



Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

August 2023



EDITORIAL

As you rise, swinking and sweating, slowly into a standing position, one hand clutching your back and as you survey, with a sinking heart, all that is still left to be done in your garden, you may have asked yourself 'Is this really worth it? Is the day Thou gavest, Lord, really to be spent plucking innumerable tiny weeds from my top-soil, in the sure and certain knowledge that they will be back - in triplicate - by this time next week'?

And the answer is: It kind of depends. Because if you're a fan of 're-wilding', the currently fashionable trend for letting Nature take its course, then you'll more than willingly park yourself in the 'No' camp. But if you like a bit of order in your garden and feel that nature usually needs a helping hand, the wellie will be firmly on the other foot.

So, who's right?

We all know that some of our loveliest landscapes and views owe their existence to human efforts, just as we all know that the dreary monoculture we see in some places does as little for the animal world as it does for the human soul. Offset against that, however, is the fact that that same monoculture is what feeds us. But when it comes to our own small patch, what sort of balance should we strike? Putting aside an instinctive distrust of anyone claiming to be an expert on pretty much anything, I wondered what the Royal Horticultural Society felt about the matter. And here, pithily précised, is their view: "The presence of a wide range of invertebrates, such as ladybirds, springtails, spiders and even caterpillars are indicators of a diverse garden eco-system, and so should be encouraged. And the best way to do that is to forget the weeding, strimming, mowing, hoeing and raking for a while." So, the RHS are all for it, then? Not exactly, because they go on to say that "A garden that is just left to 'rewild' may revert to scrub or be dominated by a single species, which may be worse for biodiversity. We support planet-friendly gardening practices that work with both cultivated and wild nature for the benefit of plants, people and the planet." Well, quite. I mean - who wouldn't? I bet they also 'heart' Mum and Dad, puppies and apple pie.

If I've understood them correctly - and that's always a big 'If' - I think they are saying that you should use your common sense, all too often a desperate last resort in my case. By all means let nature have a crack at your garden but don't be afraid to step in with a bit of coaxing, nudging and, when that fails, mowing and digging. Apparently, the Romans were pretty good at this (certainly, they had a neat way of hedging: get a length of tarry rope, roll it in seeds and bury it in a shallow trench, any shape or curve you like. Many of those, or their descendants, are still with us, I'm told).

If you're anything like me, you're likely to over or undershoot on this at your first attempt. But if you do wind up with a bit more of a wilderness than you truly desired and find the neighbours tutting over the fence at your efforts, try to mollify them with this: "I'm not lazy - I'm an ecologist!"

Dear Toft Residents...



Many of you will already be aware that School Lane recently became a 20mph maximum speed zone. We have been waiting a long time for this, so, it's a huge relief to finally have it in place.

It is hoped that the speed restriction will help children and pets play safely, and due to the lack of good pavement on School Lane, pedestrians will feel happier about using the road to walk on at some sections, as many of us already do.

The Parish Council would like to thank everyone in advance for doing their best to not exceed the 20mph maximum speed, and, going forward, we hope to succeed in our bids for more 20mph zones throughout the village.

Thank you,

*Councillor Emma Darbyshire,
on behalf of TPC.*



DIARY DATES

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club]. The August meeting for the Club is on 9th August, 2.30 pm start, when Ann Miles will challenge us *How well do you know Toft?* with her beautiful photographs. Visitors always welcome

Sewing, Knit and Natter

There will be no meeting in August.

The Parish Council

The Council last met on Monday 3rd July, 7.00pm in The People's Hall. It does not meet in August

No 18 Bus Service

The current time-table can be downloaded from this link: <https://www.go-whippet.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/20230320-18-timetable.pdf>

MINISTRY TEAM**THE CHURCH IN TOFT**

St. Andrew's Parish Church

Team Vicar:

Rev David Newton 01223 665654

Assistant Curate: Revd Barnabas Leeke
07787 800 888Lay Minister: Barbara Preece Tel:
263466

Churchwardens:

Ann Mitchell 262516

John Quenby 263949

Methodist ChurchMinister: Revd Charity Nzegwu
01763 241803

Stewards:

Diana Tebbit 01223 263557

Stephen Acklam 264055

Mrs Pat Morton 264010

SERVICES OF WORSHIP*6th August* 8.30am Holy Communion

(BCP) – Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Holy Communion, Methodist
Church – Revd. Charity Nzegwu*13th August* 11.00am Holy CommunionSt. Andrew's – Revd David Newton and
Revd Barnabas Leeke*20th August* 8.30am Holy Communion

(BCP) – Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Morning Worship, Methodist
Church – Ross McEwan*27th August* 11.00am Morning Prayer,

St. Andrew's, Revd Robert Dolman

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

Hello, I'm Barnabas Leeke, the new curate with the
Lordsbridge Team.I'm based in Coton but will be working with David
Newton in Comberton and Toft while I 'learn the
ropes'. It has been a big switch from full time work as a
Facility Manager with the Department of Pharmacology
at the University of Cambridge to full time ministry. I
have replaced cutting edge research facilities for
ancient buildings and international PhD students for
local congregations, but I am enjoying the challenge
and getting to know the people that make up the
communities in this area.I'm Cambridge born and bred, so I know something of
the area already. My formative years were spent in the
villages of Huntingdonshire before moving back to
Cambridge for work. It was at this time that I went a
little off the rails and was a long way from the church
and my childhood faith, but when I moved back to
Cambridge I met Laura (who had come from Milan to
study English and prepare for university) and together
we encouraged each other in faith and seeking God's
will for our lives. We are now married with one
daughter, Noemi.For Laura, living out her faith means night time patrols
on the streets of Cambridge as a Street Pastor, looking
after those in the night economy who need a helping
hand. For me it has meant embarking on a long
journey of theological training and discovery, that
journey continues and I look forward to discovering
more as I minister in this beautiful, friendly and
welcoming part of Cambridgeshire.*- Barnabas***Sewing, Knit and Natter.**There will be no meeting in
August



THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

WHEELCHAIR: St. Andrew's was given a wheelchair some years ago which we happily lend to any villager who needs it. I have lent it to someone and cannot remember to whom. No problem but could you let me know if you have it.—Ann 262516

Autumn Fayre This year we are very short of helpers for the Fayre. Can you spare the morning to help us? Or perhaps the evening before to get things set up? The profits from this help enormously towards our insurance, vital for a building as old and potentially vulnerable as it is. This is your parish church – we would appreciate your help. Please get in touch with Ann (262516) or John (263949)

SEPTEMBER 2nd

AUTUMN FAYRE in the churchyard 10.30 – 1.00pm

Please keep the date and come and join us. As many of you will know this fund-raiser is largely used to pay our insurance cover which is a significant amount for a listed, large building!

Refreshments will be served.

Teddy bears (or the like) will be invited to descend the wire from tower to earth! (11.00 – 12.00)

Cakes will be for sale; there will be children's activities, and stalls, a raffle and bottle stall

A flyer will be delivered mid-August with more details

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**CORONATION RECIPES** As promised, one this month the other next.

#### *Elizabethan Pork*

This was originally researched and published by Michael Smith – for 6 people

1 ½ lb leg of pork    ½ oz white flour

Celery    2 tbsp. oil

1 onion    ¼ bot. red wine or cider or strong ale

4 ozs tinned apricots    ½ tsp. each of; marjoram, thyme, cinnamon

3ozs seedless raisins    mace, black pepper, mild curry powder

½ lemon    1 ½ crushed clove of garlic

½ orange    salt & pepper

3 ozs stoned dates

1 large apple

½ tbsp. Honey

Cut pork into 1" squares and dredge with flour. Fry the meat in oil till lightly brown. Fry the finely chopped onions and celery – place all in oven-proof pot or heavy duty pan if cooking on top of stove. Sprinkle over remaining flour. Add: drained and chopped apricots, raisins, juice and grated rind of lemon and orange; roughly chopped dates, honey, wine, garlic and herbs. Core and slice the apples and lay on top. Cover with lid and cook in oven gas mark 3, 325°F for 3 hours or, on very low heat on top of stove, also for about 3 hours.

This should be served with chopped walnuts – cooked in butter till hot and segments of orange.

## Toft Parish Council

Clerk: Mrs Gail Stoeher (clerk@tpc.toft.org.uk)

30 West Drive

Highfields Caldecote

Cambridge, CB23 7NY Tel: 01954 210241

| Councillors | Phone | E-mail |
|-------------|-------|--------|
|-------------|-------|--------|

### Chairman:

|                   |               |                                 |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| Martin Yeadon     | 263663        | cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk     |
| Emma Darbyshire   | 07763 463234  | cllr.darbyshire@tpc.toft.org.uk |
| Elaine Miles      | 262255        | cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk      |
| Stephen Collinson | 07521 912734  |                                 |
| Christine Watson. | 07730 941946  |                                 |
| Rebecca Harris    | 07796 176 333 | njharris262@gmail.com           |

*The Council is your locally elected Council at the first tier of local government. Meetings are open to the public and are usually held on the first Monday of each month (excepting August) at the Toft People's Hall in School Lane starting at 7.00pm.*

*Notices of meetings and agendas are published on the Parish Council Noticeboard near the bus shelter together with minutes, which can also be viewed at [www.toft.org.uk](http://www.toft.org.uk). Among other things, the Council considers local planning applications for the planning authority, the South Cambridgeshire District Council; provides the local recreation area, the People's Hall, litter bins, dog waste bins and the bus shelter; arranges for local verge cutting on behalf of the Cambridgeshire County Council and works with that authority to ensure the maintenance of local footpaths.*

**Next Meeting: There is no meeting in August. The next meeting will be Monday 4th September 7.00pm in The People's Hall. All Welcome.**

The Parish Council met on 5th June 2023 at 7.00pm.

Apologies were sent by Cllr. Watson who was out of the Parish.

Cllr Collinson was absent.

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

The minutes of the previous minutes were approved with no matters arising.

Parishioners commented positively on the new 20mph in School Lane and on the renewal of the yellow lines around the green. There was a suggestion that the yellow lines could be extended in front of the Chinese restaurant but this was not carried forward as it could have a detrimental effect on the business and the restaurant has its own car park for customers to use. It was also noted that the speed camera in School Lane is still showing 30mph which will be changed as soon as possible.

### Matters arising from the last meeting:

Cllr. Derbyshire reported that she is continuing to liaise with Highways regarding the best traffic-calming measures that could be put in place on the road approaching from Bourn and Comberton. She will

report back when she has considered these and the costs involved. She also reported that there is no evidence of a "Give Way" sign at the junction of Comberton Road and Hardwick Road and this will be taken up with Highways.

Cllr Miles reported that the Woodland Trust would be happy for the village to position bat/bird boxes and insect hotels in Toft Wood. It was felt that it would be a good project to engage villagers in, particularly young people, and Cllrs. Miles, Darbyshire and Harris have agreed to carry this project forward with a view to holding an event during the school holidays. Time and venue to be announced.

It was agreed that no comment was required from the Parish Council on the Statement of Licensing Policy (Licensing Act 2003)

The finance report was considered and the payment of bills was approved.

There were no play inspection reports to consider.

There were no urgent matters to consider because of risk to health nor safety issues relating to Council property.

There were no planning applications to consider.

Cllr. Yeadon reported that there was some maintenance required to the bench outside St. Andrew's church which he will attend to.

Cllr. Derbyshire reported that the positioning of the new 20mph signs at the junction of School Lane and Brookside and the one near Pinfold Lane was inadequate as, due to foliage, they were not easily visible. She is to take this up with Highways.

Cllr. Derbyshire also reported that drains in various places in the village had been unblocked.

There was nothing to report on Toft People's Hall, Footpaths, the Defibrillator or the Birdlings.

Cllr Yeadon reported that following various meetings on the proposed railway line, EWR have modified the route slightly and it is now not going to cut across the golf course and the proposal is that the railway line will go under the Hardwick and Comberton Roads. EWR were also open to the idea of a cycle path between Hardwick and Comberton. While these proposals are improvements to the original plan, Cambridge Approaches will continue to fight for the Northern route with support from the Parish Council.

Cllr Yeadon reported that following a parishioner's letter of complaint to the Parish Council regarding where the County Council had positioned one of the 20mph signs, the offending post had been removed and the Chair will respond in writing to the parishioner.



## TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Despite the strong winds, we had a great night at the **Club Barbecue** in July – a record turnout who enjoyed fabulous food! Many thanks to everyone who helped with preparation, setting up, cooking, serving and clearing up. And thanks to everyone that came along.

**Food on Friday** returns in August, on Friday 4th. We will be serving a choice of fabulous Paella – either Chicken & Chorizo, or Seafood. GF is catered for. Please note that due to the nature of cooking, we will be serving in batches rather than all at once. Doors open at 7pm, with food just £5.00. We operate on first come, first served and numbers will be limited – so come early to avoid disappointment!

**Film Night** is Saturday 19th, and we will be showing the 2022 film “She Said” – Carey Mulligan and Zoe Kazan star as New York Times reporters Megan Twohey and Jodi Kantor, who together broke one of the most important stories in a generation - a story that shattered decades of silence around the subject of sexual assault in Hollywood and impelled a shift in American culture that continues to this day. 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.

The new **Table Tennis** evening proved a real success in July, and continues in August on Thursday 17th. Table tennis is a very popular sport and great exercise – free entry. Doors open at 8pm – novice and experts welcome!

The popular **Open Mic Music Night** is on Saturday 12th, with a wonderful 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](mailto:openmic@toftsocialclub.org.uk)

**Toft Art** is on Thursday 3rd – new artists and sketchers are always welcome.

**Toft Quiz Night** is on Thursday 10th - teams of up to 6, just £1 per team member. Cash prizes! Doors open at 8pm.

**Carpet Bowls** is on Friday 11th, doors open at 8pm – why not come along and give this family friendly game a go.

**Toft Bingo** is taking a summer break in August, but will be back in September.

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.

**The Toft Beer and Cider Festival** will be held over the weekend of 1st - 3rd September, and will feature 15 real ales, at least 4 ciders plus our usual wide range of gins and wine. There will be food throughout the weekend – snacks will be available at most times, with a curry on Saturday night and our famous Sunday Roast dinner. Tickets for these will be available in the week before the Festival. There will be live music on Saturday evening. Full details will appear on the Club website during August.

Tickets are on sale on the website for our **Autumn Music Programme**, with **Megson** on 14th October and **Martyn Joseph** on 16th November.

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, Angela Unsworth and Jean Stewart.

Keep up to date here:

[www.toftsocialclub.org.uk](http://www.toftsocialclub.org.uk)

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/ToftSocial>





The Social Club Barbecue gets underway





# megson

## megson in concert



## Saturday 14th October 2023

Four times nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and double winners of the Spiral Earth Awards MEGSON create a truly unique brand of folk music.

They are back doing what they do best, on the road promoting a brand new studio album to be released in Spring 2023. Catch them in Toft this October.

## Tickets on sale now – £16.00

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

# toft historical society

## Howzat! Cricket in Toft

During this season of test matches, we look back on cricket in Toft and its surprisingly long history. The earliest mention of cricket being played in Toft is in an 1840 publication about cricket in Cambridgeshire. In the 1920s and 1930s, Toft had a team which played in the field behind Old Farm. There was a hiatus during WWII, then play resumed and games are known to have continued in the field behind Old Farm during 1945-8. In the early 1950s, games took place in a field known as the 20-acre meadow behind Manor Farm; play later transferred to Mr Ken Tebbit's field behind Manor Cottages. Geoff Balcombe (School Lane) remembers games in the 1960s played in the field behind the Home Meadow residential home. Many thanks to Geoff for a lot of the information recorded here.

The players wore dark green caps with a 'T' embroidered on them. Players included Koran, Paul, Malcolm, Peter and Derick Collett, Reg, Bernie, Pat and Ronnie Ward, Geoff Balcombe, and Len Halsall.



The photo above shows Ted Rogers in his cricket gear at Toft. The photo on the right shows the 1994 village match on the occasion of the church's 777 celebrations. Pictured are (top) Rev. Andrew Mc Kearney, Richard Preece, Brian Elsdon; (bottom) Alex Hoskins, Brian Mitchell and Paul Hollow.



Reverend Andrew Mc Kearney Richard Preece Brian Elsdon



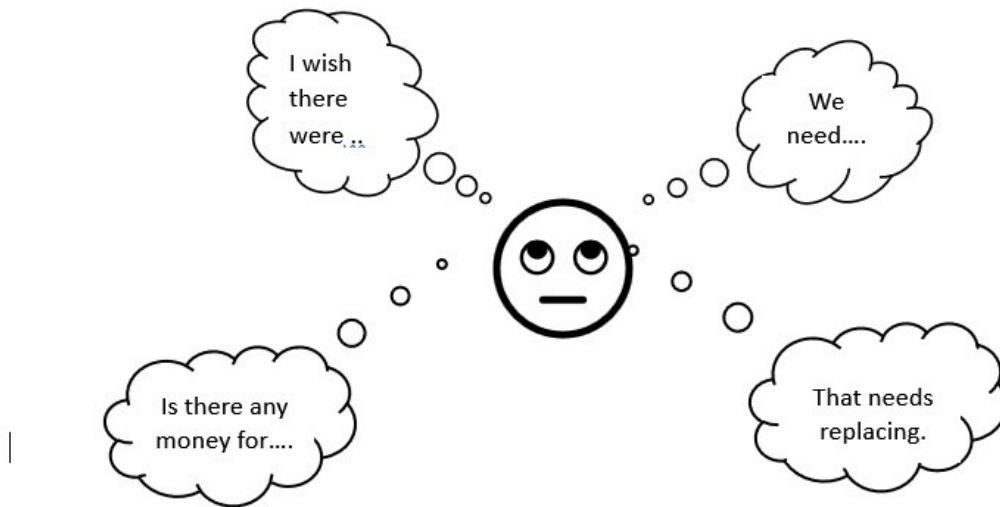
Alex Hoskins Brian Mitchell Paul Hollow



## A VILLAGE WISH LIST

Toft is great ~ but could anything make it better??

Have you ever thought o o o



We have a small pot of S106 monies (see below) that can be spent on village facilities, amenities and sports. There is no immediate deadline but if you have an idea send it to Cllr. Elaine Miles ([cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk](mailto:cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk)) who will start the **Toft Village Wish List**

*The Parish Council receives funding, known as S106 monies, which is passed to us from developers to support local initiatives. In brief, this will typically comprise contributions towards children's play equipment, community orchards, sports facilities, surgeries and village halls. We have recently used some S106 monies to purchase new equipment for the Playground which is to be installed in the near future. By way of forward planning, the Parish Council would like to hear from parishioners of any ideas they may have on how we can enhance the facilities in the village.*

Cambridge Carbon Footprint is delighted to present a new season of tours and talks designed to inspire, inform and involve Cambridgeshire residents in the processes and practicalities of home energy improvements through retrofit and design.

With 10 planned Eco Home tours, across a wider region of the county than before, and 5 free talks there will be something for everyone to engage with.

Eco Home Tours, energy saving talks and events include: 7 Retrofits of inspiring homes

- Wide variety and ages and now featuring homes in Caxton, Guilden Morden, Heydon, and St Ives
- Now beautiful, comfortable homes with a tiny energy consumption.

3 New-builds:

- Marmalade Lane - revisiting a cohousing community of 42 homes 5 years on
- Self-builds in a development of 9 very different new homes in Caxton
- Building Hope - modular eco homes for the homeless Talks and events:
- Human Library - book out one of our experts and experienced volunteers
- Low Carbon Heating - learn about heat pumps and other low carbon options
- Cambridge Retrofit Guide - Practical advice to retrofitting your home; what measures, how much and with who?
- Low Cost Home Energy Savings for All - low cost and solutions for home owners and renters.
- Open Eco Homes Retrospective - what our hosts have learnt in 10 years

For a full list of OEH events as they become available see <https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/open-eco-homes/>





# MARTYN JOSEPH

## IN CONCERT

**Thursday 16th November 2023**

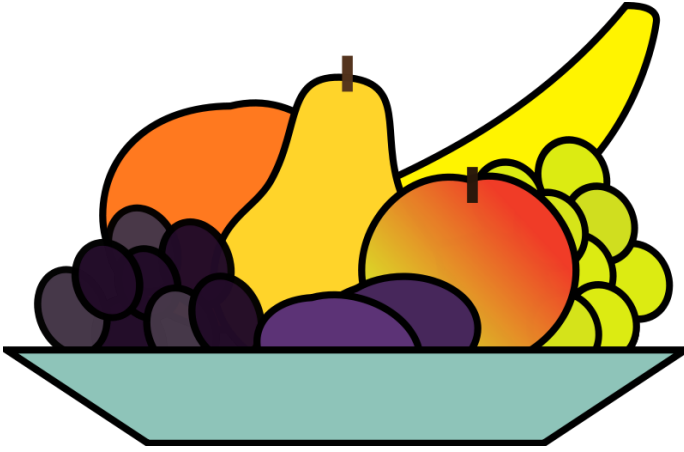
We are excited to be welcoming Martyn Joseph to Toft  
A unique talent driven by passion, social awareness, and love for  
his trade, he's a jaw dropping guitar player who has developed  
a unique percussive style, teamed up with a powerful show  
stopping voice, and has been called "The Welsh Springsteen"

**Tickets on sale now - £18.00.**

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



## Ripening Fruit in Lot Meadow



The plums in Lot Meadow should be ready for eating by the time the Calendar hits your doormat. The tree is laden with fruit again this year. This tree is at the bottom of the furthest row from the entrance to Lot Meadow. At the top end of this row is an apple tree called Discovery which has a reasonable crop and should be ready to pick in August. They do not keep so should be picked and eaten.

There are two pear trees - Conference and Beth. There are few pears on the Conference tree but Beth has produced a good crop and should be ready to pick by the end of August and should be used by September.

Lot Meadow belongs to the village and so do the fruit trees. Please help yourselves but do please leave some for other residents. Why not pick some for an elderly neighbour who is unable to visit Lot Meadow.

Any queries please contact me at email: [tricia@paceprojects.co.uk](mailto:tricia@paceprojects.co.uk) or mobile: 07896 525800.

Tricia Ellis-Evans

### Cancer support service receives 'much deserved' Carer Friendly Tick

The award is in recognition of their work to identify and support unpaid carers - people that look after a family member or friend.

Unpaid carers being recognised by the hospital has benefits to the carer, the person they look after, and enables the hospital staff to fulfil their roles more effectively.

Sarah Jayne Rodwell, Senior Cancer Support Advisor at Cambridge University Hospital Cancer Support Service said, "The Cancer Support Service being awarded the Carer Friendly Tick Award – Health gives carers accessing our service assurance that we value the important role they play in our patients' pathway."

A panel of carers assessed the submission from the Trust on behalf of Caring Together. The panel were impressed by the range of work being carried out by the team, and the impact that this has on both carers and those they care for. A panel member added, "I love the tuck box idea, how often do carers go hungry or thirsty because they don't want to leave a loved one alone while they take a drink break."

The cancer support service's work includes:

introduction of the Carers Passport – carer identification within a health setting

promotion of the Carers Handbook

staff trained in carer awareness, provided in-house and by Caring Together and Cambridge Cancer Help Centre

carer information displayed on department information boards and on social media.

Jill Nooij, Awareness and Voice Delivery Lead at Caring Together said it has been a pleasure to work with Sarah and her colleagues and added, "They have shown a real commitment to supporting carers. It's clear that they have a good understanding of the challenges faced by carers and how they can provide support within their department and the wider hospital. Their enthusiasm has even spread to other hospitals. Congratulations on achieving the Carer Friendly Tick, it's very much deserved!"

The Carer Friendly Tick Award was originally developed for education by young carers from Caring Together's Norfolk Young Carers Forum (NYCF). The awards recognise the important role organisations have to play in ensuring carers of all ages are recognised and given the support they need. For more information about the Carer Friendly Tick Awards and how you or your organisation can support carers see [caringtogether.org/carers-friendly-tick](http://caringtogether.org/carers-friendly-tick) or email [carerfriendlytick@caringtogether.org](mailto:carerfriendlytick@caringtogether.org)



Our vision is that no unpaid carer is in crisis, isolated or struggling alone.  
[caringtogether.org](http://caringtogether.org)







## Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants

**Wildlife Trust West Cambridgeshire Hundreds**  
**Update: Aug 2023**

Late summer is a good time to enjoy watching bats. Sunset is not too late and both adults and juveniles are on the wing.

Did you know that a common pipistrelle bat (one of the most common bats in the UK) weighs around 5 grams and might eat 3,000 insects in one night? On a guided walk last year we saw them making use of the insect haven that is the sewage treatment works beside Waresley and Gransden Woods. The very rare Barbastelle bat, often associated with deciduous woodland, has also been recorded here on our formal bat surveys. On Cambourne Nature Reserve we regularly see Daubenton's bats which specialise in catching insects over water.

Bats may fly several kilometres from their roost to their feeding ground, which is why having a connected landscape is important. Bats will make use of hedgerows, gardens, river corridors, and verges to move around, so every piece of wilder space counts. In the West Cambs 100s (the area of land between Gamlingay, Cambourne and Comberton) The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants are working with partners to create a Living Landscape, making it easier for wildlife to move around. Landowners, farmers, residents and local councillors are all part of the solution to wildlife declines.

You can help bats in your garden by planting moth-friendly plants, like honeysuckle and jasmine for nectar, and stinging nettle and currants for caterpillar food. Leaving parts of your garden wild will also provide more habitat for insects and therefore food for bats.

The Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs and Northants offer a variety of specialist walks through the year. Further afield you can canoe with bats, or go on a family bat walk.

All of our events are on our website and most offer a discount for members.

<https://www.wildlifebcn.org/events>

Rebecca Neal, Communities and Wildlife Officer, The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants

E-mail: [rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org) Facebook: [@BeccaBadgerWTBCN](https://www.facebook.com/BeccaBadgerWTBCN)

BCN Facebook/Twitter: [@wildlifebcn](https://www.facebook.com/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.

### The Anniversary Waltz...

Just space to squeeze in a couple of anniversaries in the life and evolution of our village:

It's seventy years since Toft was connected to mains electricity, recorded by the local paper as follows: *"In the oil-lit schoolroom at Toft on Thursday before Christmas, the chairman of the Parish Council pressed a button, and electricity came to the village. The school was crowded for the official switching-on ceremony. The original proposals were made in 1939 but were held up by the war. With the nationalisation of the supply industry a programme for orderly development was drawn up. Toft and Caldecote were among the first villages in the Cambridge district to receive a supply, which would serve about 70 consumers. They welcomed the arrival of electricity and looked forward to the enjoyment of its many advantages. There were demonstrations of domestic appliances and cookery and washing machines."*

Meanwhile, 125 years ago, villagers petitioned for a railway station at Toft. I suspect views on the desirability of that particular facility have altered since then....

**Wheelie Bin Collections For August**

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

**Black Bin:**

Weds 2nd Aug

Weds 16th Aug

*Thurs 31st Aug (Changed Date)***Blue/Green Bin**

Weds 9th Aug

Weds 23rd Aug

**Notice to Advertisers**

**Advertisements** are published quarterly. Copy for inclusion in the next available edition of the Calendar **must** reach us by 17th October 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

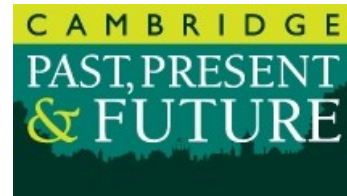
South Cambs District Council: 01954 713 000

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

**New Countryside Walks to Bourn Windmill**

Bourn Windmill sits in rolling countryside located between the attractive villages of Bourn and Caxton and the new town of Cambourne. We are keen for people to explore the area, enjoy the mill and get some fresh air and exercise, so we have produced a new leaflet of walking routes that connect the mill, villages and the nature reserve at Cambourne. There are options for walks of 2.5 miles and 4 miles. The mill will be open for tours on Sunday 30 July 2-4pm.

The leaflet can also be used in combination with public transport to Cambourne as a way of visiting the mill without a car. Download it from: <https://www.cambridgeppf.org/visitor-information-bourn-windmill>

**Coton Countryside Reserve for people and nature:** We have recently been able to open to the public 1.7 acres of green space for people to enjoy. This is an area of young orchard trees and meadow, which also includes an area for beehives, a farmland bird feeding area and an insect bank. You can enjoy grass paths around the orchard. Find out more at: <https://www.cambridgeppf.org/about-coton-countryside-reserve>

**T**he 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 all text formatting 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* must reach the Editor, Michael Walker, **by 20th August** Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition. Email: [calendareditor@toft.org.uk](mailto:calendareditor@toft.org.uk) Post: 33 Egremont Road, Hardwick, Cambridge CB23 7XR Telephone: 01954 211346

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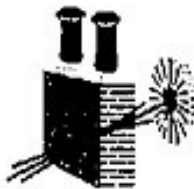
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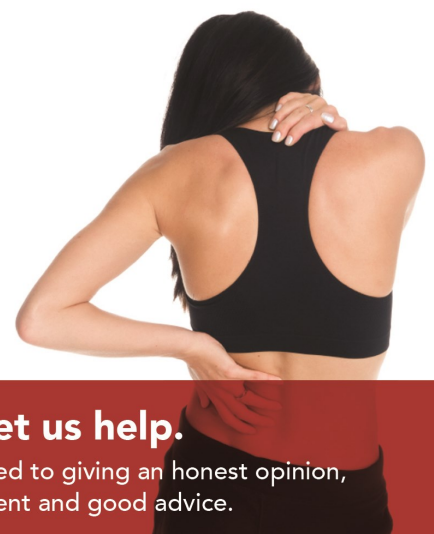
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