



Letterbox

Oadby & Wigston
BOROUGH COUNCIL



oadby-wigston.gov.uk



OadbyWigstonBC



@Oadby_Wigston



Don't forget to join the Garden Waste Service – subscribe today and still receive a full 12 months of collections. More on page 22.

PUBLIC NOTICE: Members' Allowances – scheme of allowances for the remuneration of Councillors in the Borough of Oadby and Wigston.

This Public Notice is published in Accordance with Regulation 16(1) of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003. At its meeting on 24 April 2018, the Council considered the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel established to review the Scheme of Members' Allowances and adopted a Scheme for allowances for the period 10 May 2018 until 9 May 2019.

The main features of the Scheme are set out in the Schedule printed on page two. Copies of the full Scheme are available from the Council Offices during normal office hours or on the Council website at www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/pages/members_allowance_scheme.

Refuse and recycling Bank Holiday arrangements 2018

No collections will be made on the following collection dates. Please refer to the revised collection dates to see when your next collection will be made.

COLLECTION DAY

Monday 27 August
Summer Bank Holiday

REVISED COLLECTION DAYS

Refuse and recycling will not be affected.
Garden waste will be collected between Tuesday 28 August and Friday 31 August

Mayor goes behind the scenes at Jacob's bakery

The global snacking brand behind some of the UK's most loved treats, pladis, welcomed the Mayor of Oadby and Wigston, Cllr Samia Haq to the Jacob's bakery in Wigston, Leicestershire last week. Cllr Haq joined employees to learn about the exciting work that goes into creating some of Britain's favourite biscuits, as the Council continues to build close relationships with local businesses.

The factory on Canal Street in Wigston has been baking biscuits for 123 years. Factory General Manager Brian Jones gave the Mayor a tour of the site, which produces 19,000 tonnes of biscuits every year - equivalent to 1,500 double decker buses.

Cllr Samia Haq, Mayor of Oadby and Wigston, said: "It was a privilege to visit the factory yesterday and to hear the optimism from the management team of growth and job opportunities.

"The site in South Wigston with its pioneering technology and creativity is growing from strength to strength and is an integral part of the Borough's economic development. As a council we are committed to ensuring a good working relationship and that it continues to prosper. My sincere thanks to the management and staff for making the visit possible."

Brian Jones, Wigston Factory General Manager pladis, UK&I, said: "We were delighted to take the Mayor behind-the-scenes to reveal the sheer scale of our baking operations, as well as the hundreds of fantastic people that work exceptionally hard to create these much-loved treats. We look forward to working ever more closely with the Mayor and the Council as we continue to grow."

As many as 700 employees work to bake biscuits 24 hours a day during the busiest times of year, making it one of the largest employers in the area.



Public Notice continued: Schedule

A Basic Allowance of £4,750 shall be paid to each Councillor.

A Special Responsibility Allowance (SRA) shall be paid to those Councillors (in addition to the Basic Allowance) who hold the special responsibilities in relation to the Authority as specified below. The amount of each such allowance shall be the amount specified against that special responsibility.

	SRA (£)
Leader of the Council	10,000
Deputy Leader of the Council (halved where shared*)	2,500*
Leader of the Opposition Group (pro rata based on the total membership of groups where applicable #)	2,500#
Chairman of Policy, Finance & Development, Service Delivery, Development Control	3,500
Vice Chairman of Policy, Finance & Development, Service Delivery, Development Control	1,150
Chairman of Council (Mayor)	3,500
Vice Chairman of Council (Deputy Mayor)	1,000
Chairman of Licensing & Regulatory Committee	2,500
Vice Chairman of Licensing & Regulatory Committee	1,000
Generic Task Group Chairman Allowance (pro rata if the Group disbands)	1,000
Change Management Committee Chairman	1,000
Community Engagement Forum Chairman	1,000
Children and Young Peoples' Forum Chairman	1,000
Community Safety Partnership Chairman (where it is a Member of the Council)	1,000
Place Shaping Working Group Chairman	1,000
Health and Wellbeing Board Chairman	1,000
Residents' Forum Chairman(s)	1,000
Members Standards Complaints – Adjudication Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	50* or 100**
Member of Licensing Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	30* or 60**
Member of Internal Interview Panel (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	50* or 100**
Representative on Outside Body (up to 4 hours*, over 4 hours** per attendance)	30* or 60**

Moving your recycling to wheeled bins

At its meeting on 24 April, 2018, Oadby & Wigston Borough Councillors approved proposals to move to wheeled bins for the collection of kerbside recycling. This decision forms part of the Council's wider plans to protect and improve services to residents.

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Leader, Cllr John Boyce and Cllr David Carter explained the decision:

"Whilst the move from disposable recycling bags to wheeled recycling bins is earlier than anticipated, it is a necessity for the Council.

"We want our Borough to recycle as much as possible, reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill and minimise the litter that can be caused by using recycling bags, and evidence from our waste consultation in 2017, along with feedback to the Council through the Customer Service Centre is that our residents are receptive to the introduction of wheeled bins over bags, whilst keeping our weekly collections.

"So, by keeping our recycling collection weekly and moving to bins, it will significantly reduce the amount of plastic the Council uses and make it easier for our residents to co-mingle their recycling, increasing the amount we recycle and reduce costs."

Important things to remember:

- Every household will receive a 240 litre (unless pre-opted for 140 litre) wheeled bin with a brown lid by the end of July, 2018
- Items that can be recycled are not changing
- Weekly collections will continue and your collection day will remain the same
- Use your wheeled recycling bin as soon as you receive it and recycle as much as possible

The Council is no longer collecting textiles, clothes and shoes at the kerbside, and putting textiles into the recycling bins or bags can cause serious problems at the recycling facility. The material can get trapped and damage machinery, slowing down the recycling process.

Every year an estimated 300,000 tonnes of used clothing goes to landfill in the UK. The National "Love Your Clothes" campaign is dedicated to helping inspire and influence us to keep clothing out of the bin. The site loveyourclothes.org.uk offers advice on removing stains, mending and repairing clothes and upcycling items. It also offers ideas on how to swap or donate items of clothing. Alternatively, clothes suitable for re-use can be taken to your local charity shop, or recycled at the designated textile banks located across the Borough, see below, or the Recycling and Household Waste Site on Wigston Road, Oadby, LE2 5JE.



Oadby:

Uplands Park, 39 Uplands Road, LE2 4NT
Coombe Park, Coombe Rise, LE2 5TU
East Street Car Park, 8 Harborough Road, LE2 5AF
Sandhurst Street Car Park, LE2 5AR

Wigston:

The Pavilion, Horsewell Lane, LE18 2HR

South Wigston:

Countesthorpe Road Car Park, LE18 4PG

For a full list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) relating to recycling and the introduction of wheeled bins, please visit: www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/recycling_faqs

2018 Sport Relief Challenge - Wigston to Norderstedt

Between March 17-23, 90 Oadby and Wigston Borough Council employees raised money for Sports Relief, by collectively walking the 1 million steps (500 miles) it takes to get from the Council Offices in Wigston to the twinned town of Norderstedt in Germany.

Steps were recorded by a pedometer, smart phone app or fitness tracker, and participants were given the individual goal of achieving 5,000 steps a day. Amazingly the initial goal was reached after only two days and the team was able to eventually reach Timbuktu in Mali, after recording a brilliant 5,5129,65 steps (2750 miles).

Although the challenge was a fantastic way for individuals to get more physically active and improve their health, it also resulted in £591 being raised for charity.

Key Achievement's

Of the ninety Council employees who took part in the challenge:

- 79 people walked over 35,000 steps (17.5 miles) in a week, which is up Mount Kilimanjaro
- 9 people walked over 100,000 steps (50 miles) in a week, which is up and down Mount Everest
- 26 people walked over 70,000 steps (35 miles) in a week, which is up Mount Everest, Mount Snowdon and Scafell pike.

Air quality in the Borough

The Council annually sets out an Annual Status Report on air quality across the Borough. This forms part of a review and assessment process required under the Environment Act 1995. The report is sent to the government as part of the National Air Quality Strategy.

Briefing papers on the Borough's Air Quality in 2017 were circulated to the Community Forums in February and March, 2018.

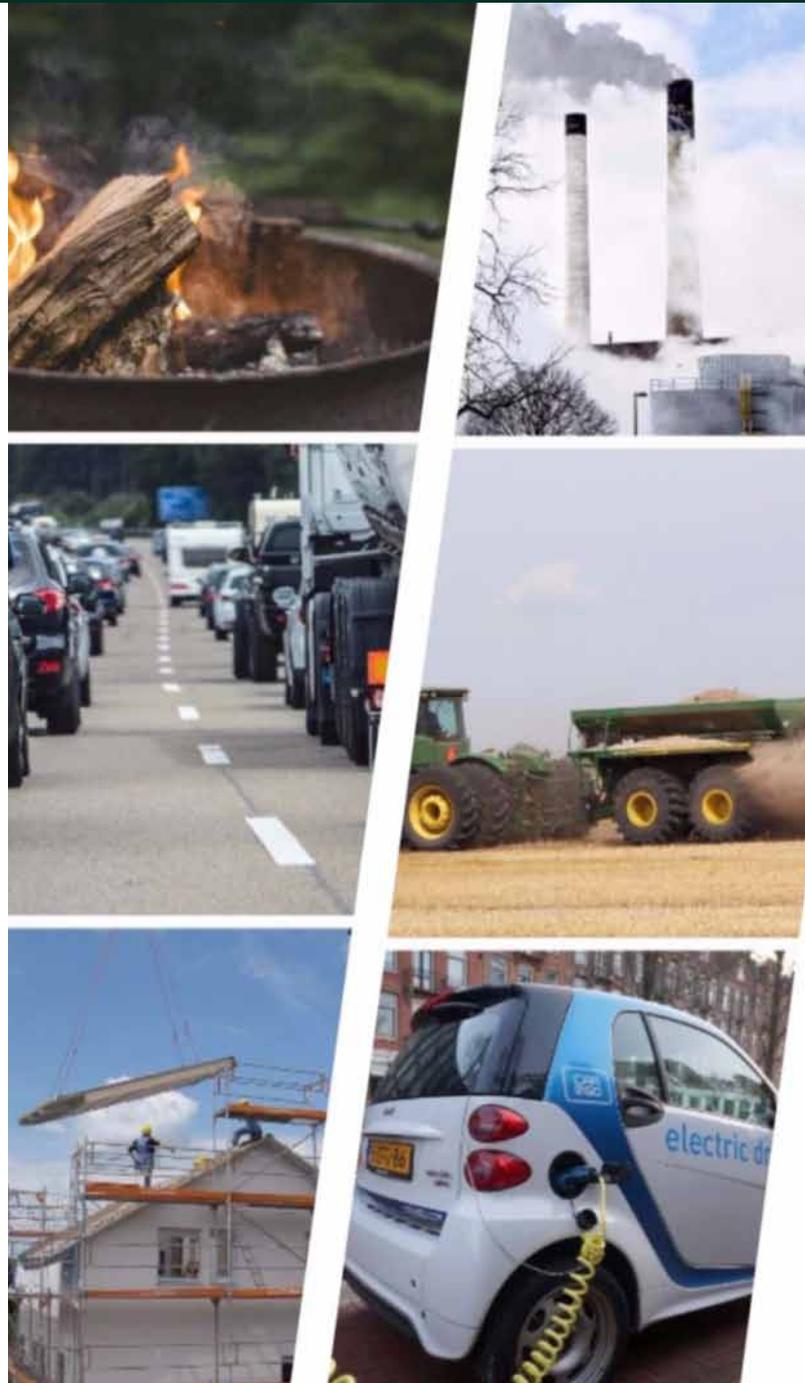
There are no Air Quality Management Areas, and no Air Quality Action Plans in force within the Borough. NO₂ is the only pollutant affecting the Borough primarily caused by traffic with the A6, A5199 and other busy roads running through the Borough.

The Council, monitor Nitrogen Dioxide strategically across a network of 21 sites with passive diffusion tubes, with no exceedances of the National Air Quality Objectives in 2017.

Although there are no exceedances of the Air Quality objective in the area, the Council continues to look at measures to reduce air pollution, working with LCC Highways and the Councils Planning department to improve local air quality.

If you want to learn more please check out the full report available on the Council website at:

www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/pages/air_quality



Private Sector Housing and the law: What you need to know

The Government is introducing new housing legislation and has amended existing legislation, which will affect both tenants and landlords. The main changes in the legislation are set out below:

New House in Multiple Occupation (HMO) requirements

From October 1, 2018 a property will be classed as a licensable HMO if it is shared by five or more persons, living as two families or more who are sharing a basic amenity (bathroom, kitchen, lounge). Landlords will be required to hold a licence issued by the Council. The current charge for a licence is £777.

The Government has announced that there will be no grace period for landlords, who should make their applications as soon as possible. Failure to register the property will incur additional costs and may lead to prosecution and repayment of rent.

More information: www.gov.uk/house-in-multiple-occupation-licence/oadby-and-wigston

Rent Repayment Orders

A rent repayment order is an order made by the courts, which may require a landlord to repay a specified amount of rent. From April 6, 2017, this power was extended to cover all offences under the Housing Act 2004 and where evictions were secured by violence. With the extension of the HMO licensing scheme, rent repayment orders will apply to the following offences with effect from October 1, 2018:

- Failure to obtain a Licence for a House in Multiple Occupation
- Failure to comply with an Improvement Notice served by the Council
- Failure to comply with a Prohibition Order served by the Council
- Breach of a banning order made under section 21 of the Housing and Planning Act 2016
- Using violence to secure entry to a property under section 6 of the Criminal Law Act 1977
- Illegal eviction or harassment of the occupiers of a property under section 1 of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.
- A rent repayment order can only cover up to a maximum of 12 months.

IF YOU
RENT, YOU
NEED TO
KNOW THIS

Rogue Landlords Register – what it means to landlords and tenants

Any individual or organisation that owns, lets or manages a home who has received; a banning order, committed a banning order offence; or received two or more civil penalties, will be placed on a public register. The landlord, letting agent or organisation will then be banned from receiving any monies from the rental of the property at any time, or from having any dealings with the property while they are on the register. The Council must also consider whether to pursue a Rent Repayment Order.

Tenancy Deposits - The need for them and what happens if not in place

If you rent your property, your landlord must put your deposit into a government-backed tenancy deposit scheme (TDP) if you rent your home on an assured shorthold tenancy that started after April 6, 2007.

If the court finds your landlord hasn't protected your deposit, it can order the person holding the deposit to either repay it to you or pay it into a TDP scheme's bank account within 14 days.

The court may also order the landlord to pay you up to 3 times the deposit as damages.

Retaliatory evictions – how and when?

For tenancies, after October 1, 2015, provisions were introduced to prevent retaliatory evictions. This means that a court will refuse to order your eviction if **all** of these apply:

- you complained to your landlord or letting agent in writing about a problem before you received a section 21 notice
- you complained to the local council because your landlord didn't take steps to fix the problem
- the council sent your landlord a notice telling them to make improvements or saying it will do emergency work

A section 21 notice served between the time of your written complaint and the Council issuing an improvement or emergency work notice will be treated as invalid.

A section 21 notice sent in the six months after your landlord received an improvement notice or an emergency work notice from the council will be invalid.

Brocks Hill Country Park

New Car Parking at Brocks Hill Country Park

If you've been down to the park lately, you may have noticed a change to the Brocks Hill car park.

With continued and ongoing investment by the Council and Everyone Active in the Brocks Hill Centre and Parklands Leisure Centre, it was identified that the previous parking arrangements were not fit for purpose. Further investment has been made to create another 140 spaces for the site.

James Naylor – Contract Manager for Everyone Active, said “The improved parking facilities were much needed after recent investments made on the site. This provision will now allow for far more people to access and park, whether they are using the centres or coming to use the fabulous park grounds”.



Brocks Hill Centre refurbishment

The Brocks Hill Centre went through a major refurbishment earlier this year and now not only offers a large multi-purpose activity space, which is available for hire, but also a modern and comfortable coffee shop and café.

The sprung wooden floor and sound and audio-visual equipment fitted in the multi-purpose activity area makes it suitable for a range of activities - from sporting and leisure interests to large scale meetings, conferences and parties or weddings.

The new coffee shop and café offer a great range of hot and cold drinks, snacks and hot meals at competitive prices.

James Naylor – Contract Manager for Everyone Active, said “the recent investment of the Council and Everyone Active has led to Brocks Hill being modernised with the latest facilities that will allow for a greater range of activities to be held there”.

For more information on any of our meeting facilities, please email brockshillevents@everyoneactive.com

South Wigston Youth Group

Tuesdays & Fridays 6pm-7.30pm

Elliott Hall, Albion Street, LE18 4SA

Children aged 8 till 16 years

Wide range of indoors & outdoor activities

Arts & Crafts, Computer Zone, Tuck Shop, Trips, Safety Talks, and general lots of fun.

Run in a safe environment with trained staff.

For more information please visit

www.stepoutyouthgroup.com



Guys Over 50's Group

Every Wednesday

1 am till 4 pm

Refreshments Included

Lots To Do

Cards, Darts, Dominoes, Pool,

Table Skittles, Board Games,

Indoor Bowls,

Gardening & Lots More

**Just Turn Up, Bring A Friend
Or Make New Friends**

Drop in anytime between mid-day and 4pm for a get together with friends. For a chit chat over a cup of tea or enjoy playing a range of games.

Everyone welcome, bring a friend.

Elliott Hall, Albion Street, South Wigston, LE18 4SA

More Information

Please Call 07703441894

or email rcelliott@btinternet.com





Brocks Hill's butterflies

In summer, the busiest areas of Brocks Hill Country Park are the meadows and sunny woodland rides. Flowers are blooming and a multitude of insect species can be seen feeding and completing their life cycles. The country park provides a refuge for a variety of pollinators, including bumblebees, solitary bees, wasps, hoverflies, beetles, moths and butterflies.

The butterflies of Brocks Hill have been surveyed for ten years by a dedicated volunteer, David Foulds, who with the help of other survey volunteers has carried out weekly surveys in the country park throughout spring and summer. David has now completed the ten yearly report, allowing us to see how our butterflies are faring at Brocks Hill.

The most abundant butterflies at Brocks Hill are the Speckled Wood, Ringlet and Gatekeeper, while the rarest species are the Painted Lady, Essex Skipper and Small Copper.

In total, 22 butterfly species can be found at Brocks Hill and over the past decade, our butterfly numbers have increased by 11% - though this can be affected by weather conditions, so numbers are lower in years with wet summers.

The lowest number of butterflies seen was 759 in 2012 and the highest was 2,046 in 2009. 2017 saw 1,650 butterflies counted, with butterflies such as the Red Admiral, Comma and Small Tortoiseshell experiencing a good year.

All of this data feeds into the way the country park is managed. The meadows are cut in the late summer once the flowers have set seed, although some areas are left uncut until autumn to retain areas for butterflies still on the wing. By cutting and removing the hay, next year's plants can grow without being smothered and the meadows retain low nutrient levels that benefit flowers that can be outcompeted by vigorous grasses.

Many of our most beautiful butterflies such as the Peacock rely entirely on stinging nettles as their caterpillar's foodplant. At Brocks Hill, we retain areas of nettles especially for butterflies and lots of other invertebrates to thrive. The gardens around the centre are also planted with butterfly friendly flowers such as Buddleia, Geranium and Lavender.

Visit Brocks Hill on a warm, sunny day and see how many different butterfly species you can find.

and Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Present...

#SupersonicBOOM

2018

THE NOISE IS COMING!

WEDNESDAY, 15 AUGUST :: 1PM-5PM Blaby Road Park, South Wigston

Find out more by scanning here or by visiting www.supersonicboom.co.uk

SPORT CHALLENGES COMPETITIONS
FOOD YOUTH SERVICES STALLS
VENDORS GAMES INFLATABLES FREEBIES

To get involved contact Mark on 0116 257 2675 or via mark.smith@oadby-wigston.gov.uk

Parklands Leisure Centre and Wigston Pool

Now is the time to learn to swim

Oadby and Wigston boast two fantastic modern swimming pools, so what better time to learn a new life skill or to improve on one you have already? Everyone Active at Parklands and the Wigston Pool and Fitness Centre offer award winning swimming lessons for everyone from babies through to senior citizens, with age certainly no barrier.

Qualified and experienced teachers are available at a wide range of times for a very reasonable price - you could be learning a skill that could one day save your life or that of someone else. Following the structured ASA swim program swimmers can go from basic to advanced and who knows, you could be the next Adam Peaty.

New Sunday morning classes have now been added at Wigston Pool, offering more opportunity for people to learn to swim.



Fantastic value memberships at Everyone Active

Everyone Active operate two fantastic leisure and fitness facilities in Oadby and Wigston, and local people get the opportunity to access activities on a Pay-as-you-go basis, or alternatively the centres offer a great range of membership packages particularly for 'Gym and Swim'.

With memberships for juniors and adults offering peak and off-peak access there is a great value package available to suit most user's needs. There are also membership prices for concession groups, such as students, over 60's or those that are in receipt of means tested benefits.

Parklands runners keep running

Parklands Leisure Centre and the surrounding streets of Oadby are often dotted with the flash of hi-vis vests, as the Parklands Women's Running Club take to the streets.

Beginners, intermediate and advanced runners are intent on improving their health and fitness and getting out and about in the area, with the help of Run Club organiser Sara Davies.

Sara said "It is great that so many women can come together with a common goal of being more active and getting fitter. It is so much fun and they all get along making new friends, that the running can sometimes seem secondary to the social meeting."

Parklands Women's Running club meet on Tuesdays at 6p.m., Wednesdays at 9:15a.m. and Thursdays from 6p.m.

Parklands Children's Holiday Camps

Parklands Leisure Centre will once again be hosting its ever-popular Holiday Activity Camps throughout the summer holidays – with various sports activities, arts and crafts, a bouncy castle, swimming, climbing, soft play and lots more to do.

Eddie Benskin, Activities Manager for Parklands Leisure Centre said "The holiday camps are going from strength to strength, with lots of children coming along, being more active, meeting new friends and most of all having lots of fun."

The activity camp runs throughout the summer and it is highly recommended that you book in advance as spaces are limited and popular. Children aged 5 to 14 can be booked on for the day or the week, and prices are competitive. Lunch can be provided at a reasonable cost.



For more information on the services and clubs mentioned above, please contact the relevant fitness centre on **0116 288 5346** (Wigston) or **0116 272 0789** (Parklands).

Swimming safety advice for the summer

Each year, millions of Britons jet off to sunnier climes and stay in accommodation with swimming pools. It is essential to consider a number of factors when booking your holiday to ensure you keep your young children safe around the water.

Before you go:

- Consider enrolling your children in swimming lessons to help them learn this life-saving skill
- Check pool safety arrangements for where you're staying in advance
- Be cautious about booking private villas that don't have safety fencing

While you're away:

- Always supervise children near water and keep a close eye on them when they're in the pool
- Be aware that children don't shout out for help when they're drowning
- Understand that inflatables are not a substitute for supervision or swimming ability



Time for the beach

So, where is a safe place to swim? Young children should always be supervised when on the beach. Make sure you explain to your children that it's not safe to swim on their own in the sea and try to use lifeguarded beaches for added safety.

Remember, a beach with flags that are both red and yellow is a safe place to swim or use inflatables. However, a red-only flag is a sign for danger and means NO SWIMMING. Never go in the water when the red flag is flying, and always be aware that there may be hazards that you cannot see.

Everyone Active's award-winning swim lessons help adults and children to learn how to swim and to float, as well as gain confidence in and around the water. For more information visit: www.everyoneactive.com



Children swim for free this summer

Everyone Active and Oadby and Wigston Borough Council are once again offering free swimming for children this summer.

Any child aged 15 or under, who can show they live within the Oadby and Wigston area, can go to Wigston Pool and Fitness or the Parklands Leisure Centre during one of the allocated sessions without charge. Both pools will be offering at least one session per day, Monday to Friday.

Dean Carmichael, General Manager for Parklands Leisure Centre: "We are delighted to be able to support the Council in this initiative and to help engage with local children to get them more active, more often."

Call your local centre for more information and session times, or email parklandsinfo@everyoneactive.com (Parklands) or wigstoninfo@everyoneactive.com (Wigston).



Your thoughts on 'male-only' swim sessions

Notice: The Council has been approached to run 'male-only' swim sessions. Everyone Active are prepared to review their timetable, subject to there being sufficient demand. If you are interested in attending 'male-only' swimming sessions please register your interest by emailing parklandsinfo@everyoneactive.com. The expression of interest will close 31 July.

GRAND WIGSTON SHOW & CRAFT FAYRE

WIGSTON MAGNA METHODIST CHURCH
SATURDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER 2018

OFFICIAL OPENING 2PM BY THE MAYOR
CRAFT FAYRE 10AM - 4PM

AWARDS SPONSORED & PRESENTED BY JAMAL SHEIKH OF CLIFTON PACKAGING AND CHRIS SURRIDGE OF MERIDIAN HEATING

VARIOUS CATEGORIES:

VEGETABLES, FRUIT, FLOWER ARRANGING, CAKES,
BOTTLED PRESERVES, PHOTOGRAPHY,
HANDICRAFTS AND PAINTINGS



REFRESHMENTS
&
ENTERTAINMENT



BOOKING FORMS FOR A TABLE AT THE CRAFT FAYRE FROM
DAVID CAWTHORN EMAIL CAWTHDJ@WEBLEICESTER.CO.UK

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

DAVID CAWTHORN 0116 2884382 / 07850 871359
BARBARA DEARING 0116 288 2075

England's recreational running community

Get Running



Women's Running Club, Parklands Leisure Centre, Oadby

Beginners Running

A 12 week course for absolute beginners, starting 17 April 2018

- Tuesdays at 6pm

Improvers

For women who can run a steady 5k

- Tuesdays at 6pm;
- Wednesdays at 9.15am; and
- Thursdays at 6pm

Meet in Café. Free for Parklands members; £2.05 per week for non-members
Contact: Sara Davies sara@saradavies.com or 0777 595 0084



Oadby Walking Group



Why not join our friendly walking group?
It's a great way to get active, enjoy the Leicestershire countryside and meet new people

We meet at 10am on the first Saturday of every month
At the Oadby Grange Pub Florence Wragg Way,
Oadby, LE2 4QZ

The walk is usually 5 miles long and everybody is welcome

For more information please contact
Enid Khan – 07931932299
enid.khan@mypostoffice.co.uk

everyone ACTIVE Strong and Steady

"I fell out of my chair at the weekend but was able to get up straight away.
When I last fell it took me 2 hours."

Strong and Steady classes are aimed at those over 65 who have either fallen or feel unsteady on their feet, the classes aim to increase strength, balance and flexibility as well as teaching a safe and controlled technique for getting down to and up from the floor. The youngest participant is 65, the oldest 96.



"I had a bath yesterday - I haven't had one for two years
because I couldn't get out - now I can."

"When I first started I couldn't walk to the end of the drive,
now I can walk to the park and back."



The initial Beginners course lasts for 24 weeks. At the end of the first two Beginners courses, participants found they were benefitting so much from the classes that they wanted to carry on....so they didand have been attending regularly ever since. Participants also do a set of exercises at home to continue their improvement

"When I started the class I walked with a stick. Now I no longer need one inside."



Wistow music and fireworks

On June 9, Wigston Rotary Club will be holding its annual Music in the Park charity concert. To date this event has raised over £95,000 for local charities and the Club hopes that it will top £100,000 this year.

The concert will be held in the grounds of Wistow Hall with permission of the Brookes family. This year's compere will be Monica Winfield with music provided by Ska-aManga and The Ratby Co-operative Brass Band. The event will end with a fabulous fireworks display.

Advance discounted tickets are available from LOROS shops, Ken Bailey at Wistow or on **0116 2318431**; alternatively just pay at the gate.



Mayor helps celebrate opening of new facility at Parklands Leisure Centre

Cllr Samia Haq, Mayor of Oadby and Wigston, officially opened the new facilities at Parklands Leisure Centre on Wednesday 25 April.

The Mayor was joined by 25 brownies from the 9th Oadby St Peters Brownie Pack, and together they cut the ribbon to officially open the new facilities to the local community.

Everyone Active, which manages Parklands Leisure Centre in partnership with Oadby and Wigston Borough Council, offered free soft play sessions throughout the afternoon which were enjoyed by more than eighty youngsters.

James Naylor, contract manager at Everyone Active, said: "We are delighted that The Mayor was able to help us celebrate the official opening of the new facilities at Parklands Leisure Centre.

"The new facilities offer a vast range of opportunities for children and adults of all ages to get active together in a safe and fun environment and we hope that they will provide hours of endless fun for families for many years to come."

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council and Everyone Active have invested more than £1million to improve the facilities at Parklands Leisure Centre and provide the local community with even more opportunities to take part in physical activity.

Cllr John Boyce said: "Oadby and Wigston Borough Council is pleased with the additional investment we have made in Parklands. It is our ambition to provide affordable leisure to all our residents. Enabling children to enjoy physical play is good for them now and in the future."

Parklands Leisure Centre now boasts a Play World facility that offers an extensive range of activities for families, including, slides, foam ball shooters, fun brick house and trampolines.

For more information about Parklands Leisure Centre please call **0116 272 0789** or visit: www.everyoneactive.com/parklands-leisure-centre/



Oadby & Wigston Awards Evening 2018

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council, Everyone Active and the Local Sport Alliance 'Active Oadby & Wigston', have teamed up to host the prestigious 'Oadby and Wigston Awards Evening, 2018.

They would like to encourage local residents, clubs, groups and schools to recognise the achievements of our community by completing a nomination form for one or more of the categories listed.

All nominees must either live, attend school, volunteer or represent a club or group from within the Borough. The awards focus on the achievements from September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2018, with exception of the 'Unsung Hero' award which is not restricted to this twelve-month period.

Nominations

The deadline for nominations is Monday 8 October 2018.

Nominations are open and can be submitted online at: activeoadbywigston.org.uk or by completing a hard-copy from the following locations:

- Parklands Leisure Centre
- Wigston Pool and Fitness Centre
- Wigston Library
- Customer Services Centre, Wigston

Forms should be returned to any one of the places listed above, or posted to **Kane Radford** at **Oadby and Wigston Borough Council Offices, Station Road, Wigston, Leicestershire, LE18 2DR.**

Shortlisted nominees will be invited to attend the Awards Evening on Wednesday 21 November. All winners will be put forward for the Leicester Mercury awards later in the year. Please note nominations are not judged on the number of votes they receive and only one submission will be required. You will need to gain permission from the person or team you are nominating.

In addition to the categories listed on the page opposite, there will also be a further award on the evening; the 'Everyone Active Member of the Year' Award, which will be determined by the Everyone Active team.

More information on these categories can be found on the Active Oadby & Wigston website, at: www.activeoadbywigston.org.uk/sportsawards2018.

For further information about the Awards Evening, please contact kane.radford@oadby-wigston.gov.uk



Oadby & Wigston
BOROUGH COUNCIL



everyone
ACTIVE



Categories for the Oadby and Wigston Awards 2018

Sportsman / Sportswoman of the Year

An individual, who has achieved success at a regional, national or international level; exceeded expectations in their sporting performance or made a significant difference to a team. (16 +)

Junior Sportsman / Sportswoman of the Year

An individual who has made significant progress in their field of sport; exceeded expectations in their sporting performance or made a significant difference to a team. (under 16 on 31 August)

Disabled Sportsman / Sportswoman of the Year

An individual who has had a significant impact on disability sport; overcome barriers to excel in sport and acts as a role model for other disabled people.

Physical Activity Participation Award

Individuals or community groups that have improved the health, wellbeing or physical ability of themselves or others.

Adult Coach / Instructor of the Year

A qualified coach or instructor (paid or voluntary) who has made a significant impact by increasing participation, inspiring others and providing the highest standard of coaching/instructing to achieve positive results. (18 +)

Junior Coach / Instructor of the Year

An individual who has shown outstanding commitment to leadership in a sport/physical environment and given their time and energy to achieve positive results. (under 18 on 31 August)

Team / Club / Group of the Year - Elite

A team, group or club who have achieved success or competed at a constantly high level throughout the year; demonstrating fair play and a good sporting attitude. (18 +)

Team / Club / Group of the Year - Community

A team, group or club who have positively influenced the lives of its members or the wider community through the use of sport or physical activity. (18 +)

Junior Team / Club / Group of the Year

A team, group or club that has achieved success or competed at a consistently high level throughout the year; demonstrating fair play and a good sporting attitude. (under 18 on 31 August)

Unsung Hero Award

An individual who has contributed significantly to school sport, community sport or physical activity and gone the extra mile to enable others to participate. This award is not restricted to the last twelve months.

J and S Day Service

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council and Leicester City Community Trust have been working in partnership with J and S Day Service to help support adults with a Dementia related illness and get them more physically active.

“I haven't seen my mum so active for so long”

Initially, a sports activities coach delivered 10 weeks of games, such as kurling, boccia and skittles, which were very well received by all the participants.

Not only did individuals benefit from the activities, but it was a great chance for the staff members to learn about delivering physical activities themselves, and the Council's Health and Leisure Team has since loaned equipment so J and S can continue to deliver daily sessions after the funded programme has finished.

“I like the competition”

The programme has had a fantastic impact on the participants and has enabled individuals to gain a sense of achievement, interact as part of a team and reduce their anxiety – the sessions have become a memorable part of their week.

“I tell my wife I really enjoy the games we do”

It has also resulted in positive behaviours, which many of the participant's families haven't seen for a long time.



News from Tesco Superstore in South Wigston

Ain't no mountain high enough!

Jerome Eatough, from the Tesco Superstore in South Wigston set himself a mountain of a challenge when he flew out to East Africa last year, to climb the world's highest free-standing mountain – Mount Kilimanjaro.

The climb was in support of an education charity that Jerome became involved as part of his role as a Union Education Representative for Tesco. Jerome explains, "I joined Tesco's union USDAW in 1999, and became a Learning Representative six years ago, to fill a vacancy in my store. One aspect of our work as is that we are always on the lookout for learning providers to support any in store learning.

"We identified a need to better understand the needs of disabled customers, particularly those who were deaf or had a hearing impairment, so we sourced a learning provider of Makaton Sign Language at Birkett House School, just down the road from the store."

Over the following months, several workshops were organised for colleagues wanting to learn basic Makaton, and to better understand the day-to-day difficulties that deaf and hard of hearing customers have to face. These workshops were so successful that last year South Wigston Tesco was awarded the Makaton Charity Achievement Award, the first of its kind for any large supermarket in the UK.

It was this work with Birkett House School that prompted Jerome to climb Kilimanjaro for charity to raise money for the school, with help from his colleague, Betty Partridge.

Jerome: "I reached the summit on day seven of our climb. We had set out the previous evening at 11pm and climbed the final thousand metres by torchlight! I arrived at Uhuru Peak, exhausted, aching and elated, just as the dawn was breaking over the whole of Africa - the ultimate photo opportunity.

"I'd like to pass on a big 'thank you' to everyone who supported and sponsored us during this epic endeavour. With your help, Betty and I raised just under £2,500 for Birkett House School."



Community and youth group grants



Oadby & Wigston BOROUGH COUNCIL

Oadby and Wigston Borough Council's Community and Youth Grants scheme aims to provide financial assistance to local voluntary groups and clubs that are based and active within the Oadby, Wigston or South Wigston area. Applications from individuals will be considered in exceptional cases.

Grants can be used to assist with travel, equipment or costs associated with setting up a new project, but will not support 'every day' expenditure such as rent or room hire.

All grant applications must be submitted in sufficient time to be assessed by the panel prior to the project start date. The scheme is unable to accept applications from educational establishments or commercial organisations.



Visit the Council website for more information about the grant criteria and an application form:

www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/pages/community_grant_scheme

Would you like funding for your local community idea, activity or group?

The Oadby & Wigston Borough Council Residents' Forum has funding available to support diverse community ideas, accessible via the Forums for improving the local areas.

You don't have to be a formal group to request funding support. All groups or individual residents with a good idea can put forward a written proposal for funding by completing and returning an application form up to seven days before a planned Residents' Forum meeting.

The funding is available for many types of activities and projects, for example: events, equipment, litter bins, bus shelters or benches. The Forum are interested to hear what you would like funding for!

To access an application form just log onto the Council website and type in the search box 'Resident Town Forums'. Alternatively, collect a hard copy of the funding application form from your local library or the Customer Service Centre in Bell Street.

For more information or to request a hard copy of the funding application form, please contact the Community Engagement Officer, Veronika Quintyne: veronika.quintyne@oadby-wigston.gov.uk.

Your local AGE UK centre serving the over 50's offers

- **Three course lunch menu**
- **Coffee shop** - drinks and snacks
- **Charity shop** - many bargains
- **Day Care Centre** - run by trained staff
- **Information and advice**
- **Hairdresser**
- **Chiropodist**
- **Daily activities** - (Line dancing, gentle exercise, tea dance, whist and more)
- **Room hire is available**



51 Paddock Street, Wigston, LE18 2AN Tel: 0116 2885203

Rotary Club of Oadby and Oadby Launde

A tree for every Rotarian

As part of the International Initiative by Rotary to enhance the environment, The Rotary Clubs of Oadby and Oadby Launde worked together to plant 60 trees; one tree per member of the two clubs.

The planting was organised with help from Oadby & Wigston Borough Council and the Pride of the Borough Group. The site chosen was the large grass area at Hamble Green in Oadby and the whip trees were arranged in two groups of 30. The trees were supplied by the Woodland Trust and are an even mix of Rowan, Silver Birch and Wild Cherry.

It will be some time before the trees mature and the Council will manage the thinning out as they develop. Care has been taken to avoid any buildings being affected when the trees mature by carefully positioning individual plants. The Rotary Clubs are now organising some protective fencing to help protect the young trees while they establish.



A focus on youth activities

For nearly 20 years, the Rotary Club of Oadby Launde has been involved in supporting Youth Speaks - the Rotary National Public Speaking competition for young people. Teams from local schools supported by the club have gained a wide range of skills, with many achieving high positions in the competition.

In February, the club sponsored students from Beauchamp College, who attended the National Peace Conference. Students, including Khushali Parmer, Maria Parra, Jack Houlihan, Bradley Taylor and Patrycja Poplawska (pictured below) were addressed by a range of academics and politicians dealing with all aspects of peace resolution.

Later the same month, the club sponsored local Boy Scout Michael Donaghey so that he could attend the Rotary Young Leadership Awards (RYLA), and in February, 140 students took part in the Technology Tournament, where they were tasked with building a launch pad capable of launching and recovering a rocket within very tight parameters.



Support for our local library

The Rotary Club of Oadby Launde is set to work with the trustees of Great Glen Community Library, to develop the library as a voluntary community facility. The club plans to help the trustees in developing meeting facilities, IT and book resources and fundraising.

The initiative, which will be run by the club as a major community project has already donated £450 to furnish the newly created patio area for meetings and leisure reading. Both parties see this as a long-term partnership, with a significant further fund raiser in the offing.



The club's foundation officer, Barry Coleman, said, "With support from Rotary Foundation, we have been able to kick-start this initiative, and it fits well within Rotary's involvement in local communities."

Library trustee, Vernon George, added, "We look forward to developing a long-term partnership with the Rotary Club of Oadby Launde which will greatly enhance the community library."

Pictured is Club President Ian Bowler presenting a cheque for £450 to Chair and Trustee of Great Glen Library, Gill Townsend.



Stronger Together Pest Control Service

Commercial customers

Oadby & Wigston Borough Council's pest control service now offers pest control contracts to commercial properties, alongside its competitively priced residential contracts.

Bookings for both commercial and domestic properties can be made through the Customer Service Centre on 0116 288 8961, or email: environmental.health@oadby-wigston.gov.uk.

Domestic customers

Prices for domestic services are given below. Time slots are allocated to suit you and services are punctual, delivering great results.

TREATMENTS	PRICES FROM JULY 2017	
RATS AND MICE	£90 inc. three treatments.	
BEDBUGS	£180 inc. three treatments. Additional visits will be charged at £60 per visit.	
FLEAS	£80 inc. one visit. Additional visits will be charged at £40 per visit.	
SQUIRRELS	£90 inc. three treatments. Additional visits will be charged at £45 per visit.	
WASPS	£66 for one nest. Additional nests will be charged at £45 per visit.	
COCKROACHES	£200 inc. three treatments. Additional visits will be charged at £35 per visit.	
IDENTIFICATION OF PESTS	£70	



If you give your waste to someone make sure they have a licence. It is your responsibility to make sure they dispose of it correctly. You could face prosecution and a fine of up to £5,000 if your waste ends up being fly-tipped.

Fly-tipping causes a lot of problems. It costs tax payers and landowners to clear it up, threatens humans and wildlife and damages our environment.

- **Suspect** – if in doubt don't let anyone take your waste, you could be fined if its fly-tipped
- **Check** – for their waste carriers registration number and note down the number plate of the vehicle
- **Refuse** – cold callers – always carry out your own research
- **Ask** – questions about what is going to happen to your waste.
- **Paperwork** – make sure you get a receipt

Find out more by contacting the Council or visit www.rightwasterightplace.com



Raising money for Blood Bikers

Oadby & Wigston Lions Club have been 'shaking buckets' at local supermarkets to raise funds for the 'Blood Bikers' – a group of experienced volunteer bikers who provide a free, out-of-hours delivery service for the NHS.

The Lions are raising money to help pay for their equipment, fuel and bike maintenance. Here's Club Vice President and Club President with Paul and Elaine Bivins from Blood Bikers, Leicestershire and Rutland.



Firewalk for The Bridge

Our Lions will do whatever it takes to raise money for great causes, including walk over fire! Keith Lawson-West, a Charter Member of Oadby & Wigston Lions Club joined fellow supporters in a sponsored walk across hot embers, to raise money for the Bridge Project – an organisation which provides support to homeless people in Leicestershire. At the time of writing, this event had raised over £3,750 for the Bridge, with donations still arriving.



Message in a bottle

Inspector Mike Cawley from Wigston Police paid the Lions a visit recently, to discuss the 'Message in a bottle' campaign which has been launched across the county. This campaign encourages residents with Alzheimers or Dementia to store their medical information in the fridge so that, should there be an accident or incident, the emergency services can give the correct treatment as soon as possible.

These bottles are available free from Wigston Police station, local health centres or from Oadby & Wigston Lions Club. Email owlionsclub@live.co.uk to find out more.



Our Club needs you!

Oadby & Wigston Lions, local people doing amazing things - and you could be a Lion too!

As a member of the Club you will have the benefit of being part of a sociable and fun team of people, whilst helping your community and raising money for worthwhile causes.

During the year the Lions hold many events, such as the annual sponsored swim, a Christmas light switch-on funday and 'The Big Lunch' at Willow Park. They operate the South Wigston Foodbank and raise money for great local and national causes including: **Guide Dogs for the blind, Loros, Marie Curie, RNIB, and the Prostate Cancer Society.**

The Club meets on the third Monday of each month at the Glen Gorse Golf Club, Oadby at 7p.m. Send an email to: owlionsclub@live.co.uk or call **0845 833 4315** to find out more, or to get involved.



Thank you for our help!

All over the UK, Lions Club members head to the streets of their local county to collect donations on behalf of the Marie Curie organisation. Our Oadby & Wigston Lions were no different and in just two days, and with the help of the generous shoppers on Bell Street, Wigston, they raised £550.



Universal Credit is a new benefit that is administered by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). For working age claimant's, it will replace: Tax Credits, Job Seekers Allowance (Income Based), Income Support, Employment Support Allowance (Income Related) and Housing Benefit.

On June 13, 2018, Universal Credit goes live in Oadby & Wigston. This means, if you make a new claim on or after this date, you will claim Universal Credit instead of the benefits listed above. If you have already claimed or receive any of the benefits listed above then you won't need to do anything for now as these benefits will continue. If you have a change of circumstances after 13 June, 2018 you will be advised if you will need to claim Universal Credit.

I'm a pensioner, will it affect me?

Universal Credit does not apply to single claimants of pension age or where both members of a couple are of pension age. In these cases, claimants will continue to claim Pension Credit and/or Housing Benefit.

However, where you are a member of a couple and one of you is pension age and the other one is working age you will be able to choose between claiming Universal Credit or claiming Pension Credit/Housing Benefit.

Can I claim if I am working?

Yes. Whether you qualify will depend on your income and not the hours you work, so if you receive Universal Credit and move into, or out of, work, your payments will be adjusted and you won't need to make a new claim, as long as you still qualify.

How do I claim Universal Credit?

You will need to make a claim online. Support will be available from the Council or job centre if you do not have access to a computer, tablet or smartphone, or if you need help in completing the claim.

When will I get paid Universal Credit?

Universal Credit is paid a month in arrears and you should receive your first payment five weeks after you claim. Payments will be made direct to your bank account.

If you can't wait five weeks for your first payment, you can ask for an advanced payment loan, but be aware that this will need to be paid back each month over a maximum of twelve months.

Cont. on page 20.



Additional Support

If you need help managing your money, please contact the Council or the work coach at your job centre.

Will Council Tax Support be included in my Universal Credit?

No, you will need to claim Council Tax Support separately. You can do this online, by visiting the Customer service Centre or by calling the Council. Any Council Tax Support award will be credited to your Council Tax bill. You will be responsible for paying your Council Tax.

Will free school meals be included in my Universal Credit?

No, these will need to be claimed separately via Leicestershire County Council or at your children's school. Some academies may not provide free school meals.

Discretionary payments

If you claim Universal Credit, and you pay rent and/or Council Tax, you can still claim for Discretionary Housing Payments (DHP's) or Discretionary Council Tax Support from Oadby & Wigston Borough Council.

Renting your home

This section applies to Council Tenants and Housing Association Tenants as well as tenants of private landlords. Rent is known as 'housing costs' under the new Universal Credit scheme. You are responsible for paying your rent.

How do I pay my rent?

Whether you are a Council Tenant, tenant of a Housing Association or a tenant of a private landlord, when you receive Universal Credit your housing costs will be included in the one lump sum payment each month. This differs from Housing Benefit and will require you to pay the rent from this amount.

You should speak to your landlord to make arrangements such as setting up a direct debit and speak to your landlord immediately if you get into difficulty with your rent payments.

Can my rent be paid direct to my landlord?

Yes, but only in limited circumstances such as if you are vulnerable, have difficulty in managing your finances, or have rent arrears of eight weeks or more. Please speak to your landlord and/or contact the Universal Credit team as they may be able to arrange this.

More information at: www.gov.uk/universal-credit or at: www.oadby-wigston.gov.uk/universalcREDIT

Wigston Civic Society



Local commendations for design and workmanship

The main aim of the Wigston Civic Society is to make Wigston and Kilby Bridge a 'better place in which to live, work and shop'. To achieve this, the Society promotes high standards of planning and architecture and secures the preservation and protection of buildings of historic and public interest.

Since 2007, the Society has encouraged these high standards by awarding certificates of commendation to property owners who they believe have done a good job on the work that they have carried out.

Over the last few years awards have been given for Two Steeples Medical Centre, Wigston College, the Stamford Works, South Leicestershire College and the former All Saints Vicarage, amongst others. More recently, awards were given for the new house behind the former All Saints Vicarage and for a refurbished house on Moat Street.

If you know of any open space or building, public or private, that deserves recognition please let the Society know by emailing: chairman@wigstoncivicsociety.org.uk.

On street parking

Wigston Civic Society has long campaigned against the persistent problem of residents and guests parking both on the road and on the pavement, but feel it is becoming worse on local estate roads where households may have more than one vehicle but do not have the space on their driveways or front gardens to use for parking.

An article which recently appeared in the Leicester Mercury has further highlighted the problem, telling the story of an ambulance which had great difficulty getting access to a patient due to the way cars had been parked opposite each other, which restricted larger vehicles driving between them.

Residents are urged to think of their neighbours and the safety of other road users and pedestrians, as well as access for emergency vehicles, when they find that they must park their vehicles on the road.



Public illustrated lecture

Wigston Civic Society will be hosting the sixth annual Public Illustrated Lecture, on Thursday September 13, 2018.

'The Origins and Decline of the Great Central Railway through Leicestershire' will be presented by Malcom Riddle, at **51 Paddock Street, Wigston, LE18 2AN**. This lecture begins at 7:30p.m. Admission is £4 per person, which includes refreshments. Booking is advisable. Contact Colin Towell on **0116 288 9638** to book your place, or find out more.

A ton of fun at your local library this summer

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is called 'Mischief Makers' - celebrating the 80th anniversary of the much-loved comic, Beano.

Children from 4-12 years can join in the fun at all Leicestershire Libraries from July 7 until September 8, where they will follow clues to explore their colourful collector's map of Beanotown, meeting Dennis, Gnasher and friends along the way.

Children collect stickers and incentives and, after reading six library books or library e-books and complete the challenge to help find the mysterious buried treasure, will be rewarded with a medal and certificate.

Children participating in the challenge also get free entry into Bosworth Battlefield and The 1620s House and Garden at Donington le Heath.

THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT

MISCHIEF MAKERS

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2018

Greater Wigston Historical Society

The Lancaster Crash

On Monday February 4, 1946, a Lancaster Bomber fell from the sky and crashed into a ploughed field in Wigston, just yards from properties in Long Street, Leicester Road and Aylestone Lane, and just missing children in the Long Street Modern School - now All Saint's C of E School. Each year the anniversary of the crash is marked by pupils with a short service and performance by the children.

The ill-fated Bomber was flown by airmen of the 300 Polish Squadron, RAF. It was thought that the aircraft was hit by lightning, after which the pilot, Wing Commander R. Sulinski DSO, DFC, guided the plane into open fields to avoid buildings in the village - consequently killing everyone on board.

The full story can be seen in Document 'AR0289 Polish Tragedy in Middle England' on the Greater Wigston Historical Society website.



Do you have a story you think Letterbox readers would enjoy? Send your local tales and images to chairman@wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk.

New on the Greater Wigston Society Website

'Street names and their meanings'
See how your street or road got its name.

www.wigstonhistoricalsociety.co.uk

Forthcoming meetings

September 19

'The origins and operations of the Leicester Swannington railway'

By Malcolm Riddle - presentation and pictures

October 17

'Every home should have one - domestic history of the 20th century'

By Felicity Austin

November 21

'The story of the unknown warrior'

By John Sutton - presentation and pictures

Held at AGE UK, 51 Paddock Street, Wigston, Leicester, LE18 2AN

Doors open at 7p.m. and meetings start at 7:30p.m.
Everyone welcome - small charge for non-members.



Oadby & Wigston
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Garden Waste Service

Subscribe today and receive a full 12 months of collections

- One-off payment of £35 (that's just £1.35 per collection)
- Year round collection - including the winter months
- Option of additional bins for only £20



Apply online with debit/credit card:

 oadby-wigston.gov.uk/garden_waste_service

Apply by phone:

 0116 288 8961

Apply in person:

 Customer Service Centre, Bell Street, Wigston, LE18 1AD
(payment by card only – sorry we cannot take cash or cheque)

Oadby & Wigston

Full terms & conditions and FAQs for the Garden Waste Service are available online

Advertise your business for as little as £3.33 on a digital display screen in Oadby or Wigston

Businesses and Community Groups have the opportunity to advertise their products, services and events on the digital screens that have been installed in Oadby and Wigston town centres.

Commercial advertisers can display an ad for as little as £3.33 + VAT, per day, with offers available for both new and long term advertisers, making it affordable for any business.

Community groups can advertise for free if they are advertising events or free services.

The screens are very popular and can get busy during the summer months, so don't miss out. If you are interested in advertising then please contact the following: towncentremanager@oadby-wigston.gov.uk or telephone **0116 257 2706**.

The screen in Oadby is located in the Oadby Centre along The Parade and the Wigston screen is located on the corner of Bell Street and Leicester Road



Oadby & Wigston Floral Competition

Pride of the Borough are holding their annual Floral Competition for businesses, schools and residents of the Borough – including young gardeners – and encouraging all keen gardeners to get involved.

Having a show stopping garden not only improves the appearance of the Borough, but your garden could also become part of the route for the East Midlands in Bloom (EMiB) competition – not to mention being the envy of your neighbours!

There is one winner for each category but all entrants will receive a certificate (Gold, Silver, Bronze or a certificate of achievement) and winners are invited to attend an awards evening in September.

- Best front garden
- Best container
- Best young person's container: under 10 yrs
- Best young person's container: 10–14 yrs
- Best young person's container: 15–18 yrs
- Most unusual container
- Most environmentally friendly front garden
- Best business floral display
- Best school garden



It is FREE to enter, and entry forms are available from all Borough libraries, from the Customer Service Centre on Bell Street in Wigston, at the Café in Brocks Hill Country Park and from the Pride of the Borough website.

Looking for inspiration? The last two winners of 'Most Unusual Container' used a walking frame and a car!

Entries close on June 23, 2018 and judging will take place from 14 to 22 July, 2018.

It is not too late to enter, but you only have a few days left!



