



Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

May 2021



DIARY DATES

MONTHLY

COFFEE MORNING



sadly still on the not yet list! When we do get back to having monthly coffee mornings, which will be fantastic, we will be looking for a new Coffee morning organiser. Not onerous – just asking for volunteers for each month and ensuring the venue is in the Calendar for that month. Arpi Johnson has run this rota for many years and would now like to hand it on to a 'keen' volunteer.

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club]. Still no meetings at present.

Sewing, Knit and Natter is still unable to meet.

The Parish Council - The the next PC meeting is on **4th May 2021** via Zoom. It will be preceded by the **Parish Annual General Meeting** at 7.00 pm. Details will be on the Village web site at least 3 days before the event.

Internet Club Zoom meetings.

Dates for zoom meetings this May are 3rd and 17th. Hope to see you there at 4 pm.

katherine@jameskj.plus.com and jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk

EDITORIAL

Well, it's late Spring and that means Bluebells - or at least, it does for me. I don't know quite why, but I have a soft spot for these enchanting little plants. And, despite having witnessed their rise and all-too-soon fall over many years, the spectacle of a woodland carpet of glowing blue and violet retains its unfailing charm, year after year. It's a bit like that sensation you have on Christmas Eve. However much you tell yourself that tomorrow's just another day, and you've seen it all before, a tiny, ineradicable frisson of anticipation still remains. First port of call is Hardwick Wood where, to be honest, this year's crop is a bit underwhelming. Worth the journey, certainly, but I've seen better. Thence to Eversden Wood. A slightly longer trek, but the bluebells here are usually a cut above, so it's an effort worth making. Except...this year, it isn't. Where once were plants so densely packed you couldn't avoid them wherever you turned and the fragrance hung heady, like ambrosial, olfactory curtains, now there are sparse, patchy clumps of colour - almost taunting reminders of the glorious panoplies of yore.

Now, we devotees of *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* are a clannish lot and the internet is our best friend. So I know this is not just a local phenomenon. All over East Anglia and the South-East, folks are reporting a similar sorry story. So what's going on? Well, the good news is that our tiny cerulean chums do not appear to have been hit with some plant-gobbling equivalent of Covid. Nor is there any suspicion that this is a long-term decline. Instead, it seems possible that this year's poor showing is due to the good old British weather, the same weather that dealt our farmers such a poor hand last Autumn. Because, although Bluebells like a moist environment, they definitely do not like prolonged immersion in water-logged soil. And this is what happened to so many of them during the interminable and heavy rains of Autumn and early Winter last year. So even though these isles are home to well over half the entire world's Bluebells, a huge number of plants simply didn't experience the right conditions to thrive. That's the theory, at least.

And these little plants are quite demanding. It takes up to seven years for a seed to turn into a flowering plant, for example, and if it is disturbed in any way during this period, it has a distressingly high mortality rate. Even though it's against the law to dig up - or even pick - Bluebells, every year at least some of our native supply is carted off by enthusiastic but ignorant admirers or even those who just see a quick buck to be made by selling on the bulbs. And, given that if you so much as tread on a Bluebell, you will bring its seven-year gestation to a terminal halt, then in some ways it's hardly surprising if there's an occasional annual sulk.

Now, the Woodland Trust tells me that the best Bluebells in all the shire can be found in Aversley Wood. I've no idea if that's true and since Aversley Wood is somewhere over towards Sawtry, I've never been there to find out. But I'm determined to get my yearly fix one way or another, so here's the burning question: Does anyone know the way to Sawtry?

Do you have breathing difficulties? Did you know singing can help?

Singing is a great way to improve the way you breathe and get the best from your lung capacity. The Cambridge Singing for Breathing group is meeting online, using Zoom, on Thursday afternoons, 2.30 – 4.00.

Kay Barrett has been leading the group for local community music charity Talking in Tune since May 2016.

She says: You don't need any singing experience to take part. It's all about what it feels like, not what it sounds like. The camaraderie of the group, the guided relaxation, the breathing exercises and the singing are so much appreciated by everyone, and the health benefits transfer over into daily life.

You need to turn off your microphone when we sing together, but that can be very liberating! You simply copy what you hear the leader singing, call and response style. We also make use of multi-track recordings, so we can continue to enjoy rounds and harmonies.

Do I have to pay?

Those who can afford it are invited to give a £3.50 donation each week, but this is not essential – we want everyone to be able to come.

Do I have to come every week?

We know that appointments, sickness, family commitments and such can get in the way! Just come when you can.

I have Long Covid, can I join?

The gentle pace and the breathing exercises and relaxation can be very beneficial, but do check with your doctor or respiratory physio, especially if your symptoms are severe. Do call Kay if you are unsure.

How do I join?

Simply contact Kay at singingforbreathingcambridge@gmail.com or call 07845 726975 for further information and to receive the Zoom link each week.

You can find out more at www.singingforbreathing.wordpress.com

or <https://www.facebook.com/singingforlunghealthcambridge/>

Kay Barrett - April 2021

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: Rev Alison Walker

01223 872862

alison.walker@methodist.org.uk

Stewards:

Diana Tebbit 01223 263557

Stephen Acklam 264055

Mrs Pat Morton 264010

The Church in Toft

Public worship resumed at St. Andrew's, all being well, on Palm Sunday 28th March with an 8.30 BCP and an 11.00am Holy Communion outside service.

SERVICES OF WORSHIP All services remain at St. Andrew's until Sunday 6th June

2nd May 8.30am Holy Communion - Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Morning Worship – Rev Tricia Troughton

9th May 11.00am Morning Worship – Rev Robert Dolman

THURSDAY 13th May ASCENSION DAY

7.30 pm St. Mary's Comberton

16th May 8.30am Holy Communion - Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Holy Communion – Rev Alison Walker

23rd May PENTECOST OUTSIDE

11.00am Morning Worship – Mrs Cathy Michel

For the services OUTSIDE please wrap up well. Chairs will be provided, but if you prefer your own, feel free to bring them with you.

Morning prayer on Wednesdays at 9.15am. This is available on email . 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 will continue at 11.00am every Sunday:

THE MEETING ID: 898 7070 2475 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89870702475>. There is also online audio available.

St Andrew's is open every day if you just want to drop in. For the present the Methodist Church will remain closed.

As our vicars are currently otherwise engaged, it falls to the Editor to fill this space this month. And what better way to do so than to reproduce below the evergreen Serenity Prayer, attributed to the American theologian Reinhold Niebuhr (1892 - 1971), although it may be much older.

Indeed, some have attributed the inspiration for it, at least, to Epictetus, a Greek Stoic philosopher living in the first century A.D. There's no hard evidence for this, but it certainly fits the Stoic mould.

The Serenity Prayer*God grant me the serenity**To accept the things I cannot change;**Courage to change the things I can;**And wisdom to know the difference.**Living one day at a time;**Enjoying one moment at a time;**Accepting hardships as the pathway to peace;**Taking, as He did, this sinful world**As it is, not as I would have it;**Trusting that He will make all things right if I surrender to His Will;**So that I may be reasonably happy in this life**And supremely happy with Him**Forever and ever in the next.**Amen.*

Sewing, Knit and Natter - The ladies of Sewing, Knit and Natter are still not able to hold their monthly meeting but we are all working separately in our homes and looking forwards to normal service being resumed shortly.



THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

If restrictions are lifted as we hope, **on 27th June at 11.00am** we plan to have a celebratory outdoor service with refreshments and the theme of 'the environment'. Please join us that day.

Plans are also in hand for a social event, a cross between Church Fête and Church Open day in early September – so watch this space.

We are sad to report that for the time being **Sunday/Monday Club** will not be re-opening but we are looking at possible plans for the autumn. We are so grateful to Pat Morton who has run our very successful club for a number of years, but the time has come for her to step down.

ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS

At the annual ELECTION OF CHURCHWARDENS Ann Mitchell and John Quenby were re-elected for the coming year to act as Churchwardens for St. Andrew's church.

DAHLIAS

There will be a dahlia sale on Friday, 4th June on the green from 4.00pm – 6.00pm.

If you would rather place an order, then please let us know number of plants required, colour, type (Cactus, decorative, don't mind) and size. We will have the order ready that day, or you can collect, or we can deliver at a convenient time.

Brian and Ann Mitchell ann@mitchella.ndonet.com; 262516; 20 High Street, Toft.



Meridian Primary School

Learning for life – striving for excellence

Greetings Neighbours,

It's so good to be back!
The children have enjoyed playing happily together and the classrooms are full again. The children have settled extremely well and all in all, it has been a



super first few weeks back together.

We were very pleased that our onsite music provision has restarted as well as clubs such as our football and netball clubs.

We have very talented children at Meridian and we enjoyed the annual and this year, online talent show for the children to showcase their many talents. This has always been an enjoyable and proud moment for our school community.

We celebrated Red Nose Day when the children were all back in school in March and we raised a total of £406.11 which was our highest ever total for Comic Relief.

This term we have much to look forward to. We will have a healthy living week in May and our Year 6 children will be working on a project with local companies. Our Year 5 children as well as our Year 6 children (who missed out last year) will be spending a week at Hilltop Outdoor Centre in North Norfolk in June. This is a great week of outdoor education and activities which has been always been a highlight for our children.

We are still assessing our children and monitoring their progress even though the national statutory tests are no longer going ahead this year and we will be meeting parents for parent consultations this term.

May I take this opportunity to thank again all the staff, children, families and governors for all their hard work.

As always, thank you for your support and keep well.

Kind regards,

Mrs C. Etchie - Headteacher



TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

The Social Club held its Annual General Meeting online in March. Richard Fletcher, Chairman, stepped down and left the committee. Richard was involved in the original setting up of the Club, holding the post of Treasurer until late 2008, shortly thereafter taking over as Chairman. The Committee wish to thank Richard for his valuable efforts over the last 21 years.

TSC Online

We have been running events online since April last year, and these have proved quite popular. As lockdown eases and with lighter evenings & better weather coming, we have taken the decision to wind these online activities down.

We will continue to review the situation, and will hold online events as the need arises.

Going forward

As everyone is doubtless aware, the Government's steps toward easing lockdown will potentially allow pubs and clubs to open with people inside from 17th May, subject to the country continuing to meet the necessary infection rates.

The TSC Committee is therefore reviewing when and how we can open the Social Club again, but it is felt that 17th May is too soon for the safety of both our members and volunteers. We are working towards an opening date later in June or possibly July.

As regards how, we are continuing to work on this and will have more news next month. It is unlikely that we will be able to open 4 nights a week immediately, and in the exact same manner as before, but the one thing that the committee is committed to, is opening as soon as it is safe and practical to do so!

Can you help?

The Committee has been under-strength for some time and we are very keen to recruit new members onto the Committee, especially if you are able to help with the regular running of the Club. The Club is for the benefit of the village, and run by volunteers – without your help our future is less certain!

The new post-pandemic norm also means we will need more support in order to open and continue your Club. One of the likely changes this year will be that we need to have more than one bar staff member on duty, so we are looking for volunteers to get involved in running the Club - no matter how little time you can commit, we would love to hear from you. If you feel you can help, in any way, please contact us at help@toftsocialclub.org.uk or by calling 01223 263359.

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

www.toftsocialclub.org.uk

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

Toft Parish Council

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

30 West Drive

Highfields Caldecote

Cambridge, CB23 7NY Tel: 01954 210241

Councillors	Phone	E-mail
<i>Chairman:</i>		
Martin Yeadon	263663	cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk
James Wrycroft	264427	cllr.wrycroft@tpc.toft.org.uk
Elaine Miles	262255	cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk
Tricia Ellis-Evans	263477	cllr.ellis-evans@tpc.toft.org.uk
Andy Tall	07984796273	cllr.tall@tpc.toft.org.uk
Lluis Borrell	264611	cllr.borrell@toft.org.uk
Kaushik Popat		cllr.popat@tpc.toft.org.uk

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: Tuesday 4th May, following the Parish Annual General Meeting at 7.00 pm (via Zoom)

The Parish Council met on 12th April 2021.

A minute's silence was held at the beginning of the meeting to recognise the passing of the Duke of Edinburgh.

Two residents of School Lane attended the meeting to raise their concerns about traffic speeding along School Lane. The PC's response is noted further in this report. Rebecca Neil attended the meeting to explain her role as the Community Liaison Officer at the Wildlife Trust for communities around Hardwick Wood, Waresley Wood, Hayley Wood, Gransden Wood and Gamlingay Wood. She is hoping to arrange community events, guided walks, etc in the future.

The PC considered the issue of speeding on School Lane. It was agreed that the speed monitor would be relocated onto a lamp post in

School Lane to gather some data about the situation. Prior to that the PC needs to get permission to use one of the lamp posts. Cllr Tall is arranging that permission and agreed to relocate the monitor. Once some data is gathered a better case can be made for reducing the speed limit.

The next stage of the consultation for the East West Rail has started.

The PC is keen to gather residents' views on the proposals to incorporate them into the PC's response. Unfortunately the rules relating to holding PC meetings are changing. The PC can no longer hold official Zoom PC meetings after 7th May and it is unlikely that the Hall will be open for some time after that and so it was agreed that the PC would hold a Zoom meeting on 26th April to gather residents' views. It was agreed that the PC would post a notice to all our residents about the meeting. It was also agreed to release the remainder of the commitment of £5k to Cambridge Approaches as they consider whether to progress with the judicial review of the decision by EWR to not fully consider the Cambridge North Approach for the railway.

Cllr Miles agreed to arrange the installation of a few more signs to stop horse and cycle riders from using footpaths around the village. There is considerable damage to the footpaths because this is happening (and it's illegal).

Cllr Miles has now got the newly written and printed Welcome Packs which are given to new residents as they join our community.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held via Zoom on Tuesday 4th May. It was agreed that details of this meeting would also be included in the notice to be delivered to all households.

The PC considered two planning applications.

It was agreed that the notice boards on Comberton Road would be refurbished and that the notice board by the Recreation Ground would be removed.

For the definitive outcomes of the meeting please refer to the official minutes.

Change in the countryside...

Returning at dusk from yet another 'legally allowed' local walk. I realized the glow on the horizon up The Drift was not the sunset but the electric glow of the estate in Hardwick. Amazing how alarmingly quickly large housing developments spring up amid our rural landscape. Tim Speed, guest bard in my recent poetry book, contributed two poetic laments about the assault of progress in his village. I used to sit by the fire in Son-of-Sid's ancient little pub in Gransden and listen to Tim's wise words... Seems an age ago and I'm looking forward to being released from my 'pretty prison' to again quaff and swap ideas. Meanwhile Tim's protest has fallen on deaf ears and his and all the woodland creatures' beloved natural habitat is gone. He has sent me his latest poem which I promised I'd try to share with a wider audience and, ever-practical, he quietly stated 'Thank you so much, me and the wildlife will just have to wander further afield to find a bit of peace and beauty if it's no longer to be had on my own back doorstep'.

The Lea.

The field beyond my hedge you see
 Was once a special place for me,
 For many years on crops that grewed
 From seed a local farmer sowed
 Did scores of sparrows much adorn
 The golden ears of ripened corn.
 T'was when the farming there did cease
 Did Mother Nature take the lease,
 And in a few short years made she
 A very pleasant little lea.
 No artist could they paint the scene
 A hundred different shades of green,
 Wild flowers with their colours bold
 Were sights of beauty to behold,
 With fruit upon the hedgerow too
 And habitat for mice and shrew.
 A hundred million insects there,
 Some rabbits and the odd brown hare,
 Dandelions of yellow bright,
 I'd watch them close their heads at night
 Went down the sultry summer sun,
 The crickets' chorus then begun.
 A kestrel hovered there by day
 And in the corner fox cubs play.
 There was a well-worn badger track,
 I'd watch them out and watch them back.
 The barn owl quartered there by night
 Majestic in its ghostly flight,
 Many different types of bird

Could be seen and could be heard,
 And through the summer holidays
 Local children often played,
 Did through the grass and flowers run,
 Dancing in the summer sun.
 And Mother Nature learned to share
 With horses which were stabled there.
 But once what seemed was heaven sent
 Was sold off for development,
 Now near the hedgerow stands forlorn
 The muntjac and her tiny fawn,
 There in the guise of housing need
 Spawned avarice and wanton greed,
 The trend for nature's whole demise
 Is witnessed now before my eyes.
 No more the habitat for voles,
 A forest now of scaffold poles,
 Soon replaced by bricks and tiles
 A ghastly sight that's seen from miles.
 I see no more that lovely lea,
 Consigned now to my memory
 And so forever it is lost
 Does no one care about the cost?

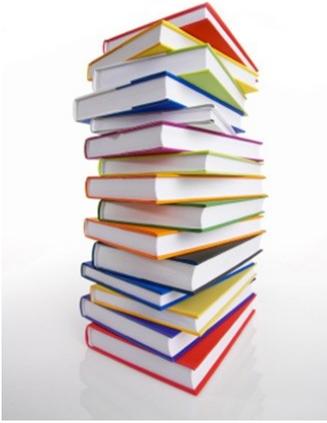
Tim Speed, 22nd March 2021

[Tim, 'Gransden Laureate' has performed his poetry on Music Nights in our Social Club and received a warm welcome. Here's hoping we can repeat the experience soon! - Marion Read 'Toft Laureate'.]

Comberton Library**Tel: 0345 045 5225**

(Monday: 10.00 am – 2.00 pm

Wednesday: 1.00 – 5.00 pm



It has been lovely welcoming our customers back into Comberton Library to browse the shelves. Just to remind you that numbers are limited to ensure everyone's safety, and we are required to comply with the Government Track and Trace protocol. As you enter the library, we will ask you to scan the displayed QR code on the NHS Covid 19 app, if you have this on your phone, or, alternatively, we can take contact details, which we will keep for 21 days. You will be required to wear a face mask, unless you are exempt, to enter the building, and we ask that you use the provided hand sanitiser and follow the one-way system. Opening for managed browsing is the

first welcome step to returning to our full library offer, so please do keep checking the website and the Libraries social media platforms for the latest news.

Some customers may still prefer to drop off and collect pre-ordered books, so we are continuing to offer our free 'Select and Collect' service, together with our usual reservation system, currently 50p per item for adult library users and free for children with their own library cards. Returned items must be left on the trolley in the entrance and library staff will place requested items on a table for you to collect. Again, the latest information and any changes to our offer will be published on our website and social media platforms.

We are also thrilled to announce that there is a new Spring Season of The Library Presents and it has been possible to re-schedule many of the performances and workshops, which had to be cancelled last year. Details of the full programme are available online, or please ask library staff for more information. Our nearest event will be in Cambourne, where there will be an outside event in mid-June; again do ask at the library for more details and ticket information.

Have you discovered the Library Live Book Club, Library.Live/book-club? In association with Bonnier Books UK, Cambridgeshire Libraries brings you four new books each month, together with a range of podcasts, author interviews and much more to explore! Do have a look online for the latest offering, and the opportunity to borrow the ebook or audiobook of the current month's choices.

We look forward to seeing our customers, old and new, at the library. Do come along, choose some books, and find out more about what is on offer, as we progress with introducing our full range of services.

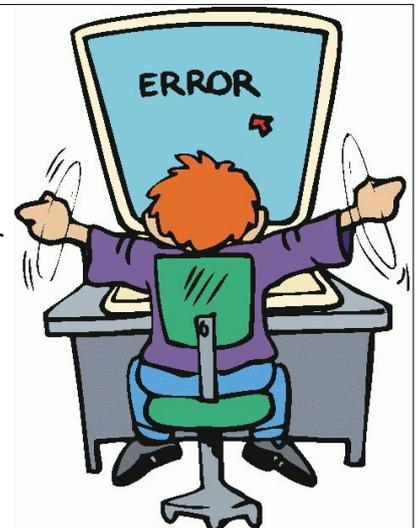
[Comberton Library is situated in the Village College campus, with car parking available and is Wheelchair-friendly and fully accessible for all.]

The Internet Club

While we are, let's hope, creeping slowly towards a 'real' Internet Club meeting, we're not there yet. But we can continue to meet on Zoom.

You might like to talk about the evils of a railway on our doorstep - or perhaps more constructively pick up a few gardening tips! Whatever floats your boat, it would be lovely to see you, and share a point of view or even maybe solve an IT problem.

Dates for zoom meetings this May are 3rd and 17th. Hope to see you there at 4 pm. katherine@jameskj.plus.com and jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk



TOFT WINDMILLS

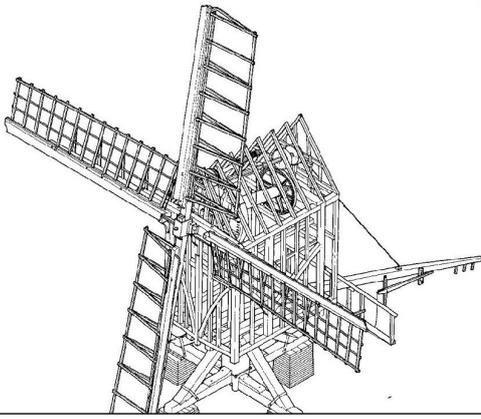
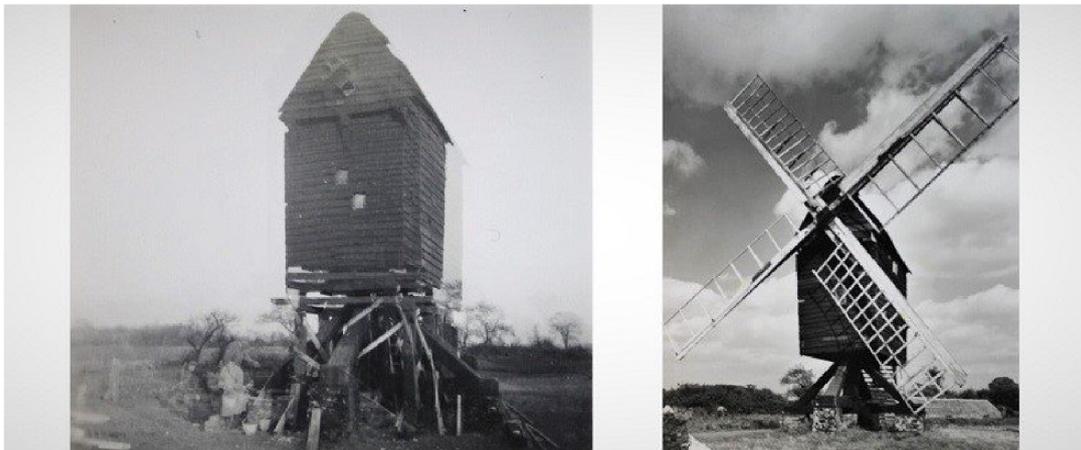


Illustration from J. Reynolds 1970

Farming records for the fields around Toft show that cereals (mainly wheat, but also barley and oats) have been the major crops on our clay soils over the centuries and this has continued into the modern era. Local mills would have processed grain from the large open field systems of the Medieval period and later, by the early 1800's, the enclosed fields of local farms.

We are fortunate in having Bourn Windmill close by as a very fine illustration of what these local mills could have looked like. It is one of the oldest windmills in England, dating back to at least 1636. It could be much older as its open trestle post design was a style of mill in use as early as the 13th Century. The entire weight of the mill is supported on a central post, which is then held in position by a large trestle of oak beams. The sails have to face directly into the wind to operate the grinding stones. To facilitate this alignment the entire mill is rotated around on the central post by pushing on a large horizontal beam attached to the rear of the mill.



Derelict Bourn Mill in 1941 and restored in 1966, CPPF

This style of windmill would likely have been a common sight in the Cambridgeshire countryside from the Medieval period up until the 19th Century. The Bourn Windmill is one of only 50 such post windmills still surviving in England and five of these are in Cambridgeshire. It is a designated Ancient Monument and well worth a visit on Open Days.

Modern road names in Toft such as Mill Lane and Miller's Road, as well as Mill Drift, indicate a link to milling in the village and old local maps show a Mill Way Commons track running

across the West Field of medieval Toft with a windmill site marked just south of the track. This track is now a public footpath heading west up over the clay ridge from the end of Millers Road, one of several tracks traversing the ancient field system, including the Lot Way track.



Historical records indicate that there may have been as many as three mills associated with the village. There is very brief mention of an “old mill” existing close to Toft as early as the 13th Century but then no further references to milling in and around the village until the early 1800’s when two windmills were reported operating within the Parish.



One of these was located on the north side of the road to Comberton, midway between the two villages, and in 1815 it was owned by one Mary Holder. It appears that this mill did not operate for very long and no traces remain other than that the land immediately opposite on the south side of the road is referred to as Mill Field. This is recorded on a plaque marking the opening, in 2011, of a new public footpath through the field in memory of Ken and Richard Tebbit. The plaque is attached to a bench located where the Church Drift/Lot Way path to Comberton exits the golf course.

The better known windmill west of Toft originally located close to the Mill Way track near the top of the rise is indicated only by a slight depression in the ground in the modern field. It is recorded as being a trestle post design similar to that preserved at Bourn. However, the presence of pottery at this site dating back to the 13th Century suggests that this was likely to also have been the location of the much earlier mill. It is certainly one of the more regularly windy locations around Toft.

Although it would appear to be well placed geographically to operate effectively, the West Field windmill by 1860 was apparently proving difficult for owners to turn a profit. Records show that it was sold several times and several mortgages were raised over the years. The last record was from 1868 when the mill was sold to Valentine Beldam, who then owned the surrounding land. It was apparently not a going concern at that time and certainly, by 1967, it had long been demolished, the site ploughed over and only some brickwork remnants from its foundations marked its location.



Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Northamptonshire

**Wildlife Trust: West
Cambridgeshire
Hundreds Update, May
2021**

As Communities and Wildlife Officer with the Wildlife Trust for Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire, I connect people with nature by delivering walks, talks and family sessions, as well as attending local events, and working with community groups and schools.

Over the summer term, we are working with Comberton Adult Education. They have offered to contribute to the cost of our community work in the area, so we can offer some short informal courses for free. All of the programmes are outdoors in small groups, so they can be more sociable, and will be a chance for people to discuss volunteering opportunities. In Cambourne there will be programmes for parents/carers with pre-school children, and wildlife walks for adults.

Our individual events will continue, with family sessions, self-guided activities, walks, and talks, throughout the year. All of these have a discount for our members.

The Trust owns and manages Hardwick Woods and several other reserves in the West Cambs Hundreds: Hayley, Gamlingay, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, and Cambourne Nature Reserve. Most of these include ancient woodlands of national importance; which means they have special wildlife, and the Trust has a legal responsibility to maintain the habitat in favourable condition. We know you value these reserves and I would love to hear what you like best about them. I am also keen to hear what events you would like to see run in the area.

Do sign up to get involved in 30 Days Wild - the Wildlife Trusts' national initiative for engaging with nature daily throughout June - find out more here www.wildlifebcn.org/30DaysWild
Please get in touch if you are interested in working with me, you can email on rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org, and connect on Facebook [@BeccaBadgerWTBCN](https://www.facebook.com/BeccaBadgerWTBCN)

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

Tweet: [@wildlifebcn](https://twitter.com/wildlifebcn)

Visit: www.wildlifebcn.org

You don't have to face Covid-19 alone!

The Toft Volunteer Team is still here to help. You do not need to be isolated or lonely.

Ways we can help. . . Collecting prescriptions, collecting shopping, phoning for a chat, going with you for a one-to—one stroll, helping you to get additional support or access food banks.

How to contact the Toft Volunteer Team or offer help:

- ◇ Call or text/email Linda Hollow — 07779 918 682 or linda.hollow@btconnect.com
- ◇ Message for help via 'NextdoorToft'. Contact Jackie Morton at jem.wickets@btinternet.com to join Nextdoor online.

Remember - 'HANDS, FACE, SPACE'

Wheelie Bin Collections For May

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

Black Bin:

Weds 12th May

Weds 26th May

Blue/Green Bin

Thurs 6th May

Weds 19th May

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✂ USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Alcoholics Anonymous: 0845 769 7555
 Anglian Water (for sewage): 08457 145 145
 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: 07402351821
 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 830037
 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: 03450 450 500
 South Cambs Fire and Rescue: 01480 444 500
 Toft Car Scheme: 262814. If no reply 262708
 Trading Standards: 0345 0455206
 UK Power Networks (Emergencies): 0800 31 63 105



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

Palliative Care Hub will provide free out of hours phone service on NHS 111, option 3

A vital new phone service is being launched to support patients with life-limiting illnesses. The Palliative Care Hub, which is commissioned by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and operated by Arthur Rank Hospice Charity in partnership with HUC, launches at 5.30pm on 6 April.

Initially the phone line will be available between 5.30pm and 9.30am Monday to Friday, with a 24-hour service on weekends. The future vision is that the team will provide the service 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The phone service will provide expert advice and guidance regarding accessing care and appropriate services for adult patients living with a life-limiting illness in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough, as well as relatives, friends, carers, GPs and other healthcare professionals who are supporting someone needing specialist palliative support. It is available to all, regardless of whether support is in already in place, or not.

Palliative Care Clinical Nurse Specialists will answer all phone calls providing advice and support on a case-by-case basis, overnight and at the weekends when it may be most needed. The team aims to coordinate a wrap-around service and will act as a gateway to other services: signposting callers to other healthcare professionals where helpful; and/or completing referrals to specialist services as needed.

To contact the team please call NHS 111 and select option 3. If you would like to find out more about the service in general, please call 01223 675777.

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 or non-attributable 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 May**. 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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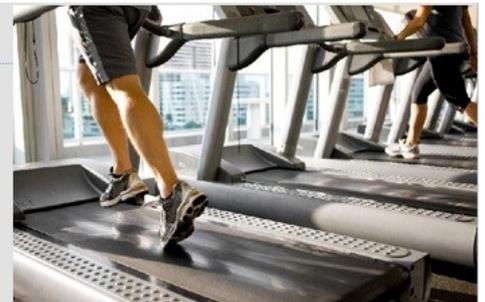
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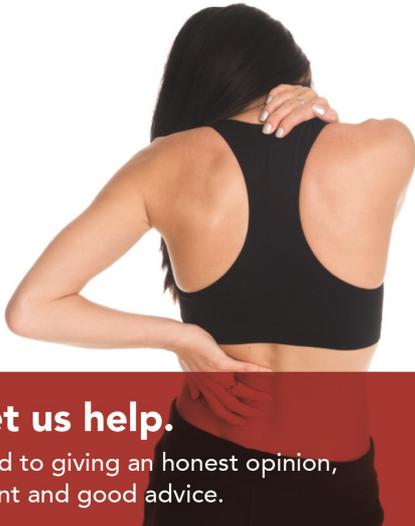
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