

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Ridge and Furrow Earthworks 1, CPRE supports M.I.N 1, 2014 Litter Competition Winners 2, CPRE Local Food Hero Awards Dinner 2, "Exemplar Village" proposed for North Northamptonshire 2, Icons of Northamptonshire 3, Summer Picnic at Thorpe Malsor 4, Dr. Martin Gaskell joins North District Volunteer Team 4, Love Northampton Food and Drink Fair at the Guildhall 4, 50/50 4.

October 2014

[www.CPRENorthants.org.uk](http://www.CPRENorthants.org.uk)

## Ridge and Furrow Earthworks - we need your help! - *Steve Batterby*

It is easy to take things for granted, but have you noticed that ridge and furrow earthworks in fields around Northamptonshire and beyond have been disappearing from our landscape?

These earthworks are the remains of land cultivation systems that once covered most of the East Midlands, some



of which date back to the 10th Century. They provided drainage and demarcation of plots and can still give an insight into historical land use, social structures and the success or failure of communities.

Some such earthworks are worth preserving and work is already underway to identify and protect suitable areas where there are clear links to medieval communities. We know that many medieval settlements have long since disappeared and records may be scarce, but people with good local knowledge may know about them. Can you help us to identify earthworks that may be worthy of protection?

We are interested in large areas of continuous and well defined ridge and furrow earthworks that clearly relate to nearby medieval settlements (which may or may not still exist as present day villages).

So if you think you know of sites that meet these criteria, please email details to: [info@cprenorthants.org.uk](mailto:info@cprenorthants.org.uk), or go to the website at [http://www.cprenorthants.org.uk/contact\\_us](http://www.cprenorthants.org.uk/contact_us).

## CPRE supports M.I.N - *Sally Hanrahan*

We think that an excellent way to protect rural Northamptonshire is to support locally produced food and a prosperous farming community in its stewardship of the land.

M.I.N, Made in Northamptonshire, is a networking group aimed at bringing together like minded businesses from the county's food and drinks sector in a supportive setting. Fifty people attended the M.I.N meeting at New Lodge Vineyard, Earls Barton. The guest speaker was Stuart Brough from Trading Standards in Northampton.



The group meets quarterly, hosted by a M.I.N. member, and offers members the chance to gain access to grants and other financial support, receive free advice and information from sector partners as well as the opportunity to share expertise. In 2012 it launched a new logo scheme which operates much like a 'kite mark' to indicate local provenance and excellence and which is being used by producers, venues and retailers across the county.

## 2014 Litter Competition Winners

We congratulate the 3rd Northampton Girls Brigade on winning the 2014 competition. Their leader, Mrs Sarah Dempsey, Lieutenant officer, said that 'girls ages 4 to 11 took part in the campaign for no more litter. They looked at how litter impacted upon their environment and the local wildlife. For their song they adapted the hymn "He's got the whole world in his hands". A recording was shown during the church service at Kingsley Park Methodist Church on the 5th October. Everyone enjoyed the occasion. The girls were very excited to be entering the competition just to get the wrist bands. However, when I told them they had won 1st prize and about the prize money they were very very happy'.



## CPRE Local Food Hero Awards Dinner - Sally Hanrahan



*From left to right: Graeme Willis from CPRE NO, Kirstie Clarke, Sally Hanrahan CPRE, Jason Atherton, Angus Clarke and Anthony Bowdidge from Weetabix*

Four hundred and sixty people from Northamptonshire Food and Drink attended the glittering awards dinner held at the Royal and Derngate Theatre, Northampton, on Thursday 16 October 2014. The competition received a record number of more than one hundred nominations from all corners of the county, everything from butchers and farm shops to chefs and brewers, representing something of a challenge to the judging panel.

The awards were presented by Jason Atherton, the first British celebrity chef to complete a stage at Spain's famous elBulli restaurant.

First prize was awarded to Waterloo Cottage Farm. Angus and Kirstie Clarke rear and produce excellent quality meat from their 125 acre farm. Not only do they sell home reared meat, but they also train apprentice butchers and offer courses on animal husbandry. The runners up were Hamm Tun fine foods, the creators of the county's first cheese Cobblers Nibble, and Squisito Butchers and Provisions, Yelvertoft who offer 150 types of sausage and courses on curing to ice cream making.



## "Exemplar Village" proposed for North Northamptonshire

- David Charlton-Jones

Described as "an area of opportunity" which will be included in the Pre-Submission draft Joint Core Strategy to be published early next year, this proposal is for an "exemplar new Garden Village" of up to 1250 homes at Deenethorpe Airfield. The airfield is located on elevated ground between Corby and Oundle. It is 1km from Deenethorpe village and 2km from Upper Benefield and is designated as a brownfield site.

East Northamptonshire Council regards this development as "a unique opportunity to achieve an exemplar settlement built to the highest standards of design and sustainability with generous green space and a mix of homes, jobs, community facilities and service." The village will be seen as complementary to the delivery of existing growth planned in the Corby SUE with a minimum requirement of 25% of the development to be affordable homes. The Council will prepare a master-plan and delivery strategy which will be subject to public consultation.

We would welcome our members' views on this proposal and if you would like more information please contact either David Edsall, 01832 274371, [davidedsall143@btinternet.com](mailto:davidedsall143@btinternet.com), or myself, 01536 747164, [davidcharlton-jones@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:davidcharlton-jones@hotmail.co.uk).



*The Nene at Denford (Richard Appleton)*

## Icons of Northamptonshire - Sir Paul Hayter

CPRE Northamptonshire's book, *Icons of Northamptonshire*, was published on October 6 and launched at the Pavilion, Wicksteed Park. This joint venture with Northamptonshire County Council has been the fruit of a successful and enjoyable collaboration, resulting in a splendid coffee-table book celebrating 70 special features of the county.



*Bill and Christine Driver*

For each icon there is one or more photographs and text by a prominent author. The Northamptonshire Telegraph described the contents thus: "From the quirky to the beautiful, the quaint to the grand, the famous to the obscure, the treasures of Northamptonshire are featured." To name a few: the World Conker Championships, Silverstone, Boughton House, the M1 and Watford Gap, Stanwick Lakes, Brixworth church and a shoe factory. Sir

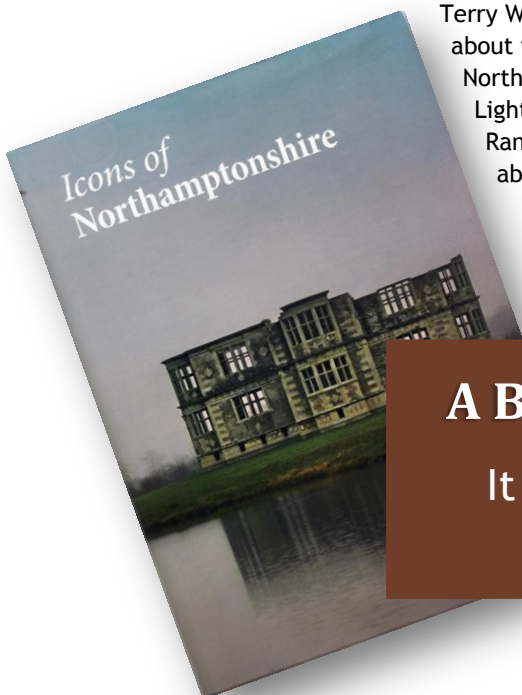
Terry Wogan writes about the Northampton Lighthouse; Sir Ranulph Fiennes about Ashby St

Legers and the Gunpowder Plot; the Lord Lieutenant David Laing about Adrenaline Alley in Corby; Earl Spencer about Althorp; and our President Lady Juliet Townsend about hunting country. David Montagu-Smith features Northamptonshire countryside, about which he says "This is not a dramatic landscape. But here there is a permanence, a sense of continuity, of reassurance.....".

Sir Andrew Motion, National President of CPRE, wrote the foreword to the book, which he describes as "a long-overdue celebration of one of England's least celebrated counties..... It is truly the heart of England's countryside - our great collective masterpiece."

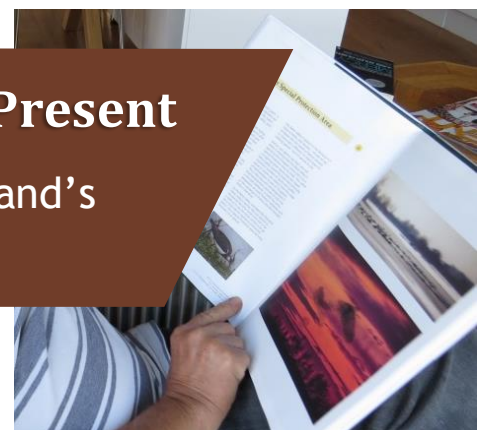
If you respond to this book as I do, you will immediately want to get out and see some of the icons for yourself. My wife and I have already made a 140 mile round-trip from our home in the south-west of the county to visit icons in the north-east, including Lowick church, Fotheringhay, Old Sulehay Nature Reserve and the stone buildings of King's Cliffe. Perhaps we can welcome CPRE members from the north to places like Kings Sutton, Sulgrave, Fawsley and Stanford-on-Avon.

Copies are on sale at all 35 Northamptonshire libraries, price £17.50; or by post from "Icons of Northamptonshire Publication", Central Library, Abington Street, Northampton, NN1 2BA, price £17.50 + £7.50 for postage and packing. Cheques should be made payable to Northamptonshire County Council. Any profits from sales will be shared equally by CPRE and the county library service.



## A Beautiful Christmas Present

It is truly the heart of England's countryside



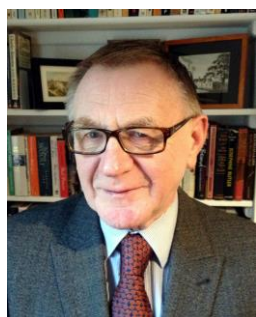
## Summer Picnic at Thorpe Malsor - *David Charlton-Jones*

Forty members and families came to the North District Summer Picnic at Thorpe Malsor on the 9th August where Zandra and John Powell had kindly invited us to use their wonderful marquee for lunch on the banks of the reservoir. The sun shone for us and everyone enjoyed the mile-long walk round the water with its plentiful wildlife, before sitting down to a splendid lunch. Apart from our now customary raffle of a hamper full of good things to eat and drink the day was enlivened by the gift of two magnificent trout. These had been caught in the lake that morning, donated by a kind fisherman and auctioned to the highest bidder.

My thanks to all those who helped make the day a success and in particular to Zandra and John Powell, our thoughtful and generous hosts.



## Dr. Martin Gaskell joins North District Volunteer Team



It is very pleasing to announce that Dr. Martin Gaskell has joined the North District Technical Secretaries group and will take over responsibility for the Corby Borough Council area from Keith Allsop.

Although Martin's career has been primarily concerned with Higher Education policy and management, his PhD at Sheffield University specialised in Victorian Industrialisation and housing reform and he has subsequently written extensively on housing and town planning in Britain in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Martin and his wife Maureen now live in Kettering, where among a range of other commitments he is a Governor of St. Andrews Hospital, a Vice-President of the County Record Society and a Deputy Lieutenant. His professional expertise coupled with his awareness of local issues will make him an invaluable member of the CPRE team.

As we go to press we have learned that Keith Allsop, our longest serving volunteer, passed away on October 17 at the age of 82. Keith has been a tireless supporter of the Northants countryside for half a century, and we will miss him. We will cover his achievements in a future edition of Outlook.

## Love Northampton Food and Drink Fair at the Guildhall



On the 5th and 6th July, CPRE took part in the successful 'Love Northampton' Event.

Graeme Willis, CPRE Senior Rural Policy Campaigner, Food and Farming gave a presentation entitled Field to Fork.

We were delighted to welcome the food critic, editor of Waitrose Kitchen and MasterChef judge William Sitwell. He lives in Northamptonshire and is a supporter of CPRE.



## Recent Prizewinners

**June:** Cormac Harrison of Barnes £30, Sue Baylis of Market Harborough £20

**July:** Christopher Hart of Cotterstock £30, Thomas Watkins of Holcot £20

**August:** Ann Craske of Gretton £30, Jane Kimbell of Grimscote £20

**September:** Peter Kerruish of Apethorpe £30, Roger Elkin of Preston Capes £20

Be sure that you and your family are stakeholders when the next draw takes place at the end of October. Visit [www.CPRENorthants.org.uk](http://www.CPRENorthants.org.uk). Remember, half of each stake goes to the prizewinners, half to protecting the Northamptonshire countryside.

Outlook production team: Trisha White, Sally Hanrahan,  
Sue Baylis & Peter Hopkins  
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