



# Toft Village Calendar

Produced and Distributed by St. Andrew's Parish Church

November 2020



## 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]. no meeting at present. For the record Elizabeth spells her surname with two s's and two r's so Elizabeth Harrisson, with apologies for the spelling error last month!

**Sewing, Knit and Natter** is still unable to meet. See P.2

**The Parish Council** - The next meeting will be at 7-00 on Monday 2nd November via Zoom. Details will be on the Village web site at least 3 days before the event.

**The Internet Club** continues to meet via Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. In November that will be 2nd and 16th at 2 pm. Hope to see you there!

## EDITORIAL

"What do you think?" I said, holding up a sheet of A4 to Mrs Editor. On it were typed, in the largest font Microsoft Word could fit on the page, the words; "Caution: Do Not Knock. We Think We Might Have Got It". She looked puzzled. "What's it for?" she asked. "It's this year's Hallowe'en deterrent." I said, with modest pride. "You know how usually we turn the lights and the TV off and draw all the curtains? Well, this year, I'm heading the pesky blighters off before they get half-way up the path. And if that doesn't work, I've got Plan Two oven-ready. I call it 'Trick-n-Trace'. Whip open the door, take a quick snap and then it's off round to their Mum and Dad's to show them the evidence. Caught in the act of disturbing elderly, vulnerable people and putting them at risk of certain death. Probably against the law, by now." "I'm not elderly. Not like you," she pointed out. "And, anyway, I'm not sure you can be 'at risk of certain death'. I mean, 'at risk of death', yes, but if death was certain, there wouldn't actually be a risk, would there? It'd be a certainty." I sighed. Downcast by the fact we'd just put the clocks back, thereby inflicting on ourselves an extra hour of 2020, I'd been trying to think of ways we could somehow turn the situation to our advantage. Using special male intuition, I sensed that as a team game, it was failing.

"Is this another of your stupid schemes like offering to personally customise face-masks? I told you you'd need more than a felt-tip pen and a John Bull printing set." I wasn't finished yet. "OK - that needs some work," I conceded "but just wait till my latest scheme hits the airwaves. It's this brilliant can't-fail money-spinner." And I showed her the message I'd been working on, the one that would set social media aflame. It said:

*"For Immediate Rent: Garage in prized Tier One area. Could easily convert into rural paradise for locked-down Townies seeking escape from Tiers 2 or 3. Situated in a Covid-free street in a quiet East Anglian village, this is the ideal bolt-hole for Londoners with well-lined pockets but nowhere to empty them."*

*Forget the daily grind of travelling to work - we have next-door's wi-fi password!*

*Local sight-seeing trips arranged on request. See what an actual cow looks like in the wild and learn the astonishing truth of where milk really comes from (Sheep and Hens package available as optional extra)!*

*Forget smoggy city fumes and stale, recycled air. Our property is constantly refreshed by certified-genuine rural breezes, day and night. From field and farm to you, just as nature intended.*

*There's bound to be high demand, so don't delay - book today!"*

Taking the stupefied silence that followed to signify someone speechless with admiration, I quickly followed up. "And then, there's my plan to issue commemorative Covid postage stamps. I've told Royal Mail they can have the idea for a five-figure sum." She shook her head pityingly. "You're wasting your time" she said. "None of this is going to work. Besides, Austria's already done the stamps idea." I slumped. "it's not fair," I bleated, like a petulant five year-old. "there must be some benefit to life in slow-motion, surely?" "Well, there is" she consoled me. "If it wasn't for the pestilence, how would you fill up The Calendar?"



## COMING SOON – A NEW Community Warden Scheme for Papworth, Toft, Hardwick, Caldecote, Comberton, Wimpole and Bourn

Are you aged 60 or over?

Would you like help to continue to live independently in your own home?

The Community Warden is able to offer assistance by providing a daily phone call (Mon-Fri) and support such as:

- Making drinks and a light meal
- A home visit
- Collecting prescriptions
- Small items of shopping
- A listening ear
- Help with paperwork and making appointments
- Signposting to other services where appropriate

If you are interested in this service and would like more information, please call 07445151635 or email [wardens@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:wardens@ageukcap.org.uk)

There is a FREE 2 week trial and then a small weekly fee afterwards if you wish to remain on the scheme.

**Volunteers:** Please also see our advertisement on Page 12

**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

Everyone is welcome to come and share in any of  
our services

**SERVICES OF WORSHIP****For the Present all services are at St. Andrew's**

*1<sup>st</sup> November* 8.30 am Holy Communion - Rev Prof  
Michael Reiss

11.00am All Souls - Rev Alison Walker <sup>(see p.3)</sup>

*8<sup>th</sup> November* 10.55 am Remembrance Day Service  
<sup>(see p. 3)</sup> – Rev David Newton

*15<sup>th</sup> November* 8.30 am Holy Communion Rev Prof  
Michael Reiss

11.00am Morning service - Rev Robert Dolman

*22<sup>nd</sup> November* 11.00am Christ the King - Churches  
Together<sup>3</sup>

*29<sup>th</sup> November* 8.30 am Holy Communion Rev Prof  
Michael Reiss

11.00am Celebration of our Local Ecumenical  
Partnership, Advent

and St. Andrew - Holy Communion Rev Alison  
Walker

*Morning Prayer* 9.15am at St Andrew's every  
Wednesday

St. Andrew's is open every day if you wish to drop in  
and we are holding services there every week BUT  
totally understand if you wish to remain at home for  
the moment. We are, of course, observing the  
guidelines for worship over social distancing, use of  
sanitiser, wearing of masks and in the way Holy  
Communion is administered.

We will continue to have an email version of  
Wednesday morning prayer (if you wish to add your  
name to this list get in touch with Tricia Troughton)  
and the Zoom service is available at 1100 am

THE MEETING ID: 898 7070 2475 [https://  
us02web.zoom.us/j/89870702475](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89870702475).

For the present the Methodist Church will remain  
closed for services.

# D

ear Friends,
*Christmas Windows...*

Dear Friends,

I remember writing in January urging you not to take  
down your Christmas lights too soon. Well, now  
please put them up as soon as possible! We really  
need a bit of sparkly lights to cheer us up and guide us  
through the dark months ahead.

The tiers/tears of lockdown loom in front of us and we  
need to find some inspiration to get us through. I am  
both gloomy at the thought of this winter and  
reassured because I hope and trust that we will  
continue to look after each other as we did in the  
spring and summer. It's tempting to retreat into our  
houses under our duvets but if we step out again we  
will find that our neighbours are still smiling underneath  
their bobble hats and face masks (will there be thermal  
ones too I wonder?!).

It is likely that Christmas will take a different shape this  
year, but the festival itself will still be celebrated with  
cards, some gifts and I really, really hope – carol  
singing too. The rhythm of the Christian year has  
survived wars, disasters and pandemics. This faithful  
endurance comforts me, knowing that this Christmas I  
will still stand in a church, or on Zoom in my lounge,  
and light the Christmas candle and say "Christ the  
Light of the World is born."

In early November though, that feels a long way  
ahead, and I need some of the delight and sparkly as  
soon as possible. I was inspired by the rainbows that  
cheered us up earlier, so I'd like to invite you to  
decorate your front windows with lights, colours,  
decorations and Christmas pictures. Be as secular or  
as religious as you choose – but go big! With our  
bright windows we can have a reason to walk around  
our village and admire the artwork. Draw a big picture,  
or paint on your window (there are washable ones), or  
go retro with stencils and snow spray. Perhaps add  
some fairy lights if you have any? We're going to  
decorate the chapel windows too.

We can shine out a light to brighten the darkness, we  
can be the light that someone else is longing to see.

Yours with sparkling hope, Alison

**Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**

At the end of October **Sewing, Knit and Natter**  
will be decorating the tree on the village green  
with lots of poppies as a reminder to all of us to  
remember the British Legion Poppy appeal. The poppies  
are many of the ones the group made two years ago when  
the Methodist Chapel was filled with roughly 1000 poppies  
to commemorate the ending of the Great War in 1918



## THE CHURCH IN TOFT DIARY

**All Souls** – this service is planned to support all those who wish to remember relatives and friends special to them who have died, maybe in the last twelve months, maybe many years ago. We look forward to welcoming you to this special service

**Remembrance Sunday** – this year would have been our Royal British Legion celebration but that is not to be; so there will be a short service of Remembrance at St. Andrew's, outside if it is possible beginning at 10.55 ready for the silence at 11 o'clock.

Those who would like to lay a wreath or cross at our memorial in High Street, outside the Methodist Church, may wish to join together at 10.30 for this brief event before going onto the church if so desired..

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**CHRISTMAS** I know seems very early to be putting this in but things start happening quite close to the beginning of December, indeed even in November.

**CHRISTMAS FAYRE** is scheduled for 28th November. It won't happen in its usual form but we hope to do something to 'start Christmas off' look out for separate flyer

Our theme this year is to be COMFORT AND JOY from the carol God rest you merry gentlemen.

We cannot have our usual Christmas Tree, Christingle and Gift Service on December 6th but would like to keep some parts of this special Toft day and so we plan to have a

**CHRISTINGLE TRAIL** on December 6th which you can follow as an individual or a family beginning at the Methodist Church anytime between 2.30 and 3.15 and ending at St. Andrew's. More details next Calendar but please keep the date.

**GIFTS** for the Women's Refuge are almost more important this year than ever before – they were so grateful for all the harvest gifts delivered – so three ways of giving before Monday 7th December please

Bring them to the Christingle trail and we will happily receive them

Deliver them to 20 High Street, Toft – they can be left on the doorstep – Ann won't be far away

Put them in the church under the big tree – the church is open every day

**METHODIST CHURCH DECORATIONS** It is planned to give the Church a real Christmas feel where you can drop in for a few minutes to enjoy the decorations, be quiet and perhaps say a prayer. To do this we would like to have as many crib scenes as possible. Do you have a spare one? Tucked away in a box perhaps, unused each year? If so, and you would like to lend it to us for the Christmas period, we would like to display it. Could you bring it to the Methodist Church on Saturday 28th November between 10 and 12 am, where Tricia Troughton will be waiting. Please put with it, your name and contact telephone number and anything you know about it – for instance that it comes from Austria; or it's been in your family for generations or.....

The Church will be decorated in time for the Christingle Trail.





# NEW CHALLENGES *new hope*

Online for  
2020!

**West of Cambridge Churches United Service**  
with guest speaker Elaine Storkey

**Sunday 22nd November 10:30 - 11:30**  
(gathering from 10am)

Join us online for sung worship, prayer  
and talk. Resources for children of all ages.

Zoom coffee time afterwards - enjoy  
fellowship together.

SERVICE SUPPORTED BY Local Baptist Churches, Cambourne Church, Cambourne Catholic Church, Lordsbridge Team Ministry, Local Methodist Churches, Papworth Team Ministry, WCCYM

[www.woces.online.church](http://www.woces.online.church)

This month we remember **Bob Wish** who died on 9th  
October.

**Arthur James Wish 1921 – 2020**

Bob was born in Woodford, Essex the last of the five children. He loved growing up in Essex and then Kent where his parents ran a pub

He was 18 when the war broke out and he had many tales to tell of his time in the RAF working in signals both in the UK and most vividly of his time in Bombay from 1945-6.

He met and in due course married his WAAF girlfriend and they had three children Catriona, Barbara (now Preece) and Ian. Post-war he farmed first in Kent and then in mid-Sussex.

As a man who nearly made one hundred years he had decades of life after retiring from Farming including much travel before he settled first in Bourn and then in Toft.

Always good for a chat, with a story to tell, he will be missed not only by his three children, eight grand-children and four great-grandchildren (with one to come) but by all of us in the village whose lives he touched with humour, good conversation and of course a story!





## TOFT SOCIAL CLUB NEWS

### TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SOCIAL CLUB OPENING AND ACTIVITIES

The social distancing restrictions are still very much in place and with no real likelihood of circumstances changing in the imminent future the situation remains that we are unable to open the Social Club in a way which would allow members to socially distance and safely make the most of the facilities we offer.

All regular events in the club remain on hold and the bar will not be open for its usual evening sessions.

HOWEVER

### ZOOM SOCIAL CLUB QUIZZES RE-START

Yes great news the online quizzes have resumed. The first quiz will take place on Saturday 24th October and will continue on a two weekly basis. We hope you received the email informing you of the start date but if not and you would like to be added to our email circulation please log on to

<https://www.toftsocialclub.org.uk/maillinglist.php> and complete your details

### ZOOM MEETING GET TOGETHERS

We are considering resuming the Friday evening "Zoom" video sessions possibly on a monthly basis. These gave members the opportunity to join in video chats together and catch up on local news but stopped over the summer months as people were getting out a little more and seeing each other on their travels. As the colder days and darker night creep on us, contact with others may be reduced.

So are these zoom get-togethers something you would like us to re start?

**LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK** on <https://www.toftsocialclub.org.uk/contact.php>

Information and updates on Toft Social Club activities can be found on the Website and Facebook pages

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

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

Martin Yeadon	263663	cllr.yeadon@tpc.toft.org.uk
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James Wrycroft	264427	cllr.wrycroft@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Elaine Miles	262255	cllr.miles@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Tricia Ellis-Evans	263477	cllr.ellis-evans@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Andy Tall	07984796273	cllr.tall@tpc.toft.org.uk
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Lluis Borrell	264611	cllr.borrell@toft.org.uk
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Kaushik Popat		cllr.popat@tpc.toft.org.uk
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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](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 November 2nd, 7.30 pm (via Zoom)**

The PC met on 5th Oct via Zoom. There were a number of residents in attendance, primarily interested in the East West Rail. The Chair reported on the current status and the responses the PC have received from the Mayor and our MP having written to them expressing the PC's concerns. The Chair is a member of the Cambridge Approaches group who have developed some alternative routes for the approach to Cambridge South station. The PC supported the Chair's proposals for the various rankings of the different routes and in particular agreed that a route from a station north of Cambourne along by the A428 and then following the M11 (known as route 6) would be our strongly favoured route. The Chair reported that Cambridge Approaches are having a meeting with EWR, the MP and the leader of SCDC to discuss their preferred routes. The PC were concerned that the current route options laid out by Cambridge Approaches do not consider how the route would pass the village but, because of the position the routes ended, implied that it run south of the village. The PC was keen that there should be no implication that it

supported a route south of the village as, frankly, it hasn't considered the merits of a route either side of the village. The Chair agreed to ask Cambridge Approaches to end their route proposals further from the village to show no preference regarding the route around Toft. Barton PC are to form a group of concerned PC's in the area to consider how, collectively, the PC's can respond to the proposals. Cllr Tall agreed to join that group.

The PC thanked John Betson for, once again, offering to be the village's Community Gritting Volunteer. This involves gritting some of our main thoroughfares when conditions warrant it.

Age UK are to operate a Community Warden Scheme in the our village and others in the area. Cllr Yeadon agreed to meet with Age UK to understand better what will be involved.

The PC has received a request for financial support for MAGPAS. This was discussed, recognising the valuable service they provided. However, in the past the PC has not supported charities as it's difficult to decide which ones to support and, of, course, it is public monies. Furthermore the PC has not budgeted for such contributions. It was agreed not to make a contribution but the PC agreed to consider having funds allocated for such giving, (if the PC is allowed to) at the next budget round.

The PC pays for the unmetered electricity used by the street lighting and it agreed to a quotation from OPUS electricity to supply that power.

The PC considered two planning applications.

Cllr Popat reported that he has made an application for a Zero Carbon Communities Grant for improvement to the cycle path between Toft and Comberton.

Cllr Yeadon reported that the property next to the People's Hall has come up for sale and that there was some interest from within the village to purchase it as a village asset for additional recreational space. Cllr Yeadon noted this was early days and no decisions had yet been taken. (see p. 9)

Cllr Miles presented the proposals for Operation London Bridge which lays out how the PC and village would respond to the death of the Queen. These proposals were supported.

Cllr Miles has signs to discourage cyclists and horse riders from using the footpaths around the village. It was agreed to ask our odd job contractor to work with Cllr Miles to install the signs.

*Please refer to the official minutes of the meeting for the definitive outcomes from the meeting.*



# Supporting Toft during the Coronavirus



## NEED SUPPORT?

If you would like to speak to us or want help, contact us in any of the following ways

1. Call, text or WhatsApp (at reasonable times), Linda Hollow – 07779 918 682 or email: [linda.hollow@btconnect.com](mailto:linda.hollow@btconnect.com)
2. Put a message asking for help on the 'Nextdoor Toft' site (contact Jackie Morton at [jem.wickets@btinternet.com](mailto:jem.wickets@btinternet.com) to join)
3. Use the Toft Community Page on Facebook.

## GIVE SUPPORT

If you would like to help support the community, please let us know via either Jackie or Linda (details above)



HM Government



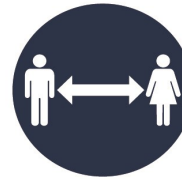
# We must keep on protecting each other.



HANDS

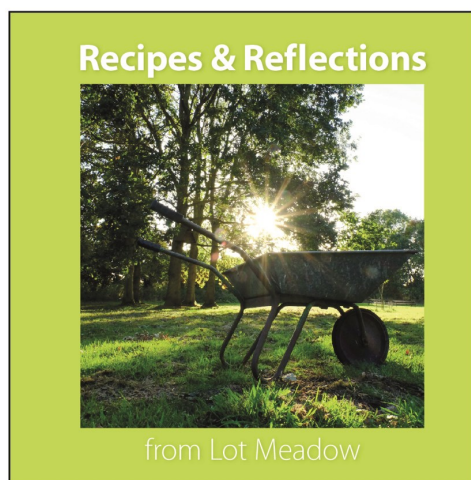


FACE



SPACE

**STAY ALERT ► CONTROL THE VIRUS ► SAVE LIVES**



## Recipes & Reflections from Lot Meadow

Our very own book of recipes, artistic reflections and photographs is back on sale.

With contributions from the people of Toft, it makes a great gift to send to loved ones this season.

Available from: Toft Shop and Tricia Ellis-Evans on  
Tel. 263477 or email [tricia@paceprojects.co.uk](mailto:tricia@paceprojects.co.uk)

Price £7.50

*Proceeds from this second edition will go to St. Andrew's Church*

## ETHELDREDA MEDAL

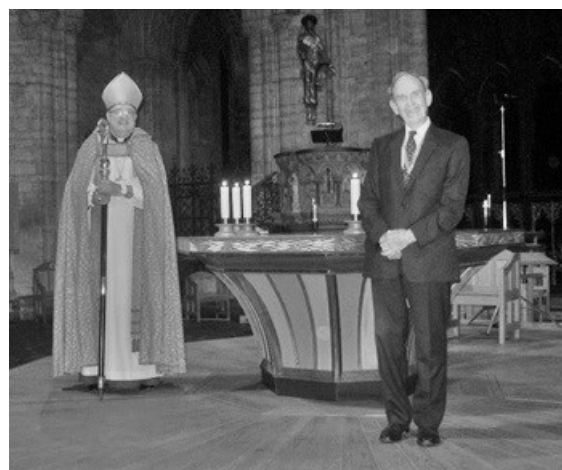
Bishop Stephen writes: Every other year, I award The Etheldreda Medal to people across the Diocese whose service to the community (which might be as 'local' as their extended family but could be as extensive as a national or international concern) is both 'generous' and 'outstanding'.

I am looking for exceptional people whose good works haven't yet been recognised; those who might (in partnership with others) come close to being nominated for a Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. For many people this will be about the duration and persistence of their good works, for others it may relate to a short but extraordinary act of kindness or course of conduct.

This year, we are delighted to report an Etheldreda Medal was presented to Dr Peter Johnson in Ely Cathedral by the Bishop on St. Etheldreda's day, 17th October during a beautifully sung Evensong.

His citation reads:- Peter has used his professional expertise on the church building in Toft and contributes in so many other ways to the life of this community. Tireless in many pursuits, his contribution to the life of the community is both valuable and valued. 'For both church and community, he is the first to step forward', writes one member of that community.

As many of us will know whether it is collecting, chopping and distributing wood, delivering daily newspapers, mowing the churchyard, driving people to appointments, mending churchyard walls and looking after church heating, moving chairs, china and tables or visiting 60 churches on ride and stride day, Peter is there, willing and helping. Well done!





## Tyne Cottage

Many residents will be aware that the Parish Council and the Hall Committee have been considering purchasing Tyne Cottage for the community. Tyne Cottage is the thatched property next to the Peoples Hall.

Unfortunately a cash buyer has emerged who is in a better position than the PC to achieve a quick sale, which the seller is keen to do, and so the seller has agreed to the cash sale. The PC has lodged an interest should that sale fall through but in the meantime no further work is being carried out on this.

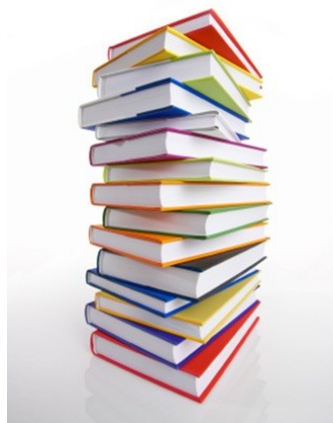
## Comberton Library

**Tel: 0345 045 5225**

(Old) Normal Opening Hours - **but please see below:**\*

Monday: 10am – 1pm, Wednesday: 10am – 1pm, 2pm -5pm,  
Friday: 2pm – 5pm, Saturday: 10am – 1pm

\*Current opening hours: Monday: 10.00 am – 2.00 pm  
Wednesday: 2.00 – 6.00 pm



We have been delighted to see so many of our customers at Comberton Library over the past few months and our 'Select and Collect' service has proved particularly popular. This service will be continuing for the foreseeable future. Please do keep an eye on the Library pages on the County Council website and the Library Service social media platforms for any changes to our offer, as these will be publicised as soon as they are known.

Now the weather is colder and the days shorter, have you thought about taking a look at the programme of free interactive talks and events for older adults, EngAGE Online. Full details of upcoming events are on the Cambridgeshire Libraries Facebook page. If you would like to be part of the audience, from the comfort of your armchair, you can request a virtual ticket by sending an email to [volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

The Autumn season of The Library Presents 'In Your House' is now well under way. Full details of what's on offer is available on The Library Presents page of our website, where you can also sign up to receive The Library Presents newsletter, or, if you use social media, like and follow @TheLibraryPresents on Facebook or Instagram. You can also find further information at Library Live, <http://www.library.live/the.library.presents>.

We also have lots of online resources to keep you informed and entertained; e-books, e-audiobooks, e-magazines and e-comics, which are free to download on to your pc, tablet or smartphone. Your library card will also give you access to encyclopaedias, directories, genealogy, history and music resources, not to mention online film, health resources and details of online learning courses.

If you don't already have library membership, you can register for a library card via the County Council website, or call our Customer Services team on 0345 045 5225. When your library card is ready, you will receive an email and be able to collect the card from the library. If you are able to show recent proof of address when you collect your card, your membership will be upgraded to full membership straightaway.

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



Social distancing had to be maintained

Toft said thank-you to our local shopkeepers, Justin and Jenny Orange on Saturday 12 September 2020 for their tireless service during the pandemic, maintaining supplies and deliveries and keeping everyone's spirits up. Esther Wrycroft, one of the army of young volunteers who have staffed the shop during the lockdown, presented Justin and Jenny with a cheque for £2,200, made up of donations from customers.



Justin and Jenny Orange: Justin here thanking everyone



Ann Mitchell gave the thank-you address



Esther Wrycroft presented the cheque



Jeanne McCarten says thank you at the church

There was a second opportunity to thank Justin and Jenny at the Harvest Thanksgiving at Saint Andrew's church on Sunday 4 October 2020. A socially-distanced congregation applauded Jenny, who was presented with a bouquet of flowers from the Mitchells' garden. Young musicians played and sang. Jeanne McCarten gave a thank-you address to Jenny and Justin and all the people who had quietly and unobtrusively stepped forward to help them during this difficult year to keep Toft supplied with goods and services. At the end of the collection period, a total of £2,305 had been donated.



# toft historical society

## Water, water everywhere

Because of the way Toft gently slopes down the Bourn Valley to end at Bourn Brook, the Brookside area (known to locals as 'Bottom End') is prone to occasional flooding. This is by no means new. The local historian John Layer (1586-1640) of Shepreth, recorded a visit to Toft in the 1630s. In his journal he notes that Toft is a "prettie village of about fiftie families" but that the brook often floods and makes it impossible to pass, even though there was a decent wooden bridge:

Addit. MS. 5823, p. 174. Toft. "Hath the neighbourhood of a small brook, which upon the fall of rains overflowed the meadows adjoining and oft times denieth passage, though it hath a wooden bridge over it erected to a good height."

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Brookside was aptly known as Water Row. The wooden bridge was in time replaced by a more substantial concrete structure but floods continued to cause problems in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, including a notable one in February 1935.

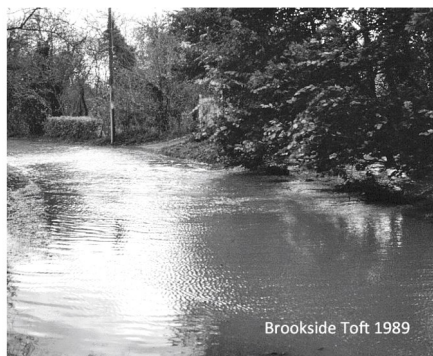


*Brookside 1935*



*New bridge and temporary bridge 1988-89*

By the late 1980s, it was clear that a wider bridge was needed over the brook to replace the old concrete bridge, and between December 1988 and March 1989, work went on to build the bridge we see today. A temporary bridge carried traffic and people during construction. The Bourn Brook is more managed these days but nevertheless, in more recent times, notable floods have occurred at Bottom End in 1989, 2009 and 2012. Even the new bridge can often barely contain the water level.



Brookside Toft 1989



Toft bridge Feb 2009



2012 School Lane / Brookside

*(photos courtesy of Ann Mitchell, Mike McVey, John Betson)*





## Meridian Primary School

*Learning for life – striving for excellence*

Greetings Neighbours,

All the children are continuing to settle in well and they are working very hard. Meridian Primary has had an exciting half term promoting DT and geography and our topic work has greatly benefitted from much outdoor learning and team work.

We held a non-uniform day at the end of September. Well done to everyone and to the Year 6 Children for organising the day. We raised a total of £209 for the Lisa Kent Trust which will go directly towards funding two children's education in The Gambia.

We ran our Harvest Festival week during the week of 19th October culminating in our Harvest Festival Assembly on 22nd October. Every class joined the reflective Zoom Assembly with Rev. David Newton. We'd like to thank all the families who donated food to Jimmy's, Cambridge. Jimmy's work with local people, communities, organisations and partners to deliver 24/7 emergency help, support and accommodation 365 days a year for those who would otherwise be sleeping rough.

We were able to purchase some new iPads thanks to the many families took part in the 2020 walk, run, or cycle challenge during the summer lockdown led by the PTA. We are excited about a new and exciting learning adventure with a greater use of technology.

This year, we will be holding our Act of Remembrance in school and we will be releasing a video including our choir, poems and a special reading to mark the occasion which all members of the community can access via a link on our website on Wednesday 11th November.

Christmas will still be very much part of our end of year celebrations. Although we may not have our traditional concerts for families, we will be recording class carol singing performances and instrumental items for us all to enjoy. We will be releasing a CD with a Christmas Carol from every class. We hope you will join us in supporting this venture which we hope will raise additional funds for the school. There will be more information in the next issue.

Thank you to Cambridge United Community Trust who have given the school a gift of ten full new Cambridge United training kits for KS1 age.

I wish to thank again all our school staff, volunteers, and governors who continue to work so hard, and especially in these times. I would also like to thank you for your continued support.

*Kind Regards, Mrs C. Etchie, Headteacher*

### Community Warden Required

Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is an independent charitable organisation which exists to improve the quality of life for older people in the county. The Community Warden supports older people to remain living in their own homes by providing them with practical daily support and assistance. Tasks such as collecting prescriptions, small items of shopping, helping with letters and phone calls and ensuring safety and well-being. The warden will also be responsible for the promotion of the service within the area.



Due to the expansion of the Community Warden Schemes in South Cambridgeshire, we have an exciting opportunity to recruit a motivated and reliable Community Warden to support older people within the areas below

**Papworth, Hardwick, Caldecote, Comberton, Wimpole, Bourn, Toft**

35 hours per week

The service is provided Monday to Friday.

Salary: £17,290pa

Closing date for applications: Monday 26th October 2020, Interviews: 29th & 30th October 2020

The successful candidate will be required to undertake Disclosure and Barring Service check at an ENHANCED level.

For an application pack or more information please contact:

E-mail: [recruitment@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@ageukcap.org.uk)



**A little bird says that it is time to send your Christmas greetings via our Village Calendar. It costs £15.00 and raises much needed funds for St Andrew's Church.** (cheques payable to: Toft PCC)

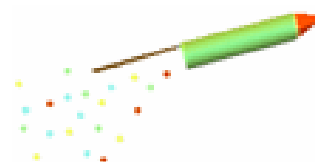
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**For information telephone 262309 or email: [jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk](mailto:jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk)**

**Spaces are limited so please book early.**

### Fireworks 2020

It is with regret that the Toft Firework Group have announced that due to the ongoing Covid-19 situation, we will not be able to hold the firework evening this year. We look forward to welcoming you back in 2021.



Home Meadow

### Toft care home launches fundraising drive to purchase high-tech sensory table for residents

**T**he team at Home Meadow residential home in Toft, Cambridgeshire, is calling upon its local community support a fundraising effort to bring high-tech sensory equipment into the home.

The home provides dedicated residential care for up to 49 people with a range of needs, including sensory impairments and dementia. They are looking to raise £3000 to purchase a Digital Rainbow Virtual Table, which will offer an additional form of stimulation and engagement as part of the home's varied activities programme.

The interactive table contains touch-screen interactive apps, games, quizzes and activities, plus immersive experiences such as dancing, music videos and virtual darts or bowling.

The home, which is part of the Healthcare Homes Group, is aiming to raise enough money to purchase the large freestanding tablet-style device.

Home Manager Laura Adams explains, "Many of our residents face challenges every day, so we are always looking at new and effective ways to support their wellbeing and ensure they are happy. In the current challenging climate, it's even more important for us to be innovative with our activities and entertainment plans."

"We're now looking at ways we can raise the money we need for an interactive Digital Rainbow Virtual Table so we would be incredibly grateful for any donations, no matter how small, to support our overall fundraising initiative to reach £3,000."

Debbie Marlow, Home Meadow's activities coordinator added, "The Digital Rainbow Virtual table will enhance both residents' mental and physical wellbeing, particularly those who may have become isolated not only by their illness, but also with lockdown. Not being able to cuddle their relatives has had a real impact and so we are looking for ways to fill that gap, until things 'get back to normal'. We have some lovely characters here and want to continue enriching their lives as much as we can."

Anyone wishing to donate to the home's fundraising efforts should contact Debbie Marlow at the home on 01223 263282, or visit Home Meadow's JustGiving fundraising page: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/debbie-marlow>

# TOFT INTERNET CLUB



The Internet club continues to meet on Zoom on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month. In November that will be 2nd and 16th at 2pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

## WANTED COMPUTER GEEKS

...any age, to help us novices navigate the complexities of the internet and get the best use from our PCs, Macs, iPads, tablets and smartphones.

We have already benefited from the help of some local experts who have solved several of our members' problems but if you would like be on our list of helpers, do please email us.

:) :) :)

Perhaps you're in need of help with getting to see your friends and family on screen during these difficult times, or you might have something that's bothering you about your smartphone. Why not contact us and we will put you in touch with one of our team.

*jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk or katherine@jameskj.plus.com*

Back in 2017, Nicola Hardy, an IT support manager from Sheffield, handed in her notice, sold her house, and set off with a backpack to explore the world.



Calling herself Adventurer Nic (<https://adventurenic.com/>), she has climbed the 282 Munro mountains in Scotland, completed the Wainright Challenge (climbing all 24 of the peaks in the Peak District) and trekked up Killimanjaro. This year, she's challenged herself to "walk home" from her birthplace in Sheffield to her house in Cockermouth, Cumbria. The 200 mile trip, which took place during the first two weeks of October, replaces her plans to hike the length of New Zealand.

### *Setting A Challenging Pace*

While we're not suggesting should quit your job and go hiking for a year, maybe Adventurer Nic's story might inspire to you to take on a challenge of your own.

Perhaps you've always fancied hiking the Penine Way (270 miles from Edale in the Peak District to Kirk Yetholm in Scotland)?

Maybe you'd like to take part in a fun run (we're pretty sure that's an oxymoron, but apparently some people enjoy them). Or would you consider a "30 Day challenge," where you take on a particular activity every day for a month. Or you could give something up, like a favourite food or drink.

Taking on a personal challenge is a great way to get fit or learn a new skill or discipline, and it's also a great way to raise money for good causes. In recent years, we've had 7 supporters take on personal challenges for us, raising a fabulous £8490 in donations.

### *Where do I even begin?*

Working out what personal challenge you fancy doing can be, in itself, a challenge. There are so many options!

Luckily there are also several great websites that give you ideas, like these ones:

Time Outdoors (<https://www.timeoutdoors.com/challenges/UK>) has a huge list of challenges to look at and consider, with everything from a 25K bike ride to skydiving. The Easy Fundraising site has a whole range of activities that could be turned into fundraising challenges (<https://www.easypfundraising.org.uk/challenges/>). And shopping for your activity via EasyFundraising raises money for your good cause too.

Now that's what we call a win-win.

If you'd like to discuss taking on a personal challenge in aid of Home-Start, please get in touch!

[www.hsrsc.org.uk](http://www.hsrsc.org.uk) or email [admin@hsrsc.org.uk](mailto:admin@hsrsc.org.uk)



**Wheelie Bin Collections For November**

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

**Black Bin:**

Weds 11th Nov

Weds 25th Nov

**Blue/Green Bin**

Weds 4th Nov

Weds 18th Nov

**Notice to Advertisers**

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

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 Lifespan Health Care, Family and Child Team: 01223 264460  
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 Meridian Primary School: 01223 262423  
 Police: 101 (Emergencies: 999)  
 (Local Beat Officer is PCSO Sam Kennedy)  
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 South Cambs District Council: 03450 450 500  
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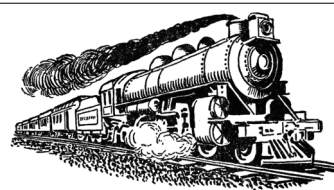
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**East-West Rail** tell us that they've launched the "online East West Rail Community Hub, your place to ask questions and take part in surveys and discussions, at a time and place that's convenient to you. This is your platform, your place to share." You can visit <https://communityhub.eastwestrail.co.uk> to find out more.



We'd like to remind readers and advertisers that the next edition of *The Calendar* is the last one to appear before the Christmas and New Year celebrations (if there are any...).

Therefore, if you have any events or special occasions coming up, now's the time to be thinking about letting us know!

**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 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, JPG, PUB, DOCX, XLS etc) unless you feel it essential.** Many thanks.

*And, finally...*

Please remember that contributions for the next issue of the *Calendar* must reach the Editor, Michael Walker, **by 20th November**. 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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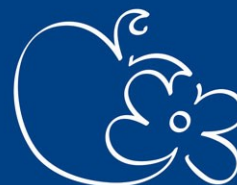
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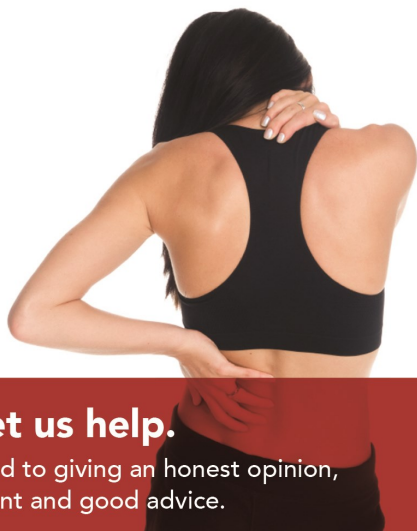


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