



# Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

August 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** With the news that covid numbers are diminishing and the hope that the restrictions of lockdown are coming to an end, Sewing, Knit and Natter will commence again in September.

**The Parish Council** - The next PC meeting is on **6th September at 7.00 pm**. It will be held in The People's Hall. All welcome subject to prevailing restrictions.

### No Internet Club in August

The Internet Club opened briefly in July, but as the summer holidays are fast approaching, we won't now be meeting again until September - circumstances permitting. Please see next month's Calendar for possible meeting dates. In the meantime, if you do have any urgent technical problems with phone, tablet or laptop, we'll be pleased to put you in touch with someone who may be able to help!

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

## EDITORIAL

Being of a naturally Pollyanna-ish disposition and feeling that that there must be a silver lining to our recent, dear departed lockdowns, I fell to wondering if that was true and, if so, what it was. It turned out to be not quite the three-pipe problem I thought it might be, because one answer sprang immediately to mind. It wasn't the welcome petrol savings, nor a whole summer spent idling in a sunny garden, nor was it the opportunity to binge re-watch every episode of *The Bridge*. Instead, it was the chance it had given me to actually read some of the books that have piled up at Editor Towers over the years. A recent addition to the pile caught my eye. It detailed the effects of a pandemic on just one, small East Anglian village so, scenting the possibility of using my local knowledge to catch the author out on a few things, I dived in. It was intriguing stuff.

To begin with the virus was just something a bit odd happening in far away countries - nothing for us to worry about, they thought. Then, a rumour started that it had somehow crossed the Channel, then that people in London and larger cities had got it. Protected by their rural solitude, the villagers still believed that 'it wouldn't happen here'. Nonetheless, to be on the safe side, they began to vet visitors closely. Those with anything other than a clean bill of health were shooed away from the parish boundary. The local church held extra prayer sessions. Despite these efforts people began to fall ill. Their doctors and wise men had no idea why and no cure. Not even the learned men in Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds could help. In most cases, death followed diagnosis within days. The villagers tried to fight back. Hand-washing became the new vogue. Masks were worn. Church services were held outdoors and shop and inn-keepers restricted the numbers of visitors allowed, or closed. To try and prevent the spread of this pestilence, people stayed at home and there was a boom in 'home deliveries' of essentials, left outside doors. Soon, the rising fatalities and unwillingness of those still left to risk themselves meant that fields and crops were left untended. Shortages became an added problem. More rumours circulated, chief amongst them the idea that there was no cure and if you tried to take precautions, you were merely thwarting God's will. This, it was said, was a judgment on mankind - and they had been found wanting.

It wasn't long before the usual miracle-cure mongers began to hawk their wares. In desperation, many squandered what little wealth they had on dubious concoctions, benefactions to Saints, indulgences and ineffectual poultices. Nothing worked. After a few months, cases began to diminish and the villagers dared to hope that, at last, God had answered their prayers. They were wrong. After a brief respite, the virus returned, stronger and more deadly than ever, laying down the hale and hearty alongside the frail and weak with equal ease.

And then, as suddenly as it had begun, it went. After nearly two years of terror, the village began, slowly and painfully, to struggle back to normality. The parallels with our own recent experience are sledge-hammer obvious. Almost every move we have tried, they had already made - and with disturbingly similar outcomes. All this happened nearly six hundred years ago. And, if you don't believe me - read the book. It's called *"The Black Death - A Village In Crisis"*, by John Hatcher and the events it depicts took place in the village we now call Walsham-Le-Willows, just over the border in Suffolk.

## Community Warden Service - Cambridge South West Villages

As well as making daily contact (Monday to Friday) to check on well-being and generally have a chat to reduce loneliness and isolation, the warden can also help with practical things such as:

- Make a light lunch, or hot drink
- Put the bins out (and bring back in)
- Help with Blue Badge applications and other paperwork
- Assist with post opening and management
- Make phone calls on your behalf (e.g. if hard of hearing, or memory impaired)
- Feed animals/pets/pond fish and refill wild bird feeders
- Provide company and reassurance on a short walk
- Collect and deliver small amounts of shopping
- Collect and deliver Prescriptions
- Arrange transport and accompanied visits to medical/health appointments
- Signpost and connect to other useful services, such as benefit checks or handyman service.

Not only do service users value the support of our community wardens, but so do carers.

**Eligibility** The only criteria is that you must be aged over 60 years (if a couple only one of you needs to be over 60, to become a service user).

**Cost of Service** There is a TWO WEEKS FREE TRIAL and thereafter, if you wish to continue there is a small fee of only £9 a week (single person) or £11 per week (for a couple).

To make a referral, or if you would like further information about this service, please contact me via telephone or email using the contact details below :

Paula Rowley - Community Warden – Cambridge South West Villages

Tel: 07812495997 email: paula.rowley@ageukcap.org.uk

Website: <http://www.ageuk.org.uk/cambridgeshireandpeterborough>

Find us on Facebook at 'Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough'

**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](mailto: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, on Palm Sunday 28th March with an 8.30 BCP and an 11.00am Holy Communion outside service.

**SERVICES OF WORSHIP Please note we have returned to alternating services in the two churches**

*1st August* 8.30am Holy Communion - Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Morning Worship, Methodist Church – Rev Robert Dolman

*8th August* 11.00am Morning worship – St. Andrew's - Mrs Cathy Michell

*15th August* 8.30am Holy Communion - Rev Prof Michael Reiss

11.00am Holy Communion – Methodist Church - Rev David Newton

*22nd August* OUTDOORS Toft Churchyard (see facing page)

11.00am Morning Worship – Rev Tricia Troughton

*29th August* 8.30am Holy Communion - Rev Prof Michael Reiss

10.30 am Lordsbridge Team Service, Harlton, Outdoor & picnic (bring your own) to say goodbye and thank you to Rev. Canon Alison Myers

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:

**NB NEW MEETING ID: 823 1147 3640**

There is also online audio available.

# D

ear Friends
**Responsibility**

Well, here we are in stage 4. It probably doesn't look like we thought it would. Throughout June there was a rather public battle around face coverings, as we heard various mixed messages around 'choice', 'freedom' and 'responsibility'. It seems to me that things have (at the time of writing at least) settled a little on that final word responsibility, and that must be surely seen as a good thing.

It was a theme that Dietrich Bonhoeffer spoke about a lot. Christ paradigmatically the man-for-others, and we are called to follow in that example as those who take unto ourselves responsibility for others. This sounds lovely, but in Bonhoeffer's work it takes a sharper turn in ways that are deeply helpful for us in these days. For him, taking responsibility meant choosing to act in the face of incredibly unclear circumstances, when knowing 'the right thing to do' and knowing the consequences of what we did were both impossible. For him that meant getting involved in a plot to assassinate Hitler, not really knowing if he should or not, and what the consequences might be!

Taking responsibility for one another does not lead to easy answers. We often will not know the 'right thing to do' nor the consequences of our actions. Various 'goods' compete with one another (the good of being able to hear someone properly, or lipread, verses the good of wearing a face covering, for example). Understanding the ambivalence and difficulty of all this avoids any simplistic identity politics: "I wear a mask because I care about others" verses, "I don't wear one because I care about freedom". Such binary notions are a nonsense and make a mockery of the complexities of taking wholistic responsibility for one another in these days. May we be given wisdom for each and every situation.

- David

**Toft Methodist Chapel**

**Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> August, 9 – 11.30**

**Outside on the gravel area**

Di and Sally will be holding a small sale of produce from their gardens: plants, flowers, vegetables, bunches of herbs and lavender, together with handmade craft items, tote bags, make-up bags, peg bags etc etc

**All in aid of Chapel maintenance funds**

Items priced in 50p combinations  
It would be lovely to see you there



## THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

**The Church in Toft invites you to come and picnic with us**

**WHEN** Sunday, August 22nd

**WHERE** St. Andrew's Church Yard , where there is plenty of room and shade from the sun

**AT** 12.30pm after coffee following Morning Worship outside

**ALL WELCOME** (and of course you are very welcome to worship with us beforehand at 11am)

**AUGUST 22nd** 'Bread for Life'

outside worship will be subject to any necessary conditions e.g. social distancing but it will include some hearty singing! Chairs will be provided, but if you prefer your own, feel free to bring them with you..

### **Standard Operating Procedures – Stage 4 – at St. Andrew's will be as follows**

**Hands** Please use the hand sanitizer on entry.

**Face Coverings** are encouraged when moving around the building and during busy services. You are invited to wear a covering at all times whilst in the building, if you feel more comfortable doing so.

**Space** You are encouraged to space about in the church. If this is not possible you are encouraged to wear a face covering, especially for singing. (If you are feeling particularly anxious then a chair can be set up at the back of church for you.)

**Track and Trace** You are invited to use the QR code. Cleaning High touch points will continue to be cleaned. Refreshments Will be served. You are encouraged to take these outside.

**Service Details:** Singing We may sing!. You may wish to wear a face covering for this.

**The Peace** We will offer a sign of peace from our pews, without physical touch.

**Communion** Will take place at the altar rail. You are invited to walk down the left-hand side of the chancel, receive – one at a time – at the rail, and then walk back down the right (South) side of the chancel to return to your pew. If you prefer Communion can be brought to you.

Communion by 'intinction' will now be offered. The minister will take your wafer and dip it into the wine before dropping it into your hand. If you would rather receive the bread alone, please let the minister know when you come to receive.

**The WALL PARTY or SUMMER JOLLY** On July 20th, almost a year since the work was begun the PCC was able to say 'thank you' to all those who had physically laboured, given us money or contributed in any way to the rebuild of the churchyard wall. It was a glorious sunny evening (following a thunderstorm just half an hours before!), not too hot, and about 50 people attended a happy, joyful occasion at which John Quenby thanked all those who had helped him in any way to achieve the fantastic result and the Vicar, David Newton reiterated those thanks with an especial thanks to John. The churchyard was looking good, Margaret Quenby had created some lovely eats and Jeanne McCarten, Mike McCarthy, Cynan Ellis-Evans and Jake Tebbit serenaded the company all evening even when we all had to decamp into the church when the rain returned.

**SEPTEMBER 4th AUTUMN FAYRE** in the churchyard 10.30 – 1.00pm

This will be a mixture of old Summer Fete, Open church and social gathering! 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, building an insect hotel perhaps or a bat house, and a raffle and bottle stall

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





## TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

Our **Grand Re-opening Barbeque** at the beginning of July was a great success – a great turnout and good weather for the evening. We have had lots of compliments about the evening, the food and how we managed the situation – thanks to all those who came along and to those that helped with the event!

**August** is going to see the return of some favourites – Food on Friday and Film Nights.

We will be holding the first “Food on Friday” on 6th August. Doors open at 7pm and food is on a first-come, first-served basis, so make sure you arrive in time! Carol will be doing the food-check out the TSC website or Facebook to find out what the food will be..... We hope to make these a regular event again as long as we can get enough volunteers to run them.

**The Film Night** will return on Saturday 21st August. Doors open at 8pm and the film will start promptly at 8:15pm. As usual, there will be an interval to refresh your glasses! The film for August will be “Nomadland”. This Oscar winning film (Best Picture, Best Actress, Best Director) tells the story of a woman in her sixties who after losing everything following the economic collapse of a company town in rural Nevada, embarks on a journey through the American West, living as a van-dwelling modern-day nomad. Starring Frances McDormand, best know for her title role in “Three Billboards outside Ebbing.”

We plan to return to showing a film once a month. Film Club membership is £10 a year, or evening membership is £2.50.

We are open every Friday evening from 8pm – and hope to also start opening on Thursdays soon – watch the website and Facebook for details.

### **Can you help?**

We remain very keen to get more help – both in running the Club and on committee – and we are very flexible about how much time you can commit. If you can help, do please contact us at: help@toftsocialclub.org.uk or by calling 01223 263359.

Website: <https://toftsocialclub.org.uk>

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ToftSocial>

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

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

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



*A reader writes:*

I noticed in a recent edition of your magazine that there was an article trying to persuade people to try an air-source heat-pump. It listed all the good things about them...but left out the bad. As I have had one (now got rid of) I thought it would be a good idea to let your readers know that they are not the answer to your prayers.

Firstly, they are ugly. You might say 'so is an oil tank', but you can keep those in sheds or plant things round them. You can't do that with an ASHP. They need to be surrounded by fresh air.

Second, they make an awful noise. Sounds like you have a diesel tractor ticking over in your back garden, or wherever they put it. I didn't like that and neither did the neighbours. I can only imagine what the racket would be like if your whole street had them. No one would ever get a wink of sleep and that's because they seem to need to be almost permanently on to get anything much out of them.

Thirdly, there is the cost. Mine cost a lot - well into four figures - to buy, then another big bill to install and then the actual running costs. OK, our oil bill disappeared, but our electric nearly doubled so we were quite a lot worse off. And all that juice has to come from somewhere - so 'eco' they are not.

But lastly and this is the worst thing - they don't work. Our house was permanently cold, the heating never got to an acceptable level and we wound up adding kettles of hot water to the bath and having electric fan heaters on (so more on the bill!). Once, when it got really cold, the whole unit just iced up and stopped altogether until we defrosted it with a hair-dryer. We had the engineers out to it several times but they just kept saying it was OK.

So my advice would be: Look Before You Leap! (*name withheld on request*)

**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
Vacancy	-	-
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](http://www.toft.org.uk). Among other things, the Council considers local planning applications for the planning authority, the South Cambridgeshire District Council; provides the local recreation area, the People's Hall, litter bins, dog waste bins and the bus shelter; arranges for local verge cutting on behalf of the Cambridgeshire County Council and works with that authority to ensure the maintenance of local footpaths.*

**Next Meeting: Monday 6th September, 7.00 pm in The People's Hall . All welcome subject to social-distancing guidelines**

**(Please note that the Parish Council does not meet in August)**

The Parish Council met at 7-00 on Monday 5th July.

Our newly elected County Councillor, Michael Atkins, attended for the first time and gave the PC an update on his activities. The PC gave him some of the priorities that they had been pressing including EWR and the cyclepath to Comberton.

Unfortunately, due to work commitments, James Wrycroft has resigned as a Councillor. The PC thanked him for his service and wished him well for the future. This does mean the PC is in need of another Councillor. If you are interested or want to understand what's

involved please approach any of the Councillors for more information.

The PC agreed to provide the funds needed by the Hall Committee to purchase the items necessary to start a coffee morning and to have coffee at other events. This amounted to just under £3k.

Cllr Tall volunteered to represent the Council on the "20's Plenty" campaign group. The objective of the group is to introduce many more 20mph limits within villages.

Cllr Yeadon reported that there was some graffiti on the shed in the rec and that he would paint over it. He also said that the PC should consider some refurbishment of the main younger children's play frame as it needed a coat of paint and some minor repairs.

Cllr Tall reported on the County Council web site a number of issues including, a dead tree on Brookside, overhanging trees on Mill Lane Road and on Church Road. It was noted that all residents can report issues to the County Council via their website, any issues relating to highways or verges or village footpaths is their responsibility.

The PC has had it's annual audit by an external auditor and all was found to be well.

The PC considered two planning applications and one for tree works and will respond accordingly.

Cllr Popat, who chairs the Climate Change Working Group, reported that articles had been agreed for the next two Calendars and he would consider whether there was any opportunity for funding for energy efficiency measures for the Hall.

Please note that the PC does not meet in August and so the next meeting will be Monday 6th Sept at 7-00. Members of the public are very welcome.

Please read the official minutes for the definitive outcomes from the meeting.





*We're back! Hungry guests celebrate the re-opening of the Social Club at their Barbecue  
(photo by Ron Gouldstone)*



**W**e talk a lot about climate change and our carbon footprint but how much do we know about it. Here's a little quiz set by the PC's Climate Change Group for you to test your knowledge. The answers are included below.

1. Which of the human generated greenhouse gases has the greatest impact on global warming?
2. By what year has the UK committed to be 'carbon neutral'?
3. What are the carbon emissions per person in the following countries? I'll give you a clue, the global average is 4.8 tons, UK, USA, India. (a point for each correct answer +/- 1 ton)
4. What would the global average for carbon emissions need to be for the world to be carbon neutral?
5. Which is the only country in the world to have a negative carbon footprint?
6. How much was the global mean sea level rise in the twentieth century, and by how much further is it predicted to rise in the twenty-first century? (Go on take a guess)
7. Say you're taking a one-way, economy flight from New York to London. You might want to make up for those emissions by giving up quarter-pound hamburgers. How many burgers would you need to skip to offset that flight?
8. Lithium is an essential component for batteries to power electric cars. There are proposals to extract lithium in one of the English Counties - which one?

## TOFT TELEPHONE BOX SEED SWAP

Thank you to all those lovely people who have contributed seeds and donations to the seed swap.

**£35.50  
HAS BEEN DONATED  
TO FARM AFRICA**

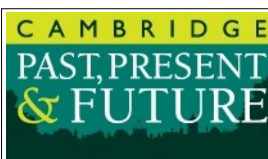
Now it's time to start thinking about next years flowers. Collect seed as it becomes ripe. Dry and store it in named envelopes to use yourself or share with the seed swap.

September and October are good months for sowing and starting off hardy annuals like cornflowers, nigella, calendula, ammi majus, daucus(wild carrot), flowers for a wild meadow and many more.

If you have any spare seeds or you if you can collect seed from your garden, please think about donating it to the seed swap.



- These are the answers to the Carbon Quiz earlier in the Calendar. How many did you get right?
1. Answer: Carbon dioxide: CO<sub>2</sub>. The five main greenhouse gases are water vapour, Carbon Dioxide, Methane, Ozone, Nitrous Oxide and Chlorofluorocarbons.
  2. Answer: 2050.
  - Recent estimates suggest that by this time, cities such as Mumbai could be flooded, as could Bangkok and Osaka, a large chunk of Shanghai, large parts of Thailand, large parts of Southern Vietnam, Egypt, to name but a few.
  3. Answers: UK, 5.48, USA, 16, India, 1.9
  4. Answer: Between 2 and 3 tons
  5. Answer: Bhutan.
  - Here are some of the ways Bhutan became carbon negative:  
A ban was placed on log exports.  
The constitution was amended to include that forested areas would not drop below 60%.  
Free hydroelectric power generated by Bhutan's many rivers is used instead of less environmentally friendly fossil fuels.  
Free electricity is provided to rural farmers.
  6. Answer, Twentieth century: 11-16cm  
Twenty First Century: 0.5m (if immediate cuts to carbon emissions are enacted): 2m (if not)
  7. Answer: 278 (one point for any guess between 270 and 285)
  8. Answer: Cornwall. There are suggestions that enough Lithium can be sourced from Cornwall to supply all of the UK's needs.



### Hinxton Watermill Open Days

Sundays of 1 August, 5 September and 3 October.

2.30pm - 5pm

Tours of the Watermill and free children's discovery trail. Free entry for members, £3 non-members, children go free. No need to book.

### Stourbridge Medieval Fair at The Leper Chapel

Saturday 4 September 12.00-4.30pm

Step back in time and experience a medieval fair! Free family event with dancing, singing, storytelling, crafts, stalls and talks at one of Cambridge's oldest buildings.

### Guided walk 'Wildflowers of Wandlebury'

Wednesday 8 September 10am-12pm.

Free event, suggested donation £3. No need to book.

## toft historical society

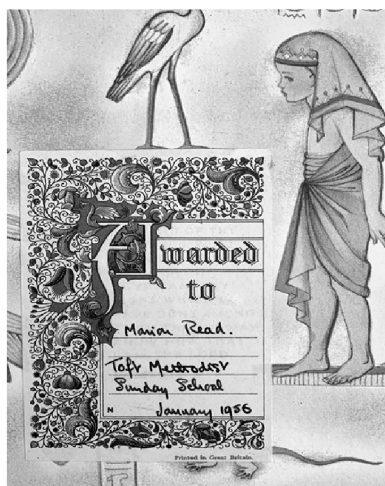
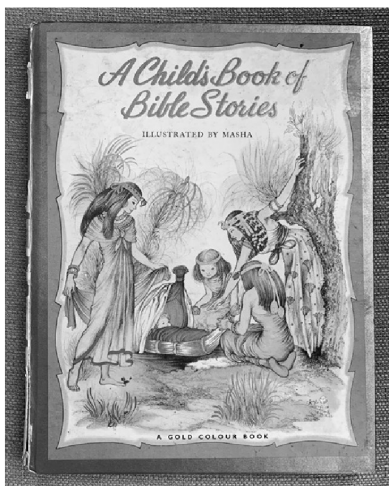
# Sunday school

Following on from the Society's piece on Sunday schools in Toft in the last issue of the Village Calendar, Marion Read (Mill Lane) sent us her reminiscence of Sunday school as a child in the village.

At six years old I didn't see the point of being packed off to Toft Sunday School having already spent the weekdays under the iron rule of Mrs. Mitchel (no relation Ann!), the dreaded dragon Headmistress of Toft Village School. However, I soon realized Sunday tuition led by kindly, patient, Clifford Tebbit and his dedicated duo of loyal side-kicks Mary Warton and Ruth Jacklin was a whole different scenario involving fun and not fear, riveting Bible stories, games and activities, individual encouragement plus orange squash and a biscuit at break-time. All in all, a pleasant experience although wearing with reluctance my 'Sunday Best' white sandals and a ridiculous floral frock as opposed to my usual 'Up-The-Drift' garb of muddy dungarees and wellies....

Because the teachers made everything interesting, somehow, I absorbed quite a lot of random snippets of Biblical knowledge and quotations which surface now and again, for example when a pompous cleric affiliated with Eaden Lilley, my place of employment at sixteen, attended a staff meeting and I told him my cat had gone to Heaven, he argued that 'Animal's do NOT have souls'. I immediately retorted with 'Well, at Toft Sunday School they taught me *He sees the tiny sparrow fall* and why would a shepherd bother to give baby Jesus a lamb?' .... He shut up and left while I was still ranting on about Noah bothering to build an ark....

I still treasure my Sunday School Prize for Good Attendance in 1956, a beautifully illustrated Book of Bible Stories, written in a way that a six-year-old could understand (pictured here).



### Marion Read.

(Being a swarthy, bespectacled child, never chosen to be the Virgin Mary in Toft Sunday School nativity play but always happy to play to the hilt with joy, her usual allocated role as 'Third Shepherd on the Left'). [In the photo, Marion is seen at her childhood home, 11 Mill Lane, with her mother, in the 1950s]





## Bedfordshire Cambridgeshire Northamptonshire

## Wildlife Trust BCN Update: West Cambridgeshire Hundreds

Aug 2021

This year the Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs and Northants are trialling more events across our West Cambs Hundreds reserves. The events we run need to be suitable for the site, so we use Cambourne for accessible and more flexible sessions as it has a car park, more robust habitats and a choice of flat, wide, surfaced paths. We are planning low-key sessions at our more sensitive sites like Gamlingay, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, running family sessions, wildlife strolls, and bat walks. Find a list of events, and book online, on our website [www.wildlifebcn.org/events](http://www.wildlifebcn.org/events).

Hardwick Wood has a committed team of Wildlife Trust BCN volunteers, who look after much of the practical habitat management and maintenance of the site, as well as some of the survey and monitoring of wildlife, under the guidance of the trust's Reserves Team. Over winter, this often involves coppicing, but they meet occasionally in the summer to help keep paths clear and catch up on other jobs. They love to see new people, and you are welcome to attend a one-off session or become a regular volunteer, the next meeting is Sunday 22 August where they will be joined by the Cambridge Conservation Volunteers, and will be cutting back vegetation and moving some fence panels. For details of volunteer work parties, how to make contact etc, visit [www.wildlifebcn.org/get-involved/volunteer](http://www.wildlifebcn.org/get-involved/volunteer)

On many of Trust reserves, additional paths have opened up after the wet winter and high footfall over the past 18 months: in Hardwick Wood, volunteers block these unofficial routes with branches. You can help this nationally important ancient woodland by checking the maps onsite or on our website to ensure you stick to the official paths, this reduces disturbance to wildlife, trampling of sensitive plants, and compaction of the soil, which can affect plant growth.

Hardwick Wood and other woodland reserves nearby, are home to the beautiful purple hairstreak butterfly. You can see this in summer and sometimes into early autumn. It is rare to see it close-to but if you look to the top branches of oaks on a warm evening, you might be able to see them flitting around the canopy. They feed on honeydew which is the sticky liquid produced by aphids feeding on the leaves.

We love to hear about the wildlife you see on our reserves. I'm Rebecca Neal and work with communities surrounding our West Cambs 100s reserves, delivering events and working with all ages.

E-mail: [rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org)

Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

BCN Facebook/Twitter: @wildlifebcn

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



*The hard-to-find Purple Hairstreak Butterfly*

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, plus Cambourne Nature Reserve.



### Comberton Library

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

Tel: 0345 045 5225

*Monday: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm*

*Wednesday: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm and 2.00 – 5.00 pm*

*Friday: 2.00 – 5.00 pm*

*Saturday: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm*

Cambridgeshire Libraries continue to follow government COVID-safety advice. At the time of writing, and all being well, we hope to be back to our normal opening hours in August; these are detailed at the top of the page, but for the latest updates please visit our website [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library), call the contact centre 0345 045 5225 or drop in to the library and ask for details.

Responding to a tough year when we have all had to manage our lives around the pandemic, Cambridgeshire Libraries have created a new Libraries and Wellbeing webpage. This provides links to activities, resources and support, both national and local. Please visit [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/LibraryAndWellbeing](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/LibraryAndWellbeing) and tell us what you think. Your feedback will help us to improve our services, both online and in our libraries.

We hope that your children are already enjoying this year's Summer Reading Challenge, Wild World Heroes, but if you are yet to sign-up, it's not too late. Just call into the library during opening hours to register, and help the children have fun reading during the holidays and collect stickers and rewards! If you would rather have a 'take away' pack with all the resources needed to complete the Challenge, these are available in the library too. All children who complete the Challenge will be awarded a certificate and medal. Visit Cambridgeshire Libraries Facebook for Families page @CamslibFamilies or our website to find out more.

We are delighted to be able to offer two family activity sessions at Comberton Library during August. Please put these dates in your diary and do come along with your children to take part:

*Tuesday 10th August, 2.00 – 3.00 pm, - Sow a Seed Storytime.* This session is aimed at children aged 4+. Please bring a blanket, as, if the weather is fine, we hope to hold this session outside on the lovely grassed area opposite the library. If it is raining, still come along, as we will be in the library instead.

*Thursday 26th August, 10.30 – 11.30 am – Wild World Heroes Crafts.* Come along for some crafting fun, linked to our Summer Reading Challenge theme. Again, we hope to host this session outside if the weather is fine.

For more information please ask the library staff when you next visit.

We hope that adults will enjoy reading this summer, too. Travel may still be tricky, but books can always take you to new places! Check out books from the library or download free eBooks or eAudiobooks from our online catalogue onto your own device. We also offer a wide range of eMagazines and eNewspapers too.

We hope to re-start our very popular Rhymetime sessions in the Autumn, and have an amazing opportunity available for a Rhymetime volunteer at Comberton Library. Whatever your skills and experience, if you would enjoy spending time with our very youngest children and their families/carers, and have some time available every other week in term time, please do come into the library to speak to the staff about what is involved. We would love to welcome you as part of our friendly team.

We hope that you enjoy a lovely summer and look forward to seeing you in the library very soon.



**Wheelie Bin Collections For August**

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

**Black Bin:**

Weds 4th Aug

Weds 18th Aug

**Blue/Green Bin**

Weds 11th Aug

Weds 25th Aug

**Notice to Advertisers**

**Advertisements** are published quarterly. Copy for inclusion in the next available edition of the Calendar **must** reach us by 17th October 2021 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 **Pat Gouldstone** at: [calendaradstoft@gmail.com](mailto:calendaradstoft@gmail.com) to discuss their requirements.

**✂ 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

**What is Gift Aid? And how does it help Charities? - A Home-Start General Information Article**



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**How Gift Aid Works**

Gift Aid was introduced in the 1990s and is one of the most important government initiatives for charities since it offers the potential to increase fundraising by up to 25%. This means that for every £1 donated, the charity can claim an extra 25p from HMRC.

Gift Aid can only be claimed on donations made by people who pay tax in the UK, and the claim must be for less, in Gift Aid, than the donor has paid in tax during that year.

**What can't you claim Gift Aid on?**

Gift Aid can't be claimed on every donation relating to charity. Here are some of the donation types that are exempt from Gift Aid (this is not an exhaustive list!).

- Gifts from limited companies;
- Gifts made through Payroll Giving;
- Gifts that started as loans, but no longer need to be repaid;

If you'd like to know more about these specific rules, you can find more details on the HMRC website: Gift Aid donation claims for charities and CASCs - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/gift-aid-what-donations-charities-and-cascs-can-claim-on>

**T**he Calendar is always pleased to receive contributions from readers, advertisers and fund raisers. We reserve the right to edit, amend, abridge or otherwise butcher any submissions to accord with technical or editorial requirements, or sometimes just on a whim. We do not normally accept anonymous 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 August**. Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition. Email: [calendareditor@toft.org.uk](mailto:calendareditor@toft.org.uk) Post: 33 Egremont Road, Hardwick, Cambridge CB23 7XR Telephone: 01954 211346

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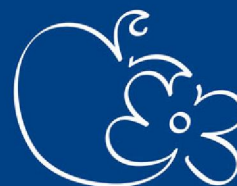
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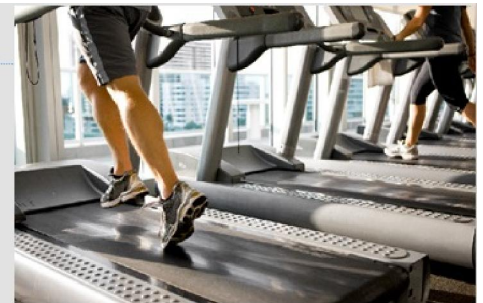
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Little Hands is also at Linton, Melbourn and Newton, visit the website at  
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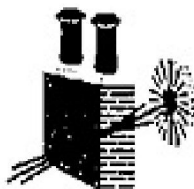
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