



Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

August 2024



EDITORIAL

Whoopee! The sun's out, at last. Just when we were thinking there'd never be an end to the perma-drizzle and impenetrable nimbostratus - ping! - the brilliant yellow dome has taken pity on us. So, out with the deck-chairs and let's look out that half-bottle of Pimms that's still hibernating in the drinks cabinet. Surely, there cannot possibly be a fly in the ointment? Oh yes - there can. Because the folks next door have decided that it's barbecue time. Your peaceful afternoon is about to be ruined by the background clatter of conversations you can't quite follow and are not allowed to join in. As the day wears on and the corks pop, you know it's only going to get worse and - oh joy! - someone has brought a gaggle of small children with them to ensure that the shriek level never falls below painful. It's no consolation to find that as the day wears interminably on, the tiny exclamations will turn, as surely as day turns to night, from giggles and whoops into grizzles and howls followed, if you're really in luck, by a full-blown juvenile tantrum or two.

Of course, it's worse still when some fool in your own household - often you - decides that what this weather demands is a return to good old, do-it-yourself food-icide out in the open. 'Why,' declaims a demented voice dimly recognisable as your own 'we won't even need any of that rip-off bagged-up charcoal. Just look at all these twigs and cones I've raked up out of the garden. Some of them are nearly bone-dry!' And so the disaster begins. A quick trip for essential supplies ("So, you're out of burgers and sausages? OK...so, er...what are those Linda McCartney things over there like? I see you've got plenty of those...") and a desperate hunt through the shed or garage to try and find out where you left the incinerating impedimenta the last time this attack of zoanthropy overcame you. The apportioning of tasks: "You look after the drinks and nibbles - oh, and maybe a salad if you really want - and I'll fire up this baby!" What can possibly go wrong?

You try to start the fire. You can huff, puff and fan away with that old hubcap till you're blue in the face - this 'baby' remains exactly that - enough smoke to mask the Eiffel Tower and enough heat to just about hatch a sparrow's egg. But not cook it. On the plus side, the sea of floating ash and grit must surely mean you're getting there, mustn't it? At last, throwing out of the window all those cautions from the Fire Brigade, you come to a decision. What harm can just, say, an egg-cup or so of petrol do? You hold the match at arm's length before cowardice or common sense takes hold and you drop it onto the smouldering heap beneath. With a 'WHOOOF' that sucks the breath from your body, the barbecue, the surrounding lawn, a couple of deck chairs and several shrubs burst into flame. But once things are back in hand and the hose is re-coiled, you have a furnace that would smelt pig-iron. Onto the grill go the assorted viands and within moments you have yourself a perfect-looking steak or chop. On the outside, that is. Because the first law of barbecuing dictates that to be cooked the whole way through, your food will need to have a half-inch carapace of sooty coke. Too late, you realise why some enterprising bod was driven to invent the electric oven and it's user-friendly hob - you know, just like the one you've got in your own kitchen. Luckily, the second law of barbecuing may yet get you out of this hole. Because it is about to start raining. Hard. And, as the fat raindrops hiss into your fire and over you, the other guests and the salad you can ask yourself: Will this barbecue produce the euphoric happiness you crave? Who knows. But Salmonella?

Absolutely. Put your money on it.

New toddler play equipment for recreation ground

The toddler climbing frame in the playground will be replaced in the week commencing Monday 12th August. The installation of the Action Station III climbing frame, which incorporates a fireman's pole, slide, ramp and tunnel, will take 5 days and part of the recreation ground will be fenced off during this week. We hope that disruption will be limited but some play items may not be available. Please take care when using the recreation ground and do not enter the fenced off area.

Bourn Windmill Volunteer Team

**LAST TWO OPEN AFTERNOONS THIS YEAR:
SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST &
SUNDAY 15TH SEPTEMBER
2-4.30 P.M. (Last tour 4.00 p.m.)**

A rare opportunity to see inside one of the oldest windmills in the country and have a go at pushing the windmill round. Come and enjoy an interesting afternoon out at Bourn Windmill where you can ride in the windmill while it is being turned around. Fun for all the family! Built in the reign of King Henry VIII, this fine open trestle post windmill is likely to be the oldest in the country. Join us for a great afternoon for people of all ages! Mill tours £4 per adult and children £1, under 6s are free! Home made cakes and tea time treats also available to help make this an enjoyable afternoon for all! The mill is located between the villages of Caxton and Bourn. Free parking. Sat Nav: Mill Cottage, Caxton Road, Bourn, Cambridge CB23 2SU. This scheduled ancient monument and grade 1 listed building is maintained and owned by the charity, *Cambridge Past Present & Future*.

DIARY DATES

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club].

14th August 2.30

Toft People's Hall.

Tasty Scones – Liz and Barbara Tomes will tickle our taste buds with scones of different flavour and type, whilst entertaining us with poems and stories. As usual everyone is welcome

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### The Parish Council

The Parish Council does not meet in August.

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Sewing, Knit and Natter

We do not meet in August. Our next meeting will be in September.

For further information please contact Lucy (262948) or Sally (262895).

MINISTRY TEAM**THE CHURCH IN TOFT**

St. Andrew's Parish Church

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*4th August* 8.30am Holy Communion
(BCP) - Rev Prof. Michael Reiss11.00 am Holy Communion - Methodist
Church – Rev Robert Dolman*11th August* 11.00 am Holy
Communion, St. Andrew's – Rev.
Barnabas Leeke*18th August* 8.30am Holy Communion
(BCP) – Rev Prof. Michael Reiss
11.00am Morning Worship, Methodist
Church – Rev Robert Dolman*25th August* 11.00am Morning Prayer –
St. Andrew's - Mrs Ann Mitchell with
Rev Robert DolmanThere 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

“By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. Then God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done.” Gen 2.2-3

Holiday season is well and truly upon us and (hopefully by the time you read this!) we are blessed by lazy days of summer sunshine, buzzing bees and fluttering butterflies. It is good for us to take time to rest and relax, it's better than good, these verses from the very first book of the Bible tell us that it is holy! Even God rested when he had finished what he had to do in creation.

Unfortunately it is often not so simple for us. Many of us will look at this and think, 'when is my work ever completed, I have no time to rest!' Others will look at empty days struggling with infirmity, illness or loneliness and wish they had a bit more they were able to do. There are of course many other shades in-between these poles where real rest is hard to find for all sorts of reasons.

Nevertheless it is holy to rest, it is good for our minds, bodies and souls to switch off from whatever 'normal' life is for us for a moment or two. So in these summer days I encourage you to find a pattern of regular rest that works for you; perhaps a gentle walk in Lot Meadow, invite someone round for a restful cup of tea, or escape into another world with a novel.

St Andrew's church has stood for centuries as a place to find quietness, peace and rest. It is open every day during daylight hours, so step into its cool interior, sit for a moment and briefly experience a taste of God's perfect rest.

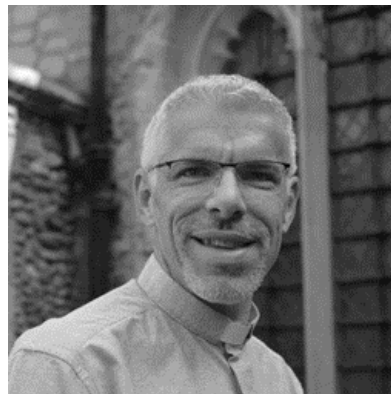
God bless,

Barnabas



THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

REVEREND BARNABAS LEEKE On July 29th Barnabas was ordained as a priest, able to administer the sacraments. We congratulate him and continue to enjoy his ministry as our Curate.



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**OUR NEW VICAR:** all being well, shortlisting will take place in August with interviewing in September. The candidate who is, we hope, chosen then has to give 3 months notice

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WEDDING: On Sunday August 4th, Lucy Booth and Charles McRobie are to be married in St. Andrew's. We wish them a great day and a long and happy marriage.

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**SEPTEMBER 7th**

**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.

**OASIS HOLIDAY CLUB**

Oasis Holiday Club returns to Comberton for its twelfth anniversary:

- Friendship, chatting and relaxation
- Activities for all interests and abilities
- Interesting presentations and talks
  - Short time of Christian worship
  - Shared meal

*Programme Thursday, 29th August*

The day starts with coffee or tea and a quiz, followed by a choice of activities, ranging from the relaxing to the mildly energetic.

This is then followed by an entertaining, illustrated talk on our climate and the way it is changing. After lunch there will be more activities and then a short time of Christian worship and a cream tea.

More details and a booking form at <https://www.c-b-c.org.uk/oasis>

**Toft Parish Council**

Clerk: Ben Stoehr (clerk@tpc.toft.org.uk)

30 West Drive

Highfields Caldecote

Cambridge, CB23 7NY Tel: 01954 210241

*The Council is your locally elected Council at the first tier of local*

| Councillors       | Phone        | E-mail                          |
|-------------------|--------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Chairman:</i>  |              |                                 |
| 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      |
| Sarah Tebbit      |              | sarahilic01@gmail.com           |
| Christine Watson. | 07730 941946 | cllr.watson@tpc.toft.org.uk     |

*Chairman:*

*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.. The Council's website can be found at: <https://tpc.toft.org.uk>*

*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 2nd September 2024 at 7.00pm in The People's Hall. All Welcome.**

The Council met on Monday 1st July 2024 in the People's Hall.

The Council has received several complaints about overhanging hedges making access to footpaths and pavements difficult and the PC urges residents to ensure that they cut their hedges to ensure footpaths and pavements are clear. This is particularly important where overhanging hedges cause a safety problem due to forcing pedestrians onto the road or restricting driver visibility.

A resident raised a concern about the disturbance caused by sounds emanating from the new musical instruments installed on the rec. It was agreed that the PC would continue to monitor it.

A resident praised the success of the D Day celebrations on Lot meadow and said he felt there was potential to make more use of the meadow for community events.

Apologies were received from Cllr Derbyshire who was out of the parish.

There were no declarations of interest or written requests for dispensations.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Regarding the Queen's Platinum Jubilee area, it was agreed that Cllr. Yeadon would make an application for funding from the SCDC Green Spaces Shared Prosperity Fund to support further improvements.

It was agreed that Cllr Harris would review the grass cutting contract and clarify exactly what is required of the contractors. This would be in readiness for when the current contract finishes

and the work will go out to bid. It was generally acknowledged that because of the withdrawal of the previous contractors there had been a lot of confusion over what should be cut and when.

Cllr Miles reported that she had had a favourable response from Rev. Barnabas and the Comberton Men's Shed group regarding the creation of two new signs for Lot Meadow. They are planning to research what wood is best suited for this project and the costs involved and get back to Cllr Miles. Rev. Barnabus had pointed out that the group only meets once a week so there may be a delay in producing this but it was felt by the Parish Council that, as long as costs were acceptable, it would be preferable for the Men's Shed to produce the signage rather than a commercial organisation.

There was no bird box report.

The new Parish Council noticeboards for Toft green and the Birdlings have now been delivered and it is hoped that they will be installed in the next week or so.

Regarding the request from a resident for speed reduction between Toft and Comberton, it was agreed that it would be better to raise this issue following the outcome of Toft's bid for 20mph due in September.

The finance report was considered and the payment of bills approved with the exception of Buchan's, the previous grass cutting contractors, as the number of cuts quoted in their invoice was in dispute. It was agreed that Cllr Yeadon could go ahead with the payment already approved for the installation of the noticeboards.

Regarding the play area, there was no play inspection report to consider and Cllr Watson informed the meeting that the new toddler's climbing frame was, hopefully, due to be installed at the beginning of August. Cllr Yeadon informed the meeting that the new mallets which had been ordered for the drums had now been installed.

It was noted that no criticism had emerged from the Internal Auditor's Report regarding the parish council's financial management and it was agreed that the same firm would be used again for the coming year.

There was one planning application tabled for which the parish council had no comment.

Under village maintenance, Cllr Yeadon reported that the Police are continuing to investigate the vandalism of the bus shelter.

It was agreed that a request should be placed in the Calendar for volunteers to help install two or three rustic steps by the bench at the western end of the allotments.

Cllr. Miles reported that permission has been granted by the landowner for contractors to begin work on removing the willow tree that has fallen by the bridge over Bourn brook and it is hoped that this work, along with the repairing of the kissing gate leading to the bridge, will take place shortly.

Complaints have been received regarding the overgrown hedge opposite the village green which causes pedestrian to walk in the road on a dangerous bend. Cllr Miles is to report this to Highways.

It was noted that all action regarding EWR has been halted due to the election.

The meeting finished with special thanks to Sharon Chandler for taking on the responsibility of clearing the footpath through the allotments which is now open for walkers; Cynan and Tricia Ellis-Evans for improving the footpath into Lot Meadow and everyone involved in organising the very successful D-Day Commemoration event.



## TOFT SHOP

How often do you use your shop? Daily (probably for your newspaper), weekly because you have forgotten something, NEVER! The recent robbery should have brought to all our notice this most valuable of village assets. On a Friday night, Justin and Jenny lost £500 pounds from the till, £1000 worth of biltong

and £800 of cigarettes. Thanks to the diligence of 'upstairs' that was all - well not quite - there was a smashed door and its frame, and the loss of Saturday trading, the best in the week and the insurance will not cover extra security and the chances of the thieves being caught is very slim.

However, tragic though all this is, what I am really writing about is the Shop itself and the enormous service Justin and Jenny give to this village, and how little we the villagers give back. At the very least their presence and the Post office add to the value of your house - under amenities - but it is all the rest - including using our teenagers to learn how to work regular hours and be reliable and be well-paid for it, advertising village events, delivering goods to those who cannot get to the shop, donating to village things like the Big Breakfast, saving us time and energy by having papers, a post office etc. He tells me he has lost various Post Office services because we have not used them enough; we know the new Co-op by the college has taken some trade but actually it is us who have failed to drop in for goods; probably



not a full shop as we would have done in the 1960's when this photo was taken but a regular purchase of croissants on Sunday, South African goods, birthday cards, fruit, stamps (instead of online!) would all help.

We have had a shop since at least 1790 (we have the records) and probably longer. If the answer to the question at the start is NEVER, please make it at least once a week, preferably more.

Ann Mitchell



### Toft Social Club News

It's the hugely popular **Club Barbeque** on Saturday 3rd August – doors open at 6pm. Tickets on sale at the Club now.

**Film Night** is on Saturday 17th and we will be showing 2021 film "The Colour Room", starring Phoebe Dynevor – the film follows the journey of a determined, working class woman, Clarice Cliff, as she breaks the glass ceiling and revolutionises the workplace in the 20th century. Bursting at the seams with ideas for colours and shapes, Clarice takes more and more dangerous risks - but she manages to stay one step ahead of the workhouse and impress the eccentric factory owner on the way with her talent and innovation. Doors open at 7:30pm and the film starts at 8:00pm.

September 6th-8th sees the return of our legendary **Beer and Cider Festival** – our 18th! Expect all the usual fayre – see the website for details.

**Toft Art** takes a break in August, **Toft Quiz** on Thursday 8th, **Carpet Bowls** on Friday 9th, **Open Mic / Music Night** on Saturday 10th, **Table Tennis** on Thursday 16th and **Toft Bingo** on Thursday 29th.

We are open on every Thursday and Friday, and most Saturdays – see the website (<https://toftsocialclub.org.uk>) for full details. To keep up to date why not sign up for our weekly "What's On" emails via the website: <https://toftsocialclub.org.uk/mailling.php> or keep in touch via our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ToftSocial>



The TPH Committee is seeking a **new secretary**, as of September 2024. This trustee role involves general record keeping, minute taking every one or two months, production of an agenda and minutes and distribution via email and organising the annual AGM. Records have been transferred to a PC and are available on a memory stick. Access to and ability to use Microsoft Office products would be useful.

Please address applications to The Secretary, Toft Peoples Hall Committee, at [gifford.graham@gmail.com](mailto:gifford.graham@gmail.com)

Toft Peoples Hall management trustees are governed by the trust deed (of 1964) and must comply with Charity Laws. This means that they must:

Run the hall as per the trust deed by having the correct number on their committee, their AGM in April, correctly managing their finances etc. It is really important for Toft Parish Council to ensure that all of the management trustees of Toft Peoples Hall have a copy of the Conveyance and Trust Deed dated 1964 as the management committee need to adhere to the trust deed whilst managing the hall.

Managing trustees should not accept office onto the committee until and unless they understand their roles and responsibilities (which are clearly set out in the trust deed).



# village vicars and village history

Not least among the items of historical significance in our village church of Saint Andrew is the list of rectors and other clergy who have served the parish since the Middle Ages. The list hangs just inside the main door on the south wall, in the area sometimes called the narthex.

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1349 John de Merton  
 1354 Thomas de Beeston  
 1355 Gilbert de Ashton  
 1375 Richard Fitz-Symond  
 1378 William de Collurslay  
 1381 Thomas Margerys  
 1405 John Lolworth  
 1429 Robert Halifax  
 1441 Nicholas Stanton  
       John Ingham  
 1443 John Grobham  
 1471 Robert Peest  
 1487 Richard Stondon  
 1500 Martin Medcalfe

The list starts in 1349, when Edward III was on the English throne. Edward was only 14 when he was crowned.

The early list is dominated by French-sounding names: John de Merton, Thomas de Beeston, Gilbert de Ashton, Richard Fitz-Symond. These names are a reminder of the fact that ties between England and France since the Norman conquest were still strong but often marked by wars and disputes over lands and inheritance, most famously the Hundred Years War.

By the time we reach the fifth name on the list William de Collurslay), Edward III had died and been succeeded by his 10-year-old grandson, who became Richard II.

By the 15th century, the names have a more Anglo-Saxon ring to them (Ingham, Grobham).

We know little about the earliest figures, but as the centuries roll on, we get glimpses of the work the clergy were engaged in. Thomas Metcalfe, recorded as rector in 1715, has left us a document in which he outlined problems collecting his tythes. Other clergy have left us notes and scribbles in the parish records of births, marriages and deaths which reveal interesting features of Toft life during those times.

Two of the last names on the list, Barbara Preece and Michael Reiss, still serve Toft and are known to us all. They represent present-day chapters in the long history of church and village.

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## Comberton Library

[your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Tel: 0345 045 5225

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

Hurrah! On Saturday 13th July Comberton Library Summer Reading Challenge begins.

If you are new to Comberton or the surrounding area, membership is free. If you believe your library card has expired, come along, and re-join; there is no cost. We look forward to seeing you! There is also free access to books, ebooks, eAudiobooks, library computers, and other resources.

### Coming Up!

Mobile Library will be outside Comberton Library from

10.30am – 12.30pm on Monday 15th July. Come, browse, and see what a mobile library looks like, “bigger on the inside”.

*Saturday July 13th* – Saturday 10th August start signing up for the Summer Reading Challenge, Marvellous Makers. Plus, SRC Treasure Hunt in the library.

Green! Big! Outdoor Games! Friday 26th July. Outside the library between 3pm – 5pm.

*Monday 29th July* at 11.00am – 12.30pm Craft activity CD Clock and Fan making. It is £2 per child and to be accompanied by an adult. Book in the library or by email

[Cambourne.Referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.Referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Drop-in and enjoy a selection of board games on Friday 16th August 3 – 5pm. Free event!

Marvellous Makers, Creative Arts – Summer Reading Challenge free event. Wednesday 21st August at 10.30am – 12.30pm.

Celebrating Summer Reading Awards Ceremony, Friday 13th September at 4-5pm with refreshments.

### Weekly activities

*Knit and Natter group* continue to meet in Comberton Library, 10.30am – 11.30am July dates: 22nd. August dates: 5th and 19th. September dates: 2nd and 16th Then every other Monday onwards. Newcomers are always very welcome.

Come sing along and have fun, *Rhymetime*, 10.30am – 11.00am (except during the school holidays) for children between 0 to 4 years of age. July 15th. September dates: 9th and 23rd. Then every other week. Also, come and join the First Steps Library Club, aged 0 – 4 years. Free event.

It's *Lego Time* with Duplo. Every Saturday, have fun building and developing your imagination. All children are accompanied by an adult. This is a free event.

Opening hours (excluding bank holidays etc.)

Monday 10am – 1pm

Wednesday 10am – 1pm and 2.30pm – 5.30pm

Friday 2.30pm – 5.30pm

Saturday 10am – 1pm



## Update from 1st Toft Brownies



The Brownies have been busy this term completing an outdoor and a photography challenge badge. The first few weeks were spent practicing Maypole Dancing ready to show the Village how to do it over the May Bank holiday weekend. We have made a photo album to record our adventures; made frame cards for Father's Day and experimented with making a pinhole camera. Outside the Hall, we enjoyed catching the bus to look for Giraffes around Cambridge; made dens at Lot Meadow; dropped Positive Pebbles around the Village and had our annual Sausage Sizzle at Lammas Land.



**However**, we desperately need **additional volunteers** to help run the Unit including someone to take over the **Treasurer** role. If you, or someone you know, would like to gain leadership skills, improve communication skills or gain event planning experience whilst ensuring the girls (aged 7-10 years old) gain important skills for their future in a fun and friendly environment, then please register your interest on the Girlguiding website:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-to-volunteer/>

or feel free to speak to Ann Mitchell (262516) if you just want to know more

## TOFT OPEN GARDENS 2024

Sunday 23 June was a busy day in Toft. In the morning there was the Tractor Run and then Open Gardens and Cream Teas in the afternoon.

The gardens and cream teas raised an amazing total of **£1923.63** for the NGS which is more than double that of last year. Thank you to all who came and special thanks to those who helped in the People's Hall with the cream teas and those who made scones and jam.





**Wildlife Trust for  
Beds, Cambs  
& Northants**

**Wildlife Trust BCN West Cambridgeshire  
Hundreds Update: Aug 2024**

Thank you for your patience regarding the extended closures of nearby Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants' woodland sites this year. This has been because of the record-breaking wet weather over the winter and spring, and the subsequent risk to sensitive wildlife around the paths. At the time of writing (early July), there are still areas of Hardwick Wood and Hayley Wood which are very muddy or even under water.

We often get asked why we don't surface the paths to enable year-round access. One reason is that the (wider) paths are a habitat in their own right and, if they were covered, we would be damaging the thing we are trying to protect. Many common surfaces would actually make things worse, for example people often suggest wood chip which actually breaks down quickly and ends up becoming quite slippery. Other options would cause more damage to install.

Climate change is only going to make conditions more difficult in our woodlands as winters become wetter. The path situation is exacerbated by increasing visitor numbers contributing to compaction, de-vegetation, and churning of the soil. The paths are especially vulnerable when they are wet. Please consider reducing your impact by respecting closures, and walking elsewhere when paths are muddy.

In Waresley and Gransden Woods we are working on restoring the main ride in sections. The first section has been reprofiled, with the compacted areas improved to enable water to drain better. A further section will be closed off this year to enable more work to be done. It will remain closed whilst the vegetation recovers which may take over 18 months.

Our annual autumn closures of Gamlingay and Waresley and Gransden Woods are for the safety of visitors when forestry machinery is working in the woods. Last year, contractors were unable to finish working in Waresley and Gransden Woods due to interruptions by trespassers. This meant brush was left on the ground that would otherwise have been removed. Please check our sites are open before visiting.

Our events are a good way to find out more about the Wildlife Trust BCN. Coming up you can join a night walk in Cambourne on 24th August, and at Waresley and Gransden Woods on 20th Sept.

Website: [www.wildlifebcn.org](http://www.wildlifebcn.org)

Email: [cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org)

Wildlife Trust BCN main 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, and Cambourne Nature Reserve.

### NSPCC Cambridgeshire Branch

#### ENGLISH CREAM TEA CELEBRATION - WEDNESDAY 14TH AUGUST 2.00 P.M. AT THE GONVILLE HOTEL - IN AID OF THE NSPCC

You are invited to join us for an English Afternoon Tea event in the private gardens of the Gonville Hotel, Gonville Place, Cambridge - with an entertaining speaker, Jane Malyon of the English Cream Tea Company, talking about the secrets of quintessential English afternoon tea etiquette! Sandwiches, assorted cakes and freshly made scones with clotted cream and jam/strawberries will be served along with fine leaf teas. £26 per person. There will also be a themed luxury hamper raffle. If you are interested in coming to this event, please email Mrs Anne Newman: [nspcc.cambsdc@gmail.com](mailto:nspcc.cambsdc@gmail.com) and let her know if there are any special dietary requirements. Groups of friends and families are most welcome to attend! Cheques payable to 'NSPCC Charity' and post to Mrs Anne Newman, 49 Warburton House, Vawser Way, Cambridge CB2 0AS. Electronic payments: Nat West Bank, Sort Code 60-00-01, Account NSPCC, Account No 48807591. (Please reference your payment: TEA plus your surname & initial.) All funds raised will go towards the NSPCCs work in this region to support and help children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect.

#### AN INVITATION TO JOIN US!

This friendly lunchtime dining club welcomes both men and women and meets 5 times a year on selected Mondays for a delicious 2 course meal and coffee at the Gonville Hotel in Cambridge. This year's speakers include the Great Ormond Street Hospital Ambassador (23rd September) and Simon de Laat of East Anglian Air Ambulance (25th November) with more events with interesting speakers next year. The meal costs £26 and if you wanted to try the dining club out before joining, you would be most welcome to join us for a lunch event with a friend! Membership is £30 which is a direct donation to the charity. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Mrs Anne Newman: [nspcc.cambsdc@gmail.com](mailto:nspcc.cambsdc@gmail.com). We have quite a few members from Cambridge and the surrounding villages and would love to have more join us! All funds raised will go towards the NSPCCs work in this region to support and help children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect.

#### VOLUNTEER APPEAL - CAN YOU HELP US FOR THIS EVENT?

Volunteers urgently wanted to help with the **Charity Golf Competition** in aid of the NSPCC at Cambridge Country Club in Bourn on Thursday 29th August 2024.

We need some volunteers to help serve half way house refreshments at this event from 9a.m. to 12.00 noon. If you can spare the time and can help, could you get in touch with Kate Armstrong. Email: [cfm.armstrong@gmail.com](mailto:cfm.armstrong@gmail.com) or Telephone: 07926 359098 Also, if you are happy to help with the admin side of this fundraising event and would like to join the golf event team for future events, do please contact us. Funds raised go towards NSPCC projects in this region, such as the NSPCC Schools Service 'Speak out! Stay Safe!' campaign in our primary and secondary schools to help support children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect.

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

The Parish Council is seeking some volunteers to help build a couple of wooden steps which will enable easier access to the bench situated on a rise at the western end of the allotments.

If you can help, please contact Martin Yeadon on

T:01223 263663





## Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

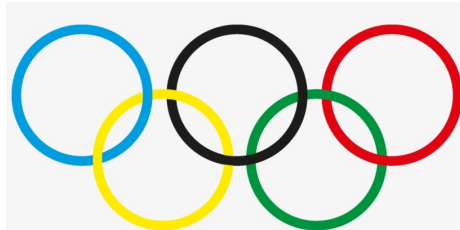
### Calling all furry friends and their owners!

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity are inviting you to grab your lead and walk 90km this September for Hospice Care. **Lead On - The Ultimate Dog Walking Challenge** - is back! You have from 1 – 30 September, to see how far you can walk and how much you can raise to support patients and their loved ones in Cambridgeshire. It is free to register, and once you raise £30, your dog will receive their Arthur Rank Hospice Charity bandana, which they can proudly wear on their sponsored walks.

Sign up now at [arhc.org.uk/leadon](http://arhc.org.uk/leadon) or telephone 01223 675888.

### Your VIP invite to Cambridge Colleges!

The Bridge of Sighs and Darwin Garden are just a couple of sights to be seen on this year's **Bridge the Gap Charity Walk**, raising funds for people supported by Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and Romsey Mill. Taking place on Sunday 15 September this family friendly walk is one not to be missed, with six Cambridge Colleges on route. Visit [arhc.org.uk/btg](http://arhc.org.uk/btg) or telephone 01223 675888 to sign up now.



### Fitzwilliam Museum

**W**ith this year's Olympic Games just around the corner, the Museum is looking back one hundred years to the last Paris Olympics. A century on, explore how the modernist culture of this vibrant city shaped the future of sport and the Olympic Games we know and love today.

Through art, fashion, film, photography and more, *Paris 1924: Sport, Art and the Body* looks back on the pivotal moment when traditions and trailblazers collided, fusing the Olympics' classical legacy with the European avant-garde spirit. It was a breakthrough that forever changed attitudes towards sporting achievement and celebrity, as well as body image and identity, nationalism and class, race and gender.

The exhibition also highlights the extraordinary achievements of the Cambridge University students who won no fewer than 11 Olympic medals for Great Britain that year, including the sprinter Harold Abrahams whose story inspired the award-winning film 'Chariots of Fire'.

**Wheelie Bin Collections For August**

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

**Black Bin:**Thurs 8th Aug  
Thurs 22nd Aug**Blue/Green Bin**Thurs 1st Aug  
Thurs 15th Aug  
Thurs 29th 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 2024 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:

**calendaradsoft@gmail.com** to discuss costs and their requirements.

**✂ USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS**

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 Anglian Water (for sewage): 08457 145 145  
 (Emergency number for burst water pipes: 01223 706050)  
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 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

As you have perhaps heard, **Ron Gouldstone** of School Lane, long-time contributor of photographs to *The Calendar*, died a few weeks ago. By his own wish he had a direct cremation. A wake to celebrate his life is planned for **Friday, 2nd August** at 12.30 at the People's Hall, to which all are welcome. A full obituary next month.

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On a personal note (*writes the editor*) I would like to add my commiserations to the many already expressed. As noted above, Ron was a long-time contributor to *The Calendar* and his many photo-montages provide a fascinating insight into village life, activities and celebrations over many years.

Future historians will be indebted to him and current friends will miss him hugely. Unfailingly prompt, helpful, knowledgeable and courteous, his help to me over what is now decades will be border-line impossible to replicate.

R.I.P., Ron

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 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 Post: 33 Egremont Road, Hardwick, Cambridge CB23 7XR Telephone: 01954 211346

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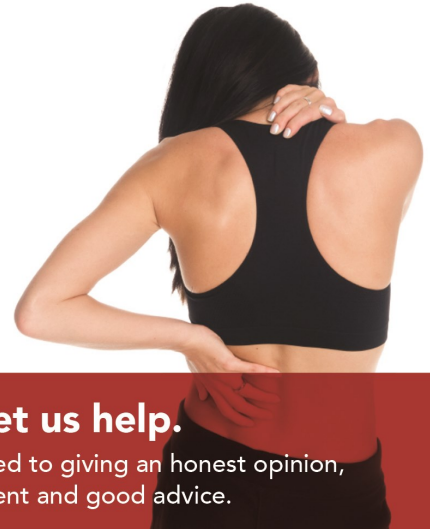
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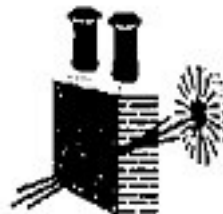
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