

Nottingham



/mynottingham



@mynottingham



/mynottingham

arrw

Winter Wonderland returns!

Plus RobinHoodenergy

 **Pay-As-You-Go**
(prepayment) is here...

...available to Nottingham City residents!



Nottingham City Council

Welcome to the latest issue of the Arrow, the City Council's magazine for residents.

“December is a time when household budgets can be stretched greatly.

It's the same for Nottingham City Council. With Government grants for councils having been cut year on year for the last 5 years, this year we face the task of having to reduce our budget by £22 million and that means difficult choices lie ahead.

We remain ambitious in our aims though and that's why we managed to launch the not-for-profit energy company Robin Hood Energy to help reduce fuel poverty. Thousands of citizens are already making savings. A prepayment tariff is also now available for citizens who have prepayment meters. See page seven.

As a Council we will continue to be ambitious and deliver the best services we can for all of Nottingham.

Merry Christmas and a happy New Year to you and all your family.”

Councillor Jon Collins
Nottingham City Council Leader



Councillor Jon Collins is the Leader of Nottingham City Council. He can be contacted by writing to Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham NG2 3NG; by telephone on 876 4256 or email jon.collins@nottinghamcity.gov.uk



The Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council is Ian Curryer. He can be contacted by writing to Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham NG2 3NG; by telephone on 876 3302 or email chief.executive@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

To comment, compliment or complain:

“Have Your Say...”



Go online:
www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/hys



Textphone or minicom:
18001, then 0115 915 5555



Phone us on: 0115 915 5555



Visit us:
at any Council reception point or office



Write to: Have Your Say,
Nottingham City Council, Loxley House,
Station Street, Nottingham NG2 3NG



Arrowonline

If you'd rather read the Arrow online, scan the QR code on the left with your smart phone or sign up for email updates at:

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/stayconnected



Nottingham Arrow

Communications and Marketing
Nottingham City Council
Loxley House, Station Street, Nottingham NG2 3NG

Arrow enquiries: 0115 876 3313

General Council enquiries: 0115 876 5555

email: communications@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

visit: nottinghamcity.gov.uk/arrow

WINTER WONDERLAND

CHRISTMAS IN NOTTINGHAM: WINTER WONDERLAND FESTIVE EVENTS, PANTOS, PLAYS & MORE



Victorian Bar and Helter Skelter Bar
Enjoy a break from Christmas shopping as you sip mulled wine, spiced cider or ales and wines in our warm and cosy seating areas.

The Grand Christmas tree
The traditional Grand Christmas tree will be the fantastic centrepiece of the ice rink – Christmas in Nottingham just wouldn't be complete without it!

Get your skates on
The ice rink is back, with lots of fun events on the ice too! Book the date you want online at www.nottinghamwinterwonderland.co.uk to beat the crowds and avoid disappointment.

The Christmas craft and gift market
Visit our largest ever craft and gift market on Long Row, Smithy Row and along the Ice Rink broadwalk. With a wide range of unique handmade gifts – there is plenty of choice to find that perfect present.

Take the Tram to the Winter Wonderland



www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/christmas

Follow Winter Wonderland to keep up with the latest news.

[/WonderlandNottingham](https://www.facebook.com/WonderlandNottingham) @Xmas_Wonderland



FESTIVE FUN FOR EVERYONE



Nottingham Castle

FREE ENTRY WEEKEND 12 & 13 DECEMBER

Christmas at the Castle

12 & 13 December 10am – 3.30pm

Celebrate Christmas with FREE entry plus a traditional Christmas gift fair.

Santa in the Bastion

12 & 13 December and 19 & 20 December
10am – 12noon and 1pm – 3pm

Come and meet Santa in the Castle's Bastion (in the Gatehouse). £3 per child, including a small gift.

Newstead Abbey

Abbey Christmas

4 – 6 December
11am – 4pm (4 Dec 2pm – 7pm)

£5 adults, under 16 FREE

Experience the magic of Christmas at Newstead Abbey where historic rooms will sparkle with Christmas lights and floral displays. Visit the craft fair in the Cloisters (Saturday/Sunday only) and don't forget to meet Santa (£3 per child).

Family Christmas Fun

12 & 13 and 19 & 20 December
Trail £1 Santa £3

Wrap up warm and follow the Reindeer trail, then visit Santa's grotto to make sure he knows what you'd like for Christmas and receive a gift (meet Santa daily from 11am – 3pm).

Car parking charges apply at Newstead Abbey and Wollaton Hall.

Wollaton Hall Great Christmas Show

5 & 6 December | £5 adults £2 children

Enjoy a really Christmassy day out at Wollaton Hall! With a festive choir competition, food and drink stands, celebrity chefs and Christmas themed workshops.

Wollaton at Christmas

11 December 5pm – 8pm | £5 adults £3 children

Join us as we deck the halls with holly for a special Christmas lantern-lit evening. Explore the hall and Tudor kitchens after dark, and pop into the Salon tea room for some festive food. Plus, meet Santa (£3).

Family Christmas Fun

12 & 13, 19 & 20 December 11am – 3pm | FREE entry

Visit Wollaton Hall for some festive fun and the chance to pick up some Christmas gifts in the gift fair in the Yard Gallery. Plus, enjoy a guided costumed tour and meet Santa (£3).

Green's Windmill

Christmas Carols in the Mill Yard

12 December 3pm – 5pm | FREE entry

It's time to get merry with our much-loved Christmas Carol event! A yuletide treat for everyone, complete with a lantern-lit mill yard, mince pies, and mulled wine! For all ages, wrap up warmly.

Nottingham Arboretum

Christmas in the Arboretum

20 December 4 – 6pm

Enjoy a festive evening in the Arboretum! Trees around the bandstand will be lit up with lights, and there will be live music and children's activities too. Meet at the Bandstand.

There's so much going on this Christmas we can't fit it all on this page! For more, visit www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/christmas

Follow us [f /WhatsOnNottingham](https://www.facebook.com/WhatsOnNottingham)

and [@nottm_events](https://twitter.com/nottm_events) or get

FREE weekly What's On emails

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/stayconnected



Don't miss: PANTO AND FAMILY FUN!



Theatre Royal Aladdin

Until 10 January | Tickets from £11.50 - £33.50 (fees apply)

Join a sensational cast led by pantomime legend Christopher Biggins, star of boyband Blue Simon Webbe, and Nottingham's favourite pantomime comic, Ben Nickless, for an Aladdin's cave of fun and laughter. With spectacular special effects, stunning costumes, beautiful sets and a little bit of magic. Book online at www.trch.co.uk or call 0115 989 5555.

Nottingham Playhouse Dick Whittington

Until 16 January | Tickets from £25.50

Don't miss Dick Whittington, the story of a poor country lad who sets out into the big wide world to seek his fortune, along with his amazing rat-catching cat.

Kenneth Alan Taylor returns to direct – with glittering scenery, fabulous frocks and mesmerising musical numbers, Dick Whittington is a whirl-wind adventure for all the family.

Hare and Tortoise

9 December – 2 January | Tickets from £8

Join us for this magical modern classic, and follow Hare and Tortoise through the seasons as their wintry world turns firstly to spring and then finally summer as the two friends get ready to race each other!

A fun-packed show about friendship, the passing of time, and the excitement of growing up, suitable for 4 to 8 year olds.

Book online at www.nottinghamplayhouse.co.uk or call 0115 941 9419.

Nottingham Lakeside Arts Neverland

Until 31 December (excluding 7, 14, 25 & 26 December)

A brand new musical production for families inspired by J.M. Barrie's timeless classic about a boy who never wants to grow up. Meet a particularly cheeky Peter Pan, Tinker Bell, Wendy, grumpy Mr Darling, and of course, Captain Hook, as we are whisked across the sky to a world of enchantment. Suitable for ages 4+.

Book online at www.lakesidearts.org.uk or call 0115 846 7777.

Nottingham Contemporary Craft.Design.Contemporary

4 – 6 December | FREE entry

This contemporary craft market showcases some of the most exciting designers and makers of ceramics, glass, textiles, illustration and jewellery in the region.

Browse for unique present ideas, and drop in for family craft activities, live music and seasonal food and drink in the Cafe Bar.

www.nottinghamcontemporary.org

Christmas events and activities are happening in neighbourhoods across the city as well as the city centre. Visit www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/christmas to find out more.



Avoid a debt hangover this Christmas



Even when money's tight, for many people Christmas is a time for pushing the boat out.

But unfortunately it's all too easy to get yourself into financial trouble, with decisions you make about money at Christmas costing you more than you bargained for in the New Year.

According to a 2014 survey by the Money Advice Service, almost half of us (46%) turn to credit cards, store cards and overdrafts to cover the cost of Christmas, with 1.4 million UK adults relying on high-interest payday loans.

The Money Advice Service has produced some top tips to help people save money ahead of Christmas:

Fix your budget List what you expect to spend on Christmas – from presents and decorations to food, socialising and transport. Be mindful that you'll have to keep some cash to pay the mid-January bills, and keep a detailed list of your expenses so you don't blow your budget.

Online or offline? Shopping online can be cheaper than the high street, but not always. Watch for special offers, and check for discount vouchers online and in newspapers.

Stock up and freeze it Buying now and freezing essential items really spreads the cost, and also reduces the stress of having to buy everything just before the big day!

Store credit If a high-street store offers you store card credit to cover the cost of your purchase, think twice. Whilst they are often framed with a tantalising instant discount, these cards usually come with hefty interest rates.

Credit warning Payday loans are advertised as quick access to cash, but can cost a lot more than you bargained for if you don't repay in full, and on time. Always explore all the alternatives before considering this option such as a credit union.

Nottingham Credit Union is based on Maid Marian Way in the city centre and has been providing great value financial products since 1992. Unlike most financial services companies, NCU is a not-for-profit organisation – its shareholders are its customers.

NCU prices its products to cover costs not to make money out of its customers. It puts customer service above making money and only develops products its customers want. Only people living or working in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (or in our partners' housing) can join.

For more information see page 22 of this Arrow or visit www.nottinghamcu.co.uk

Where to get help and advice

Advice Nottingham

A consortium of independent advice centres working together to provide welfare rights and debt advice across the city.

www.advicenottingham.org.uk

Welfare Rights Service

The City Council has a team to help answer your questions on benefits and welfare reform. There are dedicated Welfare Rights advice sessions at different venues across the city, by appointment only.

To talk to an adviser or book an appointment please call 0115 915 1355.

Citizens' Advice Bureau

Based on Carrington Street, Nottingham, the team at CAB offer free, confidential and impartial advice on a number of issues from your money and family, to work and your rights.

Contact them on 0115 938 80 50 or at www.citizensadvice.org.uk

St Ann's Debt Advice service

Support to help you tackle debt.

Telephone 0115 950 6867

Get your skates on and switch to Robin Hood energy for more affordable Winter bills!

Join thousands of customers this winter who have already switched to Robin Hood Energy, the new energy supply company set up by Nottingham City Council.

Robin is on a mission to offer affordable energy to all households in Nottingham and the UK, with an extra special competitive tariff for you – city residents.

Our aim is to help tackle fuel poverty and help customers cut their energy bills through low and transparent tariffs.

As part of this commitment we have launched our Pay-As-You-Go service which supports prepayment meters. Some customers find that the Pay-As-You-Go meter fits in better with their energy budget. By topping up your meter regularly during the year, you can build up enough credit to cover the winter months when energy bills are usually higher because we use more, without necessarily needing to pay more over the winter.

Jenny Bowers has joined Robin Hood Energy and says:

“I joined because it saved me £216 per year and it is a not-for-profit company which I really like, as they are not in it for the money. I also like the helpful monthly bills/statements that I get so I know exactly how much I have spent on my energy ... I know I can heat the house without worrying about how much my bills might be and I can use that money for other things. I can budget better and know exactly what I have spent on my heating. This is really useful as other companies don't do this. I've told all my friends and family to switch to Robin Hood Energy.”

Switching to a new provider like Robin Hood Energy can help you save money on your fuel bills.

At Robin Hood Energy switching is hassle free because we'll do everything for you.

Get in touch today and see how much you could save!

Get a quote online at www.robinhoodenergy.co.uk

Call free on 0800 030 4567 Email join@robinhoodenergy.co.uk

Power to the People!

At Robin Hood Energy we like to do energy differently:

1 Not-for-profit

Affordable energy to all households as we have no private shareholders.

2 Competitive tariff prices you can trust

We'll give you clear transparent pricing and won't charge you an exit fee if you wish to change your tariff or move suppliers.

3 Low energy, everyday

We make it easy for you to monitor your energy usage, understand your bills and provide practical tips to help you reduce your energy use. Try our energy saving tips and see if you can beat those winter bills.

With the colder months approaching now is a great time to switch. If your fixed term contract is coming to an end in the New Year, be sure to give us a call over the Christmas period for a quote to allow you enough time to complete the switch.

Devolution – doing things better and faster locally

The City Council is working with other local authorities in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire to secure a devolution deal from the Government.

Devolution would see the transfer of powers currently held by central Government down to a local area, meaning greater freedom to take decisions locally without having to go back to Central Government for approval.



Devolution puts the power to make decisions and the necessary resources to implement them in the hands of local people.

WHAT IS DEVOLUTION?

TRANSFERRING POWERS FROM WHITEHALL TO WHERE YOU LIVE, GIVING YOU MORE SAY ON HOW YOUR MONEY IS SPENT



So what could Devolution mean for Nottingham people and issues like transport, housing, jobs and skills in the city?

Roads and transport

You know how it is, those big transport and infrastructure schemes that seem to take ages to get started and have to be signed off by officials in Whitehall who don't have local knowledge of the area.

And then, like buses, the schemes all arrive at once and cause unnecessary disruption and chaos while they're being built. It's really hard to plan over the long term, particularly when you don't know what sort of funding from Government lies ahead. What's needed is planning and delivery of these big schemes by people who know the area and how to get the job done.

That's where Devolution can help. Big projects like public transport, road improvements and infrastructure can come under local control – backed by money that's already there in the bank for the next 10 years. So no waiting for Government approval. And projects delivered where local people want them – when they want them in line with local priorities.



Housing

We all agree that we desperately need more housing. So why is it so hard to get places built for local people to live?

We know how many homes are needed in our area. And we know the kind of places we could build them. We just need to be able to get on with the job.

Devolution means we could get control of the millions of pounds we need to build housing in line with local needs.

So with the money already in the bank and the local knowledge to build new homes according to local needs, we can invest in new homes for local people. And we can deliver our Council Plan commitment to build 2,500 new houses that Nottingham people can afford to rent.

Jobs and skills

We know locally what skills and training will match up with the kind of job opportunities in our area now and in the future.

But matching up skills and training with employment and opportunity is difficult with so many different agencies involved and no overall grand plan. What's needed is a co-ordinated approach to things like apprenticeships, Higher Education and DWP back to work initiatives.

Devolution would mean we get local control of the grants to plan and deliver more apprenticeships and give support to business. We understand our area, where skills and training and investment will be needed and where we should target our resources. Devolution gives us the freedom to get on with the job of creating jobs.

And with the ability to decide how further education will work for our area, we can create a joined-up service for local people and help put them on the path to job success and in turn help the economy of our area. Not to mention the help this will be towards guaranteeing the key manifesto pledge of a job, training place or further education place for every 18-24 year old.

Devo Mayor

The Government has said that there would have to be a Devo Mayor for Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire as part of a deal which would see the most powers and funding passed down to a local level.

It's a different kind of Mayor to the one that Nottingham people voted against in the 2012 referendum. It's not a Mayor for Nottingham, Greater Nottingham or even Nottinghamshire.

A Devo Mayor would only have powers from Devolution. They wouldn't affect current council arrangements and would have to answer to a Combined Authority Board made up of all the councils in Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.

It's all about whether the Devo Mayor is a 'price worth paying' for the range of new powers, freedoms and funding we'd get under Devolution.

Keeping Nottingham moving this Winter...

Between October and March every year, the Council is on full alert and working hard to keep you on the move should the weather turn wintry. Our priorities are to...

- ❄️ Salt major roads in anticipation of snow and ice when forecasts advise that this is a high possibility
- ❄️ Salt major roads following snow and ice
- ❄️ Grit pavements in busy areas such as shops and schools
- ❄️ Clear snow
- ❄️ Have grit bins in priority locations
- ❄️ Have communications channels in place so you are aware of any disruptions to our services such as school closures and changes to bin collections



Geared up to grit!

This year we have more than 3,000 tonnes of salt ready to use at the start of the season.

And our suppliers have plenty so we can access more as needed. We've also got in the region of 200 neighbourhood grit bins across the city, sited in places with steep slopes or in areas that are particularly exposed to the elements.

These grit bins are for you to use on your paths and roads and will be kept well stocked. If bins are damaged or low in salt please call 0115 915 2000 or email winter.service@nottinghamcity.gov.uk

Top tips for coping with snow and ice around your home

- ❄️ Do not use hot water to clear snow and ice! It will definitely melt the snow but may turn it into black ice, which is even more dangerous.
- ❄️ When clearing your path use a shovel with the widest blade possible – this will help get the job done quickly!
- ❄️ Remember – you do not have to clear all the snow and ice away. Just concentrate on making a safe route into your property and keep this clear.
- ❄️ Did you know that ordinary table salt can be used to melt snow and ice on your paths.
- ❄️ If you use salt, don't put the salted snow on your garden. It will damage your plants and lawn.
- ❄️ Before going to bed, sprinkle salt on your cleared area to stop new ice from forming.
- ❄️ And finally please don't forget about your infirm or elderly neighbours – they may need some help in clearing their paths. It is a good excuse to check that they are ok!



It's snowing! Will my usual council services be running today?

When snow and ice does hit the city, there may be some disruption to services due to access problems for our vehicles.

Services that could be affected include: bin collections; public transport; schools and Adult Social Care.

For the latest updates on these services, go online at www.nottingham.gov.uk/snow

Please note this page is only live at times of adverse weather when normal services are disrupted.

Stay connected

There are a number of easy ways you can keep you up date with all the latest information on the winter weather.

Sign up for daily Winter Service updates via our Stay Connected email service at:

✉️ www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/stayconnected.

🐦 Follow the gritter twitter @nttmcitygrit

📘 Find us at facebook/[mynottingham](https://www.facebook.com/mynottingham)

Alternatively you can phone 0115 915 2000; email winter.service@nottinghamcity.gov.uk or visit www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/winter for further winter service information and more tips on how to stay safe and keep moving this winter.

Stay warm



As winter temperatures kick in it's really important to look after yourself and others by staying warm and well.

Cold weather can be bad for our health, especially for people aged 65 and older. As we age it takes longer to warm up, which raises the risk of increased blood pressure, heart attacks and strokes. There are easy things you can do to help yourself stay healthy over the winter...

- **Keep warm**
- **Use a thermostat or room thermometer to make sure your main living room is heated to at least 18C (64F)**
- **Get heating, radiators and boilers serviced to reduce the risk of breakdown in cold weather**
- **Wear extra layers of clothing whether you are inside or outside**
- **Eat at least one hot meal every day and have plenty of warm drinks**
- **Keep moving and stay as active as possible**



and well this winter



Get a flu jab

You're much more likely to catch the flu at this time of year.

It's unpleasant for anyone but for certain groups, flu can be much more dangerous or even fatal. You can protect yourself with a free flu jab if you are:

- Aged 65 and over
- Pregnant
- Aged two-to-four
- A carer
- Living in a residential or nursing home
- Living with a long term condition such as a heart problem, kidney or liver disease, respiratory disease, lowered immunity, diabetes, neurological condition or stroke

Contact your GP to get your free flu jab or visit www.nhs.uk/flu for full details on who is eligible.



Looking After Each Other

Be aware of vulnerable neighbours or friends during cold snaps, make sure they're warm enough, and have enough food or medicine if they are struggling to get out of the house.

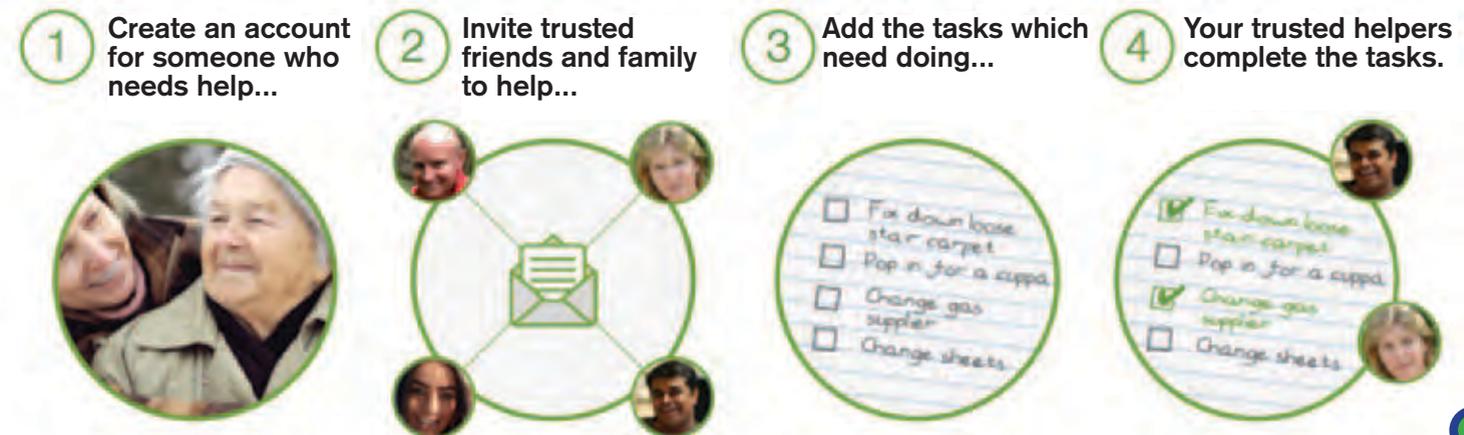
Looking After Each Other is a shared campaign to tackle loneliness and social isolation in Nottingham. The campaign is run by the Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service, Nottingham City Council and the NHS Nottingham City Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Lord Mayor Councillor Jackie Morris supports the Looking After Each Other campaign and has made this her year of volunteering. She said: "A little can go a long way – checking in on elderly neighbours can really give them a boost. Sometimes it's a few minutes company as much as picking something up from the shops, so go on, knock on your neighbour's door and let them know you care."



Rally Round is a simple tool to help support frail or vulnerable people. Tasks can be shared by family, friends, neighbours or volunteers. Rally Round is available to you free of charge provided you, or the person needing help, lives in Nottingham.

How it works: visit the website www.rallyroundme.com/nottingham



Looking back at 2015 ←...



And looking ahead to 2016...

February

Launch of Education Improvement Board's 10-year plan for schools

May

European Archery Championships in Old Market Square

Literacy appeal with Dolly Parton's Imagination Library giving free books to children

June

Aegon Open WTA and ATP international tennis tournaments return to Nottingham Tennis Centre

July

Exhibition of drawings by Leonardo da Vinci from the Royal Collection at Nottingham Castle

Lord Mayor's Attendance Awards for schools

September

Expansions for the new academic year adding 1,150 new places at 4 Primary schools

October

Decision from the Heritage Lottery Fund on Round 2 funding for the Nottingham Castle transformation.

Nottingham named Home of Sport!

This year saw Nottingham voted England's Home of Sport in a VisitEngland campaign.

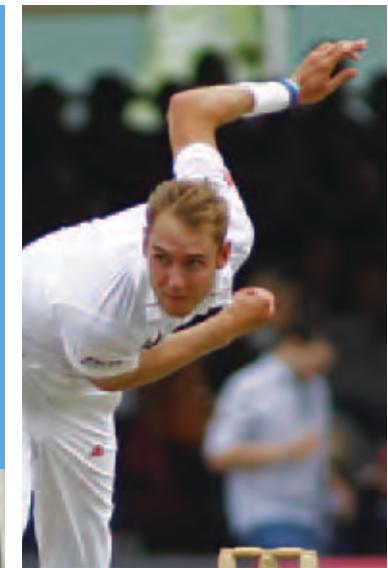
The city received more nominations than any other English destination, earning the 'People's Choice' position on a shortlist of six, and then went on to score a whopping 38% of the total number of public votes! Nottingham's fantastic sporting venues, facilities and heritage were all highlighted as reasons the city won the prestigious title.



Cycle City!

2015 saw not one but two of the biggest cycling races in the country come to Nottingham.

The return of the Milk Race to the city's streets in May for the second year running was followed by the Tour of Britain in September. The events cemented Nottingham's position as one of the country's premier cycling cities.



Top class cricket and tennis!

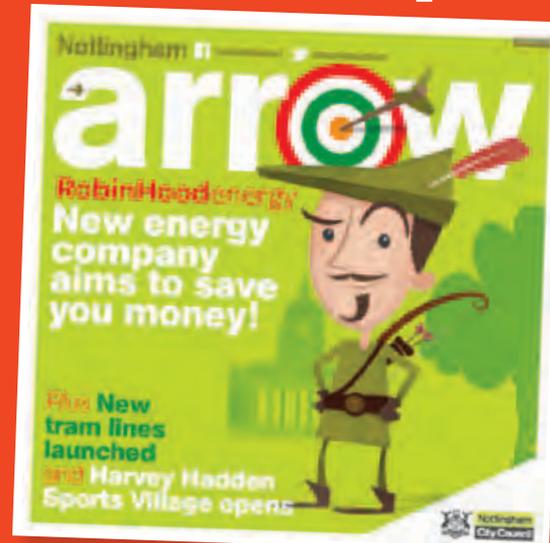
Nottingham also hosted world class sporting events in 2015.

Nottingham's iconic Trent Bridge cricket ground was the venue where England clinched the famous Ashes against Australia in August while world class tennis returned to Nottingham Tennis Centre in June when it hosted the Aegon Open men's and women's pre-Wimbledon tournaments.

Power to the People!

Robin Hood Energy, the first not-for-profit energy supply company owned by a local authority, was launched by the City Council in September this year.

Since then thousands of customers have already benefited from lower energy bills, saving up to £230 a year on average. Find out how you can too on page 7 of this issue of the Arrow.



2015 was a good year for getting around in Nottingham with the completion of two new tram lines, the dualling of the A453 and improvements to the city's Ring Road.



Tramtastic!

Nottingham's popular tram network got even bigger and better in 2015 with the launch of two new lines.

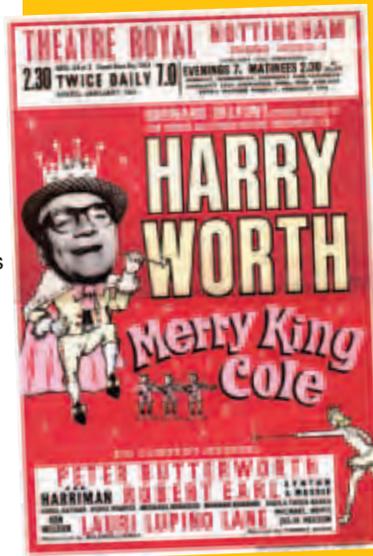
Construction of the new routes, serving local communities including the Meadows, Lenton, Clifton and Beeston, provided work for thousands of citizens and generated £150 million of contracts for local businesses. The new 32km network, part funded by the Workplace Parking Levy, now serves 20 of the 30 largest employers in Greater Nottingham and comes within 800m of 30% of the population. Nottingham now has one of the best integrated public transport networks in the country and the only hospital – the QMC – directly on a tram route.

Happy 150th birthday Theatre Royal

Nottingham's much-loved Theatre Royal celebrated its 150th anniversary this year.

The historic theatre has hosted some major stars since it opened its doors in 1865 including Dame Judi Dench, Billy Connolly, Derek Jacobi, Rosamund Pike, David Suchet and most recently David 'The Hoff' Hasselhoff. Agatha Christie was right to choose the Theatre Royal – her 'lucky theatre' – to open The Mousetrap in 1952. It went on to become the longest running play in theatre history!

Pictured: Theatre Royal poster from 1969



New Sports Village opens

The launch of the Harvey Hadden Sports Village completed a £40m transformation of leisure centres across the city.

The state-of-the-art facilities include the Speedo Swim Centre, featuring an eight-lane 50m pool; a 1.5km closed road cycling circuit and a 45 station gym. Find out more at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/harveyhadden

Our budget challenge

We've reached a critical point for the Council's finances. By next year, the amount of Government grant funding we get for our day-to-day spending will have more than halved since 2013 according to our latest estimates.

That's a reduction of nearly £70 million. Our funding has been reduced sharply in previous years but next year our budget challenge is even harder and deeper. And while the Government pays less in grant towards council services, we are seeing the demand for some of our most vital services such as child protection and care for the elderly continue to grow.

Consultation on our budget proposals for 2016/17 will be taking place over the next few weeks. You can find out more about the proposals and give your views at a series of public meetings taking place across the city early in the New Year. See the next page for details of dates, times and venues.

To give your views online and for more information about the budget please visit:
www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/yourcityyourservices

£30million
cut in
Government grant
to the City Council
in 2015/16

Over the last
4 years we have
made savings totalling
£123m

Over the last four years
inflationary, demographic
and other budget pressures
have meant the Council has
had to find an extra...

£73million

The number
of people
aged over 65
is projected
to increase
by

3%

by 2019

Currently, 24%
of over 65s
have one or
more long term
conditions



The number
of children in
care has
increased by
8.7%
since 2012



By 2019 the
number of
pupils in our
schools is
expected to
increase by
4,500 or...



Budget consultation meetings

Bulwell Riverside 14 January 9.15am-12.15pm

Main Street, Bulwell, Nottingham NG6 8QJ

Bakersfield and Neighbourhood Community Centre 18 January 6.30pm-8.30pm

312 Sneinton Dale Nottingham NG3 7DN

St Ann's Valley Centre 19 January 10am - 1pm

2 Livingstone Street, St Ann's, Nottingham NG3 3GG

Bluecoat School 20 January 6.30pm - 8pm

Aspley Lane, Aspley, Nottingham NG8 5GY

Mary Potter Centre 26 January 6pm - 8pm

Gregory Boulevard, Hyson Green, Nottingham NG7 5HY

Clifton Cornerstone 26 January 6.30pm - 8pm

Southchurch Drive, Clifton, Nottingham NG11 8EW

The Indian Community Centre 27 January 6 - 8pm

99 Hucknall Rd, Nottingham NG5 1QZ

Southwark School 27 January 6pm - 7:30pm

Park Lane, Old Basford, Nottingham NG6 0DT

Function Room, Rose and Crown Public House 27 January 6.30 - 8.30pm

Derby Road, Nottingham NG7 2GW

“Have
Your
Say...”



Council Plan puts citizens at the heart

Building new homes, tackling fuel poverty and providing job and training opportunities for young people are among the top priorities outlined in a major new document published by Nottingham City Council which aims to put citizens at the heart of everything it does.

Transport in Nottingham is green for go!

Nottingham is on a journey to become the UK's greenest transport city.

Massive recent investment in environmentally-friendly transport services, including trams, greener buses and cycling, is set to be built on in the coming years. The city's green journey so far includes:

- ▶ **Expanding** the benefits of the tram system – emission-free where it runs – to areas south and west of the city with the opening of new lines earlier this year
- ▶ **Developing** the City Car Club which makes 12 cars available to hire for short journeys in the city – with around 280 members travelling more than 68,000 miles in the last year
- ▶ **Creating** Europe's largest electric bus fleet – that will soon also offer the only fully-electric Park and Ride service in the UK
- ▶ **Creating** a pedestrian-friendly city centre, with 90% of streets pedestrianised, a Clear Zone to restrict vehicle movements and recent improvements such as the Creative Quarter road and public space works
- ▶ **Encouraging** more people to choose a healthy, clean travel option through the Citycard Cycle scheme, which has seen 90,000 free hires of a fleet of 500 bikes from hubs around the city in the last year alone
- ▶ **Implementing** the country's only Workplace Parking Levy, which not only funds transport improvements but also encourages employers and employees to consider alternative travel options.

And the City Council is looking to make the future even greener, with bids for Office of Low Emission Vehicle (OLEV) and other funds to achieve ground-breaking investment in sustainable transport.

This includes better electric vehicle infrastructure to encourage more to consider using electric cars, as well as investing in rapid electric bus charging equipment. There is also a proposal to create a fleet of 82 gas-powered double-decker buses, as well as introducing electric hackney cab taxis to the city and a low emissions zone in the city centre.

Over £6 million is being to be invested in significant improvements to the city's cycle network which will make cycling a more appealing option to more people. And more pedestrian-friendly streets are on the horizon, with work already underway on Station Street, to be followed by other streets between the redeveloped station and soon-to-be developed Broadmarsh shopping centre.

Other plans which help to encourage people to choose public transport include the rolling out of Nottingham's answer to the Oyster card for seamless journeys on different transport from next month, and the expansion of a regional bus real-time display system.

Councillor Nick McDonald, Portfolio Holder for Growth, Jobs and Transport at Nottingham City Council, said: "We are really proud of our achievements to make Nottingham's transport greener, joined-up and easy to use. The City Council has worked with our partners to deliver real transport improvements and to provide a range of sustainable transport options that make it possible to leave the car at home.

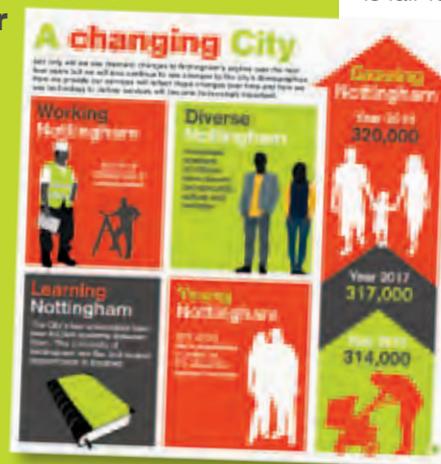
"The City Council is also ambitious for the city's transport future and the OLEV and other funding opportunities will help to provide significant improvements in air quality and reduce carbon emissions. I believe that Nottingham is on the road to becoming the greenest transport city in the UK."

Nottingham was recently awarded top place in the last National Highways & Transport Network Satisfaction Survey, measuring public satisfaction with local transport.

The latest Council Plan, approved by councillors last month, sets out the Council's ambitions for the city over the next four years up to 2019.

The Plan includes five key objectives:

- 1 Ensure that every child in Nottingham is taught in a school that is judged good or outstanding by Ofsted**
- 2 Build 2,500 new homes that Nottingham people can afford to rent or buy**
- 3 Cut the number of victims of crime by a fifth and continue to reduce anti-social behaviour**
- 4 Tackle fuel poverty by setting up a not for profit energy company, to sell energy at the lowest possible price to Nottingham people**
- 5 Guarantee a job, training place or further education plan for every 18-24 year old**



In the Forward to the document, City Council Leader Councillor Jon Collins and Chief Executive Ian Curryer write: "In this Plan we set out the purpose and priorities for 2015-2019 with the aim of making us a Great City with citizens at the heart of everything we do. Our plan is about the future of our city for all who live, work and visit here.

"Over the next four years, we are determined to create a city that is fair for everyone and where we

all have an equal and positive chance to succeed. We will build on our achievements and continue to provide services that are based on and responsive to your needs.

"Our aim is for Nottingham to be an internationally successful and prosperous city that offers its residents the means and opportunities to realise their potential."

"Nottingham will be a thriving sustainable city both economically and socially. We will continue to work with our partners and communities to ensure vulnerable citizens are supported to live independently and are safe from harm.

"We will do this despite the significant financial challenges the Council continues to face. It is no secret that we face further cuts to our budget, but we have been successful at managing our finances in the past and we will continue to do so. The scale of our ambition is unchanged.

"We will have difficult decisions to make over the next four years but we will continue to have the best interests of Nottingham's citizens at heart and continue to invest in Nottingham's future."

The Council Plan can be viewed online at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/councilplan15

Copies will also be made available at various City Council service locations around the city.

Get the help and support you need from your Gas, Electricity or Water Supplier with Priority Services Registers

A Priority Services Register is a free scheme offered by your gas, electricity and water suppliers. Once you register you can receive additional support and services from your suppliers tailored to your needs, many free.

Who can join the free Priority Services Registers?

You can be added to a Priority Service Register if you are: of pensionable age; disabled; chronically sick; blind or partially sighted; deaf or hearing impaired. If your supplier knows you have health issues or essential medical equipment in your home you will be prioritised in the event of a break to your supply.

How else can your supplier help you?

The exact services vary depending on the supplier, but may include the following services:

- ▶ advance notice or priority reconnection if your supply is interrupted
- ▶ alternative facilities for cooking and heating if your supply is interrupted
- ▶ bills sent to a relative, carer or friend
- ▶ a free quarterly meter reading
- ▶ annual gas safety checks
- ▶ advice on energy-efficiency
- ▶ protection from cold callers with a password protection scheme
- ▶ your bills and meter readings in braille, large print, audio tape, textphone or typetalk if you're visually impaired

For some of the above, customers may need to be means tested.



Next Steps

Contact each of your suppliers to register for Priority Services. A relative, carer or friend can make the call but the customers will need to be present.

So why not get signed up today - call each of your utility providers using the numbers below:

- British Gas 0800 072 8625**
- Eon 0800 051 1480**
- EDF 0800 269 450**
- SSE 0800 622 838**
- npower 080 172 6999**
- Scottish Power 0800 027 0072**
- Robin Hood Energy 0800 030 4567**
- Severn Trent Water 08457 500 500**

Use it, don't abuse it



A Blue Badge is to help a holder park close to their destination, either as a passenger or driver. **The badge is for the badge holder's benefit only.**

Nottingham's Community Protection team is working to reduce the misuse and abuse of the Blue Badge scheme. It is a criminal offence for anyone to misuse the badge, and doing so could lead to a £1,000 fine and confiscation of the badge.

Things to remember:

- DO NOT let someone else use a badge
- DO NOT use the badge when information on it is wrong or illegible
- DO NOT use the badge when it is no longer required
- DO NOT use the badge when it is out-of-date
- DO NOT copy or amend a badge



For more information about Blue Badges or to report misuse: Call: 0115 876 1499
 Email: blue.badges@nottinghamcity.gov.uk Online: www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/parkingpermits

“Could you foster me?”



carers needed for



teenagers

Call us on **0115 876 3335**
 or search online for **‘Foster Nottingham’**



nottingham
CREDIT UNION

Banking with a heart

All they want
for Christmas
at a price you
can afford

- ▶ Loans from £100 to £10,000
- ▶ No application or early repayment fees
- ▶ Weekly payments available
- ▶ Poor credit acceptance
- ▶ Quick online decision

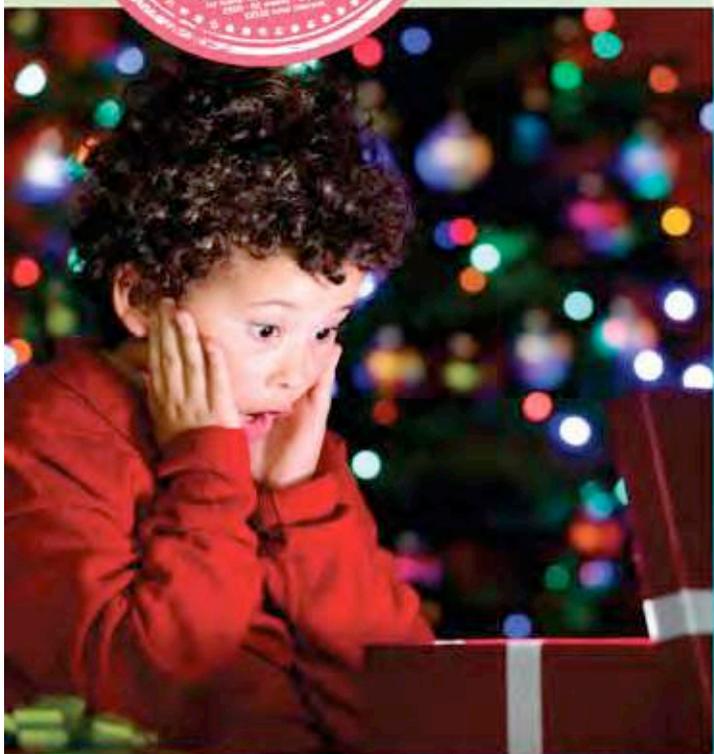
TELL US IF
YOU HEARD
ABOUT US IN THE
ARROW
AND GET YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
FOR FREE

For more information
or to apply visit
www.nottingham.co.uk
or call 0115 8283121

 Nottingham Credit Union
 @NottsCU

www.nottinghamcu.co.uk

BORROW
£500
OVER 52 WEEKS FOR
£11.50
PER WEEK



Loans subject to status. Over 18s only for loans. 42.6% Representative APR. £500 - 52 weeks - £11.50 p/w - £97.02 total interest. Nottingham Credit Union Ltd is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and Prudential Regulation Authority - Registration no 213439

Keep up to date with the transformation of Nottingham Castle

Plans to transform Nottingham Castle into a world-class visitor destination are progressing well.

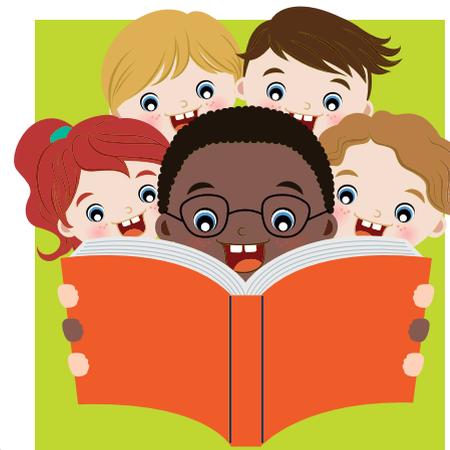
So far, the project has secured Round 1 Heritage Lottery Funding to develop detailed plans for the site. These plans are being developed now with the help of architects, exhibition designers and many other experts.

The next stage of the project is to submit the Round 2 Heritage Lottery Fund application in July 2016, which will hopefully secure the full amount of funding for the project to proceed. This is a five year project, with work planned to be completed and the Castle re-opened to the public in 2020.

A total of £24 million will be invested to redevelop the whole site including the ducal palace and grounds, Broomhouse Yard and the sprawling cave network hidden within the Castle Rock. Nottingham Castle will be restored as the jewel in Nottingham's crown!



Find out more about the project at www.nottinghamcastle.org.uk/transformation
You can also sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/stayconnected search for 'Castle Transformation'.



Hyson Green library has moved to the Mary Potter Centre

Hyson Green library has relocated and is now based in the Mary Potter Centre on Gregory Boulevard.

The library re-opened to the public from its new location on 23 November. We've received great feedback on the new library which is modern, open plan and offers better computer access and equipment, including free WiFi. There is also a dedicated under 5s children's area within the library, and the library is open longer hours.

www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/hysonlib



© The Local Data Company

Council services over Christmas and New Year

Leisure Centres

All leisure centres will close at 4pm on Christmas Eve and will be closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Harvey Hadden Sports Village and Nottingham Tennis Centre will re-open on 27 December and 28 December from 10am-4pm. All other leisure centres will remain closed for those days, re-opening on 29 December.

All leisure centres will close at 4pm on New Year's Eve and re-open on 2 January.

Availability of facilities over the Christmas period may vary between centres so please check with the Sport and Leisure hotline on 0115 876 1600 or the leisure centre direct prior to travel.



Museums and Galleries

Christmas Eve

Open: Newstead Grounds & Café (11am-3pm), Wollaton Café (11am-3pm), Green's Windmill (10am-4pm)
 Closed: Nottingham Castle Museum & Grounds, Newstead House, Wollaton Hall

Christmas Day All sites are closed

Boxing Day/New Year's Day

Open: Newstead Grounds & Café (11am-3pm), Wollaton Café (11am-3pm)
 Closed: Nottingham Castle Museum & Grounds, Newstead House, Wollaton Hall, Green's Windmill

Libraries

Christmas Eve/New Year's Eve

Libraries will be closed on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, with the exception of Nottingham Central Library, Bulwell Riverside and St Ann's Valley Centre, which will be open until 12pm.

Christmas Day and Boxing Day/ New Year's Day All libraries are closed.

Tues 29 – Weds 30 December/ Saturday 2 and Monday 4 January

Normal opening/closing times.

Parks

Christmas Eve/New Year's Eve

Wollaton Park: open till 4:30pm (toilets open 9am-4pm; café open 11am-3pm)
 Woodthorpe Grange: open till 4:30pm
 Arboretum: open till 4:30pm
 Victoria Park: open till 4pm
 Colwick Park: open till 3:30pm

Christmas Day

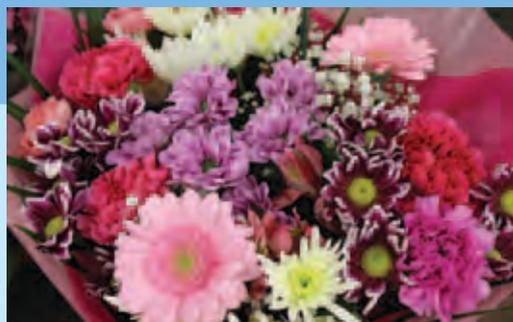
Wollaton Park: open till 4:30pm (toilets open 9am-4pm)
 Woodthorpe Grange: open till 3pm
 Arboretum: open till 3pm
 Victoria Park: open till 3pm
 Colwick Park: closed

Boxing Day/New Year's Day

Wollaton Park: open till 4:30pm (toilets open 9am-4pm; café open 11am-3pm)
 Woodthorpe Grange: open till 4pm
 Arboretum: open till 4pm
 Victoria Park: open till 4pm
 Colwick Park: open till 4pm

City Council offices

Offices will be closed on 25, 28 December and 1 January



Cemetery and Cremation service

Christmas Eve

Office hours: 8.30am - 4pm
 Wilford Hill, Northern Cemeteries: 8am-4pm
 Highwood Cemetery: 8am - 3.30pm
 Church (Rock) Cemetery / General / Basford Cemeteries: 8am-4pm

Christmas Day

Office - Closed
 Wilford Hill, Northern Cemeteries: 10am-4pm
 Highwood Cemetery 10am-3.30pm
 Church (Rock) Cemetery / General / Basford Cemeteries 10am-4pm

Boxing Day/28 December and New Year's Day

Office - Closed
 Wilford Hill, Northern Cemeteries 9am-4pm
 Highwood Cemetery 9am-3.30pm
 Church (Rock) Cemetery / General / Basford Cemeteries: 9am-4pm

29, 30 and 31 December

Office: 8.30am-4.30pm
 Wilford Hill, Northern Cemeteries: 8am-4pm
 Highwood Cemetery: 8am-3.30pm
 Church (Rock) Cemetery / General / Basford Cemeteries: 8am-4pm

Sunday hours will be as normal, 9am-4pm. The cemetery office will be closed.

Please note, books of remembrance will be closed half an hour before the closing of cemetery gates.

Changes to your Christmas and New Year bin collections 2015/16

Because of the public holidays, some green and recycling bin collection days will change. Please check the table below. Please remember to have your bin out for collection by 7am and be aware that severe weather may affect our collections.

| Usual collection day | Revised collection day |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Monday 21 December to Thursday 24 December 2015 | No change |
| Friday 25 December 2015 | Monday 28 December 2015 |
| Monday 28 December 2015 | Tuesday 29 December 2015 |
| Tuesday 29 December 2015 | Wednesday 30 December 2015 |
| Wednesday 30 December 2015 | Thursday 31 December 2015 |
| Thursday 31 December 2015 | Saturday 2 January 2016 |
| Friday 1 January 2016 | Monday 4 January 2016 |
| Monday 4 January 2016 | Tuesday 5 January 2016 |
| Tuesday 5 January 2016 | Wednesday 6 January 2016 |
| Wednesday 6 January 2016 | Thursday 7 January 2016 |
| Thursday 7 January 2016 | Friday 8 January 2016 |
| Friday 8 January 2016 | Saturday 9 January 2016 |

Recycle your real Christmas tree

When Twelfth Night is over and you want to recycle your real Christmas tree, why not use the Council's special real Christmas tree collection service?

Our free service will collect and recycle real Christmas trees from **January 4th until January 15th 2016 ONLY**. Please book early to avoid any disappointment.

To book your collection please call **0115 915 2000**.



Nottingham
Markets

EXPLORE

YOUR LOCAL

MARKETS THIS

CHRISTMAS

VISIT BILBOROUGH, BULWELL

CLIFTON, HYSON GREEN, ST ANN'S AND

VICTORIA CENTRE MARKET TODAY!



Woodthorpe Park
Plant Shop

Open daily 9am - 3pm
Sat 28 November to
Wed 23 December
at your award-winning
Nottingham in
Bloom Nursery.

NEW SHOP!

Christmas Trees ☆ Plants ☆ Gifts

£5 off when you spend £25

Join us Saturday 12 December for
Christmas sales & festive family fun day!



£5 VOUCHER

This voucher entitles the bearer to £5 off when spending £25 or more in Woodthorpe Park Plant Shop.

To redeem your voucher please complete the details below and hand it in with your transaction:

Name:

Email:

Address:

One voucher per person & one voucher per transaction. Not valid in conjunction with any other offer. The personal data provided shall be kept in strict confidence & will not be shared with any third parties. We will use the information to inform you of future offers via email. Voucher expires: 23 December 2015.

Woodthorpe Park Plant Shop, Woodthorpe Park, Sherwood, Nottingham, NG5 4HA.

0115 915 2733 www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/plantshop

Get your skates on!

See if you can save on your energy bills with Robin



Pay As You Go
(Pre-Payment) is here...

...available to
Nottingham City
residents!



Get a quote now at www.robinhoodenergy.co.uk
or call free on 0800 030 4567

RobinHoodenergy
A not for profit company

 /RobinHoodenergy

 @RobinHoodenergy #JoinRobin



Nottingham
City Council