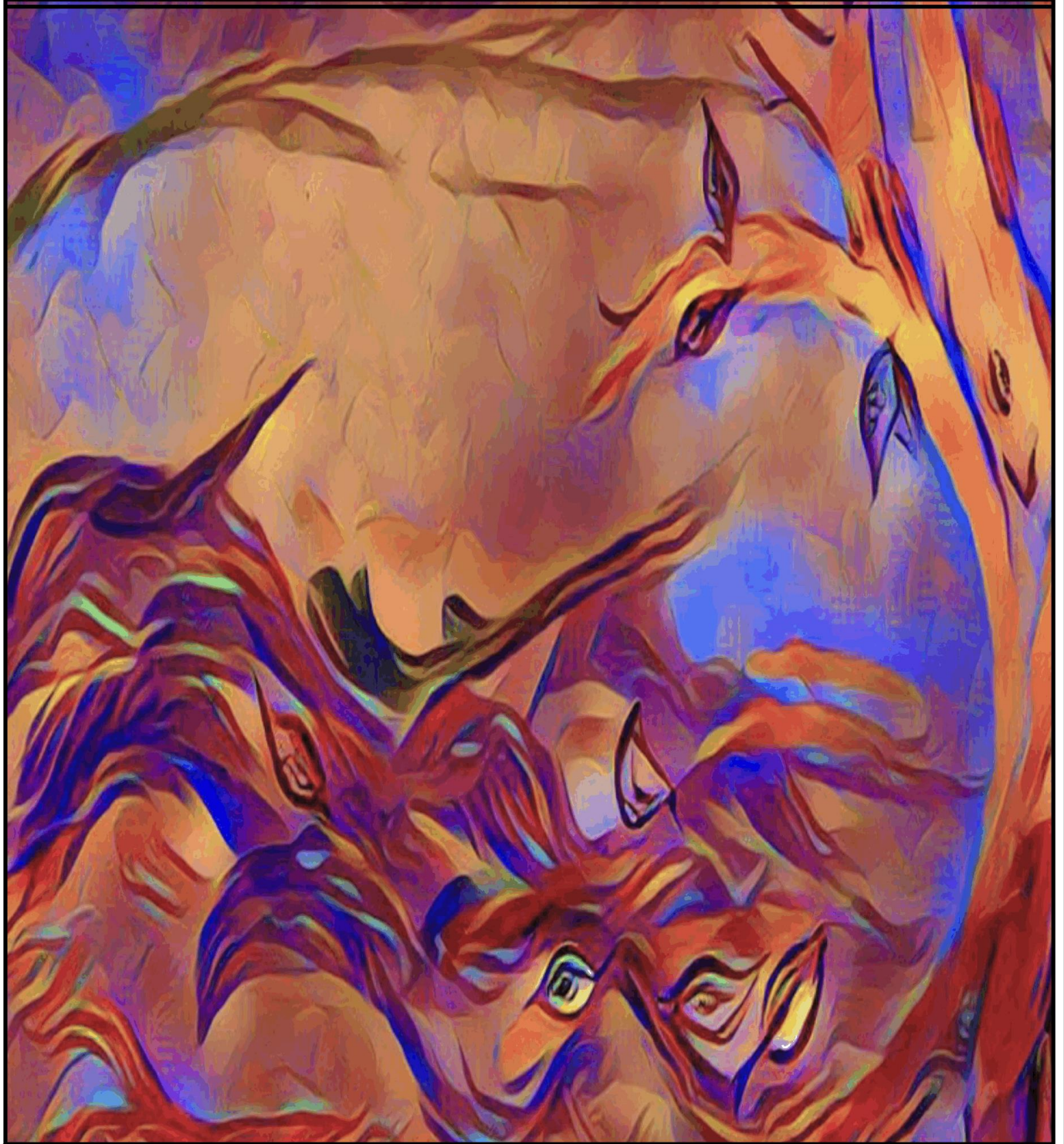


# Rowell Heritage

Rothwell Arts & Heritage Centre



No: 26    September - October 2018    £2

Dear Readers

Welcome to the autumn edition of Rowell Heritage magazine.

In this issue we have articles written by two of our volunteers about family life in Rothwell and one by a volunteer explaining what he does in the centre.

We also have the 4<sup>th</sup> part in our Pubs Past and Present series.

We hope you enjoy reading them and remember we'd love to hear from any of you who have a story to tell or photographs to show.

Please encourage your family and friends to share their memories and write them down. You can email them to us (address below) or drop them into the centre. Don't worry about them being typed up or how short they are. We'll sort them out.

Or maybe you'd prefer to come into the centre, have a cuppa and talk to one of the volunteers and let them do the writing? After all, without these stories we have no magazine and we feel it is so important to preserve them.

If you don't have your own story to share how about volunteering to be a researcher for us? You can work in the centre or at home, whichever suits you best.

---

**Address:** Rothwell Arts & Heritage Centre, 14-16 Bridge Street, Rothwell, Northamptonshire, NN14 6JW

**Telephone:** (01536) 711550

**Open Monday to Saturday 10.00 am – 12.30 pm**

**Editors of Rowell Heritage:** Barry and Valerie Panter - [editor@rothwellheritage.org.uk](mailto:editor@rothwellheritage.org.uk)

**Website:** [www.rothwellheritage.org.uk](http://www.rothwellheritage.org.uk)

**Deadline for submission of articles or adverts for January issue is December 12<sup>th</sup>**

***Please note that whilst every care is taken to be accurate, no liability will be accepted should any of the contents of this magazine be incorrect.***

Printing by Kettering Borough Council, Bowling Green Road, Kettering Northants



# Arts and Heritage Centre News

We'd like to take start this month by giving you an update on the centre and the volunteers.

Have you noticed the new signage at the front? It looks very smart and there is now no reason not to find us.

We are also happy to introduce and welcome some new volunteers.

Firstly, in the tea room and on the refreshment side we have Lin, who started a while back and who is now a regular in the kitchen and we have recently been joined by Alison too.

Next we have Cheryl, who is helping us with research for the magazine and she has also started a search for the oldest living resident born in Rothwell. Do you know of, or are you a Rowellian over the age of 95? If so Cheryl would love to hear from you, maybe have a chat and share some of your memories in our magazine.

Please contact her in one of the following ways:

- Email [mrscheryleverett@gmail.com](mailto:mrscheryleverett@gmail.com)
- Phone 07956341335
- Or pop into the Arts and Heritage Centre on a Thursday or Friday morning.

Unfortunately we are sad to be saying farewell to two long standing members of the team.

Our archive manager, Cliff, announced recently that after eight years of scanning, documenting and archiving he will be leaving his post at the end of the year. We have been very lucky to have had his help and expertise for so long especially as he only came for a year! We're sure he won't disappear completely.

The good news is that two new people have volunteered to give some help in that department and Cliff has already started training them. So welcome to Nicki and Sue.

Last but not least we say a temporary farewell to Ray who has been employed as the centre manager since 2013. Ray's post came to an end last month and he is taking a well-earned rest now but hopefully will be returning as a volunteer later in the year. So we'd like to take this opportunity to thank him too and acknowledge all he has done during the last those five years. We look forward to seeing him again too.

So... if you have a few hours to spare each week/month then why not call into the centre and have a chat and see if there is something you can help us with. We are unable to keep the centre going without our volunteers so you will be very welcome.

And don't forget, if you have any items or photographs to donate (or loan) please do contact us. Similarly, we'd love to hear from anyone who has a story to share in the magazine. Articles may be submitted by anyone as long the article or the author has a connection with Rothwell or the area.



Rothwell Arts & Heritage Centre

Est. 2004



01536 710422

# John NEWMAN

HAIRDRESSING&BEAUTY

✉ info@johnnewmanhairdressing.co.uk  
f www.facebook.com/jnhairandbeauty  
t www.twitter.com/JohnNewmanHair  
i www.instagram.com/johnnewmanhair

## Opening Times

MONDAY	09:00 – 18:00
TUESDAY	08:00 – 18:00
WEDNESDAY	08:00 – 21:00
THURSDAY	09:00 – 20:00
FRIDAY	08:00 – 18:00
SATURDAY	08:00 – 16:30
SUNDAY	Closed

19 Bridge Street Rothwell NN14 6JW



Call for appointment or free consultation 01536 710422

www.johnnewmanhairdressing.co.uk



## Leading Ear Care Specialists achieving amazing results time and time again

**From the moment of the hearing aids being switched on Mr Barton said he could hear his wife talking to the dog in the kitchen!**

Mr Barton shares his full experience at Hear4u and how his new hearing aids have changed his day to day life.

With new clients at Hear4u and we always aim to please!

**For your Free Hearing Assessment call Rothwell 01536 713775**

Mr Barton has suffered with a hearing loss since the young age of 8 years old, so has been using hearing aids for most of his childhood and adult life. Just before Christmas he accidentally dropped his hearing aids in the toilet (we are almost all guilty of dropping objects such as mobile phones down the loo). Panicking on how he would manage to carry on through his day to day life without his hearing aids, he used some 15 years old NHS hearing aids that have been in the draw to see him through - unfortunately having no luck, continuing to struggle.

Hear4u ordered Mr Barton some Unitron Moxi Fit 600 as requested by the customer. These were received next day and Mr Barton was booked in for a home visit delivery as soon as possible.



Our fantastic audiologist arrived at Mr Barton's house prompt with all the equipment needed, including his new hearing aids! Paris professionally fitted the hearing aids and made sure Mr Barton was comfortable with the fit and settings of the aid. From the moment of the hearing aids being switched on Mr Barton said he could hear his wife talking to the dog in the kitchen. Mr Barton had not heard certain sounds for a long time, for example if people are in a different room having a conversation. He could also hear the wind and the rain on the conservatory roof again something he could not hear with his old hearing aids.

**Fabulous home service available**



Mr Barton was delighted he was receiving his new hearing aids in the comfort of his own home, not having to go outside of his comfort zone or worrying how he will travel to his appointment. Paris was very thorough explaining procedures and the technology of the hearing aid, for example; how the hearing aids work, plus how to change wax traps, batteries, domes and what is included in the Hear4u package. Mr Barton is over the moon with his hearing aids, how they fit, how they look- they are smaller, sleeker and better sounding compared to his old hearing aids.

### Hear4u Rothwell:

28 Bridge Street, Rothwell  
Northamptonshire,  
NN14 6JW  
Tel: 01536 713775

Come in today for a **FREE** consultation and hearing test.

[www.hear4u.co.uk](http://www.hear4u.co.uk)



## Pleasant Place, Desborough Road Rothwell - *by Ann Rowlett*

Pleasant Place is a row of terraced houses situated in the brow of Desborough Road, on the right hand side when ascending the hill. Now they bear the numbers 46 to 52 and there is a plaque dating them to 1833.

Originally there were four houses of 2 rooms up and 2 down, plus outhouses of toilet and barn, in a yard. Access to the backs of the middle two houses was via number 52.

For many years these houses were the only ones up the hill, apart from the cottage and outbuildings of number 58, which was attached to a paddock, which in turn bordered on to Fanny Joyce's Lane. The latter was named after a former occupant of the said cottage, which at some time in the past had been a Blacksmith's.

Pleasant Place itself, in the 1920's or 30's, had a shop at number 48. My memories are from the 1940's as I lived there from my birth until I left home. I visited it until my father's death in the 1980's.

In 1939, at the onset of war, my parents wanted to open a small general store, which was to be my mother's war work. At the time they lived in the house they had built in 1933 when they were married. It was across the road at number 53. They applied to open a shop there but permission was refused. Number 52 Pleasant Place came on the market together with number 50, which had a sitting tenant. It appears that a commercial venture was viable on this side of the road, possibly because there had been one previously at number 48.

So my parents moved across and established a small general store (corner shop) in the front room on number 52. This left them with just one room downstairs and two bedrooms, one of which they converted into a bathroom with indoor toilet.

The plan had been that the tenant next door would move out and the two houses would be knocked into one. However, the war intervened and prevented this happening for the next ten years.

At first it didn't matter as there was only the two of them and they built on a 'glass place' (today would be referred to as a conservatory) and that was used as the kitchen. It was freezing in winter and boiling in summer. Then I came along so things were a bit cramped. But then dad had to serve in the army so once again it was big enough.

My early memories are of the shop. When the bell rang, as the customers stepped down into it, I would run in shouting 'shop' to mum and then I would help her serve. But that was only if they were people we knew in case a stranger turned out to be an inspector, out to catch 'child workers'.

I loved to dress the window, which was big enough for me to climb into and sit in. This was particularly enjoyable at Christmas time. Many of our customers paid into a club for many weeks to save up for extras, especially Selection Boxes, which were very elaborate for the time and which we used to display until they were all claimed by the purchasers.

One day I was very upset when a customer came in when I was in the window and offered my mother sixpence for the little girl in the window. After that, I always ran away and hid whenever she came in. Other memories are of sitting on the seat we had outside the shop. On hot days it was used by many customers to consume 'home made' ice cream or lemonade after toiling up the hill. As a very young child I would sit and watch convoys of soldiers going by. I associated them with my daddy who had gone away when I was very young. The other connection with the war was when prisoners from the camp at Desborough, came in to the shop. At first mum was a little scared of them and I was sent away but gradually she accepted them and allowed me to stay. They said they had little ones at home and eventually I was even allowed to accept small gifts from them, like miniature doll's furniture made out of matchboxes.

In 1949 we were able to convert the present house and next door (number 50) into one dwelling. This was quite an undertaking as the upper ceilings were removed revealing straw-like material which spread dust and dirt everywhere. (Could it have been the remains of original thatching or what?) The roofing at that time was slate and was later replaced with tiles.

The shop ceased trading in 1954 and the room converted to living accommodation but until it was sold in the 1990's it retained the old shop window. (I assume that had been put in when the shop was opened). The doorway was also retained but with a new door but this was blocked up when the property changed ownership.

## Dad's Story

The winter of 1947 was an extremely harsh one with temperatures not going above 40c in February and with heavy snow on the roads. However on 15th an ambulance made it to Rothwell and picked up a pregnant lady. My dad decided he couldn't wait to say hello to the world and the ambulance stopped half way up Windmill Cottages Hill (now the A14) especially for his arrival.

Dad lived at 5 Wales Street, The Square, which is no longer there but backed out towards what is now Greening Road Park and belonged to Guilford's Farm. He lived at The Square until he was 10 when he, an only child and my Nan and Granddad moved to Elizabeth Road.

Dad went to Rothwell Infant School and then to Rothwell Juniors in Gladstone Street where Mr Davies was Head.



Now I am not sure what dad was doing in the Paddock (Greening Road Park) especially when it was full of cows, but he was shot at a few times by the farmer for it.

If that wasn't quite cheeky enough he would go to Clarks General Store and ask the man there for catapult elastic, which he was given but told not to speak of it. Clarks was a small shop next to what used to be The Working Men's Club. The shop had many unmarked draws and cupboards but the lady there, to my dad's amazement knew just where everything was kept.

Next to the Charter Inn was a Fruit and Veg shop where you could also get a haircut. The hairdresser's nickname was Wiggy and the children called him this because he wore a red wig. Dad had his haircut cut there because my nan said it was cheaper than Newman's.

Dad also liked Buswell's where he used to take his accumulator to get it charged up so that he could listen to the wireless radio at home. Buswell's was the first shop in Rothwell to have a television in the window ... and probably the last.



At Secondary Modern School he remembers Mr Hamilton and Mrs Ingram.

He especially remembers the infamous Mr Collinson who had a cane with a cork sellotaped to the end which had been known to land in my dad's palm! (ouch)



Dad swam twice in the Rothwell outdoor swimming pool before it was closed down and filled in. The pool was at the bottom of the Recreation Ground and made of corrugated green tin. It was filled from the water from the brook.... now apparently it wasn't very nice but the children swam there regardless.

One of dad's best friends was Barry Hales and is pictured in the Secondary school photo. Barry was also dad's best man when he married in the late 60's. Apparently dad and Barry got up to a lot of mischief together but nothing I can possibly tell you here.

The name of one of the other boys in the Secondary School photo was Clarke. Dad recalls that many years later around 1980 he visited the hospital after managing to cut the top of his finger off. Mr Clarke, who was then a surgeon, reminisced with him while sewing his finger back on for him.

In 1962 aged 15, dad and his parents moved to 58 Meadow Road and that's when he started to work for Bob Fox as an apprentice carpenter. One of his first jobs was building houses just across the road at Edinburgh Close. He also helped to rebuild Rothwell Football Stand after the previous one had been burned down in a fire. Two pounds fifty a week was the wage for fifty-two and half hours a week. Then in 1969 dad took on a job as a carpenter for Mr John Coleman. The yard he worked from was at The Chequers, which is now Tesco Express and most of the work dad did then was at the local Grocock's Shoe Factory.

Dad is still living in Rothwell although now retired after working for many years for Kettering Web/Chronicle and Echo. He is a keen fisherman and great granddad of three children who are all also living in Rothwell.

There are no names in this article but I hope through the photos and memories of your own you may already know my dad.

Two photos of my Nan and Granddad when they lived at Fox Lane Cottages Rothwell.





# Newmans of Rothwell <sup>Est 1922</sup>

10 Market Hill Rothwell. NN14 6EP



## Complete watch & clock service

All watch batteries and repairs fully guaranteed

### Watch Batteries



From

# £5.00

Fitted with full  
12 month Guarantee

### Watch Batteries

Over 50 different type of batteries in stock to fit any make of watch or clock.

### Watch Repairs

Any make of watch repaired with free estimates on all repairs.



### Watch Straps & alterations

Strap alterations and repairs including new pins, buckles and clasps on metal & leather straps.



### Lifetime Guarantee Watch Batteries



# £15.00

You will never need to pay  
for another battery for your  
watch/timepiece

We also repair and buy second hand quality watches



## Jewellery Repair Service

Ring re-sizing, stone replacements, necklace & bracelet repairs on any Gold, Silver and precious metals.

Free Estimates, all repairs fully guaranteed.



follow us on  
**twitter**

Telephone: 01536 660758  
Email: [newmansofrothwell@gmail.co.uk](mailto:newmansofrothwell@gmail.co.uk)





## Restoring Old Photographs *by Keith Vincent*

January/February 2013 was bitterly cold and having recently moved back to the area I needed some interest to get me out of the house. So started a relationship with Rothwell Art and Heritage Centre.

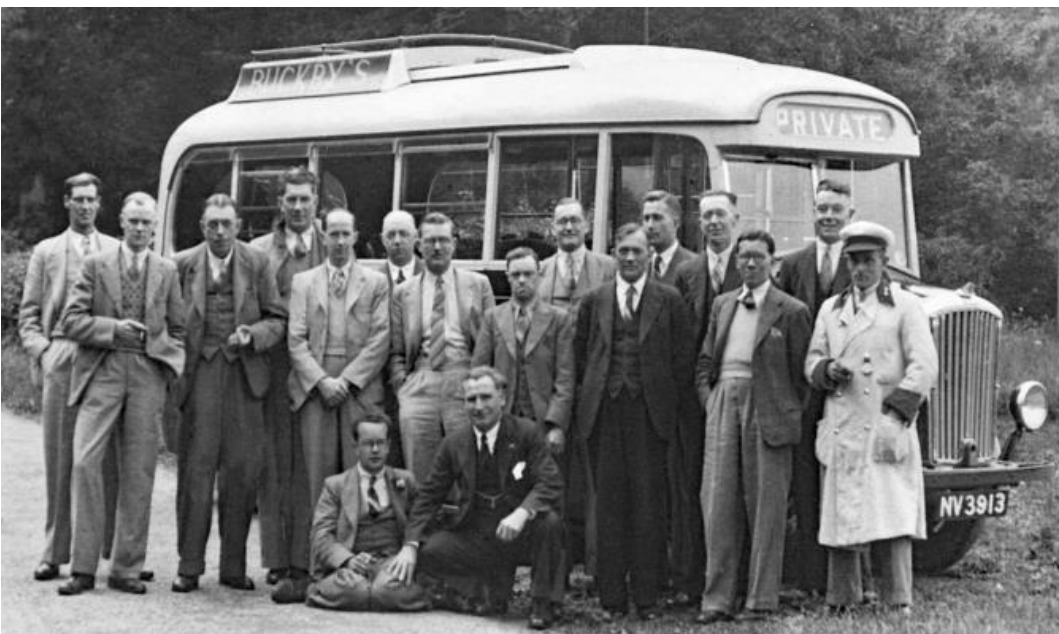
With my interest in Photography, I had some experience of digitally restoring old photographs.

At this stage I didn't realise how many old photos the centre had digitally archived. I have been informed that there must have been around a thousand images at this point, in various stages of dilapidation, split edges, blemishes, stains, scratches, to name a few. Some of course, are too badly damaged to be rescued.

Below are two images of a Buckby's Charabanc trip of Desborough and Rothwell Photographic Society on a day trip to the Cotswolds in the 1930's. The photo has special interest to me because the ninth man from the left is my father Howard Vincent, a member of the society until his death in 1982.

The first photo is the original. The second has been digitally repaired. It has been returned to black and white, then sharpened. (Both are archived together in the Heritage Centre).

You will see that the gentleman fifth in from the left has a blemish on his right shoulder and the third man in from the left has scratches on his trouser leg. The original image also has a scratch down the right side.



The Society is still in existence, so if anyone has information about the picture the centre would be pleased to hear from you.

We have already identified the following:

Left to right

- 2. Bert Dyke
- 5. Fred Barlow
- 6. Lance Barlow
- 13. Henry Polmateer
- 15. Fred Buckby (Bus owner and driver)



# Janet Bassett Gallery

## Monochrome vs Colour Exhibition

Discover local art, 15th September — 1st December

An exhibition of our new and established artists, including:

### Caroline Duffield – Contemporary Artist

We welcome Caroline to her first local exhibition, since moving to the area. As an established artists she's had work displayed all over the midlands. Her big, bright and bold watercolour paintings are beautiful and exciting.



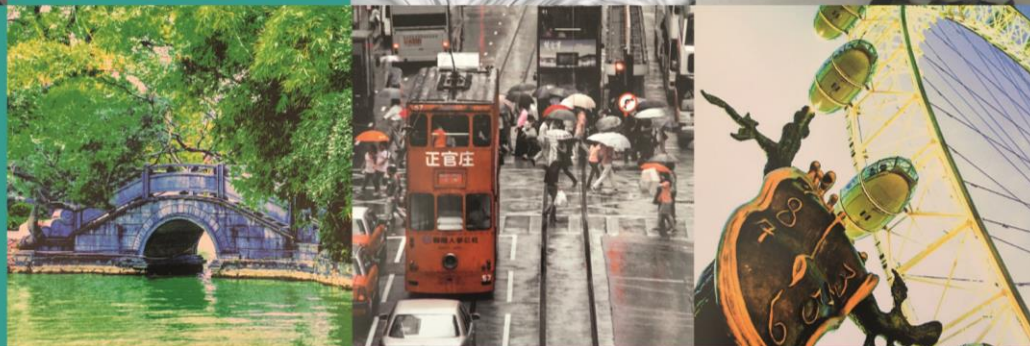
### The East Midlands Monochrome Group

Enjoy a showcase of black and white images by a group of local photographers. What will you discover?



### (HRM Howard) Howard Marshall


An exhibition of abstract images and traditional photos, raising questions of your perceptions.



Upstairs at Rothwell Arts & Heritage Centre, 10am — 12.30pm Mon to Sat.  
14-16 Bridge Street, Rothwell, Northamptonshire, NN14 6JW.

[rothwellheritage.org.uk](http://rothwellheritage.org.uk) | T: 01536 711550 | E: [rothwellheritage@gmail.com](mailto:rothwellheritage@gmail.com)





# Janet Bassett Gallery

In every edition, the Janet Bassett Gallery will endeavour to feature either an established or new artist who have exhibited in our gallery.

This time we explore the beautiful painted landscapes of **Pat Bustin**.

Pat is a life long and well established artist. Originally from north Bedfordshire, she now spends time at her Lowick cottage and in north Norfolk where she has another gallery exhibition too.

Pat's paintings are vibrant in colour and filled with emotional large brush strokes, bringing the countryside to life often on large canvases. Pat creates both Northamptonshire and Norfolk outdoor scenes.



Pat's works are much sought after, both in this country and overseas, regularly exhibiting with the Pastel Society and the Society of Women Artists in the Mall Gallery. The Janet Bassett Gallery often exhibits her work and has done for a number of years. It's always a joy to see the colours that portray the changing seasons. Her work can be viewed and enjoyed by appointment either in Lowick or at her Norfolk gallery.



Exhibiting in our Summer Showcase was up and coming new local artist **Joanna Almond**. A fresh talent making inspirational and engaging works. We are excited for her future creations.

Find us at Rothwell Arts & Heritage Centre

## The NHS – Then and Now – by Val Panter

As you all probably know, this year the NHS celebrated its 70th birthday.

Recently my niece gave birth to her first child and the care she received from the midwives, doctors and nurses was second to none.

Unlike her female relatives before her who had to wait 3 months for confirmation from a doctor that she was pregnant, a home test gave the result after just a few weeks.

She was scanned and checked regularly and at 32 weeks when worried about the baby's lack of movement it was arranged that baby should be monitored every other day on the Fetal Health Unit. She was hooked up to a monitor so that she could hear the reassuring heartbeat of her baby.

At 38 weeks, she was admitted to hospital as a precaution and then at 39 it was decided it would be safer to deliver the baby by caesarean section. Throughout it all her partner was with her, unlike the days when men were totally banished from the room.

At home there is a machine for sterilising bottles and another like a coffee machine which makes up the formula. Gone are the terry towelling nappies and plastic pants and there is no bottom drawer for this little one either but instead he has a Moses basket and crib.

Pat, one of our volunteer has written about her experience as a first time mum giving birth prematurely in the late 1950's.

It tells a very different story to that of today.

---

*On 5 July 1948, the NHS was launched by the then Health Secretary, Aneurin Bevan, at Park Hospital in Manchester (today known as Trafford General Hospital).*

*For the first time, hospitals, doctors, nurses, pharmacists, opticians and dentists were brought together under one umbrella to provide services which were to be free at the point of delivery.*

*In those 70 years we have seen huge medical advances and improvements to public health and most of us can expect to live longer as a result. Thanks to improved public health and vaccinations, diseases such as polio and diphtheria have been almost eradicated in the UK. There have been new treatments including kidney, liver, heart and lung transplants and amazing improvements in the survival of strokes and cancer. Technology plays an important part in not only the treatment of illnesses but also in things like booking GP appointments and requesting our repeat medicines.*

---

## Having a Premature Baby in the 1950's – by Pat Hill

About three months after being married I realised that I might be pregnant. Geoff was delighted, I was scared, mum was angry and dad was quietly supportive. In those days the doctor wouldn't confirm pregnancy until three months in, so I had to wait a while for confirmation.

I started having high blood pressure early on in the pregnancy but I was 18 years old and can't remember being unduly worried. We mostly had babies at home in those days and your midwife came to your house to see you and mine started coming regularly to check on me. After most visits, I was told to go to bed for a few days.

One day my sister Avis came to visit me with knitting needles, wool and a pattern and told me to put them to good use. Dad bought a teddy bear. Although mum wasn't best pleased she was always there fussing over us. They did the worrying for us because Geoff and I seemed to know it would be alright. Oh the naivety of youth!



Eventually I was taken to St Mary's Hospital, put in a dark room and kept sedated. I remember being in a haze in those last weeks. At seven months duration it was decided that the Toxaemia was getting worse and baby needed to be born. We were given a 50/50 chance for the baby's survival and mine too but I never once doubted that the baby would be alright.

Kettering didn't have the facilities for premature babies so I was transferred to the Barratt Maternity Home in Northampton and put in another darkened room. Mum and Dad came to visit every afternoon and Geoff every evening, on a 'putt putt' motor bike.

My waters were broken a few days after arrival. I was still in a haze and none of it felt real. Labour started in the early hours and I remember them wheeling my bed out of the room to go to the labour ward. Then someone shouted "Haven't got time" and they pushed the bed back into my room. All I can remember of the labour is being given a ring made of bandages - to bite on! Then I was being shown her genitals and being told "Look, it's a girl". Then she'd gone. I don't know how long I was out of it after that.

Forty eight hours later I was wheeled to the baby unit to see my daughter. This lovely little girl with lots of hair was in an incubator wearing royal blue booties and a nappy. Don't worry she's got all the time in the world to grow in, I was told.

They taught me how to use a breast pump and each day I was wheeled up to see her. I was then discharged home with the breast pump and empty NHS orange juice bottles. These were sterilised at home by boiling them in a saucepan. Every morning I sent in breast milk not only for my daughter but it was also given to twins whose mum had no milk.

The bottles were parcelled up each day and taken to Kettering bus station. They were put on the 9 O'clock bus and met by a nurse in Northampton. One morning the conductor refused to take them from Geoff's dad, but he was arguing with the wrong man. They went!

When Kim was big enough to be taken out of the incubator, mum drove me to the Barratt to be taught how to breast feed her. This went on for several weeks as I remember.

Finally Kim weighed 5lb 6oz and we were told that she could come home. I was terrified. Geoff was much more confident that I was. I used to touch her when she was asleep to make sure she was still alive.

For about two years after that I took her to see Dr Wigglesworth at St Mary's Hospital to check on her progress.

This photo was taken when she was six month's old.

Kim grew up to be a nurse. I can't remember her ever wanting to do anything else and I always wonder if this came from spending her first weeks in a hospital environment.



# S. T. FLOORING

of Rothwell, Established 1987



*Beautiful Flooring for Your Home!*

Carpets, Vinyls,  
Karndean, Polyflor,  
Quick step, Laminate,  
Engineered Wood Floors,  
Rolls Available in Stock,  
Room Size Remnants

**We offer a complete  
MOBILE SERVICE**

If you are too busy or getting to our  
showroom is difficult, then we can bring  
a range of samples to your home

**FREE LOCAL DELIVERY**

**Tel: 01536 712573**

25 High St, Rothwell, NN14 6AD. [www.st-flooring.co.uk](http://www.st-flooring.co.uk)

## Cuts'n' More



### Barbers Salon

Haircuts for Gents,  
Ladies & Children.

*Also full make-up / Hair service for  
bridal & special occasions  
by Charlotte  
by appointment 077510149567*

*Open Mon & Tue 9.15am—5.00pm  
Thurs 9.15am—7.00pm,  
Fri 9.15am—5.30pm,  
Sat 8.00am—1.00pm.*

*Traditional & Contemporary Styling*

27 High Street, Rothwell, NN14 6AD

## A.J. Mills Memorial Masons

**Headstones Cremation Plaques  
Vases Name Plates  
Renovations and Additional  
Inscriptions**

*The careful handling of stone since 1970*

The Oddfellows Hall  
Rushton Road,  
Rothwell, Kettering,  
NN14 6HF  
**01536 713714**

AJ  
MILLS  
MASTER MASONS

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



## Rowell's Pubs - Past and Present (part 4)

We continue our story of Rowell's pubs and move away from the Market Place and up Castle Hill to the bottom of Gladstone Street where you once would have found **The Rifle Band Club or 'Tin Hat'**.

The original Rifle Band Club was in a bungalow built opposite to Buckby's garage, in Harrington Road. It was one of a number of alehouses scattered around Rothwell in the 1880's and the name 'Tin Hat' was a nickname acquired because the building had a galvanised iron sheet roof. When it rained the noise became so deafening a quiet evening drink was out of the question. Like most clubs it had a committee with a chairman, secretary and treasurer who managed the daily affairs. Mr John W Fairy was the secretary in 1914.



In 1928 the club moved into a building in Gladstone Street that was previously Reynolds Corset Factory. The name 'Tin Hat' went with them and remained the most popular name, undoubtedly because the new building also had a corrugated tin roof. The membership flourished in the larger premises and it became busy family meeting place.

Apart from the pub-like atmosphere there were various sporting events and the club had teams entering Snooker skittles and darts tournaments. There was even a rifle range at one end of the building. Along with annual seaside trips and children's Christmas parties, dances were very popular and the Mission and Albion Brass Bands entertaining regularly. The room upstairs where the dances were held was in later years named the Harmonic Room. It became the studio where Marjorie French held her dancing classes and an Old Time Dance team practised to perfection and achieved a number of National Trophies. This was at a time when 'Come Dancing' was on TV the first time round.

During the club's long history of almost a hundred years there have been many changes. Committees and families have come and gone and the Tin Hat survived them all, until the changes in the social life of the community brought about by more modern entertainment began to reduce the membership, as with the Working Men's Club.

In 1980 a Mr Bip acquired the Club and turned it into a night club for the younger members of the community, the upstairs Harmonic room with its beautiful sprung wooden floor was called the Function Room and used more for private and family parties.

After some hectic years and some notoriety the Club closed its doors in November 2004. The following year an application was submitted by Sheldon Developments Ltd to build 15 luxury apartments, with underground parking in its place. This was passed by Kettering Borough Council and in February 2006 the building was demolished.

Next in this issue we move back to the Market Place to **The Conservative Club**.

On October 29th 1896 a general meeting was called to propose the formation of a Conservative Club in Rothwell. The photo right shows premises in Crispin Street which belonged to Mr Buckby which were considered to be the most suitable and were accepted on the proposal of Mr E Phillips seconded by Mr Gray.

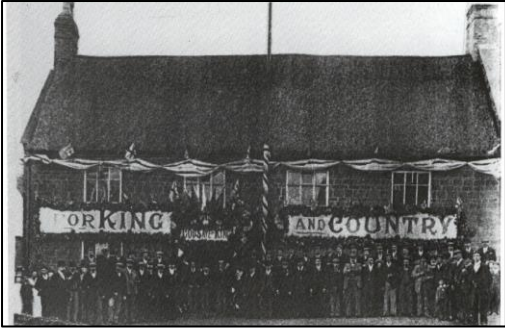


On November 6th 1896 another meeting was held for the purpose of electing officers and enrolling members. The chairman at the meeting was the vicar the Reverend W.S. Parker. Captain Wetherall of Loddington Hall was elected President. Mr G H Clemas was elected as secretary and Mr G Dimbleby as treasurer.

There were 8 committee members in all plus 4 people who were listed as honorary members and 60 ordinary members. The club would open daily at 6.30pm and at 2.30pm on Saturdays.

On Tuesday Nov 10th 1896 the bar was stocked with beer (two barrels of Double Diamond and one barrel of Treble Diamond) Also Irish Whisky, Gin, Brandy, and Ginger Brandy from Messrs Phipps Brewery. Mr Pentelow supplied two gallons of Ginger Wine, three dozen each of Spruce (Fizzy Lemonade), Ginger Ale, lemons, small sodas and 100 cigarettes.

By November 23rd the beer was all gone, and the secretary was instructed to order a fresh supply.



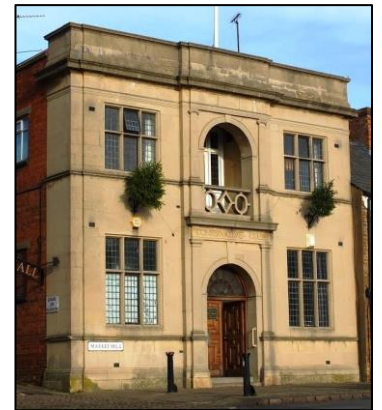
Soon the Crispin Street premises became inadequate to accommodate the huge increase in members and after some searching for a suitable building the Rev W. S. Parker offered the Church House at a rent of 5/- [25p] per week. On March 5th 1897 acceptance was confirmed and the official opening was on Rowell Fair Wednesday June 16th.

The club prospered in the centre of the town even though it only had a six-day licence. (Sunday was reserved by the Church for the Sunday schoolroom).

From the beginning the club had a very busy social life visiting other clubs for social and games nights and sometimes for dancing. When still at the Church house during the Boer War and Great War 1914-1918, sadly, over sixty members were lost on active service. In 1908 the property was bought for £650 and sometime later with a rapid growth of membership and the need for a seven day licence the building was sold back to the church for £600.

It was decided to look for a suitable site for a purpose built club and eventually No7 Market Place was acquired. This was previously a shop belonging to Mr Harry Chamberlain and at the rear of the site was Taylor and Sons Shoe Manufacturers. It was also the site of Rothwell's first workhouse.

The ground was cleared and the building began. The cost of building including furnishings was £6500 and of that £2800 was subscribed by members in £1 shares. The club was officially opened on Monday December 29th 1930 with a celebratory dinner with 300 guests from town and county.



Further extensions enabled the club to have a billiard and snooker room. In 1956, along with the skittles and darts room these were converted into a lounge & bar. There was also a lounge for a Women's Unionist Association.

Over the years the upper floor became an assembly room named the Tresham Hall. This is still in demand for social events such as weddings, celebrations and public meetings of all kinds. An outdoor bowling green was added at the rear of the building and to this day the club continues, opening daily for members to meet and socialise.

Finally in this issue we move next door to what is now Tesco Express but was where once the **Chequers Inn** stood.

According to Dr Peter Hill's list of lost inns in his book 'Rockingham Forest Revisited' the Chequers Inn was originally the 'Old Woolpack, although the date of the change is not known.

A chequer board sign indicated that board games i.e. Chess and Draughts could be played inside the Taernae (Tavern).

The innkeepers we know about start with Mr William Nutt who appears in the 1831 census. Then the Whellan directory records the following all as licenced victuallers:

- 1849 - George Smith
- 1854 - John Rands
- 1866 - Jesse Terry
- 1874-1885 William Cross (The 1881 Census indicates that his wife Sarah had joined him)
- 1885 to 1890 Joseph Cross
- 1898 Eli Thomas Sumpter 1903 - Joseph Allan Dines
- 1905 - George Joseph Hollis





Mr Roger Cosby, grandson of Mr and Mrs Hollis who bought the stock, furniture and fittings of the Chequers from Mr Ron Dines and produced the Inventory/Valuation (below) of the sale which details furniture and fixtures in all rooms, private and public. Even a passage was furnished with a table, chairs **and** a polyphone with 7 tunes.

There was still beer in the cellar and the large backyard contained a piggery, hen run and woodshed. The total value, which also included a portion of the licence, was £78-03p.

During this period the beer was supplied by Mannings Brewery and they appear to have bought the property in 1910. The family were licenced for the next 51 years. On the death of Mr Hollis in 1936, Mrs Hollis became the licensee

It must have been a busy friendly Pub with darts, skittle teams and the Polyphone for entertainment. The Darts and Skittle teams were members of the local league and played against each other on a regular basis. During the war years the Ambulance Service darts team based themselves at the Chequers and according to Mr Cosby the Home Guard team were at the New Inn, and the Air Raid Wardens in Ragsdale Street.

On the death of Mrs Hollis the Chequers finally closed down and the Inn remained empty for a short time before becoming a private residence owned by Mr Reginald Johnson. He was the son of the contractor who had built the new Conservative Club next door. Sometime later it became a 'One Stop' store before finally being taken over by Tesco's who opened for business in 2002.

Dated 20th. September 1906.

AN INVENTORY & VALUATION  
at  
THE CHEQUERS HOTEL  
ROTHWELL.

from  
Mr. Joseph Allan Dines  
to  
Mr. George Joseph Hollis.

Matthew C. Wilson  
Valuer, Kettering.

BACK BAR.  
Roller & Blind Wire Blind, 1 arm Gas Bracket, 5 Iron  
Spittoons, Rail Back Seat 7ft. x 13ins. 12ft. 6ins Seating,  
Mahogany Top Table 4ft. 6ins. 3 slat back Windsor Chairs, Iron  
Fender, Linoleum as laid.

PASSAGE.  
2 arm Gas Bracket, Square Table, deal top Oak frame, Polyphone with  
7 tunes, stuffed Pheasant in case, 9 Windsor slat back Chairs, 2  
Mahogany Tables on Stands, Bling & Roller.

TAP ROOM.  
Ash preventer, Deal Table 5ft. 6ins. x 4ft, Crossed legged deal Table,  
3 Spitcoons, Dresser with cupboard & 2 drawers, Deal form, Gas pendant  
& shade, Linoleum, Blind & roller, 1 small ditto.

YARD.  
Rustic Arch & runner, Wringer & stand, Woodshed with corrugated iron  
roof, Hen run & wire netting.

PIGGERY.  
Partitioned & Doors, Barbed wire fencing round top garden with gate,  
15 round Ladder.

FRONT OF HOUSE.  
Sign Board & Iron work, 2 Flag Poles, Flag.

I value the foregoing at the sum of Seventy six pounds sixteen  
shillings and eleven pence. £76 . 16 . 11  
Proportion of License. 1 . 3 . 4  
£78 . 0 . 3.



# Rothwells Premier Private Hire Venue

Book now for all your, Birthdays, Christenings, Anniversaries, Weddings, Funeral Wakes, Corporate Hire, Dance Classes, Fitness Clubs, Charity Events, Table Top Sales etc.



## THE OLD BARNS



• BRIDGE STREET •



Available for hire 7 days a week  
[theoldbarnsinbridgestreet@gmail.com](mailto:theoldbarnsinbridgestreet@gmail.com)  
01536 418850



## Lions Raise Money for Air Ambulance

After organising a very successful musical evening, featuring The Gretton Silver Band, Rowell & Desborough Lions Club presented The Air Ambulance Service with a Cheque for £400 pounds.

The photographs below show the band at the concert and the cheque being presented.



Left to right at the presentation are Maurice Fowler, John Allmond, Letitia Hayward, Keith Parker and Keith Brown.

## Where do you read yours?

Our magazine is really travelling far and wide now. One of our readers, Kara, is pictured below with hers in Canberra, Australia. I think that possibly holds the record for the furthest travelled.



# Jack Warwick Funeral Service

A funeral plan leaves nothing to chance and provides **peace of mind** for you and those you care about



We recommend **Independent Way funeral plans** from Golden Charter, the UK's largest provider of plans to independent funeral directors like us.

With an **Independent Way funeral plan** you'll benefit from:

- **Protection** against rising funeral costs
- **Reassurance** for your family - no uncertainty or difficult decisions
- **Complete flexibility** to choose the funeral you want

Taking out a funeral plan is one of the most **thoughtful decisions** you could make.

**Ask for more information today**

**Jack Warwick Funeral Service**, 2a Wallis Road,  
Kettering, Northamptonshire NN15 6NX

**Call (01536) 485635**

In association with

THE  
*Independent Way*

**Golden Charter**  
Funeral Plans

To find out more about golden charter funeral plans from Jack Warwick Funeral Service, please return the coupon to address above, phone us, or call in.

Mr / Mrs / Ms Initial: Surname:

Address:

Mr / Mrs / Ms Initial: Surname:

Postcode:

Tel no:

Email:

**Use of your data:** Both Golden Charter and funeral director may use your details including your email address to keep you informed about other products and services. If you would prefer not to receive this information, please tick here: ☐ Golden Charter and the funeral director respect your privacy and will not share your personal data with any third parties.



GC-LIFT 9639



## Thursday Ladies Club Autumn 2019 Programme

6 <sup>th</sup> September	Mary's Meals A scheme to send backpacks to children in Africa	Clare Farreg
13 <sup>th</sup> September	AGM	
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Harps and Nightingales A talk about Nicks music and work in schools as well as a chance to hear him play the harp	Nick Penny
27 <sup>th</sup> September	Jewellery Making Making a bracelet in an hour from recycled paper	Alison Rockett
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Gardening and Pumpkins A seasonal talk and demonstration	Russell Attwood
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Old Kettering The development of Kettering from 1868	David Capps
18 <sup>th</sup> October	A Baltic Cruise A trip to the Baltic	Shirley Tiney
25 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> October	Fashion Show – Entrance £5 - Tickets from committee, Heritage Centre or Trudi Claire	Trudi Claire

## Glendon Road Garage

**GLENDON ROAD  
ROTHWELL**



**Fully qualified technicians.  
Repairs and servicing for all  
makes and models.**

**Tyres supplied, fitted and  
Wheels balanced.**

**Welding repairs.**

**MOT and repairs.**

**Clutches, brakes, exhausts,  
cambelts, batteries & suspension**



**01536 710435**

**07891 778877**

**Local recovery & breakdown.**

**[glendonroadgarage@btconnect.com](mailto:glendonroadgarage@btconnect.com)**

# Rothwell Tiles & Bathrooms Ltd

## Our Services

Plumbing

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

Walls & floor tiling



Plastering

Electrical

[info@rothwelltiles.co.uk](mailto:info@rothwelltiles.co.uk)

Decorating



Free estimates

## Opening Times

Monday - Friday  
08.30 - 17.00

Saturday  
10.00 - 16.00

## Your Project ...with our help

Fitting service available, including the full project management of your bathroom from concept to completion.

## Our Address

1-3 Bell Hill  
Rothwell,  
Kettering  
Northants  
NN14 6ET  
Tel: 01536 711029  
Fax: 01536 418822

[rothwelltiles](http://rothwelltiles.co.uk)

[rothwelltilesandbathrooms](http://rothwelltilesandbathrooms.co.uk)

[@rothwelltiles](https://twitter.com/rothwelltiles)

## person centred counselling

in Rothwell, NN14 - NN17

Susan Moyle MBACP

highly experienced in enabling therapeutic spaces for individuals

to find self understanding  
to find relief from a range of distressing issues  
to find new authentic ways of being

offering safe and confidential sessions locally, in an accepting, understanding and authentic environment

• for further information or enquiries feel free to use website and contact details below

• [www.counselling-directory.org.uk/counsellors/susan-moyle](http://www.counselling-directory.org.uk/counsellors/susan-moyle)

• mobile: 07867931545

• email: [susanmoyle@outlook.com](mailto:susanmoyle@outlook.com)



# NED DAVIS MOTORS



Fully Qualified Technicians

Repairs and Servicing for all Makes & Models

Tyres supplied, Fitted & Balanced

Pre MOT Preparation & MOT's Arranged

Welding Repairs

Clutches, Brakes & Exhausts

Cambelts, Batteries & Suspension

Local Recovery & Breakdowns

Ned Davis Motors

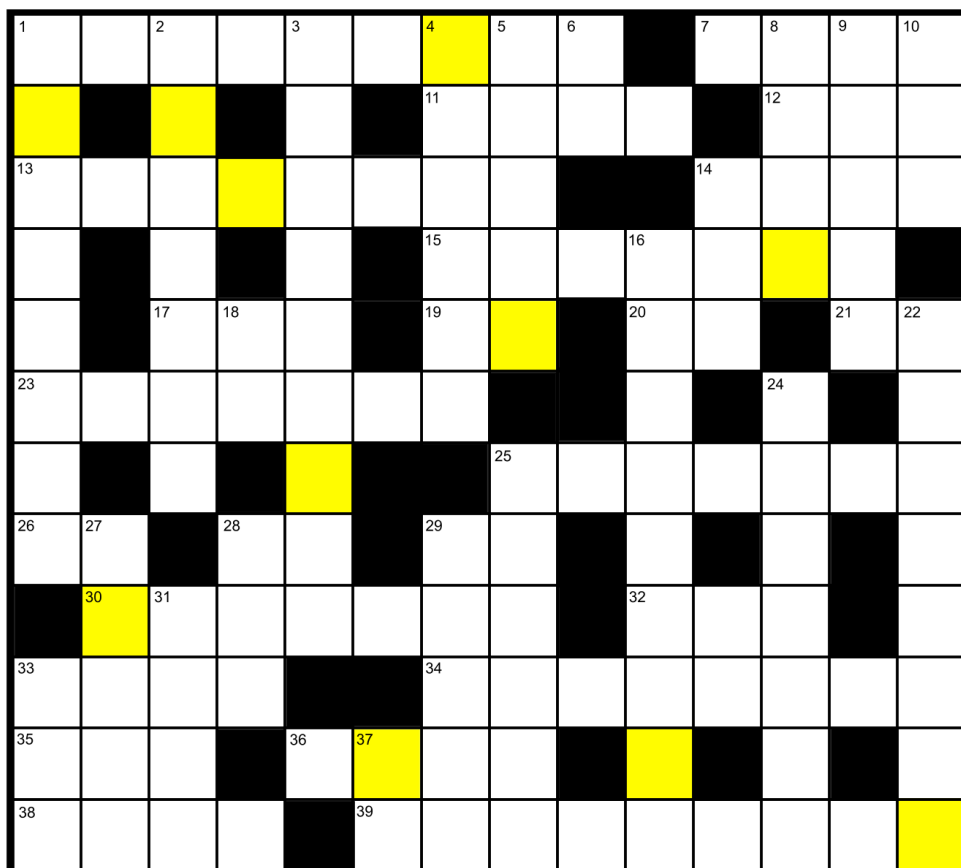
Factory Unit, Bell Hill, Rothwell, Northants. NN14 6BP

(located behind the Co-Op Store)

tel: (01536) 712552 email: [neddavismotors@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:neddavismotors@hotmail.co.uk)

Contact us for more information & quotations. (All major Credit and Debit cards accepted)





## Across

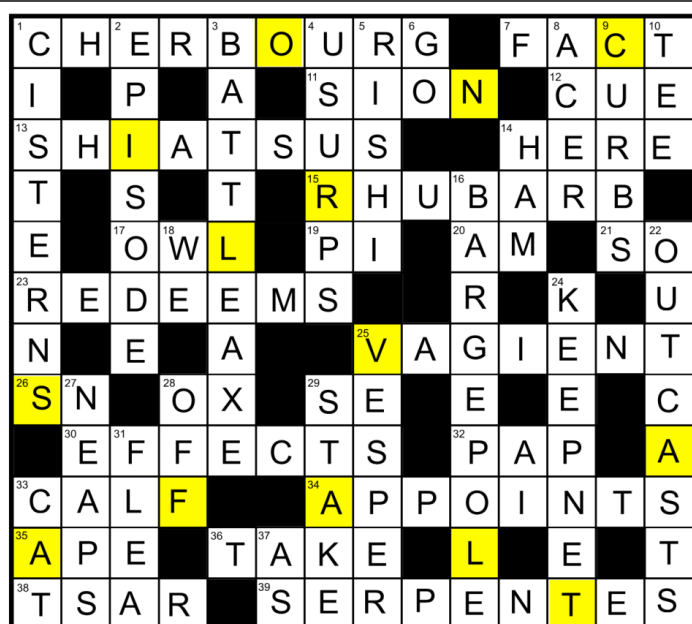
1. An upholstered bench (9)
7. One side went away (4)
11. Sets one's sights (4)
12. Tavern tipple (3)
13. Hunting with dogs (8)
14. Largest continent (4)
15. Reporters (7)
17. Tidal retreat (3)
19. Alternativley (2)
20. To increase (2)
21. Leave; depart (2)
23. Break off one of seven (7)
25. offsprings from Italy (7)
26. A clear win in boxing (2)
28. That man (2)
29. Carry out (2)
30. Baby rockers (7)
32. Tooth topper (3)
33. Type of horse cart (4)
34. Looking forward (heraldically) (8)
35. You might be hanging in a frame (3)
36. Word before dive and lake (4)
38. 270 degrees (4)
39. Vital, indispensable (9)

## Down

1. Bag for hiking (8)
2. New as in beaujolais (7)
3. Not brought under control (9)
4. Public address system (6)
5. Large Asiatic cat (5)
6. Unit of Measure (printing) (2)
8. Relax, as one's grip (4)
9. Brief love affair (5)
10. Hot infussion (3)
14. Fuse unit (3)
16. Small particle measurment (9)
18. Near; beside (2)
22. From the East (8)
24. Set of kettledrums (7)
25. Petty officers (6)
27. Earthy pigment (5)
28. Dried grass (3)
29. French Impressionist (5)
31. Wharf rodents (4)
33. Tool with teeth (3)
37. Two of us (2)

Rearrange the yellow squares to spell out an art form (11)

Answers in next issue



Answer for last issue

Carnival Floats

The most  
experienced  
NEW  
estate agent.

C&ME  
&SAY *hello!*

*Call us* 01536 418100

*Email to* [info@simonac.co.uk](mailto:info@simonac.co.uk)

*Go online* [simonac.co.uk](http://simonac.co.uk)

S I M & N   
& C O.  
E S T A T E   A G E N T S