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to the final issue of 2024 as we welcome in a new year. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

We are thrilled and honoured to have once again sponsored the 'Creative Spirit' award at this year's Corby Spirit Awards. Congratulations to Weldon Amateur Thatre School on winning the award.

This fantastic event truly shines a spotlight on the incredible individuals who make our town such a special place to live. While we wish everyone could have been a winner, you are all a true credit to Corby. Congratulations to all the well-deserved winners!

Keep doing Corby proud.

Craia Barber



Spirit of Corby Winners 2024

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FOCUSSED PUBLICATIONS LTD

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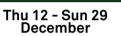
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orby's festive fun

CORBY TOWN SHOPPING & WILLOW PLACE Enjoy some free festive fun in Corby town centre this Christmas! Look out for our festive entertainers around the town centre on December weekends in the run-up to the big day. And, of course, Santa will once again be paying a visit!

 A special launch event on 7 December includes the opportunity to meet our
 enchanting animatronic polar bear Bjorn who will be brought to life by a talented puppeteer
 and your own imagination! A new centrepiece for Corporation Street, as well as our regular snow family, will provide lots of selfie opportunities and the chance to win a £50 gift card.

Santa's Grotto will be **open on the weekends of 7/8, 14/15 and 21/22 December from 11am to 4pm**. Admission is £3.50 per child to include an age-appropriate gift. No booking is required but please be prepared to wait – he's a popular guy! If you're feeling full of the festive spirit you can join in the community carols on Saturday 14 December at 1pm in Corporation Street and enjoy seasonal music from the Corby Silver Band in Willow Place throughout the day.

With over 100 shops and eateries and late night shopping on 20/23 December, make Corby your one stop shop this Christmas! See willowplace.co.uk for full details.



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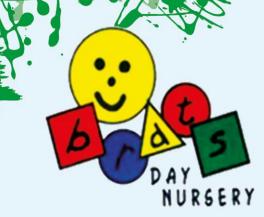
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Be prepared:

1. We all need a little extra vitamin D in the winter, especially if you have darker skin or cover your body in the summer. Vitamin D supports your bones, muscles and teeth. Adults and children over the age of 4 years need to be taking 10mcg of vitamin D daily in the autumn and winter (you will be advised by your medical team if you need a higher dose).

ocussed on

2. Try to stay warm and anticipate when wintry weather is forecast. Using draught excluders and keeping windows closed at night will reduce heat loss. To save money you can mostly heat the rooms where you spend more time, ideally to at least 18 degrees. Consider dressing in layers of thinner clothes which may keep you warmer than very thick jumpers. If you are worried about the cost of heating your home you may be eligible for help, ask to talk to the Social Prescribing Link Worker at your GP surgery.

3. If you are taking prescribed medication, please avoid running out and make sure you order them in good time. Order medication early if it is due to be collected on a bank holiday. You can order repeat prescriptions via the NHS App or online via your own surgery's website.

4. If you are eligible for one of the winter vaccinations such as flu, covid and pneumonia and have not yet booked an appointment, please book this at your GP surgery or local pharmacy.

5. If a loved one has died since last winter, you may wish to think about your plans for the festive traditions and other significant days. Some people find it helpful to think about and plan the aspects that you want to keep the same and decide if you want to change the way you do other things.

Healthy Habits for Body and Mind:

6. Exercise is great for mental and physical wellbeing. Exercise that builds strength such as Yoga and Tai Chi can be as helpful as well as the types that raise your heart rate.

Me Try to spend time outside as often as possible when it is light. Talk to your GP practice if you are interested in the reduced prices available for Exercise on Referral.

12 Top Tips for Winter Wellness

> 7. Quality of sleep can make a significant difference to how you feel in the day, and ideally adults should avoid davtime naps. Try to keep phones and other screens out of your bedroom and make sure the room is the right temperature, Stimulants such as nicotine and caffeine should be avoided for at least 2 hours before bedtime since can they stop you from getting to sleep. Try to avoid regular sleeping tablets since they can be addictive, and the quality of sleep is not always ideal. If sweating, restless legs or leg pains are disturbing your sleep you may wish to discuss this with a clinician at your GP practice since there may be an underlying reason.

> 8. For many people the winter is a time for making resolutions and you can get support to reduce your alcohol or recreational drug use. S2S are there to support you and can be contacted on 0808 169 8512. If you need help to stop smoking contact our local services on 0300 126 5700 (option 2). If you are going to parties over the festive season consider how you will get home, be careful with how much alcohol you drink and be aware of your surroundings.

9. Some people will want to consider taking up new hobbies and meeting new people, and it can be difficult to know how to do this. Our local GP surgeries have Social Prescribing Link Workers can help to connect you with local groups and activities, ask to talk to them via the reception team. Many people find social media can have a negative effect on their wellbeing, and you may wish to consider taking some time away from it if this is affecting vou. People usually show only the best views of their life online, this often does not match their reality. Take the time to connect with people in real life and be aware of people in our community who may be lonely or isolated.



10. If you are an adult who is struggling with your mental health (or care for someone who is having a difficult time) please call the mental health hub on 0800 448 0828 (open 24 hours a day and 7 days a week) and they will help to get you the mental wellbeing help needed. You may also wish to drop in to the Corby Crisis café on Argyll Street which is open Thursday and Friday 12noon-10pm and 2-8pm on a Sunday. Young people aged 11-18 can get support from Youthworks on 01536 518339

Local support and services:

11. If you need help from the NHS consider contacting your local pharmacy for advice on minor ailments. Pharmacists can now issue prescription-only medicines for certain winter conditions. These include ear infections (aged 1-17 yrs), sore throat (over 5 yrs), sinusitis (12 yrs and over), impetigo (aged over 1), and urine infections in women (16-64 yrs).

12. If you need medical help when your GP surgery is closed, please contact 111 by phone or online since they will be able to contact the out of hours General practice services overnight, at weekends and on bank holidays. For minor injuries you can attend the UCC from 8-8, 7 days a week. If you have an emergency or serious illness you may need to attend A+E.

If you want to know more about any of these topics visit www.nhs.uk, www.patient.co.uk

or talk to a clinician at your community pharmacy or GP practice.

ASK DR JOANNE WATT! Do you have a subject you wish our Dr to cover? Email: craig.barber @focussedpublications.co.uk



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Honoring Hallie Mae Colquhoun: The Legacy of Ignite Impact Foundation

The Ignite Impact Foundation stands as a powerful tribute to the life and vision of Hallie Mae Colguhoun, a remarkable young woman whose passion for dance and dedication to mental health and body positivity continues to inspire.

Hallie's dance journey began at the tender age of two. where she quickly recognized the challenges dancers face, particularly around mental well-being and body image. Rather than accept these shortcomings as the norm, Hallie took a stand. Her personal struggles with body dysmorphia fueled her determination to spark change within the dance industry.

At just 18 years old, Hallie turned her dreams into reality by founding Ignite Dance Space (IDS) in Corby, Northamptonshire. Her tireless efforts and strong community ties led to an impressive 77 students enrolling in her classes before they were set to begin on September 20th, 2023. IDS was designed not just to deliver high-quality dance training but also to foster culture of positivity, inclusivity, and а self-acceptance-ensuring no student ever felt inadequate or unwelcome.

Tragically, Hallie's journey was cut short on September 12th, 2023, when a fatal road traffic accident claimed her life. This heartbreaking loss, however, has not silenced her dream. Hallie's vision continues to shine brightly through the Ignite Impact Foundation.

The foundation is dedicated to carrying Hallie's mission forward-breaking the stigma around mental health in dance and providing education on self-care and well-being for dancers. Recognizing that these issues extend far beyond the dance community. Ignite Impact Foundation seeks to create safe spaces where everyone, regardless of background, can feel empowered and supported.

www.igniteimpact.co.uk



In September 2024, the foundation will launch its Wellbeing Hub, a vital step in ensuring Hallie's legacy lives on. This hub will provide resources and programs to help individuals build confidence, boost self-esteem, and embrace their authentic selves.

Through the Ignite Impact Foundation, we continue Hallie's dream of changing lives-one step, one dance, and one moment of self-belief at a time.

We invite you to join us in this journey, where positivity, resilience, and empowerment take centre stage. Together, we will honor Hallie Mae Colguhoun's legacy and keep her light shining brightly.





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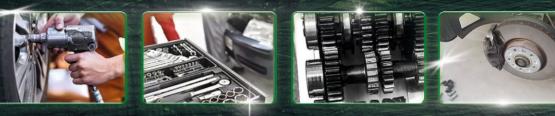
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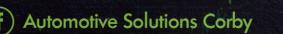


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Which:



Foster Carer provides 30 years of love and support to over 400 children and young people.

Hundreds of children in Corby need loving foster families to help them overcome difficult starts in life. As a foster carer, you have the power to transform their lives, creating positive outcomes and providing a safe and loving home environment.

Foster Carer Chris began her journey in the '90s after she wanted to help make a difference. Since joining Nexus Fostering in 2005, an Ofsted outstanding fostering agency, she has fostered over 400 children ranging from teenagers to sibling groups and younger children. Her experience raising her own children and as a childminder prepared her for the role, but she highlights that anyone with the time, dedication, and a spare bedroom can foster.

Children come into foster care for many different reasons, so being patient, empathetic, and kind is key. One foster child stayed with her for nearly a decade, forming a deep bond between them. Chris shared that 'the children often become a part of your family.'

Adapting to being a foster carer can feel like a significant change, and at first, it may be challenging. But with the support of your local team in Ampthill and guidance from your dedicated Supervising Social Worker, you can navigate this journey with confidence. You are never alone, with support available 24/7.

Over the years, Chris has said goodbye to many children, who either returned home or moved on to independence when they reached adulthood. Chris shares, 'I am still in touch with many children and young people, which I love. One is now 43 and has their own family! Sharing how she copes with saying goodbye, Chris tells us 'I always offer to keep in touch with the young people and maintaining a good relationship with the child's family when you are taking care of them helps, which has got to be carefully done! When teenagers move on to independent living, Chris is there to support their choices. 'If that means helping with washing and cooking them a meal now and then while continuing to teach them life skills, then I am okay with that. I enjoy being able to continue helping them.'

For more information visit www.nexusfostering.co.uk

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Chris and her daughter, whom she lives with, like to give each child a memorable send-off, often inviting family and friends over for a BBQ or a meal to spend quality time together. She says that sometimes, you may not know exactly when a child will leave, so it's important to be careful about what you share to avoid confusion.

Chris's open home has created decades of wonderful memories and has impacted the lives of hundreds of children and young people. Whether you foster one child or many, every foster carer makes a difference.

To learn more about fostering, contact your local team in Ampthill on 01462 431 774 for an informal chat about how you can become a foster carer and help local children have a brighter future.



Brain Busting Quizzes KID BRAIN TEASERS

- What has one eye, but can't see?
- What is the end of everything?
- What is red and smells like blue paint?

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BRAIN TEASERS

- What has many teeth, but cannot bite?
- What can you hold in your right hand, but never in your left hand?
- Two in a corner, one in a room, zero in a house, but one in a shelter. What am I?

What starts with a T, ends with a T, and has T in it?

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Ĩ	13. Stage direction
cher	21. Unwelcome visitor
	23. Welcome word at a
lt	proposal
	26. " does it!"
	28. Educated
k talk	29. Physics calculation
mitations	30. Pretentious, perhap
bel unit	32. Cooler contents
incil	34. Place for supplies
ack,	36. Armed ship of old
	37. Lodgepole, for one
у	38. Burglar
gily	40. Corn holder
eel	41. New Year's word
t filler	43. Ink cartridge color
iit	45. Beyond tipsy
ne?	46. Arrival en masse
.!"	48. Nutmeg, e.g.
bar	49. Mortise's mate
option	50. Colonel's insignia
prat's	52. Diacritic mark
•	55. Cut and paste
job	57. Zingy taste
	58. Not duped by
v	60. Take a stab at
re?	62. Kind of deposit

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ISSUE 41

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Des Barber: Celebrating 50 Years in Music & 15 Years of Corby Radio

This year, **Des Barber** marks two incredible milestones — 50 years in the music industry and 15 years since the launch of Corby Radio.

Des began his career in 1974 at just 15 years old alongside his friend lain Duffy, launching Dezeen Discos with makeshift equipment, including decks in a bread crate and matches securing electrical wires. By the end of the year, Des met Karen, his future wife, who helped him purchase proper equipment, enabling him to establish "Contac Disco." Des became a beloved DJ, playing at venues like The Shire Horse and The Silver Band, while often donating his time for charity events.

Des and Karen married in 1977 and raised three children, all while Des expanded his DJ career to include nightclubs across Northamptonshire and beyond. His deep love for Northern Soul, Philly, Motown, and Modern Soul became his signature, and he remained a passionate vinyl collector.

In 1992, Des's lifelong dream of working in radio began when he joined KCBC. Starting as a tea maker, his skills and passion soon landed him a presenter role. After working at stations like Lite FM and PCR FM, Des launched a small-scale radio license in 1996, planting the seeds for a station in Corby. Despite setbacks, including lobbying Parliament, he persisted.

> In 2004, Des and Karen moved to Spain, opening a soul bar and working on local radio. While abroad, regulations for community radio licenses changed, giving Des the opportunity he'd long fought for. Returning to Corby, he secured the town's first full-time radio license, and Corby Radio went live on December 5, 2009.

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CORBY The Voice of North Northants

Des has worked tirelessly to keep the station thriving, championing new technologies like DAB and podcasts while continuing to support local charities. Despite health challenges, Des remains active on the Northern Soul scene, DJ-ing across Europe and appearing in the film Do I Love You.

As he transitions to a slightly slower pace, setting up a home studio for live shows, Des's impact on Corby's community and music scene is undeniable. Congratulations, Des, on 50 years of dedication and passion — your legacy inspires us all.



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-

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