



Northamptonshire  
Campaign to Protect Rural England

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

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# OUTLOOK

March 2017

The newsletter of the Northamptonshire Branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England

## CPRE Local Food Hero of the Year

Northamptonshire Food and Drink Awards  
3 November 2016



The award won by Elsie's Pay As You Feel Cafe was presented at the Awards dinner at Northamptonshire County Cricket Club by CPRE Northamptonshire President David Laing. Over five hundred people enjoyed an evening hosted by Michel Roux Senior.

Local Food Hero of the Year is the result of a partnership between CPRE Northamptonshire and Carlsberg UK Northamptonshire Food and Drinks Awards and is sponsored by Weetabix. It is designed to recognise and celebrate those people and businesses in the food and drink sector in the

county who go further in producing, supplying, promoting or selling local goods or food services, thereby contributing to the reduction of food miles and carbon emissions.

Northamptonshire residents were invited to put forward their local champion and nominations (over 100 received) included farm shops, a coffee shop which supports young people, an allotment scheme and a community cafe.

- Sally Hanrahan



## HS2

### - is anything happening?

The short answer is not a lot, but activity is expected to pick up soon. The High Speed Rail Hybrid Bill has been returned from the House of Lords to the Commons after their Lordships' amendments, and Royal Assent was received on 23 February.

CPRE Northamptonshire is continuing to engage with the project. We are particularly concerned about infrastructure and landscape design, and countryside access during the years of construction. Last year a 45-member Design Panel was announced with a remit to "make the country proud and show the world what great British design can do" - fine words if they are ultimately realised. We will monitor the Panel's progress with great interest.

We are also liaising with South Northants Council on HS2 planning and design issues for our section of the route.

- Peter Hopkins

Following the success of our publication *Icons of Northamptonshire* we are offering members the opportunity to visit some of the icons. Each will have either short talks from an expert or written notes to provide explanation.

There will be twelve sites: most feature



Saint Mary's Church, Wellingborough

## Grand Icons Tour Saturday 6 May 2017

in the book but some, such as Apethorpe Palace and the Montagu monuments in Warkton Church, for which there was no room in *Icons*, definitely merit a visit.

The day starts with coffee and croissants at Cranford Hall (by kind permission of Sir John and Lady Robinson). A packed lunch with tea or coffee will be offered at Geddington Church between noon and 2.00pm, and finally there is a reception at Apethorpe Palace (by kind permission of His Excellency Baron Pfetten) with a glass of sparkling wine and canapés.

Highlights will be a guided visit to St Mary's Church, Wellingborough,

Bede House and Chantry at Higham Ferrers and a personal tour of Southwick Hall by the owner, Mr. Christopher Capron.

We ask members to plan their own itinerary for the day choosing to visit those sites which are of most interest to them.

We are particularly grateful to James Miller DL, the art consultant and writer, and to all those who have given their time and allowed access to sites not normally open to the public. We hope that you will enjoy planning an exciting and informative day among the Northamptonshire Icons.

If you have already joined our loyal 50/50 supporters in 2017 - thank you. If you have read the prizewinner list in Outlook in the past and wondered what it's all about and how you too can win a prize - then read on.

## There is still time to be a 2017 prizewinner in our 50/50 club

It's a very simple idea. You buy annual stakes in our 50/50 club at a rate of £1 per month - perhaps one each for you and your family members. We will remain faithful to our continuing principle: half of your stake money will help to fund our work and half will go into the prize fund.

We have decided to change the prize structure this year. Instead of the monthly draw, we will have more and higher prizes, which will be drawn at the end of each quarter (beginning the end of March). This change will help us to use our volunteer resources more effectively.

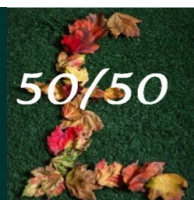
Past contributions have helped in our work with local planning authorities and parish councils and with the launch of our very successful Countryside Design Guide.

Stakeholders' support has also enabled us to work with primary schools and with village groups on the menace of litter and encouraged small rural businesses with our local Food Hero Awards. Future contributions will enable this work to continue alongside newer challenges: rail freight interchanges, design of HS2 infrastructure and appropriate solutions to the housing crisis.

The prize amounts will naturally depend on the number of stakes, but we expect that there will be three or four prizes each quarter and the first prize will be higher than in the past. You will of course be notified if you win and all prizewinners' names will be published on the homepage of our website, [www.CPRENorthants.org.uk](http://www.CPRENorthants.org.uk) and in Outlook.

Since funding is now even more difficult to find, the contribution we get from our 50/50 club will help us greatly this year. If you would like to join in the fun, please let us know by an email to [info@CPRENorthants.org.uk](mailto:info@CPRENorthants.org.uk) or a phone message on 01604 780000. If you notify us as soon as you read this in Outlook, you will be in time to join the first draw of the year.

Thank you for supporting our work of protecting the Northamptonshire countryside. It continues to need your help.



## Recent prize-winners

October:	Jane Wincott, Church Stowe £35	Kathleen Elkin, Preston Capes £25
November:	Susan Banner, Upper Heyford £35	William Usher, Aynho £25
December:	Jane Wincott, Church Stowe £35	Jane Kimbell, Grimscote £25



Will *your* village or group be litter picking this spring? Will you win a cash prize in the CPRE Northants 2017 Litter Heroes Awards?

## Litter Heroes Awards

Last year's litter campaign was our best for many years, but we can do even better.

Our campaign dates are easy - the months of March and April. But as we say every year, any group in the county who holds a litter pick between now and early summer could win a cash award.

The awards will again be a **main prize of £500 and three runner-up prizes of £150**. And if we see a good number of

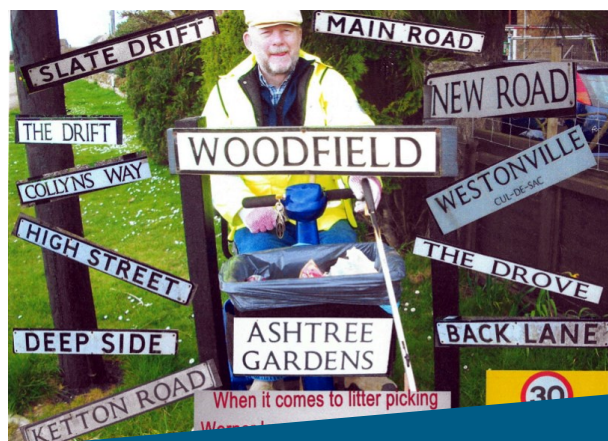


entries from children and young people, we will **add a further £150 prize** just for them. The prize money may be spent on any community-related project in the local area of the winning group.

Last year, a cheque for £500 went to Little Houghton, for their superb entry which told the story of how the day was planned, how the village school worked on litter posters, how local volunteers were organised, what was collected, which village groups participated and how they planned to spend the prize money if successful.

The runners-up were Brigstock, Blisworth and Towcester, who each received cheques for £150. It was clear that there was a great community spirit and sense of involvement from village residents and local organisations.

As these communities and many others have shown, groups working together can "do something about it". To enter this year's Awards, email your best half dozen picking photographs to us at ([info@CPRENorthants.org.uk](mailto:info@CPRENorthants.org.uk)), with a few paragraphs (around 300 words) telling us how it was organised and what happened at your litter pick. If



## Is he Northamptonshire's litter super hero?

As a result of Werner Schulze's unselfish and strenuous efforts, Collyweston is a litter-free zone. For the past 13 years he has been busy picking up carelessly discarded litter around the village from his mobility scooter, collecting over 400 full bin bags and clocking up some 550 hours of unpaid work.

Werner has now hung up his litter-grabber to enjoy a well-earned rest - although he has said he would still keep an eye on his immediate patch. Old habits die hard.

you choose to hold your litter pick outside of March and April, that's fine by us. However we will be judging some time in July, so please send your entries as soon as you have them and before the end of June.

Please let us know your planned pick date, by an email to [info@CPRENorthants.org.uk](mailto:info@CPRENorthants.org.uk).

Happy picking!

CPRE Northants litter campaign team

## Corby Needs You

CPRE Northamptonshire is looking for a volunteer to help keep an eye on planning in Corby and the surrounding area. A few hours per week is all that is required. No previous knowledge of planning is necessary as you will work with a team of volunteers headed by Alan Mayes.

If you would like more information please call Sally Hanrahan - 01604 780000 or [Sally.Hanrahan@cprenorthants.org.uk](mailto:Sally.Hanrahan@cprenorthants.org.uk)

## Find the Profession Quiz - Spring 2017

The quiz comprises 40 fun clues to the professions and will be enjoyed by friends and family alike. Question sheets will be distributed by CPRE members at gatherings in the spring. You have until 30 June to post or email your answer to us.

If you're able to sell copies, £2 each, please call or email and we'll post them to you. Minimum of 10.

Sally Hanrahan - 01604 780000 [Sally.Hanrahan@cprenorthants.org.uk](mailto:Sally.Hanrahan@cprenorthants.org.uk)

**£50 first prize £25 second prize**

All proceeds go to countryside protection



CPRE campaigns for a sustainable future for the English countryside, a vital but undervalued environmental, economic and social asset to the nation. We want our Awards to recognise projects in Northamptonshire that

- protect the countryside
- assist urban renewal
- improve everyone's quality of life

Each winner will receive a prestigious CPRE Mark brass plaque and certificate.

Nominations should be submitted by **30 September 2017**. Entries will be assessed

during October and the winners will be announced in November. A ceremony for the presentations will be scheduled around Christmas time.

## Town and Country Awards

- Peter Hopkins

Anyone may submit a nomination. Please visit [www.cprenorthants.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.cprenorthants.org.uk/campaigns) to download the leaflet (see left) and use the nomination form.

*Thanks to Suzanne Bowen for this stunning photograph of a starling murmuration at sunset. The setting is Summer Leys, an area of former gravel pits in the Nene valley west of Wollaston, now a fine country park.*



## Housing ... Housing ... Housing

Calling all Parish Councils - you may want to attend the CPRE Northamptonshire Roadshow on 27 April at 6 pm at Great Houghton Village Hall.

Rebecca Pullinger will talk about the new Housing White Paper and its likely impact on our countryside. She will explain how CPRE are responding to the consultation. She will also give

updates on other current issues relating to the Planning System. Rebecca is an expert at CPRE's National Office where she runs the Planning Hotline and the Planning Help website and is also responsible for the Planning network bulletins - she is therefore very much in the midst of current planning issues.

- Alan Mayes

## Dates for your diary

### ◆ Northamptonshire Grand Icons Tour

Saturday 6 May, 9.00 am - 6.00 pm

The Tour begins at Cranford Hall and finishes at Apethorpe Hall

£40 including coffee and croissants, lunch and concluding with sparkling wine and canapés

See article & enclosed leaflet

### ◆ Mill House Open Garden

Friday 14 July 7.00 - 9.30 pm, East Haddon

£12 including refreshments

By kind permission of Gill and Ken Pawson

## Don't throw your copy of OUTLOOK away ...

... please pass it on to someone you know who is interested in rural England. You might like to take it to the waiting room of your doctor's or dentist's surgery. Let it be enjoyed by others and spread the word about what we do.