshops and live music from the main stage.

There were on-stage performances by Burton Joyce Community Brass Band, The Parma Violets, Jude Kirk, Chloe Dring, Lexa Lambert and more. The main stage was closed by Nottingham based G.O.A. Choir. The stage was compered impeccably by Smooth FM's breakfast show host, Gareth Evans, who kept the crowd entertained all day.

There were also a host of activities happening around the park including circus performances, interactive skate and arts sessions, DJ workshops, and giant interactive musical instruments, not to mention all of the fantastic food on offer!

The event was part of the council's 50th anniversary celebrations. To keep up to date with future council events, visit [www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson) and sign up to our What's On emails.





# Four Green Flag Awards

Gedling Borough Council is proud to announce that four of its parks have been awarded the Green Flag Award for 2024. Arnot Hill Park, Burton Road Jubilee Park, Gedling Country Park and Breck Hill Park have all received the international quality mark for parks and green spaces.

Arnot Hill Park retains the award for the 18th consecutive year, Gedling Country Park for the 9th year in a row and Burton Road Jubilee Park for the 9th time. Breck Hill Park also received the award for the 3rd year in a row after successfully being awarded the accreditation for the first time in 2022. The four parks in Gedling Borough join over 2,000 sites across the country in collecting the award for 2024.

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 the management of green spaces across the United Kingdom and around the world.

We would like to thank everyone involved in helping us to retain these awards and also to encourage our residents to explore these fantastic assets that we have right here on our doorstep.

For more information about the Green Flag Awards and the winning parks, visit [www.gedling.gov.uk](http://www.gedling.gov.uk) and search 'parks'.

Volunteers, councillors and staff at Gedling Country Park





# Swim 4 Fifty challenge

Residents of Gedling Borough came together to mark a significant milestone in a truly memorable way, participating in a 50-mile continuous swim relay at Calverton Leisure Centre. The event, held in July, was a celebration of the Council's 50th anniversary and aimed to raise funds for Parkinson's UK, the charity chosen by Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Ron McCrossen.

Dubbed the 'Swim 4 Fifty' challenge, this ambitious event saw a wonderful turnout of enthusiastic swimmers. Starting at 7am, residents aged 14 and above took to the pool, swimming in 20-minute slots throughout the day. The community spirit was palpable as participants eagerly dived in, each contributing to the monumental task of completing 4,471 lengths in the 18-metre pool.

Young learners from the Gedling Leisure's Swim Stars programme also had their moment to shine. Special relay sessions between 4pm and 6pm allowed these budding swimmers to show off their skills and play a part in this fantastic event.

Gedling Borough Council staff, along with their friends and family, kept the momentum going overnight and into the following day, ensuring the 50th mile was achieved. The relay, spanning over 24 hours, was a testament to the community's commitment and enthusiasm.

Participants were encouraged to donate £5 to Parkinson's UK and £1500 was raised for charity. The Mayor expressed his gratitude, highlighting the dual purpose of the event: celebrating the Council's milestone and supporting a vital cause.

A big thank you to everyone who participated and supported the event. The success of the 'Swim 4 Fifty' challenge showcases the strength and unity of our community. Here's to many more milestones and charitable events in the future!

**You can find out more about your local swimming services at [www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure) or by visiting Arnold, Calverton or Carlton Forum leisure centre.**



# Peace in the park

To celebrate World Peace Day, Gedling Borough Council held a 'Peace in the Park' event at Gedling Country Park.

The event took place in September on World Peace Day and was a day of celebrating the environment, wellbeing and global peace.

There were free activities for all ages, including arts and crafts, outdoor entertainment from Handmade Theatre, live music, community stalls, guided walks around the park and an unveiling of a willow sculpture, made by attendees of the event, which is now installed in the park to commemorate World Peace Day.

The event was funded by the UK Government's Shared Prosperity Funding.

The aim of the event was to celebrate the diverse community and bring everyone together with equal access to services. The event also promoted health and wellbeing at one of the borough's most visited parks, which recently retained its Green Flag status for the ninth year in a row.

To find out more about events taking place in the borough visit [www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson)







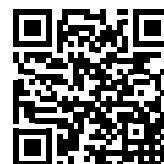
# Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan

Gedling Borough Council has been working with Nottingham City Council, Broxtowe Borough Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council to create a plan to guide strategic development and growth up to 2041.

The new Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will set out the key issues faced by each council and guide the amount and location of new development. Being able to plan for future development needs such as housing and growth, is important to the prosperity of local people.

We will be seeking views this Autumn on the draft Strategic Plan, which includes the approach to housing and employment provision to meet Gedling Borough's future needs. Once adopted, the Strategic Plan sets out our planning policies to secure sustainable growth and will be used along with other local and national policies to determine planning applications.

Register at [www.gnplan.inconsult.uk](http://www.gnplan.inconsult.uk) so we can let you know when the consultation starts. More information about how to have your say can be found on the Greater Nottingham Planning Partnership website: [www.gnplan.org.uk/consultations](http://www.gnplan.org.uk/consultations)



# Empty homes success



**Kitchen before**



**Kitchen after**



**Living room before**



**Living room after**

A house that was in a terrible state due to years of neglect has been dramatically transformed and placed back into use thanks to Gedling Borough Council's Empty Property Matchmaker Scheme.

The property in Calverton was reported to the council's Public Protection team due it being an eyesore. The Empty Homes Officer visited the house and began an investigation. The officer contacted the owner who had been left the property following the death of their husband and had no way of paying for the property to be repaired or sold.

When the officer visited the property, it was in a significant state of disrepair, ceilings had caved in, the roof was coming down and it was infested with rats.

A series of meetings were held with the homeowner and the process began to see what could be done with limited financial resources. In stepped local Property Consultants, Lester & Bingley who agreed to take on the property, get it renovated and sell it on, without any up-front costs to the owner.

Several months later and the property is completely unrecognisable and is now on the market. The property had a complete renovation from top to bottom and the partnership work with Gedling Borough Council and Lester & Bingley has been recognised with them winning 'Best Working Partnership' at the Empty Homes Network awards.

**You can find out more about the scheme by visiting [www.gedling.gov.uk](http://www.gedling.gov.uk) and searching Property Matchmaker or by calling 0115 901 3901.**



# A year in review

We are very happy to share some highlights from our Annual Report 2023-24. The plan aims to show the work the council has done as part of the Gedling Plan over the last 12 months and it includes key highlights across the different services.

- This year has been bustling with activity across our leisure centres. We welcomed over 1.15 million visitors, marking an increase from pre-COVID levels!
- Learn to Swim Scheme: Our programme reached over 4,000 customers, with more than 600 children earning their 25m swim badges.
- Community events: from the vibrant Arnold Summer Fair, to the Christmas Markets, Easter and Chinese New Year Trails and summer holiday activities outside the AMP in Arnold – our communities service has brought the community together with fun and engaging events.
- Over 200 long term (between 6 months and 5 years) empty homes were returned to use, helping to improve neighbourhoods and reduce antisocial behaviour, as well as providing more available housing.
- New CCTV cameras have been installed at Balmoral Road in Colwick, St Wilfred's Square Car Park in Calverton and Church Lane Recreation Ground in Arnold to assist the police with investigations and aid the council's Community Safety Team and Neighbourhood Wardens in tackling anti-social behaviour

**You can read the Annual Report in full by visiting [www.gedling.gov.uk](http://www.gedling.gov.uk) and searching for Annual Report.**





# Funding boost for Gedling Borough sports clubs



Calverton Miners Welfare FC

Several sports clubs across Gedling Borough are set to benefit from a major boost, thanks to funding secured from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. The funding will support improvements to local sports facilities, making them more accessible and helping to enhance the community's access to high-quality sporting opportunities.

The aim of the funding is to enhance priority sports sites and facilities, which have been identified through recent reviews, including the Built Facilities Strategy and the Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy.

Several local sports clubs have been selected to receive grants to improve their facilities. These

The funding has been shared between these clubs:

- Arnold Leisure Centre: £26,119 for plant room improvements.
- Mellish Rugby Club: £31,500 for floodlighting a second pitch.
- Paviers Rugby Club: £31,500 for a borehole and portable floodlights.
- Calverton Miners Welfare Football Club: £100,000 towards a new 3G pitch project.

upgrades will include floodlighting, a new borehole and a 3G pitch to accommodate more teams and participants.

These projects have been selected in line with Gedling Borough's strategy to improve sports participation and ensure facilities are ready for future use. The funding will help ensure that these clubs can continue to serve the community and offer even more opportunities for people to get involved in sport.

The funding is vital for these clubs, as it allows them to expand and improve their facilities, helping them to welcome more players and provide better experiences for members.



# Regenerating Arnold

## Proud partner for Ambition Arnold

Willmott Dixon is proud to be working with Gedling Borough Council and Leonard Design in support of their regeneration aspirations for Arnold Town Centre. Together we are creating a vision that prioritises accessibility, inclusion, and community pride, and works towards a more vibrant and sustainable town centre.

To find out more about us visit  
[willmottdixon.co.uk](http://willmottdixon.co.uk)

For career opportunities visit  
[willmottdixon.co.uk/careers](http://willmottdixon.co.uk/careers)



## Disabled adaptations in Gedling



If you have a disability and need an adaptation to your property to help you remain living independently at home, you could be eligible for a grant to pay for the works.

We're pleased to say that we've received funding from the Government to provide Disabled Facilities Grants to residents, which can cover the costs of property adaptations.

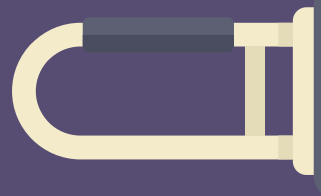
Examples of adaptations include:

- Providing ramps, widening doors, shallow steps
- Adapting or providing suitable washing and toilet facilities
- Installing a stair lift or a 'through the floor' lift

The grants are means tested and the maximum grant is £30,000. Residents living in rented properties would require the owner's consent.

To be considered for a Disabled Facilities Grant you need to be referred to us from an Occupational Therapist, who will assess your needs. Once we've got the referral we will then decide if you qualify for a grant.

The local Occupational Therapists work for Nottinghamshire County Council, so please call the County Council on 0300 500 80 80 to be assessed for a grant.



# Leisure centre improvement plans

Gedling Borough Council has approved plans to look at the feasibility for a new Carlton Leisure and Community Wellbeing Centre as part of a strategic review of its community facilities.

The council conducted a strategic review of its community facilities including its five leisure centres, playing pitches, parks and open spaces. The second phase of the report aims to create a new understanding of how the council can sustainably deliver local play, physical activity, leisure, sport, wellbeing and community services for its residents.

The report, which was approved

by Cabinet members in July, seeks to enhance the council's current leisure offer through new sites, while ensuring longer-term financial sustainability. Changes would be subject to the council getting funding. It proposes developing a comprehensive business case for new, state-of-the-art facilities, which will significantly benefit the local community by providing improved health, fitness and cultural amenities.

The report also highlights a review to improve and enhance leisure facilities for the Arnold area, with a new facility offering a swimming pool, gym and studios, alongside a separate venue for the Bonington Theatre, to increase its visibility. A vision for these new facilities is at the core of the recently announced plans for Ambition Arnold, which is looking at how the town centre could be improved.

The report proposes that the creation of new leisure centres in Arnold and Carlton could save the council in the region of £1.2million per year in ongoing costs.

The Cabinet have agreed to approve a budget of £500,000 to develop a feasibility study for a new Carlton Leisure Centre and Community Wellbeing Centre. They also agreed to create a project board and team to develop the plans for the new centres.

A consultation on all the proposals will be conducted and residents and local businesses will be able to have their say on any plans going forward.





# Youth mental health

Gedling Borough Council has launched a pioneering initiative to enhance mental health support for young people across the borough, as part of its commitment to improve the life chances and opportunities for children and young people. We've partnered with Positively Empowered Kids CIC, a local social enterprise committed to empowering young people and parents with essential tips, tools and signposting for children's mental wellbeing, as a preventative measure.

The collaboration focuses on consulting young people on their experiences and knowledge around mental health, alongside gaining valuable information about what they need in their community to support them and their peers. They also piloted mental health marketplaces, reaching out to children and young people to connect them with a range of services that they otherwise wouldn't be able to engage with. As part of this initiative, Councillors, along with representatives from Positively Empowered Kids, visited youth centres in Calverton, Redhill and Netherfield. They gathered valuable feedback from young people on their experiences of the current state of mental health support and identified areas for improvement.

Jackie Wilson, Director of Positively Empowered Kids said,

"Collaborative working is the way forward to make a bigger difference for young people. Taking time to listen to their views and ideas has been an incredible opportunity for us to collectively understand their experiences and needs. My hope is that this work can continue, this time in co-production with the young people so they are empowered to be pro-active with their mental health, with a clear understanding of services and support they can access, and ripple that knowledge out to their peers"

Gedling Borough Council will be working with key partners including NHS and Public Health to ensure that adequate mental health services are accessible for children and young people within their educational settings.



# Job fairs

A recent Autumn jobs fair, hosted by Gedling Borough Council in partnership with Arnold Job Centre, was a resounding success, drawing in hundreds of local residents eager to explore new job and apprenticeship opportunities. Held at the Civic Centre in Arnot Hill Park, the event proved to be an invaluable resource for those seeking to advance their careers or explore new paths.

Over 30 organisations participated, offering a diverse array of opportunities. Local employers, educational institutions and training providers including Nottinghamshire Police, NHS and West Notts College engaged with attendees, providing insight into available roles and pathways for further development. The event also featured advisors who offered tailored guidance on next steps, making it easier for attendees to navigate their career journeys.

Many attendees left the fair with promising leads and a clearer understanding of their career options. Apprenticeships, which were open to individuals of all ages, were a particular highlight, with numerous attendees expressing interest in pursuing these opportunities after speaking with advisors.



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The feedback from attendees and exhibitors was overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the fair as a fantastic opportunity to connect with potential employers and gain valuable career advice all in one place.

The next job's fair will take place on Tuesday 11 February 2025 at the Civic Centre in Arnold.



Find out more at [www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/whatson) or call 0115 901 3901.

# Help available to avoid becoming homeless

Do you have housing problems which could make you homeless? Are you being asked to leave your home? Do you have rent arrears or can't pay your rent? We can help.

If you have any of the following housing problems, it is important that you ask for help before it leads to you being threatened with homelessness.

Gedling Borough Council's Housing Options Team may be able to help with the following:

- Rent arrears or problems paying your rent
- Your landlord has issued you with a Section 21 notice or told you they might be evicting you for a breach of a tenancy condition
- You are being asked to leave by family or friends
- You are experiencing domestic abuse

You can contact the council for advice and assistance as we may be able to help solve your housing problem before you become homeless.

Please call on 0115 901 3901 or visit [www.gedling.gov.uk](http://www.gedling.gov.uk) and search 'homeless' for more information.



# New jobs and training hub launched

You can now benefit from a new online platform to help access jobs and training opportunities. The Start in South Nottinghamshire Portal, launched as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is a free-to-use employment and skills resource.

Jointly commissioned by Gedling, Rushcliffe and Broxtowe Borough Councils, this platform is a comprehensive hub for employment and training, helping residents find local opportunities and gain vital skills to improve their career prospects.

You can filter jobs and training opportunities by location, making it simple to find what's available within your borough. Additional features include:

- **Job Search: A job search tool linked to Indeed, offering a wide range of current vacancies.**
- **CV & Cover Letter Builders: Tools to help job seekers craft strong, professional applications.**

- **Virtual Work Experience: Opportunities to gain work experience remotely.**
- **Local Economic Insights: Information about key employers and sectors within the local economy.**

The portal is designed to complement existing employment and skills support offered by the council, ensuring that residents have access to a wide range of resources to enhance their employment prospects.

Local businesses and training providers are also encouraged to use the platform by listing available job vacancies and learning opportunities. This initiative will help bridge the gap between employers and job seekers in the community, ensuring that talent within South Nottinghamshire stays local.

**Find out more by visiting**  
[\*\*www.southnotts.startprofile.com\*\*](http://www.southnotts.startprofile.com)



## **Gedling Pet Cremation Services**

When the time comes to say goodbye to your pet, we will be there for you.

Find out more,  
call 0115 901 3713

[www.gedlingpetcremations.co.uk](http://www.gedlingpetcremations.co.uk)

# Bird hide

Gedling Borough Council is delighted to announce the opening of a brand new hide at Gedling Country Park. This exciting addition to the park is set to become a haven for bird watchers and nature enthusiasts, offering a unique and peaceful way to observe the rich wildlife that calls the park home.

The hide, located between the park's two lower lagoons, is a specially designed shelter with windows that provide a perfect view of the surrounding landscape.

Gedling Country Park is known for its stunning views, walking trails, play areas and café. The addition of the hide enhances the park's appeal, providing yet another



reason to visit and enjoy the award-winning park.

The construction of the bird hide was made possible through section 106 payments from local housing developers, demonstrating the positive impact of local development on community amenities. The project, which cost £29,000, includes the bird hide itself, as well as benches and other facilities that enhance visitor comfort.

**Inspire**  
**Adult Learning**  
Culture | Learning | Libraries

## Learn Local, Go Far

**Explore our amazing range of courses for adults and families in Gedling and beyond.**

Enjoy a fun, friendly, high-quality learning experience with Inspire! Pick up our Inspire Adult Learning Course Guide 2024 for autumn in your local library or view online at [inspireculture.org.uk/learning](https://inspireculture.org.uk/learning)

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**Education & Skills Funding Agency**



# What's on at The Bonington



## Cinema

Gladiator II



Moana 2  
Paddington in Peru  
Sonic 3  
White Christmas (70th Anniversary)  
Wicked



## Event Cinema

**Girl from the North Country (12A)**

Thursday 21 November, 7pm  
Sunday 1 December, 1.30pm  
£15 | £12.50

## Andre Rieu 2024 Christmas Concert: Gold & Silver

Saturday 7 – Wednesday 11 December  
£15 | £12.50



## Royal Ballet & Opera: Cinderella

Tuesday 10 December, 7.15pm  
£15 | £12.50

## Royal Ballet & Opera: The Nutcracker (U)

Wednesday 18 – Friday 20 December  
£15 | £12.50

## Royal Ballet & Opera: The Tales of Hoffman

Sunday 19 January, 2pm  
£15 | £12.50

## Les Misérables: The Staged Concert Live! (40th Anniversary)

Sunday 2 & Tuesday 4 February  
£15 | £12.50

## Live Theatre, Comedy & Gaming

### ItsMuchMore:

#### Retro Gaming in the Bar

Tuesday 19 November, from 6pm  
£3

### Comedy Hotspot

Friday 22 November, 8pm  
£15

### Flying High: The Wizard of Oz

Sunday 22 & Monday 23 December, 12pm 3pm & 6pm  
From £8

### The Bonington Players

Wednesday 15 – Saturday 18 January  
£9

### The Mayor's Panto

Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 January  
£TBC

## Live Music

### Nottingham Organ Society

First Monday of each month, 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)  
£8 | £7

### Jazz Steps: Clark Tracey Sextet

Thursday 5 December, 7.30pm  
£15



### Five Star Swing at Christmas

Monday 9 December, 7.30pm  
£17-18

### We Three Kings

Thursday 12 & Friday 13 December, 7.30pm  
£19

### A Merry Carlton Male Voice Choir Christmas

Saturday 21 December, 2pm  
From £12.95



## Cinema tickets

£6.95 | £5.95 (concessions)

£4 16-25 members

£5 Tuesdays

Book online or via the box office.

[www.boningtontheatre.co.uk](http://www.boningtontheatre.co.uk)

Bonington Theatre  
High Street | Arnold | NG5 7EE |  
0115 901 3640

@thebonington



## Gedling Lotto celebrates 2k win

Daybrook Bowls Club members

Gedling Lotto has celebrated a £2,000 win! The winner had been supporting Daybrook Bowls Club by playing the weekly lottery, when they won £2,000 in a prize draw.

Since the Lotto launched in 2020, over £14,000 has been won in the prize draws and over £60,000, has been raised for the local community.

Daybrook Bowls Club, who are celebrating their centenary this year, has been using the Lotto to raise funds ever since it launched in 2020 and has raised over £2,300 just through selling Gedling Lotto tickets to their supporters.

Gedling Lotto is an online fundraising solution provided by Gedling Borough Council, with no upfront costs to the good causes it helps support. It is designed to help local not-for-profit organisations, including volunteering groups, charities and sports clubs, to raise vital funds all year-round, in a safe, fun and effective way.

People can support their favourite local cause and local community by playing the lottery. Their chosen cause receives 50% of every £1 ticket their supporters buy, with an additional 10% going to further support the local community. There are weekly cash prizes of up to of £25,000 to be won, as well as additional prizes like iPhones and holidays. Players have 50:1 odds of winning a prize, which is much better than for the National Lottery, while knowing they are really helping their local community.

There are currently over 40 local causes that people can choose to support with a Gedling Lotto ticket purchase.

**To support a local good cause and play the lottery, or to register as a good cause and start fundraising through Gedling Lotto, visit [www.gedlinglotto.co.uk](http://www.gedlinglotto.co.uk).**

# How Dean became stronger, healthier and happier

# Gedling Leisure



Dean Rippon signed up for a Gedling Leisure membership two years ago. With a history of being overweight, he wanted to improve his health and lead a more active lifestyle.

At the age of 46, Dean now regularly visits Carlton Forum Leisure Centre where he swims a mile every day, uses the gym and goes to a variety of exercise classes including Studio Strength, Bootcamp, Group Cycle, HiiT, Box Fit and Kettle Fit. He sometimes visits the centre more than once a day, when he can fit in exercise around his work and family life.

Dean said; "Through being active and eating a balanced diet, I have lost 2 and a half stone in the last two years and now I feel amazing! I get on well with the fitness instructors who are great at helping me to

get the most out of my workouts, especially Martin, Simon and Zoe!"

It's not just Dean's health that has benefitted from his visits, as he explains; "Since attending group exercise classes, I have made lots of new friends and now we have nights out together too."

With his new passion for fitness, Dean is now considering becoming a qualified instructor, to help others achieve their health and fitness goals too.

If you're looking to get more active, you can try out the gyms, classes or swimming pools at Gedling Leisure Centres for free with a 3-day pass. Simply pop into one of the leisure centres or sign up on the website: [www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure).



[www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure)



# Learn to swim!

Swimming lessons for  
all ages and abilities.



**Try for free - book a 30 minute swim assessment.**

Find out more and sign up online at

[www.gedling.gov.uk/swimming-lessons](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/swimming-lessons)

# Keep Christmas merry and bright — recycle right!

Let's add some eco-friendly cheer into our celebrations this festive season.

By making recycling part of your festive traditions, we can all help to reduce waste across the borough and enjoy the festivities sustainably.

Like Santa, we've created our own "naughty and nice" lists - this time, for recycling! Check the lists to see which common household items can be recycled.

## Naughty list (do not recycle)

- ✗ Plastic bags
- ✗ Batteries
- ✗ Plastic food trays/ punnets
- ✗ Foil
- ✗ Shiny / glittery wrapping paper or cards
- ✗ Metal biscuit/ sweet tins
- ✗ Christmas crackers
- ✗ Food waste

## Nice list (can be recycled)

- ✓ Cardboard packaging
- ✓ Greetings cards (no glitter)
- ✓ Tins and cans
- ✓ Plastic bottles including lids
- ✓ Plastic tubs and pots
- ✓ Aerosol cans
- ✓ Magazines and newspapers
- ✓ Cartons (not Tetra Pak)
- ✓ Glass bottles (in your glass recycling box.)
- ✓ Wrapping paper (if it keeps shape when scrunched - not shiny or glittery)

Please ensure all items are empty and clean before recycling.

Find out more and try out the recycling item checker tool on the website: [www.gedling.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/recycling)

# Reuse, recycle and reduce

## Five tips for recycling

### Flatten and crush

Flatten cardboard and crush cans to maximise space in your bin and the collection lorry. This also makes processing easier at the recycling facility.

### Sustainable packaging

Choose products with minimal or recyclable packaging when shopping. Buying loose fruits and vegetables helps you avoid plastic bags (which can't go in your recycling bin) and reduces food waste by allowing you to purchase only what you need.



### Clean before recycling

Ensure items are clean and empty. Avoid placing containers with food or drink residue into your recycling bin. Rinse margarine tubs, yogurt pots, plastic bottles and cans before recycling.

### Repurpose and reuse

Give items a second life by repurposing them. Use glass jars and plastic containers for storage, turn old t-shirts into cleaning rags, or get creative with leftover materials for fun craft projects.

### Start composting

Set up a compost bin for fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds, eggshells and other organic waste. Over time, these materials break down into nutrient-rich compost, perfect for fertilising your garden.

Find out more about recycling in the borough:  
[www.gedling.gov.uk/recycling](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/recycling)





30 Contacts



# Honours for former councillors

A special ceremony was held at the council's civic centre to recognise and honour 13 people who were made Alderman and Alderwomen of the borough.

Several former councillors, many who retired in the last year, were presented with this very special accolade and joined an illustrious and exclusive list of people who have been previously given the title of Honorary Alderman or Alderwoman since the council formed in 1974. The full list of the people who received the title of Honorary Aldermen/ Alderwomen at the ceremony is:

**Peter Barnes**  
**Christopher Barnfather**  
**Alan Bexon**  
**Nicola Brooks**  
**Ged Clarke**  
**Robert Collis**  
**Anthony Gillam**  
**Gary Gregory**  
**Meredith Lawrence**  
**Barbara Miller**  
**John Parr**  
**Colin Powell**  
**John Truscott**

At the meeting an engraved jewel and a Certificate of Conferment of the title under the seal of the Council was presented to each Honorary Aldermen/ Alderwomen by the Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Ron McCrossen.

## The Gedling Guide

A Community App for the local area

Local information, updates and events from in and around Gedling

**Download FREE from the App Stores or  
Scan the QR Code**



- Local Business Directories
- Community Information
- What's On Guide
- Special Offers
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**A 'Must Have' Resource for Local People**

See our website for more details

[www.gedlingguide.com](http://www.gedlingguide.com)



Mayor, Cllr Ron McCrossen at Arnold Summer Fair

# Mayor's News

It has been a really busy few months for me in my role as the Mayor of Gedling, I have been very fortunate to attend events across the borough, celebrating the very best of Gedling.

Over the summer, I opened the Arnold Summer Fair and met hundreds of people at the event in Arnot Hill Park. I attended several school and community events, including the Gedling Youth and Community Hub, which is a great place for young people. I also really enjoyed attending the Calverton Carnival, which was a great example of communities getting together.

I was very honoured to raise the Armed Forces Flag as well as the D-Day 80 flag, both events recognised the incredible sacrifices made by the men and women of this country.

As Mayor of Gedling, my chosen charity to support is Parkinsons UK and Parkinsons Nottingham and I had the pleasure of meeting some of the team earlier in the year. It's a fantastic cause and I will be raising money throughout the year.

And finally, I hope to see many of you at the upcoming Christmas events that take place across the borough, I look forward to meeting many of you at the light switch on events and I will also be hosting my very own panto at The Bonington Theatre in January, which I am currently learning my lines for.

I hope you all have a great Christmas,

**Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Ron McCrossen.**

If you would like the Mayor of Gedling to visit your local school or attend an event, please email [civic@gedling.gov.uk](mailto:civic@gedling.gov.uk)

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