



Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

July 2023



EDITORIAL

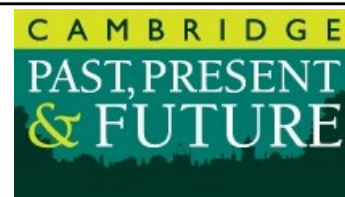
I was in a branch of Waitrose the other day (yeah - I know, but the queue at the nearest Aldi was miles long and I only wanted a couple of things) and I noticed they'd ditched most of their old-style check-outs in favour of the new, super-duper self-service devices. I saw three shoppers, one after the other, fail to get anywhere with them and hang around waiting till a kindly employee happened along to put them out of their misery - and even he struggled a bit. The first was a dodderly-looking old gent with 'loser' written all over him. But once they'd sorted me out, next up was a young, happening sort of guy who looked every-inch a geek go-getter. Fashionably dome-boned, nascent beard, ears stuffed with techy-looking things, a belt from which depended everything bar a personal defibrillator - what could possibly go wrong? Whatever it was, it soon did, because he was soon deep in frustrated converse with the in-person help-desk during which the phrase 'I'm just trying to buy my ***** lunch!' recurred with some frequency.

While I watched contender number three, a harassed young Mum trying to supervise a couple of hyper-active toddlers at the same time and quickly foot-faulting as the computer said 'no' yet again, I began to wonder: Was this whole performance actually benefitting anyone, at all? I assume these things cost plenty of money and that's before you add in the cost of employing Lord knows how many people to stand around waiting for things to go wrong (to be fair, it's not usually a long wait, but still...) . And then there's the time. I estimated that a half-awake human check-out operator could have probably served at least half-a-dozen people with similar, small purchases in the time it took for the three of us to worm our way through this techno-maze. Meanwhile, the shop's reputation is plummeting and the internet is filling up with 'Guess what just happened to me again in Tesco's...' type messages. It's not helped by the fact that all you can do as you wait for someone to take pity on you is read a wall-full of posters telling you how much they value your business and how kind they've been to their chickens and carrots just lately.

You'd have to assume that someone, somewhere, has performed what they like to call 'due diligence' on this change, but maybe they haven't. Maybe, the whole directorial board has just been hypnotised by techno-spiel and the allure of the new. After all, we all do it in our private lives...

Look!! The new i-phone!!! It's bigger!!!!
Look!! The new, new i-phone!!! It's smaller!!!!
Look!! The very latest i-phone!!! OK, it's the size of a bread board, but just buy it - it's new!!!!

Ah, well. As someone once pointed out: We now have, at the press of a button, the sum total of the world's knowledge available to us. We use that button for looking at funny pictures of cats. And who knows - maybe we've got the right idea? After all, giggling at other people's snaps might not be that ground-breaking but it must be better for you than swearing at a machine.



Route announced for East West Railway

A new section of railway is proposed to be built from Bedford to Cambridge to help connect more people to the new jobs being created in Cambridge. It was first proposed that this would follow the route of the old Varsity Line, however groups like Cambridge Past, Present & Future pointed out that this would damage places that were important for nature, landscape and heritage and would not serve any communities along the route. We argued that a route via Cambourne would serve that growing new town and be less harmful, and we were pleased that East West Rail agreed. Along with others, we also pointed out that if the route from Cambourne entered Cambridge from the north then it would be less damaging and had the potential to serve the growing communities in that area, rather than entering Cambridge from the south. So, we have been very frustrated by their recent announcement that the northern option would be cheaper and less environmentally damaging than the southern option. Nevertheless, they still plan to route the railway to the south because it would better serve the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. A decision made without ever asking whether people might prefer the new railway to arrive from the north.

The East West Rail announcement also raises questions as to why our local councils are still planning to spend £200m to build a new bus road between Cambourne and Cambridge, when there will be a train service in future. Especially when that bus road will destroy 1 mile of wildlife habitats including Coton orchard. This is one of the arguments that we will be making at a public inquiry later this year,

Please visit: <https://www.cambridgeppf.org/cambourne-cambridge-busway> to support our Fighting Fund to Save the Coton Green Corridor.

DIARY DATES

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club]. We did not have sufficient support for the village outing to Woburn so with regret, this has been cancelled. The cost of a coach, and entrance fees make such an expedition very expensive, so we completely understand why people feel unable to go.

The July meeting for the Club is therefore a car trip to Jordan's Mill, nr Biggleswade on Wednesday 12th July.

Sewing, Knit and Natter

Our next meeting will be Wednesday July 26th in the Methodist Chapel, 10.30 -12.30. There will be no meeting in August.

The Parish Council

The Council next meets on Monday 3rd July, 7.00pm in The People's Hall. All Welcome.

No 18 Bus Service

The current time-table can be downloaded from this link: <https://www.go-whippet.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/202303-20-18-timetable.pdf>

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 July* 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
– Rev Priscilla Slusar11.00am Holy Communion, Methodist
Church – Revd. Dr Michael Wilson*9th July* 11.00am Holy Communion St.
Andrew's – Revd David Newton with
Revd Barnabas Leeke*16th July* 8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
– Rev Prof Michael Reiss11.00am Morning Worship, Methodist
Church – Mrs Cathy Michell*23rd July* 11.00am Holy Communion, St.
Andrew's, Revd Priscilla Slusar*30th July* 10.30am Lordsbridge Holy
Communion at Barton – Revd Claire
RobertsonThere 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](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/899215191)Zoom services available at 11.00am
MEETING ID: 823 1147 3640**J**uly 2023

I'm thinking a lot about slowing down at the moment. For, it seems to me that much that is askew in our culture today has something to do with speed. We are a people fairly fixated on speed. Those days of playing snake whilst waiting for dial up internet to load up are long gone.

But whilst I am not going to complain about fibre broadband, there is something about our desire for things to move quickly that does not support human and the planet's well-being.

We think about fast fashion, or even (I heard on the radio) about fast furniture, and the vast quantities of waste that such industries produce. 10 millions tonnes of furniture waste comes out of the EU each year. We might also think about fast finance.

We now live in a world in which \$7.5 trillion is traded on the currency markets each day – about 1/12th of the global GDP. Moving faster means making more money (or losing less).

Our current environmental crisis is no part caused by our need for speed. Fast finance and profit, fast production and consumption, fast extraction and fast disposal. What might it mean for us to all slow down a bit? It might help save our planet, it might help save us too.

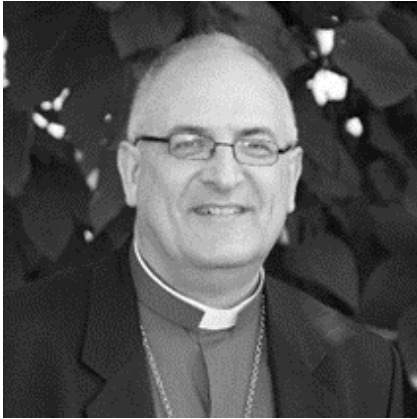
*- David Newton***Sewing, Knit and Natter.**

Our next meeting will be Wednesday
July 26th in the Methodist Chapel,
10.30 -12.30. There will be no
meeting in August



THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

Revd Barnabas Leeke will be ordained on 1st July and will begin his curacy in the Lordsbridge Team on 2nd July. He will be living in Coton with his wife and daughter and will be partnered with David Newton so we will see him in Toft.



Bishop Stephen is to leave the Diocese this month to become Bishop of Lincoln. His final service will be on 16th July at 4.30. He has been in the Diocese for 16 years and will be greatly missed. Bishop Dagmar of Huntingdon will be looking after the Diocese of Ely until a new Bishop is found.

ORGANIST Sadly we have said goodbye to Emma Cooper who has been playing the organ regularly for us but who is moving away from Toft. We wish her well in her new job BUT we are now very short of musical accompaniment for our 11.00am services. Hymns do not have to be accompanied by an organ! A piano, A flute, a harp, a recorder, a key board.... **Is there anyone who would like to come and play occasionally for us – say once a month or every couple of months.** Please contact Revd David Newton or Ann Mitchell or John Quenby

(665654. 262516, 263949)

KEEP THE DATE—SEPTEMBER 2nd

AUTUMN FAYRE in the churchyard 10.30 – 1.00pm

Following last year's event, mixture much as before.



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, hand-made articles and books will be for sale

There will be children's activities, and stalls and a raffle and bottle stall

A flyer will be delivered mid-August with more details, offers of help gratefully received to Ann Mitchell (262516) or John Quenby (263949) or any member of PCC

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
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Chairman:

Martin Yeadon	263663	cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Emma Darbyshire	07763 463234	cllr.darbyshire@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Elaine Miles	262255	cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Stephen Collinson	07521 912734	
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Christine Watson. Rebecca Harris	07730 941946 07796 176 333	njharris262@gmail.com
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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. 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: Monday 3rd July, 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. Darbyshire and Cllr. Harris who were both out of the Parish.

There were no declarations of interest.

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

We had been advised that Natalie Lambert from Cambridge Nature Network would come to talk to us about the Natural Cambridgeshire Recovery Toolkit but this did not happen.

The draft Environmental Policy drawn up by Cllr. Collinson was approved.

It was agreed that posts with reflectors, between 12 and 18 inches high, were to be purchased for the Green with a limit of £100 on the cost.

The Parish Council is to keep in mind the possibility of an electric car charger in the village but in the meantime explore the possibility of Comberton Village College opening up the usage of theirs to the general public.

It was agreed that the generous donation from a member of the parish is to be spent on a new noticeboard for the Birdlings. It was also agreed that the Chair is to purchase a Coronation Commemorative plate for the Chair of the Coronation organising committee.

The proposal for the replacement toddler climbing equipment was agreed.

Due to the absence of Cllr. Darbyshire, the proposals for speed reduction measures will be considered at the next meeting.

Cllr. Collinson proposed that the speed camera in School Lane should be left where it is and the angle adjusted to better capture cars which are speeding.

The proposal for a new footpath between Toft and the Birdlings has been revised and approved and will be sent to the landowner.

There has been some interest in what is happening to the plot at the end of Brookside. Several people had raised the issue with the Parish Council. Our chair decided to have a chat with the owner to understand what he had planned. This is his report:

The landowner recently bought the plot of land. He was interested because he was a local man who had fond memories of walking through the adjacent fields as a child and he was keen to create an open space/garden for his family and himself. His intention is to grow some vegetables and to have some play space for his children. He fully understands that he cannot build on the plot and is aware that the area does flood on occasions. He was friendly and very forthcoming in explaining his plans for the area which I think we need to consider as being his garden. Obviously, what he is doing is a bit unusual but I hope this note will ease any concerns folks may have and he will be encouraged in his endeavours.

The finance report was considered and approved.

There was nothing to report regarding the play inspection report other than checking whether the bolts on the Ladybird equipment can be tightened further and unwinding the chains on a piece of equipment. Cllr. Watson reported that again there was a considerable amount of litter which she has removed.

There were no matters that were considered of risk or any health and safety issues.

It was noted that Gail Stoeher, the current clerk to the Parish Council, is stepping down pro tem and it was unanimously agreed that Ben Stoeher, who is fully qualified for the role, should take over in the meantime.

There were no planning applications nor tree works to be considered.

Regarding village maintenance, Cllr. Yeadon is awaiting news from the energy company regarding the light in the bus shelter which currently is on 24hrs.

There was nothing to report on highways, Toft People's Hall nor footpaths. The defibrillator is in good working order and Cllr. Watson is awaiting a response from the British Heart Foundation on the date of a training session.

Regarding EWR, Cllr Yeadon reported that EWR had indicated their preferred route and the results of the consultation. The main point regarding Toft is the route will go between Toft and Comberton as expected. There is more explanation about why the northern route was not being proposed due to the desire to arrive at Cambridge South station. There are no details about bridges, embankments etc included in the report. They expect the next consultation to be mid 2024, when there should more details.

Following the proposal at the last Parish Council meeting to support nature in Toft Wood, Cllr. Miles contacted the Woodland Trust, who manage the wood on our behalf, to enquire whether they would object to our putting up bird / bat boxes, insect hotels, planting native wild flowers etc. We are very pleased to report that the Woodland Trust would be very happy, in principle, to support such an endeavour and once the Parish Council has identified funding we will be in contact again to see how we can progress this project.

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. Check the Calendar for more information.



TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

It's our **Annual Barbeque** on Saturday 15th! The Club Barbecue is always great fun and an extremely sociable event. Great food, great company and great value at only £8.00! Doors will open at 5pm - we expect food to be served around 6pm. As previous year, we will be serving to the table to minimise queues! Please let us know when buying tickets if you have any seating preferences. Tickets are available from the Club - and when booking do let us know if you have any dietary requirements (ie vegetarian, GF, etc). **Note:** there is no Food on Friday in July.

Film Night is Saturday 22nd, and we will be showing the 2022 film "A Man Called Otto" – starring Tom Hanks, who plays Otto, a grump who's given up on life following the loss of his wife and wants to end it all. When a young family moves in nearby, he meets his match in quick-witted Marisol, leading to a friendship that will turn his world around. 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 trying something new in July – a **Table Tennis evening**. Table tennis is a very popular sport and great exercise, so come along and give it a try – free entry. The first evening will be on 20th July and will become a regular part of our programme of events.

The popular **Open Mic Music Night** is on Saturday 8th, with the usual 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

Toft Art is on Thursday 6th July – new members are always welcome.

Toft Quiz Night is on Thursday 13th July - teams of up to 6, just £1 per team member. Doors open at 8pm.

Carpet Bowls is on Friday 14th July, doors open at 8pm – why not come along and give this family friendly game a go.

The ever popular **Toft Bingo** will be on Thursday 27th July.

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.

Advance notice:

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

Planning is underway for the Toft Beer and Cider Festival – it will be held over the weekend of 1st - 3rd September, and will feature a wide range of beers, ciders and gins, plus food throughout the weekend and music on Saturday evening. We will have full details in the next Calendar, or keep an eye on the website for more details.

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>

Toft Sports 15 July

This year's annual Toft Sports will be held on Saturday 15th July in Manor Cottage Meadow, near St Andrews Church, by kind permission of Mary Paxman.

This tradition, which has been running for over 100 years, offers family fun for all in a relaxed and sociable environment. The event continues into the evening with a BBQ and informal game of rounders.

Programme starts at 2.00pm

1. Ladies v Gents	Costume race	19. Under 4's	Spud & spoon
2. Under 4's	30 mtrs	20. Under 8's	Spud & spoon
3. Under 8's	30 mtrs	21. OPEN	Sack race
4. Under 12's	60 mtrs	22. Under 16's	Sack race
5. Under 16's	60 mtrs	23. Under 12's	Sack race
6. OPEN	85 mtrs	24. Under 8's	Sack race
7. Under 8's	60 mtrs	25. OPEN	Pitch the bale
8. Under 12's	85 mtrs	26. Under 4's	Bean bag throw
9. Under 16's	85 mtrs	27. Under 8's	Bean bag throw
10. OPEN	400 mtrs	28. OPEN	Welly throw
11. Under 16's	400 mtrs	29. Under 16's	Welly throw
12. Under 12's	200 mtrs	30. Under 12's	Welly throw
13. OPEN	Obstacle	31. Under 16's	Skipping
14. Under 16's	Obstacle	32. Under 12's	Skipping
15. Under 12's	Obstacle	33. Under 8's	Skipping
16. Under 8's	Obstacle	34. Under 16's	Slow Cycle Race
17. OPEN	Wheelbarrow	35. OPEN	Walking race
18. OPEN	3 legged	36. OPEN	Round the Village Race

All age group winners (1, 2 and 3) will receive medals. All the trophies will be engraved with the winners' names and kept at Toft Social Club.

Tug of War

(odd house numbers v evens)

Rounders Match

at 6pm followed by

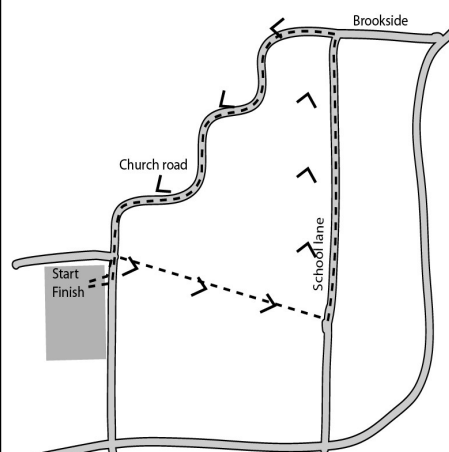
Family BBQ

Bring your own food and we provide the hot charcoal.

Please do not bring glasses into the field as they cause a hazard to sheep.

There will be free squash and water for all competitors.

Route for the Walking Race and the Round the Village Race





**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

**Wildlife Trust BCN West Cambridgeshire Hundreds Update:
July 2023**

Here are some events coming up over the next few months in the West Cambs Hundreds area between Gamlingay, Cambourne and Comberton:

Little Bugs

These are pre-school sessions for toddlers. We go for a short walk, read a story, and do an outdoor activity with a wildlife theme. These sessions are very flexible, you can come to one, or attend regularly. There are six sessions on Friday mornings in the summer holidays, and a further five in the autumn term.

Wild in the Woods

These sessions are for families with primary-aged children. There is a different theme each week, from small mammal trapping, to outdoor art, and bug hunting. We'll adapt with the group, but some activities are not suitable for very young children. These sessions run on Wednesdays during the school holidays

West Cambs 100s Youth Rangers

I am planning to set up a Youth Rangers group which will provide opportunities for secondary-school aged young people to volunteer independently, meet like-minded people, and learn about wildlife and the environment. Sessions will pop-up on different nature reserves between Gamlingay and Trumpington Meadows. The first session is a night walk on Cambourne Nature Reserve on 24th August.

Night walks

On these walks aimed at adults, we'll listen for bats and owls and watch out for other nocturnal wildlife. Cambourne Sat 26th Aug, and Hardwick Wood Friday 22nd Sept

Wilder home-school

I am offering a taster of five outdoor sessions for home-school families in the autumn. These will be on Wednesday mornings in Sept and Oct

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

Events: www.wildlifebcn.org/events

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

Summer Reading Challenge

Ready, Set... Read! Sign up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge at Comberton Library from **Saturday 8th July** (from 10.00 am – 1.00 pm) - it's free to join!

The Challenge is designed to keep children reading all summer, with rewards along the way and a medal and certificate for everyone who finishes. It's fun and relaxing to read, plus the Summer Reading Challenge will help keep reading skills in shape during the long break from school. Don't forget, if you are travelling on holiday you can pack a mobile device with library eBooks, eAudiobooks and eComics to keep your luggage light!

To add to the Summer Reading Challenge fun, on **Monday 14th August** we will be holding an **outside games event** from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm – open to all.

For more information please visit the library or follow this link:

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-&-culture/libraries/library-news/summer-reading-challenge/

Upcoming Comberton Library Events:

Dino Day – a day for all dinosaur lovers! Why not pop along and discover lots of dinosaur games, puzzles and stories on **Friday 11th August** from 2.30 pm to 5.30 pm. You may even get to meet a T Rex too.

Come along and complete some **jigsaw puzzles** with us on **Wednesday 23rd August** from 2.30 pm – 4.30 pm. There will be puzzles suitable for adults and children.

The **Knit and Natter** dates for the summer are: **Monday 10th** and **24th July**, **Monday 7th** and **21st August**, and **Monday 11th** and **25th September** from 10.30 am – 11.30 am. Please come and join us.

Our popular **Rhymetime** sessions will be on **Monday 3rd** and **17th July** from 10.30 am to 11.00 am, and although they will stop for the summer we will restart the sessions again in October.

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.

We look forward to seeing you in the Library very soon!

N.S.P.C.C.

Join us at the Cambridge Dining Club at the Gonville Hotel, Cambridge

Monday 25th September Great Ormond Street Hospital—World Class Care for Seriously Ill Children

Monday 27th November Tim Turner, Senior Valuer, Sworders Fine Arts Auctioneers: Talk on Fake or Forgeries

Monday 26th February Graham Bruce, North East Spain & Pyrenees Geography and Nature Talk

Monday 14th May Judith Large, Rehoming Officer, Shepreth Hedgehog Hospital

This friendly lunchtime dining club welcomes men and women, with their guests, and meets on selected Mondays at the Gonville Hotel in Cambridge. The two course luncheon with coffee is £25 per person.

If you are interested in becoming a member, or attending a luncheon to see if you would like to join, please contact us:

nspcc.cambsdc@gmail.com

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR



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>

Help shape the future of your fire and rescue service

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service is currently preparing to write its plan for 2024/29 and is seeking the views of people across the county, so their thoughts and expectations can be reflected in how it delivers its services in the future.

The Service has put together a set of questions that will provide valuable information about what residents and business owners in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough expect of their local fire service, as well as gathering their thoughts and views on different risks and situations. This information will be used to help ensure the fire service is targeting its resources in the most effective way.

Here is a link to the survey: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=2-JEORwU2Uu9DaaTK4S8FijFur2VdBKk9-OgHQBmKtUOTJLNUcyUDZNNdc4Qk40NUIMMzIEWEgxMi4u>

The Service would be really grateful if you could please take a few minutes to complete the survey. Anyone who completes the survey and leaves their email address will have the chance to win one of three £50 shopping vouchers.

If you struggle with the form, or would like it translated into another language, then please email pressoffice@cambsfire.gov.uk or call 01480 444500 and ask to speak to one of the Media and Communication team (in office hours).



**CAMBRIDGESHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**

Working together to improve community safety

toft historical society

The TPH and Toft Social Club: Part II

This month we bring you Part II of Marion Read's poem. The first part (see last month's Calendar traced the history of Toft People's Hall (TPH). Part II narrates the creation of the village social club. Marion is a native of Toft and grew up in Mill Lane. She attended school at what is now the TPH.

When the nineties came and went
The time came for refurbishment,
With grants (South Cambs. And Lottery too)
Toft People's Hall looked shiny new.
The perfect place in which to pave
The way for Denis Gould's brainwave.
"Let's build within, a Social Club
Now that we have lost the pub,
The need to quaff and chat is normal".
Hence small committee, quite informal.
Fact-finding missions came about
To nearby clubs to check them out,
Suss rules and licences we hear
And also to check out the beer!
Volunteer staff was suggested
In furniture some funds invested,
A splendid bar, an installation
By Brian Roberts caused elation.
Plenty there to lend a hand
Toft behind it, man to man,
The ladies thought it mighty fine
A genteel place to goss plus wine.
It was obvious at a glance
The Social Club would much enhance
The leisure time of one and all
And all within The People's Hall.
Residents, delighted found
Life membership was just a pound
Refurbishment was dusted, done

Ready for Millennium.
A dozen years success proceeded
Progress dictated changes needed,
Paving, plants, more parking space
Enlargement for a nicer place.
Furnishings and lighting too,
Windows to improve the view
Encouraging more folk within,
Again the villagers pitched in.
The project team, heroes all
Slaved to transform the Club and Hall,
Wrangles, hassles, hair torn out
That's what triumph's all about,
Nick, Richard, Jake, John, Pete, Steve Pugh
At last got plan permission through.
Because it's Toft as you'd expect
Good folk backed this bold project,
Grants and Parish Council money,
Home-made cake sales, jams and honey,
Group events and knitted chicks,
Auctions, Fund-raisers, sale of bricks,
Kind donations great and small
Poured into The People's Hall....
So, here we are it's party time
Let's raise a glass of ale or wine,
And congratulate ourselves
Who grafted just like midnight elves,
Though Jakin's bike shop is long gone
Toft People's haven marches on!!!



The photograph shows the inauguration of the refurbished TPH and the Social Club in November 1999. Senior residents held the ribbon before it was cut. Left to right are Reg Ward, Muriel Peach, Les Read (Marion's father), Clifford Tebbit and Mary Coppin.



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>

Wheelie Bin Collections For July

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

Black Bin:

Weds 5th July

Weds 19th July

Blue/Green Bin

Weds 12th July

Weds 26th July

Notice to Advertisers

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

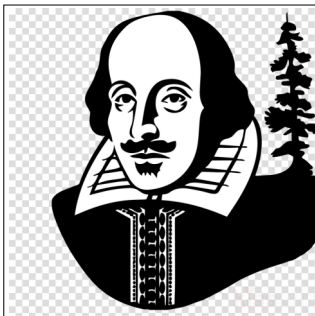
South Cambs District Council: 01954 713 000

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



The annual **Cambridge Shakespeare Festival** is back for its 36th year. The productions themselves are set in various college gardens over the period 10th July to 26th August and

showcase both the Bard's best-known plays as well as a few lesser-famed works. Described as vivid and spectacular, they are performed in full period costume with live Elizabethan music.

Imperceptibly the evening passes from a glorious summer evening to dusk and then to night. The moon rises to provide additional lighting in a way that no theatre could match.

All productions are 'al fresco' and although seating is provided, umbrellas are not! However, even if your performance of choice is completely rained-off, you can simply redeem your tickets at any of the other shows.

These are thoroughly enjoyable, not to say unique, evenings and much recommended. *The Times* says: "No knee-bending to trendy revisionism, but rather a tour-de-force of Elizabethan drama."

If you've yet to discover them, find out more at their website:

<https://cambridgeshakespeare.com/>

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 July** 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