

March 2021

the original GOOD news local paper

## High praise for safety makeover in Newark

A MAJOR project to boost safety in Newark has moved full steam ahead with hundreds of thousands of pounds invested into new technology and security to fight crime.

The Safer Streets programme, led by **Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Paddy Tipping**, is turning the tables on burglars and thieves thanks to the installation of upgraded security and sophisticated crime-fighting tools in the Northgate and Chatham areas of the town.

The project, which is being delivered by a host of partners including Nottinghamshire Police, Newark and Sherwood District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the PCC, has already brought almost 300 new LED lights to the area as part of a £150,000 streetlight upgrade.

The installation of new state-of-the-art automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras in the town has already provided more than 500,000 readings in relation to offences such as criminal damage, thefts and burglary — and are being used within Nottinghamshire Police, including Operation Reacher and the intelligence department to crackdown on crime.

Nottinghamshire Police is also delivering an extra 90 hours' of police patrols per month to boost visibility and dozens of residents have received free security upgrades — including solar-powered 4G



cameras — to reduce their vulnerability to crime.

In addition, cyclists are benefitting from free GPS cycle trackers, worth more than £100 each, and free security marking to protect their bikes from future theft.

Meanwhile, work has started on transforming a former council flat in Chatham Court into a new community hub, where locals will be able to access face-to-face contact for policing enquiries, housing services and other council support.

The new facility, which will include a computer area for residents, is part of a plan to build resilience within the community and support people to overcome any issues affecting their

lives. It compliments work to expand Neighbourhood Watch in the area and encourage people to sign up to the force's Neighbourhood Alert service.

Nottinghamshire has been noted nationally for its innovative Safer Streets model, which aims to increase crime detection capability in the town as well as prevent offences happening in the first place.

Paddy Tipping, who was among the project leads welcoming the **Minister of State for Policing and Crime, Kit Malthouse**, to Newark, said: "The Safer Streets team has really hit the ground running to improve life and safety in Newark and already a huge amount of investment has been poured into stepping up protection in the Chatham and Northgate areas.

"The feedback we have received has been overwhelmingly positive and local people really appreciate the efforts of all the partners in banishing criminals from Newark.

"While the health crisis has undoubtedly had an impact, I'm really impressed with the tenacity of the team and the readiness to overcome obstacles to deliver these improvements for the benefit of local

(Continued on page 6)



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## Rotary annual award delayed

SHERWOOD Forest Rotary Club is now well into the second half of its Rotary year and is continuing to meet as a group, albeit using modern technology rather than in person.

Chairman Malcolm Bevan said: "It has been difficult to fundraise or become actively involved in projects during the current restrictions, but we continue to plan our calendar in the hope that we will be back in action soon."

"Our main project is the 1220 Bike Ride in aid of Prostate Cancer, which will finish at the end of June."

"As reported last month we have passed the £2,000 mark and hope to increase this amount over the next few months."

"It is not too late to join in if you wish to cycle (even on an exercise bike!) and can record your mileage. Find out more on our 1220 Cycle Challenge page on Facebook."

The Rotary club celebrated Burns' Night virtually and members enjoyed haggis, neeps and tatties with some participants enjoying a wee dram as well! Interesting Burn's facts and poems were read out during the course of the evening.

The club is planning similar evenings, including St David's Day in March, followed by St Patrick's Day and St George's Day.

Malcolm added: "At this time of year we usually announce the recipient of our Robin Hood Award."

However, we have decided to award this a little later and ask you to look out for our announcement encouraging nominations from April onwards."

## Run London Marathon and help our hospice

SIX runners have the chance to take part in this year's Virgin Money London Marathon and help Beaumont House Hospice Care too.

The charity has been given one place in the 2021 London event and five places in the virtual race, both of which will be held on October 3.

Now people are being invited to apply to claim the places.

**Ashleigh Haggart**, of Fernwood, completed the London Marathon in 2016 and raised more than £2,000 for Beaumont House.

He said he had tried unsuccessfully a couple of times to get a place in the marathon and when he heard Beaumont House had one he decided to apply.

"It seemed to make sense to run in the marathon and raise money for Beaumont House as well," Ashleigh said.

He spent five months training and although it was hard at times he was determined to ensure he was well prepared.

Colleagues at Ambitions Personnel, where he is a senior accounts manager, sponsored him along with family, friends and people who heard what he was doing through a Facebook post.

"Once I put it out that I was doing the London Marathon and that I was running for Beaumont House I had a great response," Ashleigh said. "It was amazing

how generous people were and how many people wanted to help."

On the day he said the hardest part for him was seeing a sign saying they had completed 20 miles and that there was only another 10k to go

"I think that was meant to inspire you but at that stage 10k was still a long way," he said.

"But I knew I was running for all those people who had supported me and that helped keep me going."

Individual fundraising manager **Kat Wright** said she was thrilled the hospice has successfully acquired places.

The hospice has set a fundraising target of £3,000 for the London event and £300 for the virtual race.

The hospice is offering a marathon package with a personalised runner's top, fundraising support, a training survival kit, and a sports massage donated by Ian Jenkinson from Back To Life Clinic.

● **Applicants to run the London Marathon for the hospice must be over 18 and can apply through the London Marathon page on the hospice website — <http://www.beaumonthouse.co.uk>**

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# Activity village main building a step closer

WORK on the main building at the YMCA Newark and Sherwood community and activity village started in February.

It followed the official signing of a contract by RG Carter Construction and the young people and families charity for the village's main building, on Lord Hawke Way, Newark.

**Todd Cauthorn**, executive director for YMCA Newark and Sherwood, said: "It feels good to be working with a local business in RG Carter on such a large-scale project that will create jobs, youth apprenticeships and transformational life opportunities in addition to strengthening the already fantastic community spirit in Newark.

"We have worked closely with partners from a wide range of services as well as local authorities to ensure there are programmes that help people belong, contribute and thrive.

"When the pandemic began early last year, we were concerned about the potential impact on the village... we are pleased that developments are moving ahead.

"Provided everything goes to plan considering the current circumstances, this progress indicates that our main building hopefully will be completed in spring 2022."

**Jason Wilson**, senior project manager at R G Carter, said: "It's great to be able to provide the local community with a new

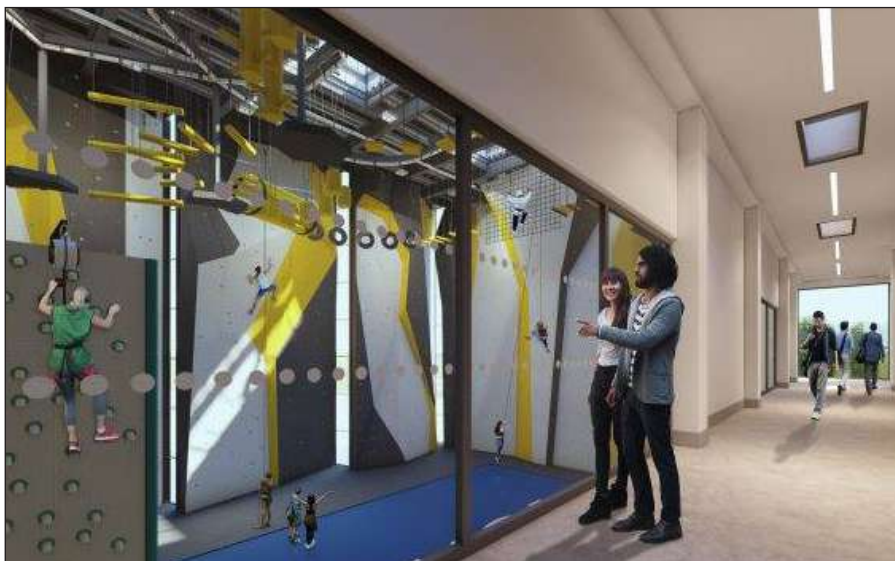


purpose-built environment, which matches their vision for the very best services and support for young people to help them reach their full potential."

Whilst the village has been closed during parts of the pandemic, continuous investment has still been a top priority for YMCA Newark and Sherwood.

Notable progress was made during the first lockdown, including the launch of the outdoor Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and having one of the 3G community pitches professionally recrumbed ahead of reopening.

**Coun David Lloyd**, leader of Newark and Sherwood District Council, added: "To say we're excited to see this phase of the



YMCA project coming forward would be an understatement. It's more than a building.

"This development will house those many activities which will engage with local people of all ages but specifically those sometimes referred to as 'hard to reach'.

"The positive impact for communities that arise from the programmes run from this facility will be inestimable.

"It's that piece in the jigsaw that makes the picture complete — state-of-the-art sports provision, sites for local sporting teams to practice and play, engaging younger people and families in a wide range of activities and learning."

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# More free help to tackle crime in Newark hotspots

BIKE thieves are being warned they are more likely than ever to be caught as residents are being given another chance to claim free tracking devices.

GPS trackers, worth more than £100 each, are being given to people in Newark to put the brakes on criminals looking to steal bikes.

The expansion of the scheme to prevent bike thefts and improve community safety follows an increase in funding.

Following extensive trials on their efficiency, high-quality GPS cycle trackers have been bought as part of the Safer Streets project, led by Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Paddy Tipping to crackdown on burglary, vehicle crime and cycle theft.

The PCC secured funding from the Home Office's Safer Streets Fund in July 2020 and is working closely with Newark and Sherwood District Council, Nottinghamshire Police and Nottinghamshire County Council to improve the lives of people living in the



**SOME of the Safer Streets team at a bike security event.**

Chatham Court and Northgate areas of the town.

Recipients do not necessarily need to live in Newark but should regularly travel into and around Newark by bicycle (under normal, non-Covid circumstances). Alternatively, recipients should live within the Chatham Court area or Northgate area (including Tithe Barn Court, Queens Court and Lovers Lane).

Bikes should have cost at least £250 when bought within the last three years.

Owners will need access to a smart phone to track the device.

Extra weight will be given to those who have been a victim of cycle theft.

To apply, residents should contact the Safer Streets Team at Newark and Sherwood District Council by emailing [community.safety@nsdc.info](mailto:community.safety@nsdc.info) who will inform them if they have been successful.

Trackers consist of a small, lightweight accessory linked to a smartphone app.

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# Tenant wins free month's rent

A LUCKY Blidworth tenant won a free month's rent from her letting agent after it was successful in a national competition.

**Barbara Oxford**, of Blidworth, received a cheque for £800 from **James Ingram**, director of Tristram's, via its Tenant Rewards and Loyalty programme, in partnership with Vaboo.

The team at Tristram's were delighted that out of thousands of entries nationwide in Vaboo's monthly competition, one of its tenants had claimed the prize.

Barbara said: "I was so surprised when I got the call. I didn't expect to win when I entered, so it was an incredible piece of good news to start 2021 with."

"We have received excellent support from Tristram's, no matter what our reason for contacting them. We are very happy tenants and even more so now."

James added: "We are completely thrilled that Barbara was the recipient of this amazing prize. A simple review of our service added Barbara into a nationwide prize draw to which thousands of tenants enter."

"We are committed to helping our tenants in every way we can, making life easier and providing the best possible renting experience."

"Our complimentary rewards platform, called Vaboo, sees all tenants within our managed properties automatically enrolled, giving them another great benefit for renting through Tristram's."

Tristram's is a small family run estate agent in Nottingham that has been



operating since 2015.

**Jonathan Stein**, chief executive at Vaboo, said: "It is our aim to help our partners improve every tenant's lettings experience with the added value our reward platform brings."

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# Safety makeover in Newark welcomed

(Continued from page 1)

people as quickly and safely as possible.

“Over the coming weeks, residents will see even more positive additions to protect their homes and properties.

“We hope these improvements not only reduce fear of crime but encourage the community to pull together and support each other to take a firm stand against crime in the future.”

**Coun David Lloyd**, leader of Newark and Sherwood District Council, said: “We have so far seen real and tangible results directly from the project and that is testament to the hard work of all of the partners involved.

“Our priority is always to make sure our district remains a safe and welcoming place to live, work and visit. Anything we can do to make it harder for criminals to operate is positive and there is still more to come.

“I am confident that each and every one of the measures we’ve put in place will help offer brighter years ahead to those living and working in the areas.”

**Inspector Heather Sutton**, District Commander for Newark and Sherwood, added: “We welcome any move that makes our communities safer and are always working hard on various projects and operations to combat crime and disorder.

“The Safer Streets initiative has really pulled our collective objectives into focus together with our partners and the investment has enabled us to produce quick-time results.

“We have received lots of positive feedback from residents who tell us that the measures we are taking are making a difference and we want to keep up this momentum.

“We have a strong force on the front line which is further bolstered by our Operation Reacher team who have been working hard in the communities to uncover and eradicate crimes that are affecting local people.

“We continue to encourage residents to tell us about anything they’re concerned about and any crimes that might be happening on their doorstep.”

● **IF people have concerns about crime in their local area, they can report it to Nottinghamshire Police on 101. Alternatively, they can contact Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.**

# New road safety plan near school

NEW safety measures are being proposed for the B6326 in a bid to address road safety concerns around Suthers School in Fernwood.

Nottinghamshire County Council has put together a package of measures to lower traffic speeds and advise motorists of the presence of children crossing on the approaches to the school.

These include the installation of a new vehicle-activated speed sign on the approach to the Tawny Owl roundabout over the A1 and additional 40mph repeater speed signs.

Warning signs will also be placed in each direction near the crossing and on the approaches to Tawny Owl crossing point, alerting drivers to the presence of school pupils crossing the road.

**Coun John Cottee**, chairman of Communities and Place Committee at Nottinghamshire County Council, said: “Road safety is a high priority and we’ve listened to concerns from the parish council, school head teacher and residents and hope that this combination of safety measures will be welcomed.

“Further work is also under way to review the layout of the current crossing facilities at the Tawny Owl roundabout.”

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# Report from Newark Business Club's second meeting of 2021

KERRI McGarrigle, chairman of Newark Business Club, opened the February meeting of Newark Business Club with a note to say that Lesley Pashley is collecting unwanted laptops for local schools, *writes Daniel Otton, of Buttercross Estates*.

With just two more meetings to chair, Kerri reminded members of four new opportunities for members to be part of the Newark Business Club executive team.

If anyone would like to be the new chairman, vice-chairman, treasurer or head of Action Group, contact Kerri at [chairman@newarkbusinessclub.org.uk](mailto:chairman@newarkbusinessclub.org.uk).



**KERRI McGarrigle, chairman of Newark Business Club.**

## This month's sponsor

Newark & Sherwood Community Lottery sponsored this month's meeting and Andy Hardy ran through how the lottery will work and the benefits to the community, once it gets up and running in spring.

The initial launch event has seen over 70 good causes sign up. Tickets will cost just £1 and the draw made each Saturday.

People can choose the cause the funds go to and for each pound, 60p goes to good causes, 20p goes into the prize pool and 20p goes to cover running costs and VAT.

Newark and Sherwood District Council will administer the scheme and promote the lottery. It will also be looking for sponsors for bolt-on prizes for people to win.

To speak to Andy about the lottery or becoming a sponsor, email [communitylottery@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk](mailto:communitylottery@newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk) or visit [www.NewarkAndSherwoodLottery.co.uk](http://www.NewarkAndSherwoodLottery.co.uk) to register.

## Guest speaker

The guest speaker this month was **Simon Akers**, from ARCHMON, who shared some of his journey and how things aren't always what they seem in business and life.

Life and success isn't often a linear upward journey, he said. There are ups and down on the way but your outward life may not reflect your inner happiness and wellbeing.

Simon's inner wellbeing came to the forefront when his worklife was in full flow and as it crashed, he sought help from the NHS.

What he learnt was that self deception is the worst deception of all. You need to work with the reality of the situation in order to move forward.

In the past 12 months the human race has faced a new challenge. Covid-19 is a big leveller and it is bringing mental health to the forefront. Whether it is privately or publically, it's important to keep the conversation going and to check in with other people and help each other out.

A good tip he shared was to write down what you can and can't control and focus on the areas you can control.

At the start of the talk, Simon asked members to share what makes us feel good. Exercise, getting outdoors, singing and just taking a break were all popular choices.

There are lots of excellent local services for help and support for mental health and Simon encouraged people to reach out as early as possible.

Action Group have been influencing over the recent years and reminded members that if they would like to get involved, or chair the action group, then get in touch with one of the committee.

## Closing

The next meeting takes place on Friday 5th March and those that are wishing to be considered for chairman need to put their name in the hat before then. Get in touch with Kerri at [chairman@newarkbusinessclub.org.uk](mailto:chairman@newarkbusinessclub.org.uk).

## New member shop window

Of the new members that attended the meeting, Adrianna McNulty was randomly selected to feature her business, Mosaic.

Mosaic comprises of physical and coworking office space for companies and individuals working in the digital business sector, as well as a membership offer for digital businesses located elsewhere.

It is hosting empowering events that strengthen the Lincolnshire digital community.

Mosaic creates an inclusive environment for the county's wider sectors including: Manufacturing, Agrifood, Visitor Economy, Low Carbon, Health and Care, Ports and Logistics and Supply Chain, creating a platform for digital ideas to flourish, enabling these businesses to grow by saving time and money.

Find out more at [www.mosaiclincoln.co.uk](http://www.mosaiclincoln.co.uk)

## Action Group update

Chairman of the Action Group, James Fountain, shared some of the projects the

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# Powering up for electric vehicles

MORE drivers in Newark and Sherwood will be able to power up their electric vehicles in council car parks, after a national grant has enabled eight new chargepoints to be installed.

Newark and Sherwood District Council has been awarded £51,000 from the Government's On-Street Residential Chargepoint Scheme.

Local authorities were invited to submit applications for the scheme to increase the availability of charging points in residential streets, built-up areas and town centre car parks to help prepare and support for the transition towards zero emission vehicles.

While the fund is primarily designed for the installation of chargepoints in built-up areas with on-street parking, in areas such as Newark where there is little on-street parking, funding can be used by councils to install chargepoints in town centre car parks.

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As well as the seven chargepoints already in place at district council car parks in Newark, the additional facilities are being installed as part of the move toward greener transport, helping to improve air quality in the quest to cut back on fossil fuels.

Due to be installed before the end of April, four new chargepoints will be put in the council's car park on London Road, Newark, as well as four at Southwell Town Council's Bramley Centre car park.

**Coun Roger Jackson**, chairman of the Leisure and Environment Committee at Newark and Sherwood District Council, said: "Electric vehicles are becoming more and more popular and we want to do all we can to enable our residents to use them by making charging points available.

"As part of our Climate Emergency Strategy, we installed seven rapid charge points in December 2019 in three of the district council's car parks — four at Riverside, one at Appletongate and two at Castle House in Newark. Providing electric car charging points is a vital part of our aim to promote greener transport solutions and make the district cleaner, safer and greener.

"The new chargepoints are a hugely positive step in helping us be at the



forefront of low and zero emission vehicle use, delivering cleaner air for the district."

At the moment 'fastcharging' chargepoints can be found at Riverside car park, Newark, and can power up most vehicles in three hours while the 'ultracharge' one at Appletongate provides up to 80 per cent power within 30 minutes.

Additional 'fastcharging' facilities are also in place at the Castle House car park, although this is temporarily out of use because the site is currently being used for a Covid-19 testing venue.

Customers access the equipment through a smart card or mobile app.

Car parking charges will apply between 8am and 6pm but local residents will be able to take advantage of chargepoints from 6pm and 8am without incurring parking charges.

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## Help to shape cultural future

RESIDENTS and visitors to Newark are being invited to have their say on the town's cultural activities and how best to promote and celebrate its history and heritage.

As part of Newark's High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) project, which is being funded by Historic England, a three-year cultural programme has been developed, titled Newark Creates.

Newark and Sherwood District Council and Inspire, the lead project partner, have opened a public consultation to understand more about Newark's residents and visitors, what cultural activities they already engage with and what town centre experiences they would like to see on offer.

The cultural programme will be built and led by Newark's Cultural Consortium, which is made up of local organisations including Inspire, Newark Civic Trust, Newark Heritage Trust, Newark Book Festival, Newark and Sherwood CVS and Newark and Sherwood College (Schools of Violin, Piano and Woodwind).

Newark Conservation Area was granted £275,000 from Historic England to restore and unlock its heritage potential and the initiative will breathe new life into town centres by revitalising old buildings and regenerate a vibrant place for locals, businesses and visitors.

The public can complete a survey at [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HazSurvey](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HazSurvey). For information on the High Street Heritage Action Zone, visit [www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/haz](http://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/haz)

## Apprentices gain full-time work

APPRENTICES at Newark and Sherwood District Council are celebrating after securing permanent roles with the authority.

**Callum Scrimshaw, Oliver Wilson, Lindsey Berry and Lauren Anthony** and many more apprentices have worked above and beyond in the past year, which has led to them being offered a full-time contact.

Although not all apprenticeships result in permanent roles when they come to the end of their contract, some apprentices are kept on thanks to opportunities that become available.

The council celebrated the great work and dedication of its apprentices during National Apprenticeship Week.

It currently employs 19 apprentices, covering a wide range of job roles from communications and housing, to IT and the Street Scene team.

As part of the celebration the council shared success stories of its apprentices, including **Lindsay Berry** who now has a permanent role as a business administration support assistant, and **Lauren Anthony**, who now works as a surveyor for the council.

Lauren said: "I enjoy learning whilst working and getting hands on experience, which you wouldn't gain in a degree."

The council has invested heavily in taking on apprentices in recent years, providing people of all ages a chance to learn and gain practical skills all while earning a wage.

Leader **Coun David Lloyd** said: "It's been a challenging year for everyone, and our apprentices have tackled any obstacles head on and have achieved great things."

"It was great last week to see the stories of just some of our apprentices shared publicly on our social media, with many having gone on to permanent roles with us."

Grounds maintenance apprentices **Callum Scrimshaw** and **Oliver Wilson** have both secured full time positions due to additional workload and contracts being secured by the Street Scene team.

Callum said: "It's been great to meet new people and gain skills I never knew I had."

If you know someone who may be interested in an apprenticeship with he district council, visit the Jobs Go Public website which is regularly updated with the latest vacancies.

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# Plan to green up the roadsides in Southwell

PLANS to lay wildflower seeds on Nottinghamshire's grass verges, including in Southwell, have moved a step closer.

Nottinghamshire County Council highways partner Via East Midlands has so far planted more than 160 new trees along some of the county's roadsides with plans for the same again this year.

Sites have also been earmarked for the planting of wildflowers to help attract wildlife to the grass verges and improve the overall environment.

Sites identified include:

The A6097 East Bridgford junction.

The A608 verges at Sherwood Business Park, Mansfield.

Corkhill Lane, Southwell.

The council's Communities and Place Committee has also heard about plans to

work with Defra to plant 2.1m trees at the former Rufford Colliery site in Rainworth as part of the government's Nature for Climate Fund project to provide a community forest in Nottinghamshire and boost woodland areas across England.

**Coun John Cottee**, chairman of the Communities and Place Committee, said: "Reviewing our policy around how we manage the cutting of grass verges is a really important step to improve biodiversity, wildlife and encouraging wild flowers to grow. It's also worth stressing the importance of ensuring this work fits with our road safety criteria too.

"I'm encouraged with the work proposed in the development of grass verges which have been identified with support from the Wildlife Trust and local councils where we will be undertaking works to promote wildflowers.

"This year our partner's Via East Midlands have planted 160 new trees alongside the county's roadsides and in the next year are looking to plant another 150. These trees will have a positive impact



on our communities, not only providing environmental benefits, but also bringing the beauty of nature to our streets.

"We are also undertaking work with Defra as part of our green estate strategy and their Trees for Climate programme, which will see 2.1 million trees planted in Rufford Colliery and also Bentinck South, near Kirkby.

"These steps are taking us in the right direction to providing a better local environment for future Nottinghamshire residents."

Coun Cottee added: "At the county council's policy committee in March 2020 the council's Corporate Environment Strategy was agreed and the environmental work we've discussed fits with our ambitious aspirations."

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# Environmental Action Day 'success' at Newark estate

AN extensive range of activities, including litter picking, street sweeping and tree planting, to make an area of Newark Cleaner, Safer and Greener has been described as a fantastic success.

Staff from Newark and Sherwood District Council undertook environmental work at an action day at the Chatham Court estate, Newark, tackling physical issues that could encourage further crime in an area.

Extensive evidence suggests that visible signs of disorder — such as anti-social graffiti, fly-tipping and litter — can lead to and encourage further criminal activity in a community.

Enhancing the look and feel of an area by tackling seemingly minor issues, helps communicate pride and expectations of the community, while helping prevent issues from escalating into more significant problems.

The programme is part of the Safer Streets project, a crime fighting and safety improvement initiative, led by Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) Paddy Tipping.

The project is a partnership between the PCC, Nottinghamshire Police, Newark and Sherwood District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council to improve security in two areas particularly affected by crimes such as burglary, vehicle theft and robbery — the Chatham Court and Northgate areas of Newark.

As well as litter picking, three mattresses and two divan beds were taken off the Chatham Court estate, while bin storage areas were swept and pressure washed, with any debris removed.

Eight new trees — four oak and four goat



willow — were planted around Chatham Court, while hedges were trimmed, grass was cut, weeds removed and play areas cleaned.

The door entry systems at Chatham Court are also being upgraded as part of the Safer Streets project. A new video entry system is being installed within all flat blocks, replacing the previous intercom system, to improve security in communal areas.

Magnetic locking mechanisms are being upgraded as a further preventative measure against crime. Improvement works to the inside of flat blocks are also taking place in corridors and stairways, including repainting, improved interior lighting and new hard-wearing vinyl floor.

Since the launch of the Safer Streets campaign in September 2020, considerable progress has been made in reducing crime and increasing public safety. More than 100 street lights have been upgraded in both the Chatham Court and Northgate areas, from older sodium lanterns to new LED bulbs which emit white light with improved colour rendering.

On-street cycle stores are being upgraded to more secure designs and work is underway for new, top of the range, cycle 'pods' for bike owners to take advantage of.

Newark and Sherwood District Council leader **Coun David Lloyd** said: "The day has been a fantastic success. One of our aims as part of the Safer Streets project is to deter crime from happening in the first place and tackling environmental concerns is more significant in doing that than people may realise.

"An area with visible signs of disorder can, and does, lead to further crime being committed in the same area. We want to

instill a sense of pride and help residents to feel proud and safe. A great deal has been achieved, not just today, but since the start of the project and feedback we are receiving from residents has been overwhelmingly positive."

**Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner Paddy Tipping** said: "The Safer Streets project has delivered a series of improvements in an ambitious time-frame and we are delighted local people are already feeling the benefits.

"I would like to thank the environmental teams for delivering this clean-up and helping to improve the look and feel of these areas for local residents. By working proactively with our partners, we can achieve so much more and make a stronger impact on community life. We are determined to make the Chatham Court and Northgate estates an inhospitable place for criminals and together we are achieving this ambition."

**Inspector Heather Sutton**, District Commander for Newark and Sherwood, said: "This is just the latest example of how the Safer Streets initiative is having a real impact on people's lives. This kind of activity really does help to improve our communities by preventing wider crime and disorder.

"Residents should also be reassured by the recent boost we've had to our front-line policing numbers with the launch of our new Operation Reacher team, whose members are working hard every day to tackle issues of local concern."

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# Teenager's unique role as a CSI apprentice with police

PICTURE the scene: There's been a stabbing inside a house in a sleepy suburban street.

Officers are in attendance and have arrested two people in connection with the report — a victim is in hospital with serious injuries and an investigation has been launched to identify who committed the crime.

DNA samples and evidence are scattered throughout the property and Nottinghamshire Police's Crime Scene Investigation Unit is tasked with gathering and photographing items crucial to finding who the correct suspect is.

At just 18-years-old, **Louis Clark**, of Southwell, is part of this vital team.

In what is thought to be among the first opportunities of its kind in the country, Louis has just completed his first week as a CSI apprentice at the force.

Working as part of a busy team working on some of the most serious cases in the county, he admits that he still has to pinch himself when he thinks about his new job.

"I have always been fascinated with forensics," explained Louis. "I finished my A-levels in biology, geography and business and managed to secure a week's work experience in the CSI team at Nottinghamshire Police."

"From that point on I knew that policing



was a route that I wanted to go down. I had such a positive experience and was made to feel so welcome by the team. I have to pinch myself when I say my job is in CSI."

Crime scene investigators roles involve securing and protecting crime scenes in order to collect and categorise evidence such as weapons, fingerprints, clothing and other biological evidence that could aid officers and detectives in investigations.

Experienced **Crime Scene Investigator Leigh Richards** said: "Louis is a superstar. Despite his age, he expertly demonstrated his passion, communications skills and talent to us and we were delighted that he agreed to join the team at Nottinghamshire Police," she explained.

"Louis will be studying a photography apprenticeship alongside being trained as a Tier 1 Crime Scene Investigator — an

industry recognised qualification that will enable him to work on lower level investigations.

"His photography apprenticeship will also be incredibly useful. Photos play a massive part in our evidence gathering process and being able to take good-quality images in the right way is a vital skill."

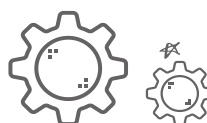
**Chief Constable Craig Guildford**, pictured with Louis, added: "As a force, we are always looking for new talent and innovative ways to enable people from all ages and backgrounds to enjoy a career in policing."

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# Farnsfield Beavers go to infinity and beyond

DURING January, 1st Farnsfield Beavers got ready to explore the stars, planets and beyond by doing their Space activity badge.

The Beavers, aged 6 to 8, are meeting virtually each week while coronavirus restrictions mean they cannot meet face to face.

Over three weeks they did their Space activity badge in a simple virtual session, mixed with fun games.

In week one they learnt about the different planets in the solar system by building a planet mobile they could hang from their bedroom ceilings.

The following week was about understanding constellations, while the final week saw them make their own rocket to transport them to infinity and beyond!

Across 1st Farnsfield Scout Group all sections have been meeting virtually each week with more than 100 members participating in Scouting activities or silly



games.

Cubs (aged 8 to 10) have been enjoying virtual evenings with sessions on wellbeing, space and even making their own djembe drums.

Both Scout sections (aged 10 to 14) have

been on a cooking frenzy by enjoying a Swedish Fika evening and most recently designing and making their own cake.

● **FARNFIELD Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meet weekly during term time.**  
If you would like to find out more visit, [1stfarnsfield.org.uk/join](http://1stfarnsfield.org.uk/join)

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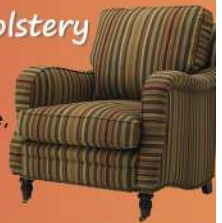
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# Farnsfield Beavers

FARNSFIELD Cubs took on a cooking challenge as part of their Chef activity badge.

The badge is one of 40 badges Cubs, aged 8 to 10.5, can earn while in the section. Normally this badge would be completed in person but because of the coronavirus lockdown all Scouting has moved online.

The Chef badge consists of understanding the basic rules of safety and hygiene in the kitchen, cooking a two-course meal and tidying up.

Hexgreave Cubs were challenged to design and make a 'mega' sandwich, which they prepared themselves at home while on a virtual session. For dessert there was banana splits, pancakes, strawberries and cream, and many others.

Bramley Cubs, who meet on a Tuesday, took on a Ready Steady Mug challenge to make a cake in a mug dessert with their own flavours.

Both Scout sections investigated mental health as part of children's mental health week, making wellbeing boxes and becoming wellbeing champions.

Beavers continued their space theme with a virtual talk from the National Space Centre in Leicester.

**Chris Blockley**, of 1st Farnsfield Cubs, said: "Thank you to the adults that have



made Scouting possible during this lockdown. If you have a skill and think you can help Farnsfield Cubs continue to offer young people skills for life, then get in touch. We can't do this without great adult volunteers.

"Visit [1stfarnsfield.org.uk/volunteer](http://1stfarnsfield.org.uk/volunteer) to see what role might suit you or call me 077793 24341 for a chat."

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