



CAMBOURNE CRIER

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editorial@cambournecrier.org

www.cambournecrier.org

Twenty's plenty in Cambourne

Residents may have noticed a major change affecting traffic flow throughout our town since Cambourne Town Council is reducing the speed limit on all built up areas within Cambourne from 30mph to 20mph.

Cambourne Town Council has recently confirmed that a contractor for the County Council commenced work on 15 January 2024 implementing the 20mph speed limit and that they have started installing the new restrictions with new zone entry signs on School Lane, Cambourne Road, Broad Street and Back Lane. They are also working their way round installing smaller repeater signs - many of which will be attached to existing lamp columns.

The council is also reducing the speed limit of



Cambourne Road from 60mph to 40mph. Originally it had proposed to make the Cambourne Road speed limit 30mph, but police told the authority 40mph would be more appropriate.

Once the works have been completed and the legal order is signed, the contractors will reveal all the signs in one day.

At the time *Cambourne Crier* went to print, many of the signs were already visible around the town.



A separate crew will implement the painted roundels on the roads. While the duration of the works is estimated to be 17 days, the road painting is at the mercy of the weather as it requires a window of settled and less cold temperatures.

A Change.org petition opposes the decrease in the speed limit in Cambourne, saying: "The roads in Cambourne are wide, many are surrounded by generous pathways and already have established crossings for pedestrians to cross safely which is a standard provision in a newly designed town.

"In many cases there are no houses directly at the roadside but residences are in cul-de-sacs. These safety measures alone are sufficient for 30mph zones."

It goes on to say that: "At most there is an argument for there being a 20mph zone outside of schools where school children congregate."

The petition asks that the 30mph zones in Cambourne are reinstated.

The petition was originated by Mark Seaden and can be found here:

www.change.org/p/scrap-the-cambourne-20mph-speed-limit

Tree-mendous effort



1st Cambourne Scout Group raises funds collecting christmas trees

■ See page 4 for more...

High flying fun



Cambourne hosts Winter Kite Festival

■ Find out more on page 7...

Bereavement Cafe



Free for adults to attend and connect with others in a safe space

■ Read more on page 13...

CAMBOURNE CRIER

Cambourne Crier is the only independent, non-profit publication delivered to all Cambourne residents each month. Any profits are distributed to the community through our Community Fund. Cambourne Crier is compiled entirely by volunteers.

This month's editors were:

Donavan Bangs, Paul Jobling, Paula Brown, Seema Achall, Andreea Mihalca, Max Bangs and Forum Patel.

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Editorial submissions:

Submissions for the **March 2024**

Edition must be received by 9pm on **Sunday 11th February 2024.**

Please email articles and attached photographs to

editorial@cambournecrier.org

You can now mail items to

Cambourne Crier

The Hub, High Street, Great

Cambourne, Cambridge CB23 6GW

By submitting photographs you confirm you have permission from the photographer and anyone in the photos for us to print them.

GET INVOLVED!

We are looking for volunteers. If you would like to join our editorial team, please get in touch on

editorial@cambournecrier.org

CRIER COMMUNITY FUND

Our community fund enables us to make grants to local clubs, societies or causes. Do you need new

equipment for your group? Do you

want to set up a new group and

need some funding to get going?

Contact pamhume1@gmail.com for

more information or download the application form at

www.cambournecrier.org

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

■ BUDGET 2024 - 2025

Each year in January all town and parish Councils prepare a budget for the following year.

This is always a challenging process for a developing town like Cambourne, but this year again it has been a difficult challenge with more pressures on the budget for 2024/25. These includes:

- the commitment to improve the play areas.
- completing the landscaping to the youth building.
- improving the original Tennis and Netball courts.
- maintaining the support for youth provision by providing a building and grant funding for Cambourne Youth Partnership, to provide youth clubs and other support for the youth of Cambourne, (this works out to £12.52/year on Band D households).
- meeting the inflationary costs on electricity, gas, diesel and materials used to maintain the buildings and open spaces.
- additional staff costs due to the National pay award for local government staff.
- ensuring that the budgets balance over the next three years and meets the risk management reserves, which Councils are required to keep.

It should be noted that many of the costs are fixed by third parties leaving us no discretion or control to alter them.

Cambourne Town Council looked at all options to try and minimise the increase due to the pressures on residents, brought about by the current cost of living crisis. Most options showed that greater increases would be needed in the future to provide a balanced budget.

Cambourne Town Council took the difficult decision to levy a precept of £773,066.00 on South Cams District Council. This is a band D rate of £177.26 which is an increase of 10% which equates to an additional £16.11p per year (£1.46/month). This was required

to ensure that the Town Council is able to carry out the projects it has committed to and meet the risk management threshold for the next 3 years.

Although 2024 to 2025 has required a 10% increase to the Band D, in the budget. The next three financial year's budget balances with a 5% increase to Band D annually. This is subject to inflation continuing to decrease.

■ CAMBOURNE 10K

Entries are open for the Cambourne 10K and Fun Run taking place on Sunday 14th April 2024 at Cambourne Business Park. The event is organised by Cambridge & Coleridge Athletics Club and Cambourne Town Council.

■ DOGS ON LEADS - The Countryside Code of Conduct

Due to some recent concerns, we would like to remind dog owners to exercise their dogs on lead. Whilst we understand why owners may want to exercise off lead, particularly around the country park and lakes, it is important to remember that some people are not comfortable with dogs approaching them, or their dogs.

Dogs off lead can also cause a disturbance to nesting birds and other wildlife. It also presents an opportunity for dogs to poo unnoticed and it not be disposed of. The Town Council follows the Countryside Code:

The Countryside Code

- Protect the Environment
- Take your litter home – Leave no trace of your visit.
- Take care with barbecues (where permitted)
- Do not light fires.
- Always keep dogs under control and in sight.
- Dog poo – bag it and bin it, any public waste bin will do.
- Care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance.



The Town Council Office:

The Hub, High Street, Cambourne, CB23 6GW.

Tel: 01954 714403

or email office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

John Vickery, Parish Clerk: clerk@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

Facebook/Instagram: @cambournetowncouncil

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

**CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL CALENDAR OF MEETINGS
February and March 2024**

6th February at 7pm:
Planning Committee Followed by Full Council Meeting

20th February at 7pm:
Planning Committee followed by Leisure & Amenities Committee

6th March at 7pm:
Planning Committee followed by Full Council Meeting

Council meetings are held in the Meeting Room at the Hub

BIN COLLECTIONS:

There have been changes in bin collection dates and Cambourne now has different collection schedules for different parts of the town. Please check your collection date on the following link:-
<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day/>

MOBILE POST OFFICE:

The Hub Car Park Mondays: 1.30pm-4:00pm
Wednesdays: 12.30-4:00pm
Tel: 01480 464 757



**CAMBOURNE
COMMUNITY
CINEMA**

Cinema Questionnaire

Have your say!
We are most interested to hear from Cambourne residents and those of the surrounding villages, the types of films they may wish to see at the community cinema.

You are cordially invited to participate in the survey by completing the questionnaire online at:
www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/57W7PKV or scanning the QR code above.

Email: cambournecommunitycinema@gmail.com
www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk/communitycinema




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COMMUNITY

From trees ... to tents

1ST CAMBOURNE SCOUT GROUP organised its first-ever Christmas tree collection fundraiser in January, and the response from the local community was overwhelming. With the support of local residents, the event was a tremendous success, raising over £500. This money will be used to purchase new tents and camping equipment, enabling the Scout Group to provide children from our local community the chance to enjoy exciting outdoor adventures, create unforgettable memories and gain valuable life skills.

Our dedicated team of 23 Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Young leaders, 14 adult Leaders and parent helpers were out and about



collecting a total of 71 Christmas trees in Cambourne over the weekend of 6th and 7th January.

Collectively walking an impressive 108 miles with their wheelbarrows to collect Christmas trees from resident's front gardens and delivering them to the Hub's Christmas tree recycling point in return for a donation. By offering this collection service we estimate the group managed to

save 104 miles in individual car journeys and approximately 0.059 tonnes of CO2 emissions.

A big thank you again to everyone that supported our fundraiser and for your kind donations and positive feedback. Due to the overwhelming success of our fundraiser, 1st Cambourne Scout Group is planning on offering the Christmas tree collection service in January 2025.



A Long and fun Walk

2ND CAMBOURNE CUBS took part in a District Night Hike at the end of last year in Swavesey along with over 250 other Cubs and Leaders. It was a great evening to be part of and a good walking challenge.

For Christmas, all three of our sections went ten pin bowling in St Neots for a fun evening to celebrate the festive period and the end of the year. Two of our Cubs also achieved their Chief Scout's Silver Awards before moving on to Scouts.

■ *Our sections are Beavers (ages 6 - 8), Cubs (ages 8 - 10.5), and Scouts (ages 10.5 - 14), for more information please email: info@2ndcambournescoutgroup.org.uk*



CERC wins Elektra Award

Cambourne Electronics and Robotics Club (CERC), the academic wing of CamCare UK was selected as a Charity partner for the Elektra Awards 2023 for its unparalleled dedication to STEM education and innovation.

CERC is a local STEM powerhouse with a global vision. Engaging over 6500 students since 2017, CERC stands as one of the nation's premier and largest STEM clubs. CERC is proud to be five-time champions of the IET FirstLego League (FLL) in Cambridgeshire, with a track record of excellence in various prestigious competitions.

CERC has been awarded the Best Youth Initiative award in 2018 by the South Cambridgeshire District Council and the Best STEM Initiative of the Year award in 2023 by the Cambridge Independent. Elektra Award is the most prestigious recognition in the global electronics industry rewarding companies and individuals for their excellent performance, innovation, and contributions.



■ For more information about CERC, please email Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya at camcare.uk@gmail.com and visit camcare.org.uk/cerc
Elektra Award information: <http://tinyurl.com/elektra-cerc-2023>

More homes approved

At the January 2024 Planning Committee: 256 new homes - including 102 affordable properties - along with the change of use of the existing marketing suite to a café, on land to the south of the pond at Cambourne

Business Park, Cambourne was approved by South Cambs District Council. The application was made by The South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership.



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COMMUNITY

Cambourne Library

Opening Times

Monday 9am - 5pm, Tuesday 9am - 1pm, Wednesday Closed, Thursday 1pm- 7pm, Friday 9am - 5pm, Saturday 9am - 1pm, Sunday Closed.

What's happening in Cambourne Library?

Engage Session – 1st Wednesday of every month, 2.00 pm – 3.30 pm.

Our next Engage session will be on **7th February** - Marco Polo: the man and his journey.

Only 30 years after the Mongols had ravaged northern Europe, Marco Polo set out from Venice to explore the heart of the Mongol Empire. He brought back tales of wealth and sophistication which were difficult for his European audience to accept. His stories would set many others on journeys of discovery which would change the known world. Let's ride the deserts to the fabled city of Xanadu and discover its mysteries.

We are looking forward to welcoming Emrys Jones from the Western Front Association to the library on **6th March 2024**. Emrys will explain how he became a battlefield guide, leading tours of the Western Front for students and other visitors as well as for the military.

Come along to these free, fascinating talks. No need to book, just drop in. Everyone welcome. Refreshments served around 3.00 pm.

The Library Presents

We are planning our 2024 Spring season of events for The Library Presents, and you are invited to help choose the activities that you would most like to see in your library.

The events are vibrant, inclusive, locally-chosen arts which include music, art, dance, comedy, puppetry and digital arts – which ones will you vote for? You will be able to vote online, or you can pop in to Cambourne library to give us your choices **between 11th January and 9th February**. More information can be found at: <https://www.library.live/the-library-presents>

Games Morning: every Tuesday between 10.00 am-11.30 am.

If you love mastering jigsaws or the challenge of a good board or card game, then this is for you. Pop in to Cambourne library and enjoy a game or two, meet new people and have fun! It is a free drop in event, and refreshments will be available.

Ready, Set, Be Dog Smart with Dog Trust – Thursday 22nd February, 12.00 pm – 1.30 pm.

A member of the Dog Trust will be coming to the library to discuss staying safe around dogs. The presentation will be approximately one hour followed by a question-and-answer session. Although primarily aimed at **7-to 11-year-olds** everyone is welcome to come along. The sessions are free. Please pre-book your place.

Institute of Astronomy – Wednesday 21st February 10.30 am – 11.30 am.

We are really excited that an astronomer from the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge is coming to Cambourne library to give

a talk and answer your astronomy questions. The event is open to all and costs £2.00 per person. Please pre-book.

Festival of Stories – Caring for our planet, Tuesday 20th February, 2.00 pm – 3.00 pm.

Please join us for a story and a chance to make an insect using recycled and natural materials – which bug will you make? Please pre-book this free activity.

Rhymetime/Storytime

Our popular sessions for babies, pre-schoolers and their parents/carers are on Friday mornings during term time and run from **9.30 am - 10.00 am**. There is no need to book, just come along to join in the fun!

Rhymetime will be on 9th February, and 1st and 15th in March.

Storytime will be on **2nd and 16th February, and 8th and 22nd in March** (please note that the **22nd March** will be a special hour long rhymetime and storytime event).

Jigsaw Swap

We seem to have accumulated a large supply of jigsaws at Cambourne library so if you would like to borrow or swap a puzzle please pop in to the library and find yourself a new jigsaw challenge.

And finally, as the cold weather continues you will always find a warm and friendly welcome in our library – so please do drop in to relax and read, choose some books or use one of our library computers or free WiFi. Warm drinks and biscuits are also available free of charge. We look forward to seeing you soon.

For more information or to book an event please visit us at the library or email us at: ambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Contact Us Tel: 0345 045 5225

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

Social Media: Facebook @CambridgeshireLibraries?Facebook @CamsLibFamilies?Instagram @camslib

X @camslib?YouTube @CambridgeshireLibraries

Have an eco-friendly start to the year



Recycle wrapping paper from gifts



Give love to the less fortunate, donate money or even time

All about waste minimisation

With the new year beginning, its time to start healthy habits to guide us through the year. Waste is a huge environmental issue and with simple measures we can combat it as a community. Here are a few tips!



Take your old electronics to a recycling centre



Donate old clothes and toys



Donate old clothes and toys

Cambourne Winter Kite Festival

Cambourne came alive with a kaleidoscope of hues as kites soared gracefully overhead.

In the heart of Cambourne, a beacon of community well-being shone brightly on 14 January 2024. CamCare UK and the new CIC WellbeingOn joined forces to host a Winter Kite Festival, a unique event tailored to enhance residents' engagement in winter outdoor activities. The purpose was simple but impactful – to provide an opportunity for families to step out of their homes, breathe in the crisp winter air, and engage in outdoor activities.

Shrobona Bhattacharya, the organiser of this exhilarating event, expressed delight at the overwhelming turnout of enthusiastic families, friends, and neighbours. The festival, designed to cater to all age groups, showcased an array of kites



in different designs, colours, and sizes. The skies over Cambourne came alive with a kaleidoscope of hues as kites soared gracefully overhead.



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COLUMNISTS



ANTHONY BROWNE
MP FOR SOUTH
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
anthony.browne.mp
@parliament.uk

South Cambs District Council's four-day week

I recently met Stephen Hoare, the Local Government minister, to talk about Liberal Democrat-run South Cambs District Council's four-day week experiment.

This involves giving all staff a free day off each and every week, with no cut in pay and no hours to make up. I am glad that the minister is as committed as his predecessor to tackling this ideological experiment, which is leading to worse services to taxpayers at higher costs.

Public servants (including myself) are paid to serve the public. The Government has put the District Council on a "Best Value Notice", a form of special measures where it has to provide weekly

performance reports to national government.

The Liberal Democrat leadership are refusing to publish the weekly performance reports they send to the Government. I will therefore be putting in a Freedom of Information request.

Regarding future housing plans for our region, I spoke with Michael Gove, Housing Secretary, and Peter Freeman, chair of the Cambridge Delivery Group, about their proposals for house building around Cambridge, and stressed to them the concerns of local residents and councillors. Housing developments must be done with the support of local people.

An interesting statistic is that, last year, my team and I dealt with 6,770 pieces of casework for constituents and sent out 4,127 letters and 7,229 emails to constituents in response to their concerns and questions.



HELENE LEEMING
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
cllr.leeming@scambs.gov.uk

20mph speed limit imposed on Cambourne

The Liberal Democrat led joint administration at County Council is prioritising road safety across Cambridgeshire.

A 20mph speed limit is being introduced across Cambourne. The road approaching the town, Cambourne Road, will also have a new speed limit of 40mph.

It is intended that the new restrictions will:

- make streets safer by reducing speeds and enabling a more fair use of the road space for all users and encouraging residents to walk or cycle by reducing speeds
- reduce noise and pollution by amending the way

vehicles accelerate/decelerate, improve health and wellbeing, protect vulnerable road users.

Research by the UK Transport Research Laboratory has shown that every 1mph reduction in average urban speeds can result in a 6 per cent fall in the number of casualties.

It has also been shown that you are seven times more likely to survive if you are hit by a car driving at 20mph, than if you are hit at 30mph.

If a child suddenly steps in front of a car, you are much less likely to seriously injure or kill them if you keep to a 20mph limit.

Many other villages in our area have already introduced this road safety measure.

Along with my colleagues in the county, I am very pleased to see this step towards making the experience of travelling in Cambourne safer, especially for our many pedestrians and cyclists.



CATHERINE PRICE
CAMBOURNE PARISH
NURSING SERVICE
nurse@cambourne
church.org.uk

Random Acts of Kindness Day

The 17th February is Random Acts of Kindness Day. Kindness is making a positive choice to do something that helps others (not because you feel you should or feel guilty).

When we offer acts of kindness it does us as much good as those on the receiving end.

Kindness is good for everyone's mental health; it is good for improving anxiety, stress and depression and helps develop feelings of empathy and compassion for others.

It has also been shown to lower blood pressure.

Whether telling someone you appreciate them, sending messages of thanks, contacting someone who may be lonely, donating to the Foodbank or sharing your skills.

Every small act of kindness can have a ripple effect, inspiring others to be kind.

You could also try paying someone a compliment, leaving a note of encouragement or playing kindness bingo.

People on the receiving end of kind acts are often much more grateful than we might think.

Of course, it matters that you show the same levels of kindness to yourself as you would to someone else. In a world where you can be anything ... *be kind*.

COMMUNITY

Light Up Cambourne

2nd March marks the date of our first fundraising event of 2024,

so for a fun-filled bingo evening come along to the hub at 6.45pm for eyes down at 7.30pm.

Your drinks and fish and chips will be served to you by the Light Up Cambourne committee and helpers. We look forward to seeing you, tickets are on a first come first served basis so don't miss out.



The lights in the trees on Broad Street are being removed so they can be checked over and certified for continued use. Many thanks to the Liam from the town council for carrying out these works, and a shout out to volunteer John Reed who at 81 years young is also lending a hand. As noted in the last edition of *Cambourne Crier*, LUC depends on monies donated or raised at our events to provide the lights for the festive period and have plans for additional lights in time for Christmas 2024. So a big thank you to Caxton House and the three Cambourne residents who have donated to LUC recently to help bring Christmas lights to the town. If your organisation would like to donate or sponsor us, please get in touch.

After our recent appeals for additional volunteers three people have been in touch, Thank you! As always, more volunteers are needed so please email lightupcambourne@gmail.com or alternatively go to our Facebook page.

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EST. 2013
LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE
VOLUNTARILY LIGHTING THE TOWN

BINGO Night

Saturday 2nd March 2024
The Hub, Cambourne
Doors open at 6.45 PM,
Eyes down at 7:30 PM

Tickets £16 including all bingo games and a chip shop supper!
Dabbers and Extra Books - £1 each
Also featuring a bar, snacks and Rock 'n' Roll Bingo!

Wine and cash prizes to be won!

Book in advance by emailing lightupcambourne@gmail.com

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RECRUITMENT ROADSHOW
Thursday 18 January to Tuesday 13 February 2024

Are you thinking about a new career in education?
If so, then look no further. We are actively looking to recruit new staff for a number of teaching and support staff roles across the Trust. Why not come along, meet our teams, and explore the available opportunities in our schools.

Our recruitment roadshow will take place at the following venues:

- Thongley Fields Primary School, PE29 1PE
Monday 5 February 2024 3:30pm - 6:30pm
- Cambourne Village College, CB23 6FR
Thursday 8 February 2024 3pm - 7pm
- Melbourn Village College, SG8 5EF
Tuesday 13 February 4pm - 6pm

Please register your interest using the QR code below

For information about our current vacancies please navigate to: www.cam.academytrust.co.uk

CHURCHES

CAMBOURNE CHURCH

The 20mph speed limits for Cambourne are with us. Many residents will remember the time when the local speed limit was 19mph, a unique choice commemorated in the name of the church's coffee house, but for all drivers these new 20mph limits will mean reducing our speeds from what we have become used to. We may have to leave a minute or two earlier for a journey, but our roads should be safer for everyone. I will not necessarily find it easy, but life will be better for it.

It is not just in driving that slowing down can make life better for us and for others. When we slow down we can be more considerate, engage more with what is happening around us, and take time to think about where we are going and what we are doing. Sometimes we rush from one thing to another for no better reason than we we have become used to it. Slowing down and reflecting is important for our own well-being and for the well-being of others.

As a church we are offering a chance to pause and reflect in six Tuesday evening sessions, beginning on 6th February at 8.00pm. We are running what is known as a "Start!" course in the church annexe - a chance to explore questions such as "What's life about and where are we going?" and "Does God exist and what is he like?" It explores life, God, and the Christian faith for people who may have no church or faith background at all. You are very welcome to join us.

Revd Bill Miller

Sunday Services in FEBRUARY 2023



4 February	10.00am Sunday One Communion Service *
	7.00pm Sanctuary - Guided Reflective Prayer †
11 February	9.30am Worship Service 11.00am Worship Service **
14 February	8.00pm Ash Wednesday Communion
18 February	9.30am Worship Service 11.00am Worship Service **
25 February	9.30am Communion Service 11.00am Communion Service **

* includes break-out groups for children

** includes break-out groups for children and young people

† in the annexe of the church building

A partnership of the Church of England, Baptist, Methodist & United Reformed Church

www.cambournechurch.org.uk Twitter: @cambournechurch

Facebook: cambournechurch

Peacehaven Baptist Church: Pastoral Thoughts

Disruptions, distractions and difficulties.

In the day to day operation of the church just like in life problems occur. Since becoming a charity I have had so many calls from companies about getting a better heating oil supply to warm the church it is silly. (especially since we only rent at the hub which to my knowledge is not oil heated). Sometimes going in on Sundays to find the previous nights renters have covered the mens bathroom wall with wet toilet paper and blocked the toilet (this is why we have our own plunger). Other times we get folks wandering in hours early wanting to set up for their event during our services, we try to be as accommodating as possible and ask them if they want chairs or tables left out. There are a variety of other things although surprisingly the worst culprit is Microsoft deciding either it needs to do an update before being able to access the wifi or a random notification that somehow was not previously silenced. So many things in our lives are like that - not necessarily malicious or even directed at us but extra



Pastor
Donavan Bangs

unwanted things that we must deal with and if we are not careful those distractions will ruin our time of peace and any kind of spiritual focus. I mean who has not thought "what evil minion designed the telephone menu system for this company", or prayed " Lord, would you have me switch to Linux?"

But seriously, taking time away from these things and allowing some space to decompress is important, that way we can see what is really important. Like the prophet Elijah when troubled by Jezebel after a great victory he went away and the Lord showed him a great fire and an earthquake but it was not until he heard that still small voice asking what was he doing here that he was truly able to hear. It is in those moments of clarity we can realise maybe we need to rethink what we are doing and why to regain our focus perhaps, and not be driven to distraction or depression by all of life's little annoyances. Of course, the church is a good place to get some perspective.

Pastor Donovan Bangs



PEACEHAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY MORNINGS - 10am Sunday school

11 AM Morning Worship

find links on Facebook for

Peacehaven Baptist Church or look for

Donavan Bangs on Youtube

At the Cambourne Community Centre, the Hub

Pastor Donovan Bangs 01954 710510

PeacehavenBC@aol.com peacehavenbc.org.uk



CHURCHES

Christmas at St John Fisher

Christmas was a wonderful celebration at St John Fisher Community as we remembered once again the birth of Jesus Christ with two Masses. Our Christmas Eve service saw the baby Jesus being placed in the manger as we sung carols and heard from scripture about the Bethlehem birth over two thousand years ago. Over £1,600 was collected by our parishioners for the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem caring for persons in the Holy Land during the conflict.

Our new youth group Seeds of Change has now started, with sessions every Thursday during school term time from 4:30-6pm in the Cambourne Church Annexe. Aimed at children in school years 3-10, the aim is to facilitate an encounter with God through the exploration of the Word, music, Godly Play and other media. For more information, see our church website or email: info@seeds-of-change.org.uk



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EDUCATION

A "GOOD" Vine beareth good fruit

THE VINE: Officially Good! Following on from the "Excellent" SIAMS Report in March 2023, where "those in the community develop, flourish and thrive", we are really pleased to say we continue to be a GOOD school, following our successful Ofsted inspection in November 2023. The report reflects our warm welcome to all families, where "Pupils love coming to school" and "Staff nurture and support pupils to become courageous learners, to take risks, explore and be ambitious."

We aim to develop the 'whole child', as we recognise every pupil has their strengths and this was also recognised by the inspection team: "Pupils' personal development (their head, heart and hands) is a high priority. Pupils take part in a wide range of sporting opportunities and clubs provided by the school and older pupils take on leadership roles."

We feel this rating is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our incredible staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the



unwavering support of our community. We are thrilled with the recognition of our vision for a well-rounded education and are excited to build on this success.

Monkfield Park enjoys the Nutcracker

A Familial Reunion: Once you become a member of the Monkfield Park family you are always a part of that family and as with all families, we love to hear about all the incredible things our ex pupils are doing and to keep up to date with their achievements. So we were absolutely thrilled to welcome Harry Withers back to school to catch up with what he has been doing. Harry left Monkfield Park having gained a place at the prestigious Royal Ballet School and is now in Year 11 at White Lodge in Richmond Park

Harry started off by giving an incredible assembly to the whole school that left the staff and children gasping in awe as he performed an excerpt from the Nutcracker ballet. The children then joined in a question and answer session and were



amazed to hear about Harry's daily routines and the level of training he has to undertake each day in addition to his academic studies. Harry kindly conducted workshops for the Year 3 children and taught them some of the steps needed to recreate the famous battle scene in the Nutcracker between the toy soldiers and the rats. The children were inspired by Harry's passion and threw themselves into the dance with great enthusiasm.

As one of our Year 6 boys reported, "Harry has really changed my opinion of ballet dancers. He is just amazing and I hope we can go and see him perform one day". I think we all second that and send Harry all our good wishes.



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY

HCCPS sings

Our end-of-term visit to the local church proved to be a heart-warming and festive event for our school community. Excitement buzzed through the air as students and staff gathered to celebrate the holiday season. The highlight was, most definitely, the renditions of "Away in a Manger" and "Little Donkey." The church visit not only showcased the students' wonderful singing but also fostered a sense of unity and community spirit. It was great to end the term, with our hearts full of festive spirit. We would like to thank Reverend Bill Miller for making us feel so welcome.



The Harbour Bereavement Café

A new, informal, monthly drop-in for adults to meet together, share experiences and chat with those who are also walking the bereavement journey, The Harbour is open to any adult who has experienced the loss of someone close to them, whenever that may have been. It is free to attend and you are welcome to drop in at any time during the café times. There is no need to book in advance.

Volunteers from Cambourne Church have set up The Harbour Bereavement Café to offer people a place to meet and connect with others who are also walking the bereavement journey. It is a safe and welcoming place to speak openly about experiences of bereavement and to find support and signposting within a relaxed and informal atmosphere.

The Harbour will be in The Annexe, Cambourne Church, Jeavons Lane, Great Cambourne, CB23 6AF on every 2nd Friday of the month, 12.30-2.00pm.

- Free to attend
- Open to all adults - of all faiths and of none.
- Includes light lunch and refreshments

2024 Dates: 8th March, 12th April, 10th May, 14th June, 12th July, 9th August, 13th September.

For more information:

Email: theharbour@cambournechurch.org.uk

Visit: www.cambournechurch.org.uk/theharbour

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Foodbank: Julie Whitbread

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LOCAL AUTHORITIES

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www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

District Councillors for Cambourne:

Shrobona Bhattacharya:

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EDUCATION

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www.clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC

Cambourne Tang Soo Do Club:

www.cambournekarate-tangsoodo.co.uk

Cambs Tai Chi Club:

www.cambs-taichi.org.uk

Cambourne Tae Kwon Do:

stephenlacey73@gmail.com

Cambourne Karate School (AKS):

07929 100 612

www.karateschools.co.uk

Cambs Chargers Volleyball Club:

cambschargers@gmail.com

Cambourne Balkan Dance Club:

cam.balkan.dance@gmail.com

Cambourne Air Cadets:

105@aircadets.org

Cambourne Army Cadets:

www.cambsacf.com

Cambourne junior parkrun:

www.parkrun.org.uk/cambournejuniors/

CAMBOURNE YOUTH PARTNERSHIP: Update

We had a wonderful Christmas meal for young people and volunteers: The Youth staff and young people working towards a cooking accredited award cooked a Christmas meal for 33 young people, volunteers and staff. This was a wonderful success with a full turkey dinner! This was appreciated by all and the pictures reflect the community spirit which is fostered amongst the young people by the volunteers and staff .



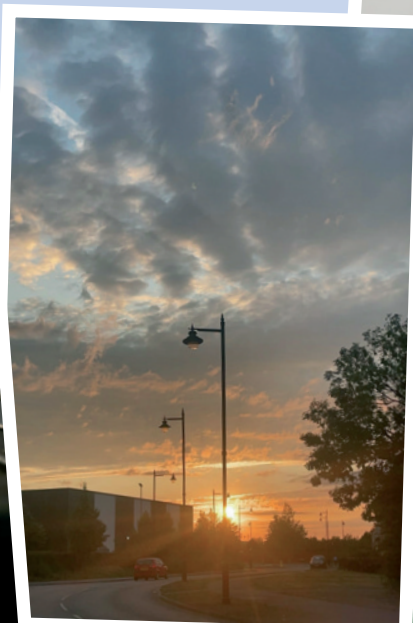
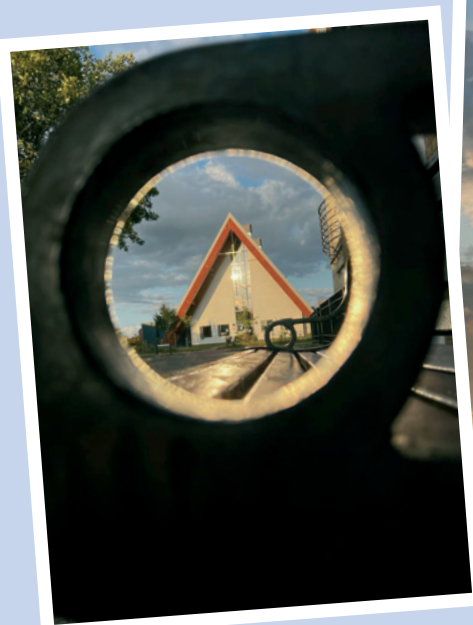
The successful Crowd Funding of the Snack and Coffee Bar: We are very grateful to all those who gave to our Crowdfunding appeal in 2023. The money raised enabled us to get a snack/coffee bar with sink and fridge installed in the Soul youth building, as well as purchase items to support art and sports activities in our weekly and blinds for windows, more furniture etc. The snack bar was a priority because we had previously been using fold up tables and had less storage in the kitchen for things used for refreshments. It's meant that there is a more official space for young people to access and make snacks and receive refreshments so that more cooking and baking activities can happen in the kitchen, and it also becomes a hub for socialising while making a toastie etc.



The mounting of the Youth Photo competition winners on the Soul Building walls: The photo competition was run in the summer and young people sent in their photos of their favourite things about Cambourne. We chose four winners whose winning photos are being mounted on the gallery wall in the Soul Building.

The winners were:

- Zachary - *Church through a bench arm*
- Emily – *Firestation Walkway*
- Jay – *Sunset in Cambourne*
- Ayesha – *Lavendar Magic*



COMMUNITY

Cambourne Indian Club spreads Christmas cheer

In a heart-warming display of community spirit, Cambourne Indian Club made a substantial contribution of goods to Jimmy's homeless shelter in Cambridge this festive season. The members of the club embarked on a fundraising initiative by spreading the joy of Christmas through carolling in Cambourne. Undeterred by the challenging weather of December, a group of adults and small children carolled at 35 houses in Cambourne, including the Cambourne Catholic Church, from 2-9pm.

Established in 2009 as a socio-cultural organisation, Cambourne Indian Club has been instrumental in fostering unity among the Indian communities in the area.

Originally focused on celebrating Indian festivals and special occasions, the club has evolved into a non-profit cultural organisation dedicated to promoting social, cultural, charitable, and literary

activities within the Indian community in Cambridgeshire.

Extract from the thanks letter received from Jimmy's Charity for the Homeless People: "With your vital support, we were able to provide stockings to over 100 people as well as stock up on much needed supplies we need throughout the year. Depending on their upbringing, some of the residents have never experienced a Christmas where they are given gifts or where they have been included. Being surrounded by Jimmy's support at Christmas is one way of helping people feel acknowledged, that they are human and worth something".

Adding to the festive spirit, the Cambourne Indian Club ushered in Christmas and the New Year with a lively



celebration at Papworth Village Hall on 13th of January, 2024. The event featured captivating stage performances from approximately 60 participants, including both children and adults representing various states of India. The diverse showcase of traditions, cultures, and art forms highlighted the beauty of unity in diversity, embodying the spirit of Cambourne's commitment to cherishing multiculturalism. The evening was a visual treat for spectators, showcasing the rich tapestry of talent and cultural heritage within the Cambourne Indian Club.

Detectorists at South Cambs Council Hall

Metal detecting is a very popular hobby nowadays, a fact underlined by the number of enthusiasts now working at our local Cambourne council offices. The building's Facilities manager, Lee Jones, was recently joined by Gordon Williams on the Caretaking team and Darren Clarke in Security. Along with Jay Clarke of the Communities Department, the group was delighted to discover they've nearly sixty years of detecting experience between them.

The appeal of discovering the past of Cambridgeshire farmland is more important to them than hunting for treasure, though some of their more notable finds have made it into the archaeological records and pages of magazines for the pastime.

Before any sweep of the ploughed earth, a new farm's potential is assessed by looking at aerial photos, old field boundaries and also 'reading' the topography of the landscape. Certain patterns emerge regarding the types of locations the ancients looked for when setting up their homes. "Prior research saves a lot of legwork," says Darren. "Previous settlements were much smaller throughout history, and some fields don't produce anything more than recent losses of buttons, horse harness fittings, as well as the dreaded cartridge caps! Moving away from the village centres, around the Parish Church, the number of interesting finds can sometimes drop. But we've a knack for spotting lost



Roman farmsteads, and previous discoveries around Cambourne reveal this was an extremely busy area during that period. It's likely there are more undiscovered sites in the vicinity of the village, and we'd love to be able to locate them." Landowners who'd like an honest and informative survey by this experienced team can either leave a message with Gordon on 07528530571, or email Darren on dijclarke71@gmail.com

The detectorists also offer a free recovery service for lost jewellery, keys or farming machinery parts in Cambourne and beyond.





HOPE CIC Delivers Christmas Hampers

Hello from Hope CIC! For those who are not familiar with us, Hope Against Poverty is a community interest company (CIC) based here in Cambourne supporting residents in the South Cambridgeshire area. A brief overview of what Hope does:

- Arrange emergency food parcels with the support of South Cambs District Council (this can be self-referral and does not require a 'food bank voucher')
- Provide affordable essential food (fresh and long life), hygiene and household products from the community shop, open 3 times a week.
- Visit several villages each week with the mobile food hub, Hope on the Go.
- Run a community hub twice a week with free refreshments in a warm, friendly environment.
- Offer support sessions by appointment for those that may require assistance/advice with housing, bills, debt, school admissions, and CV writing.
- Provide weekly English lessons which are provided by a CELTA qualified tutor supporting people with learning the English language, practising speaking, reading and writing.
- Run bike surgeries in the warmer months with free minor repairs, maintenance advice and selling affordable refurbished bikes.
- Plus, we have a few exciting new projects coming up for 2024! You can find out more about our services and projects on our website: hopeagainst.org

In December 2023, we packed and delivered **over 100 Christmas hampers** thanks to our brilliant team of volunteers and staff. Our campaign covered the whole of South Cambridgeshire area.

For this campaign, we accepted nominations for the Christmas hampers which worked extremely well as many nominations came from community, health or local government services.

A special thanks to Cambourne Fishing Club for their generous donation and tremendous fundraising efforts throughout the year. Their donation was put towards the purchase of items for these hampers.

Thank you also to South Cambridgeshire District Council for offering us a great space to package and store the hampers.



We look forward to the Christmas hamper campaign again in December!

Useful information:

Cambourne Shop (Food Project) - You can visit us at The Hub Community Centre, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am – 1pm.

Community Hub – Open on Mondays and Fridays (adjacent to the shop) accessible to anyone to join for a hot or cold drink, snack and friendly chats with the team.

Mobile Food Hub - Currently visits Duxford, Fulbourn, Linton, Orchard Park, Papworth and Willingham every week. You can find the schedule here: hopeagainst.org/hopeonthego

Household Support Fund (HSF) – Hope is a trusted partner and can issue HSF vouchers to help people experiencing immediate financial hardship to pay for food and household energy bills.

Please email hopecic.uk@gmail.com for information and support with the application.



SPORT

Community Football Kit Exchange

Cambourne Town FC is starting a Community Football Kit Exchange where people can donate and collect good quality items of football kit for reuse. It's that simple.

All items are free. You can donate any of the following items in designated collection bins at specific locations around Cambourne - The Dugout, The Hub and Everyone Active.


We welcome clean, good quality (undamaged) Astro/3G football trainers, Football boots, shin pads, shirts/tops (not necessarily club tops but football shirts in general), gloves, thermals, hoodies and socks. We ask that any donations of clothing be washed, boots/trainers cleaned and all items bagged before putting them into a collection bin.

Why are we doing it? How many items of good quality football kit are being neglected in a garage, attic or cupboard? No one should ever feel excluded from playing football because they don't have the right kit or equipment. Football kit can be expensive and for some a barrier to participation. Even if that is not the case, many items of still usable football kit are simply outgrown or replaced with newer versions. Through the Community Football Kit Exchange, we want to make it easy for our club members, county players and our opponents to share good quality reusable kit. This initiative aims to enable easy donation and collection of items, saving money and unnecessary waste at the same time.

Thank you to Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service for providing the bins.

What are our terms of use?

- Take what you need only
- No donation is required in order to collect an item
- The scheme is open to people/clubs outside of Cambourne
- The scheme is open to anyone who can make immediate use of the donated kit
- Pay it forward. If the kit you have collected, or any other kit you own, is still in good condition please donate it back to be used again





There is something for everyone at Cambourne Town Football Club. We have 38 teams from Under 7's Boys and Under 7's Girls through to our Men's and Ladies' Teams. We have our Football Centre and Soccer Schools for non-league football for boys and girls aged between 8 and 12. We have Walking Football, Disability Football, Coaching Camps and more. Drop by our Club House, The Dugout, for hot & cold food & drinks and a chat or come along with friends to watch Sky Sports matches on our large screens. We host many family events including Bingo, Quizzes, Race Nights, etc. Please visit: <https://cambournetownfc.com> for more details.

<https://cambournetownfc.com>








 @CAMBOURNETOWNFC
 WWW.CAMBOURNETOWNFC.COM



KIT RECYCLING

ALL ITEMS MUST BE CLEAN, GOOD QUALITY AND PREFERABLY BAGGED


FOOTBALL BOOTS / ASTRO BOOTS


FOOTBALL SHIRTS, SPORTS AND THERMALS / 'SKINS'


FOOTBALL SHORTS


HOODIES


SHIN PADS AND SOCKS





WWW.CAMBOURNETOWNFC.ORG.UK

How will it work?

- Donate your kit at one of the three blue bin locations - The Dugout, The Hub or Everyone Active. The bins will be labeled about acceptable donations.
- Collect unwanted kit via exchange events (monthly) at the Dugout on a Saturday (when most games are played). Kit will be displayed in the Dugout for collection plus other pop up events will be planned. More details will be on our social media and future editions of *Cambourne Crier*.

What do we do with any excess or uncollected donations?

We will donate any excess/uncollected donations by working with a variety of partners, from local organisations such as Hope Against Poverty CIC to national schemes such as the Cambs FA/Sports Gen scheme.



CAMBOURNE TOWN FC
SOCCER SCHOOL

For Girls and Boys aged between 4 and 7

Our Soccer School Sessions are held on Sunday 9am-10am on the 3G Pitch behind Everyone Active. Sessions are geared towards children that are new to football and looking to develop their skills. Children will need to be registered with us to attend. Come and be part of England Football Grassroots Club of the Year 2023.

Please visit: <https://cambournetownfc.com> Upcoming Events Page for more details.








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 WWW.CAMBOURNE TOWNFC.COM

Cambourne Town FC champions health and wellbeing with The FA Greater Game Initiative

Cambourne Town Football Club has taken a leading role as a pilot club for The FA Greater Game Initiative. This groundbreaking program, launched in April 2023, aims to revolutionise the approach to young people's health and wellbeing through football, providing essential tools, support, and resources for parents, guardians, coaches, and young players. Underpinning the initiative are four key pillars: Move, Think, Eat, Sleep, ensuring a holistic approach to fostering healthy lifestyles.

Supported by external research conducted by academics from the Institute for Sport and Physical Activity Research at the University of Bedfordshire and researchers from the Centre for Behaviour Change at University College London, The Greater Game Initiative is designed to address the comprehensive needs of young people in and outside of sport. These pillars encompass various aspects of health, from physical activity and mental resilience to nutrition and the importance of adequate sleep.

The initiative provides support, and resources for parents, guardians, coaches, and young individuals. Aimed at equipping them with everything necessary to support the health and wellbeing of young players, this encourages individuals to lead more active lives, make better dietary choices,

prioritise mental health, and recognise the importance of quality sleep.

As a pilot club, Cambourne Town FC is actively participating in the initial delivery as part of the initiative. Coaches and parents, along with young players, benefit from practical tips and techniques that can be implemented both on and off the pitch. The emphasis is on empowering ownership, encouraging attitudes and activities that inspire healthy behaviours among the young players.

To ensure the initiative's effectiveness, qualitative feedback from participants within the pilot program is being collected and collated. This direct engagement allows for the identification of behavioural concerns and the recommendation of intervention strategies, fostering long-term positive changes. Insights gained from these focus groups will contribute to adapting the initiative for a national rollout scheduled for early 2024.

Cambourne Town FC's involvement as a pilot club in England Football's The Greater Game Initiative is a testament to its commitment to the holistic development and wellbeing of young players in the community. The FA's commitment and support, through Claire Daniels, Sarah Thorp and their team; in devising, funding and driving this programme is a testament



to their commitment to ensuring the facilities and education are available to change young people's lives for the better. As the initiative progresses, we anticipate seeing positive changes in the lives of young players, thanks to the collective efforts of clubs, partners, and the

football community at large. Cambourne Town FC, the Cambridgeshire FA and The FA are not just focused on playing football; they are pioneering a movement that promotes health, happiness, and positive lifestyle choices among the next generation.

CAMBOURNE JUNIOR PARKRUN

WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER
or simply come and watch - it's up to you!




FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS
Adults can join in with the kids too!

FAMILY FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS
Everyone welcome

FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART

"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice, it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"

EVERY SUNDAY AT 9AM
Cambourne Sports Centre Playing Fields

Register: parkrun.org.uk/register

Info: parkrun.org.uk/cambourne-juniors

SPORT

Tennis: the under-rated hero of New Year's resolutions!

While everyone else is trudging through another monotonous round of gym routines, counting down the time until the treadmill stops, you could be zipping across a tennis court. Think about it: the thrill of the game, the rush of the serve, and let's not forget the stylish outfits. Tennis isn't just a sport; it's a fashion statement and a cardio workout in one. Who knew swatting a fluorescent ball could be the answer to your fitness prayers?

So wave goodbye to the endless cycle of boring fitness regimes and say hello to your new best friend: Tennis. It's like taking your regular workout, injecting a healthy dose of fun, and adding a sprinkle of competitive spirit. Tennis is the perfect blend of fitness, fun, and a bit of 'fancy'. So, grab a racket and let the tennis courts be your playground. Who said fitness couldn't be fabulous?

At Cambourne Tennis Club, we have adult social mix-in sessions twice a week (Wednesday nights 7 pm-10 pm & Sunday mornings 10 am-12 pm) where members can come along and get to know other club members in a social tennis rather than an outright competitive tennis environment. We have five floodlit courts, and our new Clubhouse is great for socialising with other members after a game.

For those who are more competitive, we have four Men's



teams, two Women's teams & three Mixed Doubles teams that play in the Cambridgeshire Winter and Summer Leagues for Cambourne Lawn Tennis Club against local rival clubs.

If you are new to Tennis or want to improve your game, our coaching programme, led by our head coach Toby Jackson, will get you started. Spring Term Tennis Lessons for all ages and abilities are underway but can still be booked. Sessions run until March 28th. Sign up via www.gamesettennis.co.uk or email toby@gamesettennis.co.uk. Please see the club website for more information on our activities and how to join: clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC

Raptors racing ahead in Cambs basketball league

The 2023/24 basketball season has kept the Cambourne Raptors and its supporters on the edge of their seats.

Almost all of the games this season have been won or lost by very few points, with some games even going to overtime! Currently the club is sitting almost at the top of division 2 of the Cambridgeshire League - we're certainly hoping for promotion this year!










Training takes place throughout September-March at Cambourne Village College (Monday and Thursday 7.30pm-9.30pm). We will always welcome new players - just get in touch via the details below.

There is also a fantastic opportunity for locals to play friendly, competitive full-court basketball throughout April-August (Monday and Thursday 7.30pm-9.30pm). Get in touch if you would like to be added to our scrimmage Whatsapp group and keep up to date with what's going on.

Email: info@cambournebasketball.org

Instagram: [@camraptorsbball](https://www.instagram.com/camraptorsbball)

Website: cambournebasketball.org

Team	G	W	L
 BC Littleport Zalgiris	8	7	1
 Cambourne Raptors 1	7	5	2
 Cambridge Kestrels 1	7	5	2
 Mildenhall	8	4	4
 Cambridge Cats 2	7	4	3
 Huntingdon Hawks 2	7	3	4
 Bury Bulldogs	6	3	3
 North Herts Knights	8	1	7
 East Cambs Warriors	6	0	6

