Toft Billage Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

April 2023



DIARY DATES

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club]. 12th April 2.30 Toft People's Hall. Annual General Meeting

To look back on the last 12 months, elect the Committee, receive the programme for the coming year and then enjoy a variety of Quizzes! Visitors (and new members) always welcome

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#### Sewing, Knit and Natter

Our next meeting will be Wednesday April 26 in the Methodist Chapel, 10.30 -12.30.

## The Parish Council

The next Parish Council meeting is scheduled for Monday 3rd April. All welcome.

## Toft Internet Club

Our last meeting for the time being will be on April 3rd at 2pm in The People's Hall.

If there is an interest in resuming we shall do so in the autumn.

#### EDITORIAL

Imagine, just for a moment, that you are building a railway. One that, you hope (and tell everybody), will transform not only travellers' everyday experience but the whole country's economy, too. You have a budget, a workforce and what you fondly imagine is the goodwill of the populace. Governments of all stripes have given you their backing. So you start building. Several years later, you are behind schedule, your costs have ballooned way beyond quadruple and your money men are starting to shake their heads. What's more, there is now widespread public scepticism and you are becoming deeply unpopular amongst those you had hoped might support your idea. In the end, you have to do a bit of clothcutting. Now, your line won't go as far (or reach as many potential passengers) as you hoped and it won't get finished for decades yet. It won't even run the super-fast trains you'd promised everyone.

Pondering the Ozymandias-like wreckage of this project, which, for the sake of argument, we will call 'HS2', you set yourself a little quiz: In these circumstances, a sensible person would:-

a) Learn from their mistakes.

b) Emigrate.

c) Start another railway, only this time one with (according to your own experts) even less likelihood of success, no public demand and pretty much zero popular support from the word go.

If you guessed 'C', then congratulations. You have the makings of a Cabinet Minister and you have just opted to go ahead with East-West-Rail. Just last month, in his budget statement, the Chancellor said that the decision on the route of the final stage of this project, from Bedford to Cambridge, would be announced in May. And if, as many suspect, that route is the one preferred by the rail company, then Gordon The Goods Engine and his mates will be chuffing through a field near you very soon. It's Ok though because, chirrups an EWR exec, it will "deliver a more sustainable and affordable way to travel that meets local needs and improves daily lives." It is unclear - to me, anyway - how the despoliation of the local landscape and the loss of many acres of prime agricultural land to accommodate a new diesel-powered railway will improve my daily life but clearly I am in error. Because - according to EWR - no less than 71% of us love the sound of this project and it has a 'high-level of support from local people'. If you are puzzled as to why you have never met one of them, then you are not alone - neither have I. Nor have I yet met with anyone who has a constant yearning to travel to Oxford (or back) with any regularity, although I guess they must exist.

EWR, of course, is vital if the miserable Ox-Cam Arc project is to be realised - each of them prop up the other economically. That's the one that is going to 'unlock' a million new houses around here. Although not, if past form is anything to go by, the roads, schools, hospitals, shops etc to go with them. If you don't like the sound of this, there are MPs and Councillors you can pester and protest groups you can support. It might not help, but doing nothing certainly won't. You may have gained the impression that I'm not terribly keen on all this. You'd be right. On the other hand, you'd be hard-pressed to find anyone prepared to cite me as a source of omniscience, on this or any other subject. So, if you have a contrary view drop us a line here at *The Calendar*.

#### Would *you* like to get involved in your Schoolroom Community Café?

Our Café continues to offer a warm welcome to all every Wednesday from 10.30am to 1.30pm. We sell home-made cakes, sausage-rolls, toasties, soup and filled jacket potatoes, all at very reasonable prices.

**'Funtime for Little Ones'** provides songs and play for babies and toddlers and their parents/carers from 10.30 to 11am, no need to book, and it's free.

We are always pleased to hear from anyone who'd like to get involved with the Café, either helping to serve food and drink, setting up and clearing up, meeting and greeting, or baking cakes or making soup in their own homes (expenses reimbursed).

We'd especially like to some additional recruit regular team members, becoming part of the same team working on a rota just once every 4 weeks, though occasional helpers are also very welcome. We'll give you any training you need, and you can choose whether to work a whole shift or just a couple of hours.

Please come and speak to me or one of the other Team Leaders on a Wednesday or email Gill on *gill.ppugh@gmail.com*.

#### MINISTRY TEAM

#### THE CHURCH IN TOFT

St. Andrew's Parish Church

Team Vicar: Rev David Newton 01223 665654 Lay Minister: Barbara Preece Tel: 263466

Churchwardens: Ann Mitchell 262516 John Quenby 263949

Methodist Church

Minister: Revd Charity Nzegwu 01763 241803 Stewards: Diana Tebbit 01223 263557 Stephen Acklam 264055 Mrs Pat Morton 264010

#### SERVICES OF WORSHIP

#### 2nd April Palm Sunday

8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) – Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Holy Communion – Methodist Church – Rev Rose Westwood

#### 7th April Good Friday

11.00am Easter Trail for young people at St. Andrew's – a short service following the story of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem on the first Easter.

All welcome, especially families. Led by Rev David Newton

2.00pm A service of reflection for Good Friday at the Methodist Church led by Rev David Newton

#### 9th April Easter Sunday

6.10 am Sunrise Service around a fire on the drift at the top of Miller's Road,

11.00 am Easter Communion at St. Andrew's – Revd David Newton

*16thApril* 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) - Revd David Newton

11.00am Morning Worship – Methodist Church - Mrs Cathy Michell

23rd April 11.00am Morning Worship, St. Andrew's – Rev David Newton

Followed by APCM - see p.3

*30th April* 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP) – Rev Prof Michael Reiss

10.30 am Lordsbridge Team Holy Communion at the Church of the Assumption, Harlton

There will be morning prayer at St. Andrew's every Wednesday at 9.15 am (about half-an-hour)

Also on Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm, via zoom a service of compline: ID: 899 215 191 or follow the link: *https://us02web.zoom.us/ j*/899215191

Zoom services available at 11.00am MEETING ID: 823 1147 3640 Thanks God for Spring.

By mid-March I have always had enough of the Winter.

But this year, I have found myself really, really wishing for Spring to arrive and for the weather to get a bit warmer. Seeing the daffodils and primroses, the buds on trees, and the shrubs begin to green again, are signs of much needed hope.

Spring – for me – sums up the Christian story. It reminds us that Winter, and darkness are never the end, that there is always the hope of Spring coming.

Christianity is, above all, a message of hope – that whatever the situation, no matter how dark or cold things might be, there is always the promise of a new dawn, of bulbs peeping through the soil, and buds of beauty forming

- Rev. David Newton.

#### Sewing, Knit and Natter.

Please come and join us if you are

interested. For more information please contact either Lucy (262948) or

Sally (262895).

#### THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

#### THE WARM HUB - DROP IN

continues for one more Monday, 3rd april

10.30 – 12.30 at the Methodist Church

Come and join us for a chat,

a game, a coffee or tea

We would love to welcome you

Then we take a break till the autumn

#### **ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS**

This meeting open to anyone who lives in the village will take place on **Sunday, 23rd April** at 12 noon pm at St. Andrew's. To elect a churchwarden, they must be nominated, and seconded in writing before the meeting takes place (forms available from the Church and Ann Mitchell). The election will be followed by the ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING at which all members of the Church Electoral Roll are eligible to be present.



**NORMA RINK**, who has lived in Toft since the mid-1970s, first at the Manor and then until now in the Coach house. An obituary will appear next month.



| Toft Parish Council<br>Clerk: Mrs Gail Stoehr (clerk@tpc.toft.org.uk)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                     |                                            | The minutes of the previous minutes were approved with no matter arising.                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 West Drive                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                     |                                            | An application from Mrs Rebecca Harris for co-option onto the                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Highfields Caldecote                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                     |                                            | Parish Council was considered and approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| -                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3 7NY Tel: 01954 21 |                                            | A parishionar quantionad whether the tree on the small group                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Councillors Phone E-mail Chairman:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                     |                                            | A parishioner questioned whether the tree on the small green<br>which is dying, could be replaced and the new one commemorated<br>to King Charles as part of the Coronation celebrations. This idea wi                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 000000              | - Here and the Other to the second second  | be forwarded to the Orb committee.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Martin<br>Yeadon                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 263663              | cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk                | A report was presented on CCC Care Together by Lenev                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Emma<br>Darbyshire                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | 07763 465234        |                                            | Nwachukwu. The information regarding this has already bee<br>included in the Toft Calendar and a parishioner is going to raise thi<br>initiative at the Friendship Club.                                                                                                  |
| Elaine Miles                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 262255              | cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk                 | ·                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Stephen                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 07521 912734        |                                            | The final draft of the Climate Change and Green Issues will b considered at the next meeting.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Collinson<br>Christine<br>Watson.<br>Rebecca<br>Harris                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 07730 941946        |                                            | Regarding the People's Hall works, it has been decided by TPI committee that the work on a new entrance and the extension to the                                                                                                                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | 07796 176 333       | njharris262@gmail.com                      | kitchen will be costed together, rather than as separate items, an<br>these revised costings will be presented to the PC in due course.                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | is vour locallv e   | elected Council at the first tier of local | The idea of placing boulders on the green is still being considere<br>and boulders of a sufficient size are being sourced by Cllr. Yeadon                                                                                                                                 |
| on the first Monday of each month (excepting August) at the Toft<br>People's Hall in School Lane starting at 7.00pm.<br>Notices of meetings and agendas are published on the Parish<br>Council Noticeboard near the bus shelter together with minutes,<br>which can also be viewed at www.toft.org.uk. Among other things,<br>the Council considers local planning applications for the planning<br>authority, the South Cambridgeshire District Council; provides the<br>local recreation area, the People's Hall, litter bins, dog waste bins<br>and the bus shelter; arranges for local verge cutting on behalf of the<br>Cambridgeshire County Council and works with that authority to<br>ensure the maintenance of local footpaths.<br>Next Meeting: Monday 3rd April, 7.00 pm in<br>The People's Hall . All welcome. |                     |                                            | the light in the bus shelter which is permanently on. It is powere<br>from the street lights which are managed by Balfour Beaty and the<br>have said they will investigate putting a timer into the circuit.                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                     |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                     |                                            | Cllr. Miles presented a draft letter and map addressed to a loc<br>landowner outlining a proposal for a new footpath linking Toft wit<br>the Birdlings estate. The letter was approved by the PC and will b<br>forwarded by the clerk to the landowner for consideration. |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                     |                                            | South Cambs Council has opened a 20mph process scheme an<br>has invited communities to apply. The PC agreed that Toft will mak<br>an application. The deadline for applications is Sunday 30th Ap                                                                         |
| The Parish C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | ouncil met on 6th   | h March 2023 at 7.00pm.                    | 2023 at 17,00pm.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The meeting opened with the Annual Meeting of William Eversden's Charity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                     |                                            | The Finance Report was accepted and payment of bills approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The next meeting will be held on Monday 1st. October 2023)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     | d on Monday 1st. October 2023)             | There were no play inspection reports to consider nor any urger matters relating to Council property.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Cllr. Martin Yeadon was appointed at Chairman to the William                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                     |                                            | There were no planning applications to be considered.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Eversden's Charity and Cllr. Elaine Miles was appointed Vice-<br>Chairman.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                     | . ∟ame wiies was appointed vice-           | Regarding village maintenance, Cllr. Collinson reported that ther<br>was a lot of litter around the lay-by on the Comberton Road and ha                                                                                                                                   |
| Cllr. Christine Watson sent her apologies. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations from PC                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                     |                                            | offered to clear this up. Cllr. Yeadon will provide him with a "litte<br>picker" to facilitate this.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| members.<br>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     | neeting were approved                      | Cllr. Yeadon reported that with regard to the proposed East-Wes<br>Rail (EWR), he has been invited to attend a meeting of a new<br>group, "Parish Councils' EWR Working Group" and he has agreed<br>to do so.                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                     |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| There were no comments from allotment tenants.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                     |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

The Charity funds and budget for FY ending 31 March 2022 were Cllr. Miles reported that she has put new way markers on the two reviewed and approved.

A report was presented on the borehole and it is hoped that the problem of the field boulder which has prevented work progressing can be resolved and the borehole will be operational later in the year.

This meeting closed at 7.20pm.

This was followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

Cllr. Christine Watson sent her apologies. There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations from PC members.

The meeting closed at 8.15pm

who manage Toft Wood.

new posts that have been erected in the Harris' field. She also

reported that a way marker post on the northern entrance to Toft

Wood had rotted and she has propped it up and reported it.

Highways promptly replied that way marker posts are only replaced

by them when they are indicating a footpath from a highway and not

on the footpath itself. Cllr. Miles is to inform the Woodland Trust

#### TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS



We are delighted to be welcoming **Charlie Dore** on Saturday 29th April – Charlie is a well known singer-songwriter, who had a major hit in 1979 with the song "Pilot of the Airwaves". The multi award-winning songwriter has 10 albums' and 4 EPs worth of material to

draw on – she will be showcasing some of those by bringing her "Short Circuit Tour" to Toft, alongside her multi-instrumental co-pilot Julian Littman. Ticket price is £16 and they are available via the Toft website: https://toftsocialclub.org.uk/ events.php

You can also use the website to book tickets for **Megson** in October and **Martyn Joseph** in November.

**Food on Friday** is 7th April – which is Good Friday. We will be serving Fish Pie, and a vegetarian option. Doors open at 7pm, with food just £5.00. We operate on first come, first served – so come early to avoid disappointment!

The popular **Open Mic Music Night** is on Saturday 8th. There will be a mix of performers offering music and words. Free entry – doors open at 8pm. If you are interested in performing at one of these evenings, please contact us at *openmic@toftsocialclub.org.uk* 

**April Film Night** is Saturday 15th, showing the 2022 film "*Empire of Light*". Starring Olivia Coleman as a cinema manager struggling with her mental health, and Stephen (Micheal Ward) is a new employee longing to escape the provincial town where he faces daily adversity. Together they find a sense of belonging and experience the healing power of music, cinema, and community. Doors open at 7:30pm and the film starts promptly at 8:00pm. Film Club membership is £12 for the year, or evening membership is £2.50.

We are planning another **Gin Evening** – check out the website to find out when!

We have our regular events throughout the month, with **Toft Art** on Thursday 6th, **Toft Quiz** on Thursday 13th, **Carpet Bowls** on Friday 14th, and **Toft Bingo** on Thursday 27th. Everyone is welcome along to these fun evenings – doors open at 8pm.

The Club is always open every Thursday and Friday evening from 8pm, and many Saturday evenings and there is always a warm welcome where you can enjoy a drink and meet up with friends.

Your Committee is: : Martin Sebborn (Chairman), Roger Thorogood (Vice Chairman), Gill Collett (Treasurer), Sonia Cox (Secretary), Koran Collett, Ron Gouldstone, Liz Tomes, James Nairn, Brian Roberts and Angela Unsworth.

Keep up to date here:

#### www.toftsocialclub.org.uk

#### FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: https://www.facebook.com/ToftSocial

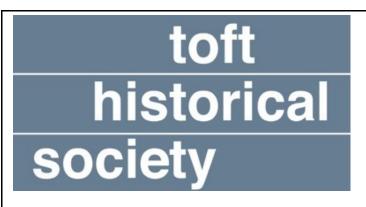


Organised by the Women of Toft. Donations will be divided between Fairtrade & Farm Africa

# LOCAL & FAIRTRADE PRODUCE at Toft People's Hall Sunday 30 April 9.00am - 12.00 noon



that does you good...and does good to others Ne'd love to have you join our merry band of helpers – any age, any gender. Contact: linda.hollow@btconnect.com or tel. jane 262309



# Laying down the law

Toft is generally a safe and law-abiding environment and probably has been for centuries. Just now and then, our village made the news, either from crime and misdemeanours or disasters (e.g. flooding - but we've all seen that one at Brookside and the bridge!). Here are some reports that made the newspapers a couple of centuries ago (information collated by Mr Colin Ward, who was a police officer, and founding father of the THS).

#### 10 August 1782

'Game upon the Manor of Toft has of last year been much destroyed by poachers. Anyone giving information on poachers will, on conviction of offenders, receive one guinea.'

#### 21 January 1837

'On Wednesday night last, the premises adjoining the Rectory at Toft were broken into and sundry property stolen.'

#### 24 March 1893

'John Chapman, publican and butcher, based at the Black Bull Inn, has voluntarily disclosed a deficiency of £116.1s.10d. Mr John Chapman puts his liquidation down to the loss of three horses in 1892, the failure of crops on 16 acres of land he had bought 12 months ago. He had not paid his rent for 4 years. He had been running the public house since 1879.'

Toft had its own village policeman till 1951, when it was placed under Comberton's jurisdiction. Here we see one of them, PC Percy Lane, outside the police house in School Lane, in the early 1920s. His cape is neatly folded on the back of his bicycle.





# Saturday 29th April 2023

The multi award-winning songwriter has 10 albums' and 4 EPs worth of material to draw from but realised that there were dozens of favourite songs in her catalogue that had hardly ever been performed live - some never...

## Tickets on sale from Now - £16.00.

Tickets available online from: https://toftsocialclub.org.uk/tickets.php

#### Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Northamptonshire

#### Wildlife Trust BCN West Cambridgeshire Hundreds Update: April 2023

Along with lesser celandine (yellow flowers), wood anemone (white flowers), and dog's mercury (green flowers) mentioned last month, here are some additional common flowers to look out for in our woodland nature reserves in April. Thank you for keeping to the paths on our nature reserves; this helps reduce trampling of plants and compaction of the soil.

greater stitchwort This is a white flower of hedge banks and open areas in woodlands. It has 5 deeply divided petals and thin stalkless leaves in pairs.

common dog violet This is a low-growing purple pansy-like flower, with no scent and heartshaped leaves. It is used by the caterpillars of the silver-washed fritillary

early purple orchid Has a spike of pink flowers and smooth leaves with purple blotches

You might come across three related species in the primrose family. All have wrinkly-looking leaves

- Primrose A low-growing plant, mostly found in woodlands and hedge banks. It has large pale-yellow flowers, one per stalk.
- Cowslip This is mostly found in grassy, open areas, but can grow in open areas within woodlands. It has bright-yellow flowers which are smaller than primrose and on a taller stalk.
- Oxlip This is a rare plant found only in woodlands with clay soil. It has multiple pale -yellow flowers on a tall stalk which all point in the same direction

Upcoming events: www.wildlifebcn.org/events

#### Wildflower walks in Gamlingay Wood Nature Reserve

19<sup>th</sup> April

Accessible strolls for those unable to walk form the village: 21<sup>st</sup> April, 25<sup>th</sup> May, 29<sup>th</sup> June

Funded short courses of 3 guided walks

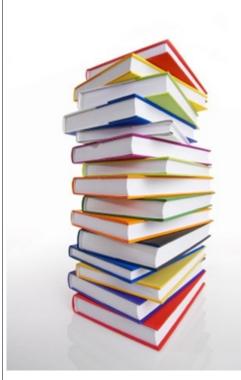
Wildlife for Beginners Tuesday mornings 2nd May, 6th June, 4th July Bird song Thursday mornings 4th May, 8th June, 6th July

Other funded courses

- Inner child series (for adults do fun nature-related and bushcraft-type activities) Tuesday mornings 16th May, 20th June, 18th July
- Little Bugs (for adults with their toddler) Friday mornings, 2 courses of 5 walks starting 28<sup>th</sup> April or 9<sup>th</sup> June
- Wild Babies (for adults with their pre-walking child) Wednesday mornings, 2 courses of 5 walks starting 26<sup>th</sup> April or 7<sup>th</sup> June

E-mail: *rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org* Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN BCN Facebook/Twitter: @wildlifebcn

The West Cambridgeshire Hundreds are a group of nature reserves owned and/or managed by the Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs and Northants: Hardwick, Gamlingay, Hayley, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, Buff Wood, and Cambourne Nature Reserve.



Comberton Library www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library Tel: 0345 045 5225 your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk Opening Hours (excluding bank holidays) are: Monday: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm Wednesday: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm & 2.30 pm - 5.30 pm Friday: 2.30 pm - 5.30 pm Saturday: 10.00 am - 1.00 pm

Sunday 23rd April is **World Book Night** and an excuse to curl up with a good book – whether for relaxation, learning, or simply for a comfy armchair adventure! Make sure that you have stocked up with lots of lovely library books in preparation. Library staff will be happy to suggest some great reads for you, or maybe you could meet a friend at the

library and swap recommendations.

Due to Easter and the many bank holidays in April and May, **Rhymetime** will be on Monday 24th April and Monday 22nd May from 10.30 am – 11.00 am, so come along and join us for some fun.

The **Knit and Natter** dates for April and May are Monday 17th in April, and Monday 15th and 29th in May – both will be from 10.30 to 11.30 and it would be lovely to see you.

For more information about these and other events due to be held in Comberton and other Cambridgeshire Libraries, please pick up our latest What's On brochure or check the library website, Cambridgeshire Libraries Facebook page, posters and literature in the library - or simply ask our friendly librarians for further details.

If you'd like to contact a member of staff you can use the online contact form on our website, or simply follow the link below - we would love to hear from you! https:// www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries

We know that many people are worried about the high cost of living at the moment, so if you need advice or support we can help you find useful information or direct you to organisations that offer support. Please ask in the library for more details - the library is a great place for anyone looking for information on all kinds of local services, events and activities. We will be pleased to help.

You will always find a warm and friendly welcome in our library – so please drop in to relax, choose some good books or use one of our library computers or our **free WiFi**.

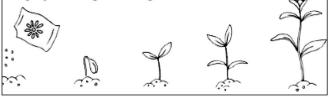
Wishing you a Happy Easter from all at Comberton Library.



£21 has been given to Farm Africa from the donations box in Toft Shop. Thank you to all the seed swappers and shop customers for your donations.

Now is a great time to start your summer vegetables. There are plenty of vegetable and flowers seeds for you in the Toft telephone box seed swap.

Enjoy the growing!





South Cambs Meetings: 2 May 7pm-8pm, 8 August 7pm-8pm, 7 November 7pm– 8pm See *https://bit.ly/37DkFHc* 

Creating a safer Cambridgeshire

You can also share your concerns by filling out our short survey. Whether it's anti-social behaviour, suspected drug dealing or speeding, *we want to hear from you.* 

We review the responses regularly and use the information you provide to help prioritise the work we do in your neighbourhood.

CAN HERE to fill out the survey

Call: 101 Visit: www.cambs.police.uk Follow: @CambsCops Subscribe: ecops.org.uk



#### Coton Bowls Club's season begins!

Our season begins once again on Saturday 29th April with a friendly interclub match to get back into the swing of things. On Monday 1st May (Bank Holiday) the club will be open for refreshments and cakes alongside the car boot sale on the rec. New bowlers are welcome to come along and give bowls a go. Members will be on hand to show people how the game is

played. You can find us on the recreation ground opposite The Plough pub. Anyone with a pair of trainers (or flat soled shoes) can play.

As a club we play teams in 5 different local leagues and we aim to offer regular games to all members, whatever their level of play. Games are played on week-day evenings from 6.15 pm, and some afternoons, week-days and weekends at 2.30 pm from May to September. Match fees are £3 per game and the first years annual subscription is only £10. Thereafter it is £60. It's a great way to while away a summer's afternoon or evening and meet new people. We are pleased to welcome players from local villages that don't have their own bowls green. Come and join us!

We are hoping for a warm and sunny season like last year and are looking forward to playing again in the great outdoors.

email: opensessions@cotonbowlsclub.co.uk / website: www.cotonbowlsclub.co.uk

Wheelie Bin Collections For April

(N.B. This schedule may be subject to change)

Black Bin: Fri 14th April (Changed Day)

Weds 26th April

Blue/Green Bin

Weds 5th April

Thurs 20th April (Changed Day)

#### Notice to Advertisers

Advertisements are published quarterly. Copy for inclusion in the next available edition of the Calendar *must* reach us by 17th April 2023 at the *very latest*. Advertisements will **NOT** be published unless full payment has been received in advance. Please note: *We are currently unable to accept PDF file types*. Quarter-page adverts MUST be Portrait-style, half-page adverts MUST be Landscape-style. In the first instance, advertisers should contact **Jean Verney** at:

calendaradstoft@gmail.com to discuss their requirements.

#### ✗ USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous: 0845 769 7555 Anglian Water (for sewage): 08457 145 145 (Emergency number for burst water pipes: 01223 706050) Ashcroft Veterinary Surgery: 01954 210250 Bourn GPs' Surgery: 01954 719313 Cambridge AIDS help-line: (01223) 508805 Cambs County Council: 0345 045 5200 Cambridge Dial a Ride 01223 506335 Cambridge Water: 01223 706050 Care Network Cambridgeshire 01954 211919. Citizens Advice Bureau: 0844 848 7979 Comberton GPs' Surgery: 01223 262500 Comberton Village College: 01223 262503 Community Warden (Age UK CAP) 07812 495997 County Councillor 07968 264637 CVC Community Education: 01223 264721 District Councillor: 01954 210040 Household Waste/Pest Control: 0345 045 0063 Lifespan Health Care, Family and Child Team: 01223 264460 Member of Parliament: Phone 01223 603677 Meridian Primary School: 01223 262423 Police: 101 (Emergencies: 999) (Local Beat Officer is PCSO Sam Kennedy) Road/Pothole Reporting: 0345 045 5212 Street Lighting: 0800 7838 247 Street Cleaning: 03450 450 063 South Cambs District Council: 01954 713 000 South Cambs Fire and Rescue: 01480 444 500 Toft Car Scheme: 07790 171710 Trading Standards: 0345 0455206 UK Power Networks (Emergencies): 0800 31 63 105



#### **Rewilding the lost meadows**

At *Coton Countryside Reserve* we have been continuing our rewilding project to improve habitats and increase the amount of greenspace that the public can use. This work has been taking place in the Lost Meadows and Manor Field which are on the edge of Coton village.

During the winter we have opened up a young orchard so that it can be grazed by sheep and you can enjoy walking in it. With the help of volunteers, we have recently put guards on the orchard trees to protect them, as well as planting new fruit trees to replace some that had died.

We are also installing new fencing across Manor Field, and in a couple of years' time this will eventually separate a new woodland from the grazing area. The funds for the work this winter have been provided by a grant from the government's Green Recovery Challenge Fund for the Cambridge Nature Network.

The Calendar is always pleased to receive contributions from readers, advertisers and fund raisers. We reserve the right to edit, amend, abridge or otherwise butcher any submissions to accord with technical or editorial requirements, or sometimes just on a whim. We do not normally accept anonymous contributions or those using pen-names.

Contributors are asked to note that <u>all text formatting</u> is removed from items on receipt. Consider **plain text files** as your first choice where possible. **Please avoid proprietary file types (e.g. PDF, PUB, DOCX, XLS etc) unless you feel it essential. Graphics (if you must) are best submitted as PNG files.** Many thanks.

#### And, finally...

Please remember that contributions for the next issue of the *Calendar* <u>must</u> reach the Editor, Michael Walker, **by 20th April.** Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition. Email: *calendareditor@toft.org.uk* Post: 33 Egremont Road, Hardwick, Cambridge CB23 7XR Telephone: 01954 211346