



Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

May 2023



EDITORIAL

I must have been about thirteen when I lost interest in Maths. Our maths teacher, a 'seen 'em come, seen 'em go' sort of character, was in the habit of chalking that week's homework assignments on the board at the end of the lesson, at which point we all went through the pretence of copying them down so we wouldn't forget them. "2 + 2 = 4" he wrote this week. And then, underneath: "Prove it." With which, he and his dusty gown swept from the room, leaving behind a sea of blank faces, behind which lurked an equally blank set of brains. Even the form swot - there's always one - looked thoughtful, in a pasty sort of way.

I see now that we were not intended to find an answer. This is, after all, a question that's had mathmos, physicists and philosophers shouting at each other for decades and more. What was supposed to happen was that we would be intrigued beyond measure and stimulated into a life-long fascination with the recondite world of numbers and their endless and labyrinthine possibilities. Instead of which, I and quite a few others marched promptly into the camp of the Yahoos who can't understand why you'd waste your time trying to prove something that everyone already knows, anyway. And there, I say with no small amount of shame, I have stayed more or less ever since. I can score a darts match, work out what's left on the table half-way through a frame of snooker and calculate who's selling the cheapest petrol this week even if I need to drive 2.8 miles further to buy it and that has, so far, been enough to see me through. Where maths is (are?) concerned, the only thing stopping me from being outed as the role model for *The Dunciad* is the couple of centuries by which it pre-dates me.

So what is a hopeless case like me supposed to do when the Prime Minister, no less, castigates my 'cultural sense that it's OK to be bad at maths'? Even more hopelessly, it seems that 'more than eight million adults have numeracy skills below those expected of a nine-year-old'. Happily, I haven't been able to find a handy nine-year old in order to test this assertion but even if it's true, what am I and the other seven million nine hundred and - erm - something-or-another hapless thickos supposed to do about it? If my fresh-as-a-daisy teenage brain couldn't absorb the niceties of simultaneous quadratic equations and cotangents, what chance does it stand of doing so now, after decades of atrophy and wool-gathering? Luckily, this is one sum I *can* actually do, and the answer is 'zero'. However, I have found a straw and I intend to cling to it. Once everyone else has somehow been dragged up to scratch there will need to be some bench-marking facility against which we can all be judged. I am prepared - quite selflessly, I feel - to be that bench. Beat me in a simple maths test and you will be able to hold your head up as a proud member of our newly numerate nirvana. Fail, and you join me on the eternal naughty-step.

And if, by some random caprice of fate, I am suddenly seized with a need to know what the square of the hypotenuse is equal to, I can just button-hole the nearest passing nine-year old. I mean, they'll know how to put two and two together, won't they?

Wanted - Treasurer for Community Café

Our Community Café is seeking a new Treasurer as Lottie moves on after 18 months' sterling work keeping our finances in good order.

The main tasks are keeping simple accounts, reimbursing volunteers' expenses and preparing a weekly float for the Café.

These tasks can generally be done at a time to suit yourself, and might suit someone who'd like to contribute to the successful running of the Café but isn't available during the daytime.

Reliability and integrity are more important than experience, and we can soon bring you up to speed, so if you're interested or would like to find out more, please contact Gill Pugh (gill.ppugh@gmail.com) or any of the Café Team Leaders during a Wednesday Café session.

PS We can't pay you but we can offer you lots of homemade cake!!

DIARY DATES

TOFT FRIENDSHIP CLUB

[Over 50s Club]. 10th May – the Club's Coronation Celebration with a visit to Carriages. On this occasion we cannot accommodate visitors as our tea is booked.

Look forward to welcoming you in June.

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### Sewing, Knit and Natter

Our next meeting will be Wednesday May 31st in the Methodist Chapel,  
10.30 -12.30.

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The Parish Council

The Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 15th May, 7.00pm in The People's Hall. All Welcome.

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### No 18 Bus Service

Whippet have announced some time-tabling changes to this service. See our next edition for further details, or visit: <https://bustimes.org/services/18-cambridge-st-neots>

**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***7th May* Coronation Week-end

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

11.00 am Short outside service at Methodist Church followed by Parish Walk

2.40 pm Service of Thanksgiving for King Charles in the marquee – led by Barbara Preece and Cathy Michell

(Please see Coronation programme for more detail)

*14th May* 11.00am Holy Communion St. Andrew's – Revd Priscilla Slusar*18th May* Ascension Day

7.30pm Holy Communion – Gt.Eversden

*21st May* Wesley Sunday

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

11.00am Morning Worship, Methodist Church – Revd. Robert Dolman

*28th May* 11.00am Holy Communion St. Andrew's, Revd David Newton

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

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

Zoom services available at 11.00am

MEETING ID: 823 1147 3640

**Spring into action this Easter.**

For most of us, the longer evenings and warm sunshine are a welcome harbinger of spring after a long winter.

But for others it presents an opportunity to commit crime. People outside gardening or enjoying the sunshine, or away on their holidays, can be an easy target for burglars.

Between April and September last year, 532 burglaries were reported and police want to raise awareness of what residents can do to protect their homes. "Spring is a season we all look forward to, after a long, cold winter. However, it doesn't mean we should be negligent around protecting our homes", said Detective Sergeant Ashley Ryan. "Burglars are always looking for easy targets, so by taking just a few simple steps, people can make their homes less attractive to thieves."

To minimize the risk of burglary during spring and summer:

- Consider not leaving windows open during warm weather, and make sure windows and doors are locked when not at home.
- If people are going on holiday, avoid advertising it on social media.
- Keep gardening tools locked away and not out on display. When storing tools, make sure locks on sheds and other outdoor buildings are properly secure.
- Avoid having valuables on display during the day, especially when your home is unoccupied.

Det Sgt Ryan said: "We are working hard every day to tackle burglars and bring them to justice. But we also want to prevent crimes happening in the first place and we hope that through our online campaign we can educate and engage the public on smart security measures to protect their homes."

Through the #SafeSpring campaign, police aim to share crime prevention tips and advice across our various social media platforms. Check out Cambridgeshire Constabulary's Facebook page and @CambsCops on Instagram to follow the campaign.

For more burglary crime prevention advice, visit Cambridgeshire Constabulary's website.

**Sewing, Knit and Natter.**

Please come and join us if you are interested. For more information please contact either Lucy (262948) or Sally (262895).



## THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

**THE WARM HUB - DROP IN** – Our thanks to everyone who in any way helped to set up, look after, provide refreshments etc. BUT most especially our delight with all of you who came – it was so good, and so much enjoyed. See you in October after the clocks go back!

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On Sunday 16th we were delighted to baptise ALFIE CHARTER-SANDERCOCK, son of Amy whom many of you will know, and welcome him into the Church



MAY 6TH



MAY 7TH

Celebrations for the Coronation Of
King Charles III

We are looking forward to a great weekend centred on

FIRS FARM.

With events from after the TV presentation ends to Sunday Coronation tea Party in the Field

For more details see the printed programme which will be delivered to every household

We do hope you will be part of this historic weekend

Very belatedly we report with sadness the sudden death of **Dr. Norma Rink**, of the Coach House, whilst she was on holiday. She and her husband, who died last year, had lived in Toft on and off since the mid-70's. Norma was a gifted GP in Cambridge but had to give this up when she and Tim went to live in the States. They had three children, two sons and a daughter, two of whom were married in St. Andrew's. She was a keen gardener and will be greatly missed by her family and by those of us who knew her, particularly the group round the church.



We also record the death of **Valerie Osborne**, widow of Terry, who died very recently and whose service of thanksgiving will take place in St. Andrew's at the end of this month.

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: The Annual Parish Meeting, Monday 15th May, 7.00pm in The People's Hall. All Welcome.

The Parish Council met on 3rd April 2023.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Watson who was out of the Parish. Cllr. Yeadon declared an interest in item 6.3.1 which involved a tree works application at his property. It is duly noted that when this item was discussed, Cllr. Yeadon left the room.

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and are available on the Parish Council noticeboard.

A representative from Durham Magneto Optics Ltd introduced himself and his company which has taken over part of the building previously occupied by Cambridge Partnership. It is the intention of the new company to have an open day once they have settled in. Cllr. Miles offered to take in some Welcome Packs and leaflets for the Community Café.

A parishioner commented on the tree on the small green which is clearly dying. Cllr. Miles was able to inform the parishioner that the Orb Committee, in charge of organising the King's Coronation events in the village, have approved replacing the tree with a commemorative tree.

There was nothing to report on Climate Change and Green issues.

Regarding the CCC 20mph scheme, it was agreed that a bid would be put in for the whole village to become a 20mph zone, though it was noted by the Clerk that there would only be 8 applications per annum accepted.

The order for the PCB Board for speed equipment is to be processed.

A parishioner had complained about the speeding that continues along School Lane and asked if the speed camera could be put on the road. The PC agreed to this and Cllr. Collinson will move it in due course. Cllr. Darbyshire informed the meeting that she is still awaiting confirmation for when the 20mph signage agreed for School Lane will be installed.

The Finance Report was considered and approved.

There were no play inspection reports to consider nor any urgent issues regarding Council property but Cllr. Yeadon informed the meeting that the annual RosPo inspection is due.

Regarding Planning Applications, the Council considered the new build on land adjacent to 33 School Lane and Tree Works in Brookside.

The Village Green - Cllr. Darbyshire had sent through information regarding the purchase of boulders for the village green but it was deemed to be from a company too far away. Cllr. Yeadon is to investigate the cost of 3 boulders from Bannold Supplies in Fen Drayton and will present this at the next meeting. Before going ahead with this initiative, the Council would like to receive comments from parishioners and if you have any thoughts on whether boulders on the green is the best way forward to help prevent cars churning up the grass, or whether you have an alternative suggestion, we would be very pleased to hear from you. Please contact Cllr. Yeadon on cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk

Regarding Highways, Cllr. Darbyshire reported that she is still awaiting information from SCDC regarding traffic calming measures and on improving road marking in the village.

There were no matters arising for the Toft People's Hall.

Cllr. Miles reported that she has been in correspondence with the Woodland Trust regarding the broken waymarker, currently propped up against a tree, on the northern entrance to Toft wood and the matter of a number of saplings damaged in strong winds. These will be investigated by the Woodland Trust.

There were no matters arising regarding the Defibrillator.

Cllr. Collinson is to investigate costs for installing the new PC noticeboard on the Birdlings estate.

Cllr. Miles updated the meeting regarding the Coronation weekend. Unfortunately, the ORB committee had been unable to book either the Molly dancers or a Magician for the children's tea party, but alternatives were being explored.

Cllr. Yeadon reported on the joint Parish Meeting which had been hosted by the District Council. The two main items on the Agenda had been for the development of Neighbourhood Plans, which focus on how a community wishes to expand its neighbourhood and on the development of chalk streams.

Having attended a meeting with EWR, Cllr Yeadon informed us that there was no further information than we already had and that the intention is to publish the preferred route at the end of May. Similarly a meeting with Cambridge Approaches had revealed no further information. Information from a group known as Freight 21 is that they are pushing for a northern route for the railway as they wish it to connect with Newmarket. There is now also another group EWR Working Party which is a group whose mission is to be non-confrontational and work with EWR to bring about the best possible route for all interested parties.

It was proposed and accepted unanimously that the lead Councillor for grass cutting would be Cllr. Harris.

Cllr. Collinson informed the meeting that following discussions with Comberton Village College, it would appear that the electric car chargers on the premises are currently for staff use only but they are looking to open up to other users in the future.



TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

The Club will be supporting the **Village Coronation Celebrations** on 6th May. We are planning to show the Coronation on the big screen and the bar will be open – please check the website for timings. On Saturday evening we will be supplying an outside bar at the **Ceilidh** which is happening at Firs Farm, High Street.

As a result of the Coronation, there will not be a Food on Friday in May, but it will be back in June on Friday 2nd.

The popular **Open Mic Music Night** is on Saturday 13th. As usual, there will be a mix of performers offering music and words. Free entry – doors open at 8pm. If you are interested in performing at one of these evenings, please contact us at openmic@toftsocialclub.org.uk

May **Film Night** is Saturday 20th, showing the 2022 film “Living”. Starring Bill Nye, it tells the story of a council bureaucrat who is overwhelmed at work and lonely at home, who's life takes a heartbreaking turn when a medical diagnosis tells him his time is short. Influenced by a local decadent and a vibrant woman, he continues to search for meaning until a simple revelation gives him a purpose to create a legacy for the next generation. 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.

Toft Art is on Thursday 4th May – new members are always welcome.

Toft Quiz Night is on Thursday 11th May - teams of up to 6, just £1 per team member. Doors open at 8pm.

Carpet Bowls is on Friday 12th May, 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 25th May.

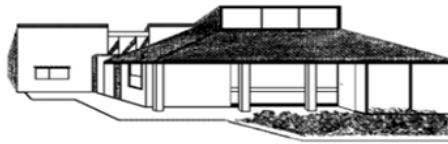
The Club is always open every Thursday and Friday evening from 8pm, and many Saturday evenings and there is always a warm welcome where you can enjoy a drink and meet up with friends.

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

Keep up to date here:

www.toftsocialclub.org.uk

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



Bourn Surgery Newsletter

www.bournsurgery.nhs.uk

The Surgery team continues to expand as we strive to meet the needs of our community. Please do have a look at the photo board in the entrance lobby of the Surgery by the Dispensary hatch to familiarise yourself with our lovely team; we are going to need a bigger board soon!

Bourn Surgery is part of the Meridian Primary Care Network (PCN), and you may have already had contact from with our Health Coaches or Social Prescribing Link Workers, or you may have come to see our First Contact Physiotherapist at the Surgery. More information about the team at Meridian PCN can be found at <https://meridianpcn.gpweb.org.uk/our-primary-care-network>

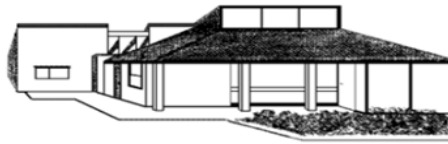
You will also find information about the various PCN services provided on their website, including the Menopause Support Group, Long Covid Support Group and Carer's Café, as well as the Worthwhile Waiting initiative at <https://meridianpcn.gpweb.org.uk/pcn-services>

Bourn Surgery also belongs to a local Federation of GP practices called Cambs GP Network. Through this Federation we are able to access evening and weekend appointments to see a GP, Nurse, Healthcare Assistant or phlebotomist. These appointments are booked through Bourn Reception and can be used to access healthcare in a more convenient way. We will also offer these appointments when we have reached capacity at the Surgery, or cannot provide you with an appointment at a time that is convenient for you. These appointments are delivered at hubs across the area, with the closest being Comberton Surgery. Appointments can be booked to see a GP, to see a nurse for smear tests, dressings, asthma or diabetes reviews, contraception reviews, or routine blood tests.

Communications:

We have now launched our new Bourn Surgery website which we hope will be easier to use, but still contain relevant and useful information. The website address is the same as before; www.bournsurgery.nhs.uk

On our new website, you will find the 'Contact Us Online' button. This allows you to submit an administrative query online rather than having to contact the Surgery by telephone. You can also contact us for a medical issue, although please note that the response time for all messages received via the 'Contact Us' is four working days, so this is not appropriate for any urgent medical issues. Please do not use this service to request an appointment; all appointments should be booked online (if you have a log-in for SystmOnline) or via telephone.



All prescription requests should be made online through the NHS App, or SystmOnline. We do not accept prescription requests by email or telephone.

HRT Prepayment Certificate:

From the 1st April 2023 the NHS is introducing a Prescription Prepayment certificate specifically for HRT medicines. Once you purchase the 12-month certificate, you will not pay the prescription fees for your HRT medications. It will save you money if you need to pay for three or more HRT prescription charges within 12 months.

It is important to be aware that not all medications licensed for use in HRT are covered by this certificate. This is important due to the multiple shortages of various HRT products, as some of the alternative products will not be covered by this certificate, and will still incur a prescription charge. This is unfortunately outside of our control, and is not something we can adjust or alter. Your GP will continue to prescribe the most appropriate HRT medication for you within what is available.

This certificate only covers HRT medications. Please note that if you are on one or more other prescriptions that you pay for, you will save more money if you buy a normal Prescription Prepayment Certificate.

Patient Participation Group:

We re-launched our Patient Participation Group (PPG) in 2020 during the pandemic, starting with some popular evening meetings on Zoom. A PPG is described as a “critical friend” of the Surgery, and is an opportunity for any patient registered at Bourn Surgery to give their views and opinions on the work of the Surgery, and to represent the voice of our patients. We are keen that our PPG reflects the diversity of the community that we serve, and in particular we are keen to ensure voices of those who are of working-age, carers, living with long-term health needs, and those who have experience of using health care services are heard.

Membership of the PPG has no fixed requirements; you can be as engaged with it as you want to be, and there may be certain issues that you feel more inspired about than others. We hold quarterly PPG meetings to discuss the ongoing work of the PPG, hear feedback from the Surgery in response to issues raised by the PPG, as well as speakers from across the practice team providing updates on new services or initiatives. In addition to the quarterly meetings, the PPG may be contacted for opinions and advice about the services the Surgery provides. Previous projects run through the PPG include a survey of patient's views on the types of appointments they would wish to have available, which fed into our re-design of the Surgery's appointment system in 2021.

Our new Surgery website will shortly have a revamped PPG section with more information. If you are interested in signing up to the PPG, please email bournppgsecretary@gmail.com. Our next PPG meeting is planned for the evening of 10th May. Invites are automatically sent to those who are signed up to the PPG; we hope to see some new members join us!

toft historical society

EllR to ClllR: Coronation memories

As we approach the coronation of King Charles III, we look back at Toft on the day when Queen Elizabeth II was crowned, 2nd June 1953. Koran Collett (Mill Lane) recalls events in the village on that day:

We all piled into what is now Ron Gouldstone's house (School Lane). A couple of sisters lived there. They were the only ones I knew who had a television, a little old nine-inch screen - all interference, couldn't see a thing hardly. And it rained and it was wet, a wet day. There was a procession in Toft, there was something going on. It was a pretty poor day.

The poster reproduced here shows the activities that were held in the village on Coronation Day. Apart from the parade, there were tea-parties and sports for children and adults, a church service and a grand social.



Coronation procession, Toft, Cambs, 1953

Koran Collett was right. It was a dismal day for the Toft Coronation procession, as the rain-coated man testifies, and the open umbrella. But in true Toft style, the parade went ahead.

On that occasion too, it was announced that a bus-shelter would be erected to commemorate the coronation. It has stood next to the village green ever since and is periodically decorated to mark festive occasions.



Watch out, Pixar! There are some new kids on the block. A few of the attendees at the recent animation festival get down to business.



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Wildlife Trust BCN West Cambridgeshire Hundreds Update: May 2023

30 Days Wild is our annual campaign to encourage people to get outside and do something wild every day in June. There is a huge amount of research that says connecting with nature helps with stress and anxiety, improves concentration, and especially in young people, can improve self-esteem and resilience. It's easy to take part, and when you sign up, you get sent some free resources. It is suitable for any age, as everyone benefits from nature.

Here are some suggestions of things you could do:

Eat your breakfast outside and listen for three different birds

Go on a walk then write a wildlife-inspired Haiku

Visit a nature reserve, take photos of wildflowers, and do some research to identify them

Get up really early and go for a walk

Start a nature journal

Watch a sunny patch of bramble flowers for five minutes

Camp out in the garden (or join us for an over-night camp at Trumpington Meadows)

Please share what you get up to and tag us on social media @wildlifebcn #30DaysWild

Sometime in May, I'll be delivering some extra resources to local primary schools, so please ask the children in your family if they are involved with their class.

The Wildlife Trust BCN offers lots of wild experiences to help you learn about the environment, discuss how you can take action for a #WilderFuture, and have a positive experience outdoors. Here are some in May

Birds for beginners Cambourne Sunday 7th May 7-9am

Wildflower walk Hayley Wood Tuesday 9th May 10-12

"Accessible" stroll Gamlingay Wood Thursday 25th May 10-12

Family pond dip Cambourne Wednesday 31st May 10-12

There are also some funded short courses available including this one for adults to enjoy nature spotting and bushcraft activities normally aimed at children.

Inner Child Cambourne Tuesdays 16th May, 20th June, 18th July 9.30-12.30

- 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 Librarywww.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

Thank you to everyone who attended our lovely cherry blossom **Watercolour & Calligraphy** event recently. I am happy to say that Ariel will be back in Comberton Library for three more sessions in May, and that this time the theme will be flowers – and we have made the sessions a little longer to make sure everyone has enough time to finish. The new sessions will be held on May 3rd, 17th and 31st, and will run from 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm. Please contact us at Comberton

Library for further information and to book your place. Everyone welcome!



The **Knit and Natter** dates are Monday 15th May, and 12th & 26th of June from 10.30 am to 11.30 am. These sessions have proven to be really popular, so we will be continuing them throughout the summer months - it would be lovely to see you.

Rhymetime is a lovely and lively session for children up to 4 years old – so please do bring along your little ones for some singing and noisy play with musical instruments. The next dates will be: Monday 22nd May and 5th & 19th of June from 10.30 am – 11.00 am.

15th - 21st of May is **Dementia Action Week** so please keep an eye out for what's on in the Library that week. 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, follow the link below - or simply ask our friendly librarians: we would love to hear from you! <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries>

Finally, did you know that Cambridgeshire Libraries offers a free Library at Home service for readers who find it difficult to get to a library? A local volunteer can visit once a month with library books and audiobooks they have selected based on your preferences, and can even stay to have a friendly chat about books and life in general. For more information about becoming a Library at Home customer or volunteer, please ask at your local library, email volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or visit our website

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/advice-and-support/library-at-home-service>

AND...Don't forget about our mobile library service if you have difficulties attending at Comberton. We visit on the 3rd Friday of each month and park by the Post Office Green from 2.00-3.00pm.

Wheelie Bin Collections For May

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

Black Bin:

Thurs 11th May (Changed Day)

Weds 24th May

Blue/Green Bin

Thurs 4th May (Changed Day)

Weds 17th May

Thurs 1st June (Changed Day)

Notice to Advertisers

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

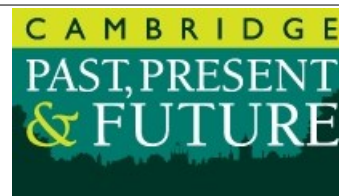
South Cambs District Council: 01954 713 000

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

**Campaign to Save Coton Orchard from new road**

On 21 March we presented a petition to Cambridgeshire County Council asking them to save the Coton green corridor, spare the Coton orchard and find a better transport solution than their proposed new bus road. The petition has been signed by over 15,000 people and generated significant media coverage.

The council listened but still voted 33 to 25 to destroy the orchard and green corridor. The council will submit an application to government in May, which will trigger a public inquiry. The inquiry will determine whether permission should be given.

We are very disappointed that local politicians are seeking permission to cut down trees, destroy Cambridgeshire's largest remaining traditional orchard and cause irrecoverable harm to ecology and landscape. There is an alternative which would improve public transport and cycling between Cambourne and Cambridge without the environmental destruction, and we will need to make the case for that alternative at the public inquiry.

To do this, we have launched a Fighting Fund to pay for independent experts to provide evidence and legal representation. Thank you very much if you have already supported this appeal with a donation.

<https://www.cambridgeppf.org/appeal/save-the-coton-green-corridor>

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 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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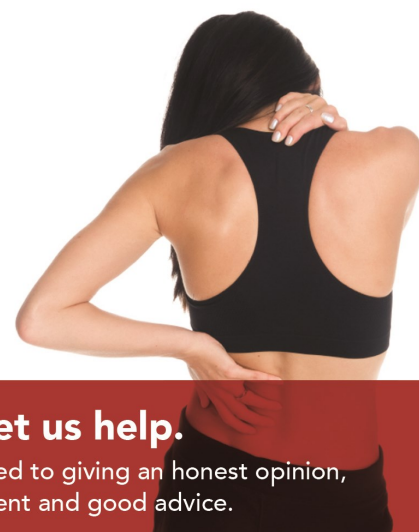
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So - Summer is coming and with it your chance to entertain visiting friends and family. But what to do with them all day? A time-honoured local custom is to bundle them into town and show them a few sights. If you want to do this without breaking the bank (and without enduring all those 'So - where's the University?' and 'Is this where they filmed Harry Potter?' questions) just slip them this list and arrange to meet them back at the Park and Ride in a few hours time...

All info is from the Cambridge Tourist Information Centre: (<https://www.cambridgetouristinformation.co.uk>), to whom all recriminations and complaints should be addressed.

Colleges in central Cambridge that are free to look round:

Christ's College—where Charles Darwin studied (Only open Tuesdays and Thursdays)

Downing College has the Heong Gallery

Pembroke College - with its Chapel by Sir Christopher Wren

Gonville & Caius College - with its different courts and medical history

Jesus College - with its garden sculptures

Magdalene College, right on the river with the Pepys Library

Peterhouse, being the oldest of all the Colleges in Cambridge

Sidney Sussex where Oliver Cromwell's head is buried, or so they say.

St. Catherine's College is a small intimate College in the heart of Cambridge

Trinity Hall has an amazing history and a beautiful garden on the river—and just finding it without your help should use up half an hour...

Colleges in central Cambridge that charge visitors to enter:

Clare College

Corpus Christi College

St John's College

King's College

Queens' College

Trinity College

