



CAMBOURNE CRIER

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High Street plans opposed

Cambourne Town Council's planning committee has voted to oppose a planning application for the High Street submitted by developer and landowner Newcrest.

The final decision however rests with South Cambs District Council – which could make a ruling as early as August.

Plans for Cambourne's High Street have been in the works for several years, but Newcrest said pre-application consultations, COVID and changes in building regulations have all delayed the planning application.

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A new public square is proposed, as seen here from the existing Cambourne retail park

Midpoint Developments

Cubs go camping



1st Cambourne Cubs report back from Phasels Wood

■ See page 13 for more...

Palace party invite



Hope CIC founder Mahesh Hettiarachchi attends garden party

■ Find out more on page 21...

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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, Forum Patel and Martin H W Law.

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Editorial submissions:

Submissions for the **August 2024 Edition** must be received by 9pm on **Sunday 14th July 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

■ Staff Vacancies

The Town Council is recruiting for four new members of staff. In the office we are looking for a Community Development officer and an Apprentice Office Administrator. Due to the expansion of the areas maintained by the Town Council we are also looking for at least two new members of the Grounds Team. We are looking for a Team Leader and at least one Skilled Grounds Person or Grounds Person. The closing date for Applications is 12 July 2024. For more information, please contact the Town Council via office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk or on 01954 714403.

■ Town Council Website

The current website is running on outdated technology and is difficult to maintain. The Town Council is currently working with a company named Aubergine that specialises in Parish and Town Council websites, to implement a new site. Until then, please accept our apologise for any inconvenience resulting from issues with the existing site. For more information, please contact the Town Council.

■ Funfair and Circus

This Summer we will see the return of Larry Gray's Funfair from Thursday 18th July until Sunday 21 July on Great Cambourne Green. John Lawson's Circus will also be returning with performances running between Thursday 31 August until Sunday 3 September on Great Cambourne Green.

■ Community Action Day

This is being scheduled for Saturday 7 September 2024 in the Hub car park. More information will be in the next edition of *Cambourne Crier*.

■ DOGS ON LEADS

Due to some recent concerns, we would like to remind dog owners to exercise their

dogs on leads. 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 not being disposed of.

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL**CALENDAR OF MEETINGS****July and August 2024**

Council meetings are held in the Meeting Room at the Hub Community Centre

Tuesday 2 July at 7pm:

- Planning Committee
- Followed by Full Council Meeting

Tuesday 16 July at 7pm:

- Planning Committee
- Followed by Leisure and Amenities Committee

Tuesday 6 August at 7pm:

- Planning Committee

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:

www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day/

MOBILE POST OFFICE:

The Hub Car Park

Mondays: 1.30-4.00pm

Wednesdays: 12.30-4.00pm

Tel: 01480 464 757

**The Town Council Office:**

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

Tel: 01954 714403

or email office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

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

www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

Facebook/Instagram: @cambournetowncouncil

COMMUNITY

Cambourne Shedders build planters for school

Cambourne Shedders have been busy working on another community project, having previously built two owl boxes for the Wildlife Trust.

This time, Shedders were asked to help Meridian Primary School in Comberton by building and supplying four planters for use in the school's habitat garden, where the pupils can enjoy planting flowers.

The four planters were built at CAM Shed, Madingley Hall and duly delivered to Year 4 teacher Jenny Weston at Meridian school by shedders John Panrucker and Tung Hau.

Cambourne Shed works in partnership with Cambridge Shed to use the fantastic Shed at Madingley Hall and are currently looking for new projects. We welcome requests from individuals or groups to



develop projects in the community interest. If you would like to submit a request to Cambourne Shed then please scan the QR code to access a form or email cambournemensshed@gmail.com.

To learn more about Cambourne Shed, or if you are interested in joining, then please use the aforementioned email address.



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COMMUNITY

Cambourne High Street: still time to have your say

Continued from page 1...

The High Street proposal currently under consideration includes 30 three-bedroom townhouses, 87 one- and two-bedroom flats, retail space and a public square.

One block of flats and all the houses would be located on the south side of the High Street – between the Monkfield Arms and The Hub community centre. A further two blocks of flats would be located between Cambridge Building Society and Sackville House (home to the Library and Monkfield Medical Practice), with a public square between them linking the High Street to the existing Cambourne retail park.

Each residential property would be allocated one parking space and all but four of the apartments would be accessible. No social housing is included in the scheme.

The three apartment blocks would include 1,400sq m of space allocated for retail/food offerings at street level.

The planning application states: "The additional activity these ground floor uses will bring will add to the identity of Cambourne. The units are flexible enough to accommodate a mix of occupiers thus increasing reasons for shoppers to visit this part of the centre adding to the vibrancy of the town centre.

"The inclusion of residential properties above will enhance activity along the High Street creating a vibrant place.

"A new open space is proposed. This will concentrate density of activity through alfresco café culture creating an attractive place to dwell."

Thirty parking spaces would be made available for shoppers.

The Town Council's planning committee voted by a majority of just one in favour of



Looking east along the High Street towards The Hub

Midpoint Developments

High Street plan at a glance:

- 30 three-bed townhouses
- 87 one- and two-bed flats (all but four accessible)
- 1,400sqm of retail space
- Public square
- One parking space per residence
- 30 parking spaces for shoppers
- No social housing
- Road widened to two lanes

opposing the proposal at a meeting on 4 June, when residents were able to hear from the developer submitting the plans – Newcrest's Duncan Mason – and raise their concerns.

One issue was the safety of pedestrians – particularly children who use the High Street to walk to school – both during the construction period and afterwards. While the design is said to encourage pedestrians, the existing High Street would need to be widened to allow for two lanes of traffic – at a cost to the developer of £1 million – and would have to include loading bays to accommodate delivery lorries for the retail units, as there will be no access for large vehicles to the rear of the shops. There are no cycle lanes included in the plans.

Other residents questioned whether there was sufficient retail space allocated to create a vibrant high street – drawing comparisons with other towns of similar size and population – and questioning the need for so many residential units in the plan. Duncan Mason said that the residential units were essential to ensure the project was commercially viable.

Another resident was concerned that with four-storey buildings on either side of the road and with relatively narrow

pavements, the High Street would feel like a 'tunnel'.

The planning committee's reasons for objecting to the application included the lack of cycle routes, lack of parking and a lack of a phasing plan to show how the development would be delivered.

Councillors expressed concern that a situation could arise where the residential aspect was delivered but not the retail units. They also suggested the developer could be asked to commit to an S106 contribution which could be used for local improvements such as the proposed pedestrian crossing on Monkfield Lane, or other potential sports, play, community or youth development projects.

Following the meeting, South Cambs District Councillor Stephen Drew wrote on Facebook: "The planning application consultation remains open until 6 August. It is really important that residents submit their comments so the District Council and the developer are given all the information they need.

"Duncan Mason has said he will be attending a street event with a stall on Saturday 3 August. As well as the developer, we will be getting the District Council's planning department to take part in this event. The development of our High Street remains a live issue and the more residents get involved the more influence we will have."

Councillor Helene Leeming, also writing on Facebook, added: "We all have to look at this with clear eyes. We need a High Street. Is this good enough? Once it is built, it's there forever. But if we turn it down, what will come next?"

■ You can view the planning application, which includes detailed drawings and site plans, here: <https://shorturl.at/1XL6l>

COMMUNITY

Why the long grass?

The green spaces in Cambourne are managed in a variety of ways, and different areas are looked after by different organisations.



The Wildlife Trust BCN manage much, but not all, of the wider green space for the benefit of wildlife, as well as to enable people to connect with nature (which is vital for good mental and physical health). The Trust's meadows are rich in wildflowers which support birds, mammals, and invertebrates like the marbled white butterfly, and the Mother Shipton moth (whose caterpillars use grasses). Some of the meadows are grazed with cattle or sheep in summer, but the majority are cut once a year and the material collected, which is a way maintaining the nutrient balance in the soil to favour a diverse mix of wildflowers over a few dominant grass species. Some areas are left long each year as overwintering areas for invertebrates. This deliberate strategy may look untidy to some but is standard practice for wildflower meadow management. A healthy meadow ecosystem not only supports diverse wildlife but also stores carbon in the soil, helping to reduce the impact of climate change. There are plenty of designated amenity spaces managed by the council, where the grass is mowed more frequently, that are more suitable for family activities like ball games and picnics.

We know that the vast majority of people enjoy the wildness of Cambourne Nature Reserve, but there are some people who seek to encroach or extend illegally into areas close to their property. This might be by mowing areas of land that do not belong to them, by planting garden plants or dumping garden waste (which can spread non-native invasive species), or even by putting up sheds. We are keen to harness the energy of people to help manage the nature reserve in a sustainable way that benefits everyone, by inviting you to join our monthly volunteer work parties, or inviting you to learn more about the importance of pollinators, and why wildlife is in trouble, at an event.

■ For more information about events and volunteering, please visit our website wildlifebcn.org, or contact Communities and Education Officer, Rebecca Neal.

Email: rebecca.neal@wildlifebcn.org

Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

Wildlife Trust BCN main

Facebook/Twitter: @wildlifebcn

The West Cambridgeshire Hundreds are a group of nature reserves owned and/or managed by the Wildlife Trust for Beds Cambs and Northants: Hardwick, Gamlingay, Hayley, and Waresley and Gransden Woods, and Cambourne Nature Reserve.



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MONKFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE

Monkfield Medical Practice: New services and summer updates

Owing to the idea from our wonderful patient participation group (PPG) at Monkfield Medical Practice, we are proud to present our patient newsletter precis (full version on our Facebook group and website www.monkfieldpractice.co.uk). We aim to bring the Practice even us closer to the centre of the community and we welcome any feedback.

It has been a busy year with a new partnership consisting of Dr Ruwani Siriwardena, Dr Rakesh Modi and Mrs Hannah Crisford. Our focus has been expanding services, recruiting regular staff, becoming part of the community, and serving the growing town.

We thought it best summarise all the changes we've made to improve and protect the wellbeing of Cambourne.

We are pleased to inform you we have:

- Recruited eight regular GPs in 6 months, with no more regular locums
 - Initiated winter access clinics for infections over the busiest season
 - Started a system for long term health conditions with proactive annual reviews
 - Improved the score for our quality of care by 25 per cent
 - Provided a COVID-19 vaccine clinic for the first time – twice!
 - Initiated research at our practice, with 11 studies completed and many more to come
 - Begun offering local sixth-form children some work experience and engaging with local schools and youth groups
 - Set-up pop-up stands at our elderly residential homes for advice and support
 - Started training GPs and nurses alongside your medical students
 - Started to run menopause cafes, lung disease workshops, health checks for those with severe mental illness or learning disability, dementia support hubs, contraceptive coil and implant clinics, and a patient-led art group!
 - Worked with a group of practices (Meridian PCN) to now provide a physiotherapist, health coach, social prescriber, care co-ordinator, pharmacist and pharmacy technician.
 - Planned for expanding our service to cater for the growth of Cambourne in collaboration with the Council and health board.
 - Re-initiated the Patient and Participation Group to work with us for the benefit of you all! Please enquire at the practice if you wish to join.
- We welcome you to let us know how we're doing, and we hope we can serve you well as we all grow together!



(Left to right) Dr Rakesh Modi, Mrs Hannah Crisford and Dr Ruwani Siriwardena, Partners at Monkfield Medical Practice

Cambourne & District u3a



Monthly meetings
Third Friday of the month
10.30 at The Hub
Speakers, coffee and chat

Interest Groups

- Allsorts
- Art Appreciation
- Book Clubs
- Bridge
- Classical Music
- Dance Fitness
- Darts & Pool
- Gardens Galore
- Genealogy

- Intermediate French
- iPad interest
- Out to Lunch
- Study Trips
- Table Tennis & Badminton
- Theatre
- Walking
- WWII



The University of the Third Age
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Guests are welcome to attend a meeting to find out more about us!
<https://u3asites.org.uk/cambourne/welcome>

Gambourne Balkan Dance Club



BALKAN DANCE

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5:20pm (Beginners)
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6:30pm (Intermediate)
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Tel: 07551 203866

COMMUNITY

Light Up Cambourne bingo evening a great hit

Light Up Cambourne Bingo evening, a sell out gathering at the hub, enjoyed an evening of prize Bingo and other fun activities.

Light Up Cambourne events always have such a great atmosphere, everybody has such a good time, so a huge thank you to all who attended from the LUC volunteers. Thanks must also go to Neil and Marie our bingo callers who travel from Norwich to call the numbers and check the winning cards.

One really positive note is that during the evening no less than 14 people expressed an interest in becoming volunteers, those of you who read these LUC updates are doubtless aware of the very real prospect that without people stepping forward to become volunteers LUC will most likely have to fold due to a lack of the resources (people) needed to run it. We hope that this development



could be the lifeline LUC needs, watch this space!!

We would still love to welcome further volunteers - the more the merrier, please contact LUC at lightupcambourne@gmail.com or via our Facebook page.

Thanks also to Cambourne Fishing Club and one of our guests for a fishing club voucher and a beautiful gift for the evenings raffle, very much appreciated.

We are planning our next event for September, details to follow nearer the time.



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PAUL JOBLING
CAMBOURNE CRIER
EDITORIAL TEAM
editorial@
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Planning permission - when is it needed?

You just have to look around Cambourne to see all of the developments, which include home renovations but especially extensions.

Planning permission is a subject which is regularly discussed and this short article aims to explain some key points you need know when considering an extension to your home. The good news is that, rules known as 'permitted development' rights, allow you to extend a house without needing to apply for planning permission if certain conditions are met. According to the Planning Portal, planning permission is needed when building an extension, when:

- A single storey rear or side extension extends

out by more than 4m metres for a detached house or more than three metres for any other house. It also cannot be more than 4m in height without planning permission

- All side extensions of more than one storey require planning permission
- Extensions cannot be higher than the highest point of the existing roof, similarly the eaves
- Extensions with more than one storey cannot extend out to the rear more than three metres or be within seven metres of any boundary opposite the rear wall of the house. As far as possible, the roof pitch must match existing house
- No more than half of the total area of land can be covered by extensions or outbuildings
- Garages and outbuildings don't usually need planning permission

■ **More information:** www.planningportal.co.uk



STEPHEN DREW
DISTRICT COUNCILLOR
cldr.drew@scambbs.gov.uk

Have your say on our High Street

I am sure everyone is aware the developer that owns the land in the centre of our town has submitted a planning application.

Whatever your views on the plans, I think we can all agree that the principle of getting the High Street completed is one that almost everyone in Cambourne supports. However, it is also very clear that there are a range of strongly held views in relation to the plans that have been proposed.

Strong opinions have been expressed on local Facebook groups as well as at the planning committee of the town council which voted to oppose the development in its current form at its June meeting. Of course, strong views opposing

the plans on social media and in a council meeting are not the whole story. There are other residents who support the building of the High Street under these plans and those voices need to be heard and welcomed as well.

We are in a difficult situation of having waited far too long for our High Street to be completed, but rightly not wanting to just accept whatever plans are put forwards; whilst also being conscious that if these plans are rejected there is a risk that there will be no High Street built for many more years. I therefore encourage everyone to look at the plans online and add their comments to those already made. It is vital that as many of us have our say as possibly can. The plans can be seen here:

<https://tinyurl.com/yw6xvt5> and search for 24/01548/FUL. The deadline is 6th August 2024.



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

That bloated feeling

Bloating is where your abdomen (tummy) feels full. It is very common and can be very uncomfortable and can make clothes feel tighter.

If you are bloated, your tummy might make more noises and you might pass wind more than normal.

Bloating is most often caused by gas in the gut. This might be because of fizzy drinks or swallowing air when you eat so avoiding gassy drinks and eating with your mouth closed can help.

However, sometimes too much gas can be created inside the gut, particularly if you have a

food intolerance. In these cases, the gut struggles to digest the food properly and it is often possible to notice that certain foods or a higher quantity of a specific food can lead to feeling bloated.

Bloating can also occur if you are constipated and can be more common for women around the time of their periods.

Most of the time bloating comes and goes throughout the day or week but, for women, if the bloating is there all the time, this can be a sign of ovarian cancer and should be mentioned to the GP, particularly if there are other symptoms such as pain in the tummy or pelvis, loss of appetite or problems peeing.

■ **Reference/ further information:** www.nhs.uk/conditions/bloating

COMMUNITY

SCDC responds to petition opposing Cambourne 20mph zones

As reported by *Cambourne Crier* on its front page in March this year, residents were given the opportunity to sign a change.org online petition opposing the recently introduced blanket 20mph zones in Cambourne.

Some 300 or so respondents signed the petition, which was delivered to the SCDC Highways & Transport Committee on April 30th. A number of the comments on the petition were read out at the meeting to ensure a fair balance of the views were represented.

"The council promise to respond to all qualifying petitions in 10 working days," says Mark Seaden, the Cambourne resident who originally raised the petition, "But in this case it took over six weeks to get a response from the chair of the committee, Liberal Democrat Councillor



Alex Beckett - and only after having to lodge a formal complaint. I wasn't very happy with the lack of engagement by the council".

The council response concluded that "Cambridgeshire County Council's Highways and Transport committee took a policy decision in 2022 to make it easier to implement 20mph zones by removing the requirement for mean speeds of 24mph or less when proposing a new 20mph speed zone or limit. The Council continues to support the implementation of 20mph speed limits as an effective road safety intervention and does not propose to

remove the 20mph speed limit in Cambourne."

"This was a disappointing response" continues Mark, "The petition included recent University studies highlighting the lack of effectiveness of these 20mph zones and suggestions from other residents that the 20mph zones could at least be removed from the main roads other than directly outside schools; these suggestions did not get any feedback."

A similar petition is being raised in Ely, where a 20mph is also being introduced and has so far gained thousands of signatures.



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CHURCHES

CAMBOURNE CHURCH

Everyone's invited!

On Sunday mornings our children and young people have been learning about the Kingdom of God. You might have heard the Lord's Prayer; in it we pray "Your kingdom come". But what exactly are we praying for? Jesus told many stories to help explain to us what God's Kingdom is like, these stories can be found in the Bible. In Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells a story about a big party. The party guests had received the "save the date" and RSVP'd to the party invitation, but when the host announced everything was ready, they chose not to go - the timing was inconvenient; they had other, more important, things to do. When those with status didn't show up, the host sent out an invitation to the hungry, the homeless, the ones who society had labelled "not good enough." Those who were used to being left out felt honoured by the invitation - they turned up, they ate, and they celebrated together.

Maybe sometimes we feel like we are the ones who are left out. Jesus' story tells us that God's Kingdom is like the best party and everyone's invited! It means that God wants the whole world to be like the party that Jesus described - where everyone is welcome and everyone shares. I wonder if there's anything we can do to help make that happen? Children and young people are invited to join us at Little, Young or Youth Church (our groups for 0-18s) on Sunday mornings as we figure it out together.

**Clare Cronin - Ministry Team Leader
for Children and Young People**

Sunday Services in July 2024



Sunday 7 July	10.00am 7.00pm	Sunday One Communion Service ** Sanctuary (Service of Quiet Prayer)
Sunday 14 July	9.30am 11.00am	Sunday Morning Worship Sunday Morning Worship *
Sunday 21 July	9.30am 11.00am	Sunday Morning Worship with Communion Sunday Morning Worship with Communion *
Sunday 28 July	10.00am	All Age Sunday Morning Worship

* includes break-out groups for children

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

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

Important Things

In June, we celebrated Father's Day at the church. The men of the church received work gloves and a message about how a father's hands should be was preached. The protection and provision of the father are vital. The guidance and perseverance of a father's hand provide stability in a child's life. The comfort and assurance of a good father just being there can help reduce anxiety in the lives of the family. Things went well.

By the time you read this, we will have also hosted an election hustings. This event was an opportunity to hear and ask questions to election candidates. This was not a planned event, as one of the Facebook groups questioned why there was no hustings for Cambourne. I commented on that post and was then contacted by someone asking if we could sponsor a hustings since we are a charity and non-aligned as an organization. As you may know, I am a great proponent of freedom of speech, and even though I have



**Pastor
Donovan Bangs**

never done this before, I felt this could be a good service for the people of Cambourne. So I agreed and contacted everyone running. Who knows how it will go, but I already have the keys and know where the chairs are.

I believe it is important to meet and question the people representing us to ensure they truly represent us rather than special interests or using this as a stepping stone in a political career. They should be our advocates for the difficulties we face here. We can see if they understand our struggles and if they will listen or just

brush us off like nobles to peasants. My general opinion (as an individual and not the church) of most politicians is not high, certainly not as high as some of them seem to think of themselves. This is why I am thankful my true advocate is not in man but in God. He always listens, understands, and will always do right. Regardless of who wins in an election remember God is never too busy to hear your prayer. Have a joyful July Cambourne.

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

Donovan Bangs on Youtube

At the Cambourne Community Centre, the Hub
Pastor Donovan Bangs 01954 710510
PeacehavenBC@aol.com peacehavenbc.org.uk



CHURCHES



St John Fisher Community

In late May, a group of 30 children and their parents from SJF joined with hundreds of other young Catholics at the Annual Young People's Retreat to Walsingham. Groups from all over East Anglia met in the centre of the village before embarking on a 1.5 mile walk to the Holy Shrine. Despite the heavy rain, spirits were high and lifted by some singing and prayers. On arrival at the Shrine, all were squeezed into the

church for a special Children's Mass led by Bishop Peter. It was a special day and a great experience for our young people.

■ St John Fisher Community Mass times in Cambourne Church Centre: Mon-Wed 12:30, Thu-Fri 18:30, Sat-Sun 17:00.

Contact Details: Tel: 01223 832397; Mobile: 07843 861719,

Email: sjf.cambourne@rcdea.org.uk

Website: <http://cambournerc.com>



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EDUCATION

Getting out and about!

Hardwick & Cambourne Community Primary: Our Reception classes recently enjoyed an exciting trip to the West Lodge farm, where they had the opportunity to interact with a variety of animals and learn about farm life. The kids were delighted feeding the goats, bottle feeding the lambs, and observing the peacock plumage display. The highlight of the trip was most certainly a tractor ride around the farm.

Key Stage 1 students embarked on an adventurous trip to Woburn Safari Park and indulged in a thrilling journey through the park, observing animals in a safari setting. They saw lions, tigers, giraffes, and zebras up close from the safety of their safari vehicles (the school coach). The park's knowledgeable guides provided engaging talks about the animals' habitats, behaviours, and conservation efforts.

Year 4 pupils visited Grafham Water for an action-packed three days of outdoor activities. They participated in team-building exercises, including raft building and orienteering, which promoted collaboration and problem-solving skills. The students also enjoyed kayaking, paddle boarding and sailing, gaining confidence in water sports. As always, the trip was a great success, fostering a sense of adventure and a love for the outdoors.



Down on the farm



Monkfield Park Primary: our Reception children have been learning about the food we all enjoy and where it comes from. As they are a very curious bunch there were lots of questions which needed to be answered, so a trip to a farm was called for.

On a thankfully, dry and sunny day the children visited South Angle Farm at Soham to find out what life on a farm is really like. They met lots of the farm's residents including pigs, goats, sheep, donkeys, horses, alpacas and llamas and were able to interact and feed them. Everyone was thrilled to meet some of the farm's more exotic visitors including tarantulas, snakes, giant cockroaches and a very old and wise tortoise. The pupils were able to find the answers to many of their questions from the very knowledgeable staff in addition to having a very enjoyable day out.

Meanwhile Year 6 children were celebrating the end of their Key Stage 2 SATs with a residential trip to PGL. They worked so hard over the past year and the opportunity to challenge themselves with many new outdoor and adventuroustruly memorable experience for them. From kayaking and raft building to the thrill of leaping from the trapeze, scaling the climbing walls and helping their team to conquer the rigors of the Jacob's Ladder, the children discovered new levels of inner strength, determination and team work.

COMMUNITY

Cubs camp at Phasels Wood



Over the May half term, 1st Cambourne Cubs had a fantastic time camping at Phasels Wood Activity Centre in Hertfordshire.

Despite a wet lead up to the camp, the weather was kind to us and we packed in loads of activities including archery, crate stacking and den building - which had to stand up to leaders throwing buckets of water at them with cubs inside! It was generally agreed though that the best activity was the cresta run - racing downhill on toboggans with wheels!

Huge thanks to all the leaders, especially Akela and Rikki for planning everything, all the cubs had a great time, and we're very much looking forward to three more camps later this year.



$$\frac{x-2}{x^3} Q'' \quad \int (x+a)^n \quad e=2.79$$

$$\int_0^8 x^n \quad \sqrt{\sum (x-m)^2}$$

$$=co$$

$$\ln$$

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$$\sin a = b$$

$$y = \frac{b}{x}$$

$$z = \frac{b}{\sqrt{c}}$$

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ y & x \end{bmatrix}$$

$$xx+a^2$$

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Founder of Cambourne's Hope CIC invited to Palace

Cambourne resident Mahesh Hettiarachchi was delighted to open his mail earlier this year, when he and his wife received a completely unexpected invitation to the Royal Garden Party at Buckingham Palace.

Mahesh is the founder of Hope CIC, a Cambourne-based charity which helps people in financial need, including providing necessary food and grocery provisions via the Food Bank at Cambourne.

Hope CIC's mission statement says: "Our mission is to create lasting change in the lives of all people affected by poverty. We strive to build a world where everyone has access to basic needs such as food, shelter, safety, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities."

These laudable causes and the success of the charity reached Buckingham Palace, resulting in a well-deserved invite to the Palace Garden Party.

The King and Queen were both in attendance on this beautiful sunny day along with Prince Edward and Sophie, Duchess of Edinburgh - who Mahesh was fortunate enough to engage in conversation with about his work at Hope CIC and its significant achievements during the short time the charity has been operating.

Mahesh commented that the entire day was wonderfully organised and he and his wife had the opportunity to wander around the grounds of the palace, network with

other people and generally be welcome guests of the Royal family.

"It was lovely to see everyone all dressed up for the occasion, with their smiling faces, all talking to each other and generally having a good time. It was a tremendous day. I will always remember the military band playing throughout the day looking resplendent in the impeccable red uniforms."

It was a day he and his wife will never forget.

Hope CIC works throughout the seven villages in the area and helps between 150-200 people per week with donations of food and support. They have recently purchased an electric van to take food to people who need their services in an environmentally conscious way.

Hope CIC does not only provide much needed food, it also provides hot drinks and meals, counselling and in Cambourne there is a bike surgery, digital hub and an opportunity for English lessons. The charity will soon be starting its own farm where they will be able to grow their own fruit and vegetables as well as providing therapeutic gardening opportunities to help people with mental health and other issues where gardening would help their situation.



GROUPS, SERVICES & CONTACTS

COMMUNITY GROUPS

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District Councillors for Cambourne:

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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/cambourne-juniors/

COMMUNITY

Sing with Cambourne Community Gospel Choir!

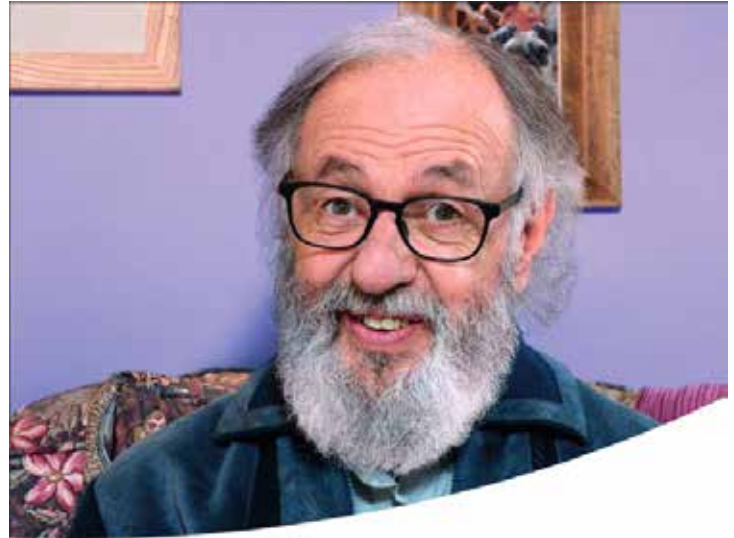
“Never thought I would sing in a choir. Such Fun!”

Love singing together? Please join us!

We are a friendly group and welcome anyone of any ability. Maybe not choir of the Year standard (despite being asked by the BBC to send an audition tape) and certainly there are no X-Factor style try outs or requirement to read musical notation and the like...

In fact, we have a tried and tested system invented by our musical director Steve Gaze, with new members in mind – starting a new term learning a pocketful of new songs. Then bringing back into rehearsals some classics from the CCGC vault – a secret chamber of songs built up from 2015 when the choir was born.

Drinks and cakes break every session. £1 suggested contribution. Meeting in the Blue Space behind Cambourne Church every Wednesday during term time 7.30 – 9.15pm. Contact us on cambournegospelchoir@gmail.com [Facebook.com/CambourneCommunityGospelChoir](https://www.facebook.com/CambourneCommunityGospelChoir)



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They come to me

We're there for people who are unable to get to a Specsavers store too. See if you're eligible for a home visit at [specsavers.co.uk/HomeVisits](https://www.specsavers.co.uk/HomeVisits) or call 0800 089 0144



For full details visit [specsavers.co.uk/HomeVisits](https://www.specsavers.co.uk/HomeVisits)



AN EVENING WITH
CAMBOURNE COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHOIR

SATURDAY 13 JULY 7.30PM BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH SWAVESEY, CB24 4RP TICKETS £5, UNDER 18S FREE RAISING FUNDS FOR LOCAL FOODBANK	WEDNESDAY 17 JULY 7.30PM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CAXTON, CB23 3PL FREE ENTRY CASH DONATIONS WELCOMED TO SING INSIDE
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SUMMER 2024 SEASON NOW ON SALE!



Cambridge Arts Theatre

COMMUNITY

On-call watch commander retires after two decades of service at Cambourne Fire Station

After more than two decades of responding to emergencies, Cambourne Fire Station's watch commander has retired.

Martin Ward departs the station having given 24 years of service, many of those leading the on-call crew at the station around his full-time job at the Royal Papworth Hospital.

Joining Papworth Fire Station in 2000, Martin quickly became an integral part of the crew. He also took a lead role with the Service's high-volume pump, a national resilience asset provided by the government.

Martin said: "I'm lucky to have always worked with a great team. I have always enjoyed the friendships, camaraderie and am lucky to have met and worked with many amazing people throughout the Service who do genuinely look after and care for each other. I have attended many incidents and have always done my best to support the public in their time of need in a professional, caring manner. Equally, I have been looked after by some great people and have felt valued.

"Being an on-call firefighter is not just a job. It really is a way of life and a huge commitment for both the employee and their family. Living on my own for many years I have been lucky to have a very supportive family to help me out when needed.

"My son Dylan, now 18, has always been supportive and proud of what I have done often getting kicked out of the car on my way to the station for a shout back in his younger days. More recently when he comes to stay, he just rolls his eyes and prays I'm out long enough that he can spend some quality time on his XBOX without me nagging him. My mum Kathy,



sister Vanessa and brother Scotty have always helped me out looking after Dylan at the drop of a hat.

"More recently, my partner Amelia has again been proud and supportive. Like Dylan, she often rolls her eyes when we haven't seen each other for a few days and the pager goes off just as we sit down for dinner. She has always understood us being against the clock to get home to be on-call when we're out spending time together.

"My main employers (Royal Papworth Hospital) have always been very supportive allowing me and other firefighters to respond to calls during the working day when we were based on the old site over in Papworth before we moved to The Cambridge Biomedical Campus in 2019."

Assistant Director Stuart Smith presented Martin with his retirement figurine at the station, in front of the crew and staff gathered from other stations and headquarters. He said: "Martin has been a great asset to the station and the Service as a whole, he will be greatly missed but has definitely earned his retirement.

"We are certainly grateful to Martin for his dedicated work with the high-volume pump. His desire to make the best possible use of the equipment, as well as leading training and guiding others, is certainly going to be missed. Also, the recent move to Cambourne from Papworth was an emotional challenge for everyone, but Martin played a key role in

ensuring it happened smoothly."

Martin concluded: "I've been lucky to have some fantastic line managers and chief executives, as well as being part of a great team, who have allowed us time for operational duties. They have also given us the use of the buildings or training, allowing us to maintain our skills. A huge thank you to each and every one of them as without your support I wouldn't have been able to have done what I have.

"I will truly miss you all. I have been inspired by many and have learnt some really useful skills which helped me not only in my CFRS role but also my wholtime role at Royal Papworth Hospital. I am genuinely sad to be leaving CFRS but looking forward to relocating to a new chapter in my life with my partner, as well as a new motorbike at some point, potentially."

As Martin explained, being an on-call firefighter means responding to emergencies in the local community. This can be while at work, when you're about to have dinner or while you're asleep.

On-call firefighters at Cambourne, and 20 other stations around the county, carry a small pager and are alerted to respond when needed. They need to be within five minutes of the station in order to be available.

Think this is something you can do? Visit www.cambsfire.gov.uk to find out more, or visit your local on-call station. The crew at Cambourne train every Tuesday from 7pm.

Rumpelstiltskin comes to Cambourne!

The latest offering from Cambourne's very own theatre group – our unique, modern take on of the traditional tale, *Rumpelstiltskin* – finally arrived after a particularly long journey!

Written by local author David Waddington, this fun family show was originally penned with rehearsals well underway for presentation back in 2020, when – as you will no doubt remember – we were all told to “stay at home” and our production was, unfortunately, suspended. Nevertheless, it was recently reborn and rejuvenated and received a great reception for the two performances held in Cambourne's Blue Space.

The cast and audience alike enjoyed helping Rumpel to find the ingredients needed for spinning his straw into gold, helping our two heroines, Milly and Onyx, to eventually discover his ridiculous name (with the aid of a little technical wizardry), not to mention joining in our vigorous session of Zumba! Our director, Barry Evans, said at the end of our second performance, “the audiences really enjoyed the show, and everyone went home happy, and smiling,” having had a helping of slap-stick fun, silly jokes, a few equally silly poems all washed down with drinks and snacks during the interval which went down a treat!

Cambourne Community Theatre Group is a small, but enthusiastic group, always on the lookout for anyone interested in taking part in our productions or also helping in other areas such as backstage, front of house, technical assistance or in any way at all. Please contact us if interested:

[facebook.com/cambournecommunitytheatre/](https://www.facebook.com/cambournecommunitytheatre/)
cambournecommunitytheatre.org/



2nd Cambourne go crazy for golf!

At the end of May, all three of our sections: Beavers, Cubs, and Scouts enjoyed a golf evening doing crazy golf at Jurassic Links, Kingsway, Melbourn.

The children had lots of fun navigating the challenging holes, all set amongst the dinosaurs! In early June, all sections

took part in a litter pick across Cambourne. With equipment provided by Cambourne Town Council, they worked hard and collected a total of 20 bags of rubbish! It was a great effort, showcasing their dedication to keeping our local community clean.

info@2ndcambournescoutgroup.org.uk

COMMUNITY

Hope CIC unveils new Community Farm Project

An extremely exciting new project has started over in Girton!

With the support of the Cambridgeshire County Council Communities Service and Rural Assets Property team, we have secured an area of land to develop into a community farm. The land has been sitting unused for many years and was previously farmland.

To begin the project, we have started clearing a small section – erecting a shed and building raised beds. There is 4.5 acres of land to work with. As the project expands, we will be looking for volunteers to support the running of the community farm which will be a great opportunity to keep physically and mentally active. Our long-term plan is to grow fruit and vegetables whilst providing a therapeutic farming experience and horticulture education for primary school children. Produce grown will go back into our current services such as the food project in Cambourne, and the mobile food hub, which is currently visiting villages across South Cambs. Anyone that is interested in volunteering, or has experience and able to offer advice and guidance, please email hopecic.uk@gmail.com

Community Hub

Anyone is welcome to come along to join for a hot or cold drink, snack and friendly chat with the team. We are open on Mondays and Fridays 9.30am – 1pm (adjacent to the shop in the meeting room of the Hub Community Centre). Alongside this we also host a 'thrift shop' with second hand and new clothing, plus some household items from as little as £1 an item.

Digital Hub

The digital hub session is here to support and teach the basics of using current technology including mobile phones, computers, tablets etc. Our friendly volunteers can also help you with internet safety, using social media, email, and producing documents/spreadsheets. The digital hub is accessible for anyone to use. There is no need to book, just turn up on the day. The sessions run every Wednesday 9.30am – 12pm at Cambourne Library (except during school holidays).

Bike surgeries

Our fantastic team of volunteers at the Bike Surgery have been kept busy the last few months. They have serviced or repaired over 110+ bikes, and raised over £300 in donations. We also gratefully received donations of bike parts and a new bike stand. Our Bike Surgery takes place every Saturday, 9.30am - 12.30pm at Cambourne Library in the foyer. No booking needed, just turn up on the day. This a free service provided by our team of volunteers, but donations are welcome. They also offer advice, and we sell refurbished bikes at affordable prices too (subject to availability). Please check our Facebook page for updates: www.facebook.com/hopeagainstopovertycic



Find out more on all our services and projects on our website: www.hopeagainst.org

Cambourne Shop (Food Project)

The shop stocks fresh fruit and vegetables, and essential long-lasting items including cereal, pasta, rice and noodles, canned foods, sauces and condiments, milk (and milk substitutes) tea, coffee and juice. Household cleaning, personal hygiene, menstrual and incontinence, baby and infant products are also all available to be purchased. Items are all priced at below retail price making it a more affordable way of purchasing essential food and products. We also offer some items free! We accept payment by Cash or Card.

Where to find us?

- The Hub Community Centre, High Street, Cambourne.
- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays (except Bank Holidays).
- 10am - 1pm

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.



Cambourne Library

Opening Times:

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

We will be running our annual Summer Reading Challenge and this year the theme is Marvellous Makers! If you would like to be involved, please see posters in the library or go to our website. We will be delighted to welcome our primary school customers who have taken part previously and hopefully lots of new faces too! Keep your reading alive this summer, enjoy discovering new titles or re-read favourites and come in and talk to us about them at the library. Sign Up Saturday is 13th July! (You can still take part if you are having a vacation as we can accommodate everyone).

From Saturday 20th July, you will be given a special collectors folder and your first sticker when you have read your first book. Collect all 6 stickers throughout the challenge.

Summer Reading Challenge Events

These events are all bookable, please contact the library or email cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Make a Fairy Garden- Wednesday 24th July 10.00-12.00pm

Using natural, recycled and new materials make a beautiful, magical miniature garden.

£2.00 per child

The Making Magic Show- Wednesday 31st July 10.30-11.45am

Our ever-popular magician is back to amaze you with their magic tricks. £5.00 per child

Family Games Session. Wednesday 7th August. 10.00-11.30am £2.00 per child

Thursday 1st August 10.30am-12pm- author Antonia Maxwell will be chatting about her new novel- Terra Electrica- The Guardians of the North- an action-packed dystopian adventure series set in the near-future, post-melt Arctic. There will be a craft event related to the story, too!

'The last ice cap has melted, and the world is on the brink of collapse. A deadly force? Terra Electrica? has been unleashed. It feeds on electricity. It is infecting humanity.

In this chaotic, rapidly changing reality, 12-year-old Mani has lost her family and community to the Terra Electrica. Armed only with some ancestral wisdom and a powerful, ancient wooden mask she was never meant to inherit so soon, she suddenly finds herself responsible for the fate of the world.

Can Mani piece everything together and harness her newfound powers in time to save humanity? £2.00 per child.

Fun Little foodies- no bake cookery session Wednesday 14th August 9.30-10.30am and 11.30-12.30pm

Come and learn how to make a healthy Rainbow Pasta Salad. Session includes all equipment use, ingredients, a craft and a story! £3.00 per child

Family LEGO Session Wednesday 21st August 10-11.30am

Always a favourite. £2.00 per child

Himalayan Wildlife Adventures:

Thursday 22nd August 10.00-11.30

Jane Wilson-Howarth has lived and worked in the Himalayan foothills for 12 years and during this time has met many of the exciting and frightening wildlife that lives in the forests and mountains. Jane will show photos of the amazing landscape of Nepal and will have you guessing about what animals you might meet if you go there. Jane has written three wildlife-packed adventure stories set in Nepal and these can be borrowed from the library. Her author website is www.wilson-howarth.com

At the end of the challenge, will look forward to presenting you with your medal and certificate at our special Award Ceremony in September-Monday 16th 4-5pm or Friday 20th 4-5pm (TBC)

Dates for your diary in July

As part of Alcohol Awareness week, we will be hosting a stand from Change Grow Live on Monday 8th July from 10-12pm.

Change Grow Live are a charity whose mission is to help people change the direction of their lives, grow as individuals, and live life to its full potential.

Disability Pride Month- July

South Asian Heritage Month (18 July-17 August)

Regular Activities in the Library

Digital Assistance - Mondays 10.00 am - 12.00 pm and 1.00 pm - 3.00 pm.

Our computer buddy volunteers are ready to welcome you at Cambourne Library every Monday. Please speak with a Librarian at the counter or contact us on the number/email provided.

Cambourne Lunch Bunch - Wednesday 17th July 2024, 12.30 pm - 1.30 pm.

Would you like to join a friendly reading group meeting at lunchtime? Our library-based reading group meets once a month on a Wednesday, normally during the third week of the month, at 12.30 pm. Please ask library staff for more information or come along to our next meeting. You will be very welcome!

Rhymetime/Storytime followed by Duplo play session - Friday morning in term time.

Our popular sessions for babies and pre-schoolers and their parents/carers are on Friday mornings during term time and run from 9.30 am - 10.30 am

Friday 19th July will be a special end of term Rhymetime/Storytime- come along and celebrate with us!

HOPE CIC Bike Surgery - Every Saturday 9.30am - 12.30 pm. HOPE CIC team of volunteers are here to offer free minor repairs and advice and support.

Hope CIC Digital Hub - every Wednesday from 9.30 am - 12.00 pm (during term time).

This new Digital Hub offers assistance with internet and web browsing, internet safety, online job searching, free online training platforms, LinkedIn and Facebook, Microsoft packages

SPORT

Tennis & netball clubs to host walking sessions

Cambourne Tennis Club is pleased to announce that together with Cambourne Netball Club, we are launching walking netball and tennis sessions this year. If you are an ex-player or would love to try a new sport, please join one of the free taster sessions on Friday 5 July and Friday 12 July, at 10:30am!

We will offer walking tennis and netball sessions that are open to everyone. After the activities join us in the clubhouse for coffee and cake, allowing us to socialise and enjoy each other's company.

If you are coming, please email Toby toby@gamesettennis.co.uk (for the tennis session) or Victoria unboxedfitnessuk@gmail.com (for the netball session); this would help us organise everything. Don't miss this opportunity to try something new and meet fellow sports enthusiasts!

We are also delighted to tell you that Cambourne Tennis Club has been nominated for a BBC Radio Cambridgeshire Make a Difference award for our efforts to open tennis to all. The Make a Difference awards recognise individuals and groups who make life better for people in their communities. The jury will now rank all nominees and the finalists and winners will be announced live on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire in the Summer.

Our junior summer matches are in full swing with nine teams (8Us to 18Us) competing! To keep updated with how our teams are getting on, go to: competitions.lta.org.uk/leagues and search for Cambridgeshire Youth and National League.



Are you thinking about what activities your children can do this summer? If so our popular summer camps are back this year! The camps run from 29 July to 16 August (3 weeks) which are exciting, sociable and affordable! LTA-accredited coaches deliver all coaching and we offer flexible booking options (daily or full week). To sign up, please go to bookings.gamesettennis.co.uk/list. Places are limited and available on a first-come first-served basis. If you have any questions, please get in touch at 07972149874 or toby@gamesettennis.co.uk.

■ *More information about the club and how to join is at www.cambournetennis.co.uk. Click on MEMBERSHIP.*

CCC: return of the Caribbean Night and T20 match



Cambourne Cricket Club: The last May bank holiday saw the return of the Club's famed Caribbean Night, combining the excitement of cricket with cultural celebration!

The highlight of the day was a showcase T20 match against the ACE Programme, an important charity dedicated to engaging young people of West Indian heritage in cricket. The event was also graced by the presence of a cricketing legend, former England fast bowler Devon Malcolm. Known for his extraordinary performance of 9/57 against South Africa in 1994, his

attendance added a special touch to the day, inspiring both young cricketers and fans alike. Devon was also able to try out some of the Third Man specialities!

The lively crowd witnessed some thrilling cricket action and were treated to an array of delectable Caribbean cuisine, including Jerk chicken and curry goat. Caribbean Night was more than just a cricket match, it was a community gathering in support of a fantastic cause.

The combination of sport, delicious food, and the opportunity to meet an England cricket great made for a memorable Bank Holiday weekend. The



event successfully highlighted the importance of diversity in cricket and underscored the commitment to supporting charitable initiatives within the sport.

Our community commitment continued with a girls cricket tournament hosted in Great Cambourne on 16 June - one of the many brilliant academy initiatives taking place this year. With sold-out All Stars and Dynamos sessions also underway, there is a real buzz around the cricketing community in Cambourne! Make sure you keep up to date with our latest news via our Facebook page.