



BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ACRE

THE HUNSBURY HILL CENTRE • HARKSOME HILL • NORTHAMPTON • NN4 9QX
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Dear Member

Northamptonshire Best Village Competition 2018

We are very pleased that the Best Village Competition will be running again this year.

The competition is open to all villages with populations up to and including 6,000. There are three different categories based on village size and there is a special award for the best 'newcomer' to the competition. Each section of the competition carries **prize money of £250 and the prize money for the overall winner will be £1,000.**

We have found that the most successful villages in the competition have a group working together on their application form rather than just one individual. For this reason, we are circulating the application form to Parish Councils and other local groups in order to make the competition as widely publicised as possible. It is hoped that between them and other interested parties within your village, a small group can be formed who can put the application together. Any such group should advise the Parish Council that an application is being made.

I can assure you completing the application form should not be an onerous task but one that provides an invaluable audit of village life. It is a rewarding and worthwhile experience bringing together people in the village and realising the vibrancy of the activities that you have on your doorstep.

Entry into the competition carries not only a considerable 'feel good' effect into the village as a whole but also a very generous prize, as well as gaining a higher profile across the county for your village.

All villages who enter will be visited by our team of judges. The Winners will be announced at the Presentation Evening on Tuesday 17th of July 2018 at the High Barn, Hunsbury Hill Centre, Harksome Hill, Northampton, NN4 9QX.

How to enter :

Please Note that the Closing date is Thursday the 15th March 2018

We welcome digital entries sent by email but if you are doing a paper copy and feel more space is required please feel free to attach a single extra sheet of paper numbering the answers. Application forms can also be completed on-line at <http://northantsacre.org.uk/best-village-competition>

We look forward to receiving your entry for 2018 by **15 March 2018** and should you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Breakwell at Rebecca.breakwell@northantsacre.org.uk or call 016054 825884.

Guidance Notes :

The Judges will be looking for villages that can demonstrate enterprise, initiative and community spirit in how the village cares for all its inhabitants and how the village is looked after as well as the involvement of local businesses and the welcome given to visitors. They want to know not only what has been done in the past few years to help the community but also about plans for this year. We have found that the most successful villages in the competition have a group working together on their application form rather than just one individual.

When entering the competition please could you send us a sketched map of the village showing the locations of the different facilities as this will greatly assist the Judges.

Visits from the Judges will take place between Mid -April and early June. Someone from the Judging team will make contact to arrange their visit, which will last a maximum of two and half hours during which they will be pleased to meet a wide cross section of the village community.

We look forward to receiving your entry for 2018 by **15 March 2018** and should you have any queries then please do not hesitate to contact Rebecca Breakwell at Rebecca.breakwell@northantsacre.org.uk or tel. 01604 825554.