

Silverstone County Councillor Annual Report to the 2015 Parish  
Council AGM for Aston Le Walls

## Friends Life Women's Cycling Tour

Last May, we hosted the start and first two stages of the 5 stage "Friends Life" Women's Cycling Tour through Northamptonshire. The cream of the international and Olympic cycling world participated with 300,000 spectators over the five days and a total of over a million television viewers which equalled the viewing figures of the British leg of the Tour de France. The event was an incredible success for Northamptonshire, both economically and for the prestige of the County. I am delighted to report that we have successfully negotiated 3rd stage of the 2015 tour back to Northamptonshire on 19<sup>th</sup> June starting in Oundle and finishing in Kettering.

## Educational Excellence: Race to the Top

February 2015 saw the launch our "Race to the Top" strategy to raise educational attainment in our schools. We are aiming to make Northamptonshire one of the highest performing counties for education by 2020 by encouraging schools to strive for excellence.

An innovative Strategic Education and Skills Partnership Board will be created to lead the programme, bringing together education and business leaders. The project has the support of, George Osborne, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Nicky Morgan, Secretary of State for Education and Lord Heseltine who has been working closely with the County Council to make this a reality.

Race To The Top has been prepared with collaboration with the Department for Education and has three main strands:

