



## Bottles and butts!



**What are all those bottles on canes around the church?** Having defied Storm Bert and planted in 420 native species saplings to form a wildlife hedge around the Jubilee Garden, Cambourne Church took the advice of the Woodland Trust - who donated the plants - that we should protect them from rabbits and deer by repurposing plastic bottles to keep the nibblers at bay. The next step is to keep them weed-free with Christmas tree mulch over a layer of cardboard.

In the middle of March work will be underway to harvest rainwater from the church roof so that we have a sustainable way to water our crops.

The flowers around the Annexe have provided seeds for birds and havens for insects over winter, but will now be composted and new flower seeds planted.

The muntjac deer, butterflies and caterpillars took a toll on the veg plot so we weren't able to keep supplies going for the Blue Space Foodbank over winter, but

we will soon be planting seeds for this season, putting in netting as necessary. A new fruit bed will eventually provide rhubarb, currants and soft fruit, but will take a little longer to establish.

Come and help us! The Jubilee Garden is a Community project for all to enjoy.

We'll gather on the third Saturday of each month, 10am to 12noon, 15th March onwards. Plenty for all to do, or just watch! Email [garden@cambournechurch.org.uk](mailto:garden@cambournechurch.org.uk) for more information.

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**Jeavon's Wood pupils take part in world's largest children's choir concert**

*See page 14 for more...*



**Team Active8 crowned regional First Lego League Robotics champions**

*Read more on page 25...*

Cambourne Crier is the only independent, non-profit publication delivered to more than 5,000 Cambourne homes and businesses each month. Any profits are distributed 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, Foram Patel, Martin H W Law, Ann Stephenson and Hannah Harris.

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**Editorial submissions:**

Submissions for the **April 2025**

**Edition** must be received by 9pm

on **Sunday 16th March 2025.**

Please email articles and

photographs to

[editorial@cambournecrier.org](mailto:editorial@cambournecrier.org)

or post 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!

If you would like to join our editorial

team, please get in touch on

[editorial@cambournecrier.org](mailto:editorial@cambournecrier.org)

## 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](mailto:pamhume1@gmail.com) or

download the application form at

[www.cambournecrier.org](http://www.cambournecrier.org)

# TOWN COUNCIL

## ■ Cambourne Foodies

As of February we're excited to announce that the Cambourne Foodies social pages have been passed to us and we're looking forward to taking them on! We know lots of you were disappointed when it went quiet, so we'll be keeping you updated with the weekly menu available within our very own Cambourne! We've got a great lineup with some old and some new traders to treat you Thursday-Saturday every week! Follow @cambourneFoodies on Facebook and Instagram. Email us [community@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk) if you have a food truck and would like to join our lineup!

## ■ The Big Squiggle

The Big Squiggle will return on 11th April! We're looking for toilet paper cardboard rolls and any empty glass jars. Instead of just throwing them away, light up someone's day and bring them into the Town Council office (next to the Hub) or come along on the day to see the creations they enable!

We're also looking for volunteers to help on the day, donate cakes/baked goods, and anyone nifty with a camera to capture the day! Let us know if you can help by emailing [community@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk)

## ■ Volunteering Fair 22nd March at The Hub

Do you have some time to give back? Would you like to get out and meet people in your community?

So much in Cambourne is run by volunteers, so come along to our volunteering fair at the Hub on 22nd March 11am-2pm to see what's going on! From regular commitments to one-off opportunities to get to meet people, we've got something for everyone!



## ■ Defibrillators

Whilst we hope you'll never have to use one, they can save lives and it's always useful to know where your closest defibrillator is in the case of emergency.

A new defibrillator has been installed on Upper Cambourne green and you'll soon be able to view a map on our website to determine where your closest one is!

## ■ Reminder about seatbelts

We would like to remind residents that all individuals travelling in vehicles **MUST** wear seatbelts by law. Children under 135cm must be in appropriate car seats and **ALL** children must wear seatbelts, this includes on back seats. Failure to do so may result in a £500 fine and, more importantly, risks their safety in the event of accidents or emergency stops.

## ■ Dogs on leads

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. They can also cause a disturbance to nesting birds and other wildlife and it presents an opportunity for dogs to poo unnoticed and not being disposed of.

## Cambourne Town Council Office:

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

Tel: 01954 714403

Email [office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk)

John Vickery, Town Clerk: [clerk@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk)

[www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk)



## MOBILE POST OFFICE:

The Hub Car Park

Mondays: 1.30-4.00pm

Wednesdays: 12.30-4.00pm

Tel: 01480 464 757

## BIN COLLECTIONS:

Check your collection date here:

[www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day](http://www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day)





### ■ Cambourne 10K & Fun Run

Entries are open for the Cambourne 10K and Fun Run taking place on Sunday 13th April 2024 at Cambourne Business Park.

The event is organised by Cambridge & Coleridge Athletics Club and Cambourne Town Council.

The event takes place mostly on the trails around Cambourne and welcomes all ages from 15 years upwards for the 10k, and from 5 years (with adult accompaniment) for the Fun Run.

The Fun Run - about 1 mile (1.6km) - is ideal for younger runners or those not ready for the longer distance.

There will be water stations at 5k and at the finish.

Accurate chip-timing, medals for all finishers and prizes for the fastest runners are on offer.

The event will support the local community through charitable donations. Book your places for both events at [atwevents.co.uk](http://atwevents.co.uk)

### ■ Council meetings are held in the Meeting Room at the Hub

- 4th March, 7pm: Planning Committee followed by Full Council Meeting
- 18th March, 7pm: Planning Committee followed by Finance and Policy Committee
- 1st April, 7pm: Planning Committee followed by Full Council
- 22nd April 7pm: Planning Committee followed by Leisure and Amenities Committee



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## Seeking wildlife heroes!

**Want to be a wildlife hero? The Wildlife Trust BCN is lucky to be supported by many committed volunteers.** If you are one of them, then thank you! If you are interested in spending your free time making things better for wildlife and people, then we would love to hear from you. Here are a few local opportunities:

**Cambourne Nature Reserve work party:** these are practical, sociable sessions on the second Saturday of every month 9.30-12.30.

**Cambourne Rangers:** this is an independent role doing a variety of tasks, like litter-picking and reporting problems. Communities and Education Volunteer: supporting our work with people, including family activities and guided walks.

**Community Ranger** (Gamlingay, or Waresley and Gransden Woods Nature Reserves): a role involving chatting to visitors and supporting sustainable use of our reserves.

**Reception and Admin Volunteer:** based in our Cambourne office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

There are also seasonal roles including breeding bird surveyor (spring and summer), and woodland work parties (autumn and winter). You can read more about volunteering with us on our website, email for more details, or come and chat in person at the Cambourne Volunteering Fair on 22nd March at The Hub, Cambourne. [www.wildlifebcn.org/get-involved](http://www.wildlifebcn.org/get-involved)

### Local events March

- Saturday 8th March, 9.30-11.30, Nature and Natter: outdoor art for adults (Cambourne)

- Monday 10th March, 9.30- 12, - Monthly Meander: guided walk for adults (Trumpington Meadows)

- Friday 14th March, evening, Youth Rangers: toad patrol

- Saturday 15th March, 10-12,

Wild in the Meadows family session: tools and sticks (Trumpington Meadows)

- Tuesday 18th March, 11-12.15, Seasonal Stroll: guided walk for adults (Trumpington Meadows).

Other events can be found on our website:

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

### Toady reminder

March is a time when amphibians are moving to and from their breeding pond. Please look out for them on the roads. Let us know if you find large numbers getting run down.

### Local enquiries

[Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org)

Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

### General enquiries

[cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org)

@wildlifebcn

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

*The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs, and Northants is a local wildlife conservation charity aiming to achieve bigger, better, and more joined up habitats for wildlife and people. We do this by working in partnership to conserve and enhance habitats and biodiversity, and through community work, helping people enjoy, understand, and take action for wildlife.*



## Enjoy reading? The Silent Book Club could be for you...

**Have you ever wanted to join a book club but just never found the right one?** Do you struggle to finish a book on time or just prefer to read your own choices? Do you enjoy the reading but struggle with the discussion part of traditional book clubs? Then the Silent Book Club is for you.

The first SBC was set up in 2012 and now there are more than 1,500 chapters in 54 countries around the world. Now there's one in Cambourne. There's no set reading, so no pressure to finish a book on time and no need to think of something smart to say! It's a club for people who enjoy being social and reading together, but prefer to choose their own reads. It's basically BYOB: bring your own book.

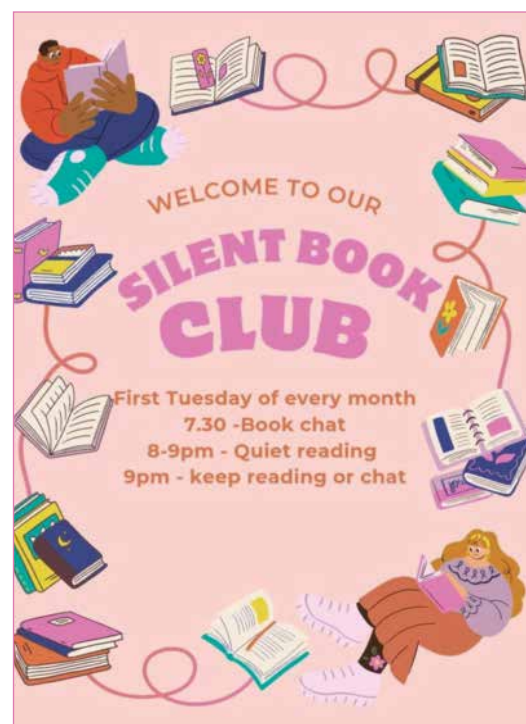
It was first set up for people who don't enjoy traditional book groups or who would rather just talk about reading and

books in general. The first half hour is for getting a drink or food, chatting about books and reading.

Then we settle in for an uninterrupted hour of silent reading, just enjoying being in company with other people enjoying books and reading. After that you can chat some more or finish your evening.

And the SBC is for reading whatever you like: paper books, ebooks, audiobooks, journals and magazines, textbooks. There's no need to book or reserve a place - just come along with your reading material and join in.

The Silent Book Club Cambourne meets on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at the Monkfield Arms. Next meeting Tuesday 4th March 2025. Hope to see you there!





## Library closing for refurbishment

During these colder months, you will find a warm, friendly welcome at the library. Drop in to relax and read a book, use the library computers or connect to our free public WiFi. We will also have tea and coffee available kindly donated by Hope.

Refreshments are available during these times:

Mondays 10am-4pm, Tuesdays 10am-12pm,

Thursdays 2pm-6pm and Fridays 10am-4pm.

### Library Closed for refurbishment

Cambourne Library will be closed for refurbishment from Monday 24th March until early Summer. This will allow us to enhance and modernise our facilities and expand the library space by approximately one third. For further information and details of alternative service provision during the closure please see our website or posters in the library.

### Engage Wednesday 5th March 2pm-3.30pm

Come along to the library to see the plans for the library refurbishment. Refreshments will be served. Donations welcome.

### Knit and Natter Group Tuesday mornings 10am-12pm

Bring a project of any portable craft and join with other like-minded crafters. Enjoy the company, swap ideas and of course refreshments will be available.

### Cambourne Lunch Bunch Wednesday 19th March

12.30pm-1.30pm

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 the third week of the month, at 12.30pm- 1.30pm. Please ask library staff for more information or come to our next meeting. New members are very welcome!

### Digital Assistance

Our Digital Buddy volunteers are available every Monday. If you, or someone you know, needs any help with using a laptop or tablet, has a 'how do I' question or would like help with a particular task such as a bus pass application, assistance will be available between 10am - 12 noon and 1-3pm. Drop in enquiries welcome or you can book a session. Please speak to a Librarian at the counter or contact us.

**Rhymetime/Storytime** - every Friday 9.30-10.30am (term time).

Rhymetime/Storytime followed by Duplo play session at 10am.

### CAMBOURNE LIBRARY OPENING TIMES:

Monday 9am-5pm, Tuesday 9am-1pm,

Wednesday Closed, Thursday 1pm-7pm,

Friday 9am-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm, Sunday Closed

### CONTACT US:

Tel: 0345 045 5225

[Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

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

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### ELSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL Vacancy for Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

Our Parish Clerk/RFO is retiring after 34 years and we are seeking a replacement. The role is part-time (average 40 hrs per month). Pay is based on national scales dependent on qualifications and experience, but no less than £15.21 per hr.

We need someone with good people and communication skills. The Clerk undertakes the administrative duties for the Parish Council (preparing meeting agendas/minutes etc.) and is responsible for financial management (processing orders & invoices, banking, VAT returns etc.) so proficiency in using Word, Excel, email & social media is essential.

Applicants must be able to work from home and have the facility to store files securely as the Parish Council has no designated office accommodation. They must attend the six bi-monthly evening meetings of the Parish Council each year and other occasional meetings during the day/evening. Public transport here is limited so applicants not living in Elsworth must be able to access the village by car or other means.

Further information and a detailed job description is on the Elsworth Parish Council website: (<https://elsworth-pc.org.uk>) or by email to [peterdeer@btinternet.com](mailto:peterdeer@btinternet.com).

## Scouts go backwards...

The three sections at 2nd Cambourne Scouts were busy with indoor and outdoor activities in the late-winter period. The Beavers made bookmarks, birdfeeders, and went on a Wet Welly Walk which was very muddy!

Our Cubs celebrated Chinese New Year by making dragons, and have also looked at practical first aid scenarios.

The Scouts created movies on their camera phones, made and baked pizzas, and cooked hot dogs cooked over campfires. They also celebrated Backwards Day; everyone came with their uniform on backwards, the patrol leaders became the main leaders, and everyone had to walk backwards during an evening of games and challenges (IT WAS A LOT OF FUN!).

For more information please email:

[info@2ndcambournescoutgroup.org.uk](mailto:info@2ndcambournescoutgroup.org.uk)



**LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE**

2021

**QUIZ NIGHT**

Rock 'n' Roll Bingo

BAR inc drinks and snacks

**Saturday 26th April**

The Hub, Cambourne, 7:30 (doors open at 6:45)

Tickets £8 per person (max teams of 6) with the option to preorder a beef or veggie burger and potato wedges for an additional £6 per head.

Email [lightupcambourne@gmail.com](mailto:lightupcambourne@gmail.com) to book/preorder your food!

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TOWARDS THE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS!**

### ■ LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE

## Sell-out bingo to be followed by quiz night

**Our Bingo evening at the hub on 8th March looks likely to be a sell out.**

Thank you to all those who have supported us by buying tickets and paying by cash whilst our payment and bank systems are updated.

Our next event is a quiz night at the hub on 26th April, those wishing to attend can buy tickets by continuing to pay cash prior to the completion of our banking changes or wait until we are able to take electronic payments after



the changes complete, although we are unable to say when exactly this will be as the timescale is down to how long it takes for our new bank to set our account up. Email us on [lightupcambourne@gmail.com](mailto:lightupcambourne@gmail.com) to book.

We are holding a tombola stall at the Cambourne Fete in September and so if you have any unwanted items that would make good prizes please consider donating them to LUC, we would be very grateful.



# Seeking volunteers for Cambourne Repair Cafe

**Repair Cafes pair up people who have broken stuff with people who enjoy repairing things.** By fixing broken items we prevent useful goods from going to landfill, help to tackle climate change, build skills, save money and bring communities together.

Cambourne Repair Cafe would love to recruit more local repairers to repair at our 2-3 events per year.

Whether you're a sewist, electrical/mechanical repairer, jeweller or bike repairer and are keen to help people in Cambourne to get things fixed, then we'd love to hear from you! From relatively simple repairs like replacing fuses, sewing on buttons and sharpening tools, to more complex repairs such as circuit board work, diagnosing intermittent electrical faults and making clothing alterations – we can pair you up with people who will be grateful for your help! Alternatively, you can volunteer to help with organising and running our events.

Please get in touch via email on [cambournerepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:cambournerepaircafe@gmail.com) if you would like to volunteer, get more information or attend an event as an observer. We look forward to hearing from you.



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**07476 212392**

## Oxford to Cambridge growth corridor

**In late January, the Chancellor made a speech on her plans for the Oxford-Cambridge Growth Corridor.**

Although much of the content in the speech was not 'news' as such – she had already committed to prioritising Cambridge Cancer Hospital and upgrading the A428, it was good to see the Government recognising Cambridgeshire as the global leader in research, innovation and technology that it is.

Unfortunately, the East West Rail (EWR) section between Bedford and Cambridge is still yet to be explicitly mentioned by the Government. EWR must not become another HS2, and I will continue to hold the Government to account until it guarantees full funding until completion.

I have spent the last month on the Committee for the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill. My Liberal Democrat colleagues and I have sought to make a number of amendments to its content – namely to expand the availability of free school meals, to crack down on profiteering in special educational schools, and to improve safeguarding for children not in school. Thank you to those that have contacted me about this. I will be sending out a full update in due course.

Finally, a big congratulations to Cambourne Village College, who I recently joined in Parliament to celebrate receiving the prestigious British Council International Schools Award! It is great to have a school in the community with such an international ethos at the heart of its teaching.



**IAN SOLLAM**  
MP for St Neots and  
Mid Cambridgeshire  
ian.sollom.mp  
@parliament.uk

## Supporting the people of Cambourne



**SHROBONA BHATTACHARYA**  
District Councillor  
Cllr.Bhattacharya@  
scambs.gov.uk

**I asked questions to the full Council meeting on behalf of Cambourne residents on the connecting roads to Cambourne Village College from West Cambourne (driving and walking) and what measures have been taken as to flooding situations in West Cambourne.**

I surveyed social badminton as this is more affordable and flexible in booking than other places. My ongoing project Cambourne Cookery Club is running well and unites residents, fostering friendship and joy through shared meals, and building friendships. More members are always welcome. I have continued helping the elderly people of Cambourne and taking them out on small trips, shopping and visiting a café.

I am currently running activities on cooking, art, and STEM in Cambourne, with many Hong Kong families joining. I also continue to advocate for a dedicated space for diverse faith groups in Cambourne. To support the local artists of Cambourne, I organised Public Art Exhibitions for them in December and February.

I am strenuously working on funding programs for disadvantaged students, including children affected by conflicts of war and special needs.

I am expanding practical learning programs where children will learn agriculture technology. Recently, I had the opportunity to meet IT students at Cambridge Regional College about their career opportunities in computing and technology.

## Lung cancer: look out for the signs

**Lung cancer is a serious and common type of cancer. It affects over 40,000 people every year in the UK.**

In the early stages, there are often no signs or symptoms. However, in time lung cancer can cause a cough that continues for more than three weeks; breathlessness; coughing up blood; pain when breathing or coughing; tiredness and weight loss. Less common symptoms include changes to the ends of fingers (becoming more curved or larger); wheezing; swelling in the face or neck or a hoarse voice. Lung cancer is sometimes linked to a cancer that has started some where else in the body but there are also several types of cancers

that begin in the lungs and the type of treatment depends on the type of cancer.

Lung cancer usually affects older people and smoking (or passive smoking) is the most common cause which is linked to over 70 per cent of cases.

There are also other substances linked to lung cancer including asbestos, silica, coal and diesel fumes.

As with all cancers, the earlier lung cancer is detected, the better the chance of survival so it is very important to report any symptoms to a GP.

■ *Reference/ further information:*  
[www.nhs.uk/conditions/lung-cancer](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lung-cancer)



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## CAMBOURNE CHURCH

### Prepare to hope

Why do comedians never tell jokes about pancakes? Because they always fall flat! (I can imagine your groans). I wonder how 2025 has started for you...? The cold weather and the dark mornings paired with the pressure and expectations of a new year can leave us feeling a bit ... well, flat.

The good news is that we're entering a new season - one that brings hope and light. In the Christian calendar, the season that follows Pancake Day is called 'Lent' - a time when we reflect on Jesus' journey to the cross and prepare to celebrate Jesus' victory over death at Easter.

Lent lasts for 40 days and nights - the same period that Jesus' spent in the wilderness, fasting and facing temptation (Matthew 4.1-11). During this time, Jesus was preparing for his

God-given mission: to rescue the world from all its brokenness and offer live with God forever.

Jesus remained confident in his identity as the Son of God, secure in the truth of Scripture and committed to his life's purpose.

Lent provides an opportunity for each of us to develop a habit that helps us to reconnect with God, his Word (the Bible) and his purposes for our lives.

Maybe you haven't given God much thought before, or considered whether his plans include you... This Lent, why not pick up a Bible, come to Church, speak to a friend, and ask yourself, what could God be preparing me for?

**Clare Cronin**

*Ministry Team Leader for Children and Young People*

#### SERVICES IN MARCH 2025

Sun 2 Mar	10.00am All Age Sunday One Communion
Sun 9 Mar	9.30am Worship Service 11.00am Worship Service
Sun 16 Mar	9.30am Communion Service 11.00am Communion Service
Sun 23 Mar	10.00am Worship Service
Sun 30 Mar	9.30am Worship Service 11.00am Worship Service

A partnership of the Church of England,  
Baptist, Methodist & United Reformed Church  
[www.cambournechurch.org.uk](http://www.cambournechurch.org.uk)  
Twitter: @cambournechurch  
Facebook: cambournechurch

## PEACEHAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

### Pastoral thoughts: plans and possibilities

Due to the timing of the printing of *Cambourne Crier*, often the articles are sent in weeks prior to publishing. This means that sometimes a lot can happen between submission and printing. This is why you get updates about Christmas activities in February's edition as January's articles have to be in before those events have actually occurred. This is why it is good to plan ahead even though things may change in the meantime.

We as a church had a good Christmas celebration with children singing and our traditional meal and gift exchange. Our helper, Caleb, came back from assisting his mother who lost her home due to a hurricane. We also helped him move to a better place, and he is settled in now. We were also able to get the paperwork done

for our first filing as a registered charity.

I sometimes talk to other missionaries about challenges, and every field is different.

Some face challenges from cultists or tribal leaders. Others face challenges with wildlife, like scorpions or poisonous spiders.

In the UK, although we do have extremists or the occasional bug or that fox that likes to poop in my garden, often the main challenge is the paperwork.

But there will be plenty more as we are (now that things are not as horrendous as last year) going to attempt to start an addiction recovery ministry. This is basically inviting people that struggle with addictions to hear Biblical principles that may help bring stability to them. It does not

have to be drugs - people are addicted to many things. Alcohol,

gambling, adult entertainment, gaming, or many things. If it is compulsive and detrimental, often dominating every aspect of your life, it may be an addiction.

It is like being in a prison to those things, and anything else is secondary including family and friends.

This leads to isolation and feelings of helplessness. Jesus came that we might be free. He has paid the price that we might be forgiven. As an addict, forgiveness can be a hard thing to accept, but it is needed to move beyond where you are to where you should be.

More to come later, Cambourne. Be safe.



**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](http://peacehavenbc.org.uk)

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## ■ ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

### Prayer for Christian Unity

The period of 18th-25th January was the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, and the St John Fisher Catholic Community joined with Churches Together Cambourne to celebrate this.

Rev Bill Miller and some of his community joined us at the 5pm Saturday Mass, then some of us Catholics joined Bill and his congregation the next morning at their 11am service.

It was a lovely opportunity to observe and join in with each other's services and see the similar ways we worship Lord Jesus and our differences too.

St John Fisher Catholic Community Mass times in Cambourne Church Centre:

Mon-Wed 12:30,

Thu-Fri 18:30,

Sat-Sun 17:00.

Contact Details:

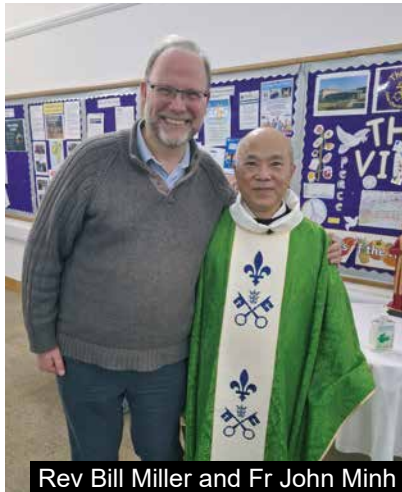
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Rev Bill Miller and Fr John Minh



## 12 Weeks to Freedom

### Do you have a habit you wish you could stop but can't?

In the past, you found pleasure in this habit, but over time, the pleasure went away, and now you find that if you do not take part in this habit, it hurts.

All the pleasure is gone, but you feel compelled to take part to avoid pain. What was once a diversion, a pastime has now become an addiction.

Perhaps you find yourself stuck in this unwanted behaviour to help you cope with past trauma, but all this seems to do now is to add more trauma to your life.

Peacehaven Baptist church is starting the program "12 Weeks to Freedom" to help people with unwanted addictions and such.

Several churches have used this program to help people and we are bringing it to Cambourne with the hope that it can be used to help people in this community overcome the things that seem to trap them in life patterns or dependencies that are detrimental.

Our goal is to show kindness, compassion, and understanding. None of us are perfect but you do not need to be trapped by the things of the past as every day is a new start. A chance to break off the shackles of yesterday that we had placed on ourselves. A chance to speak about your struggles and take a good look at what we are and what we would wish to be.



**12 Weeks to Freedom will start on Wednesday, 2nd April at 7.15pm, in the meeting room of The Hub.**

**If you are struggling we hope to give you a helping hand.**





## Oracy introduced at the Vine

The Vine Inter Church Primary School has taken an exciting step forward by introducing Oracy to the curriculum. The ability to express oneself clearly and communicate effectively, oracy is a crucial life skill, helping children develop confidence, critical thinking, and strong interpersonal abilities. The idea is that children's oracy skills are developed through the teaching of existing subjects like History and PHSE. Pupils are encouraged to take part in all kinds of activities including debates, storytelling, presentations and discussions that enhance their ability to articulate ideas and listen actively.

The school is at the beginning of its oracy journey but staff are excited for what is to come. Mrs Green, Oracy lead at The Vine, explains: "Oracy is about giving every child a voice. We're equipping pupils with skills that will benefit them far beyond the classroom."

Research shows that strong oracy skills improve academic performance and social mobility. By focusing on spoken communication alongside reading and writing, The Vine is ensuring its pupils develop into articulate, thoughtful, and engaged young individuals. With the aim of putting oracy at the heart of learning, The Vine is nurturing confident communicators, ready for future success.

Recently the Vine was represented at the CB23 Public Speaking Competition, the pupils delivered their speeches in front of a large audience at Peterhouse College Cambridge. We are so proud of them!



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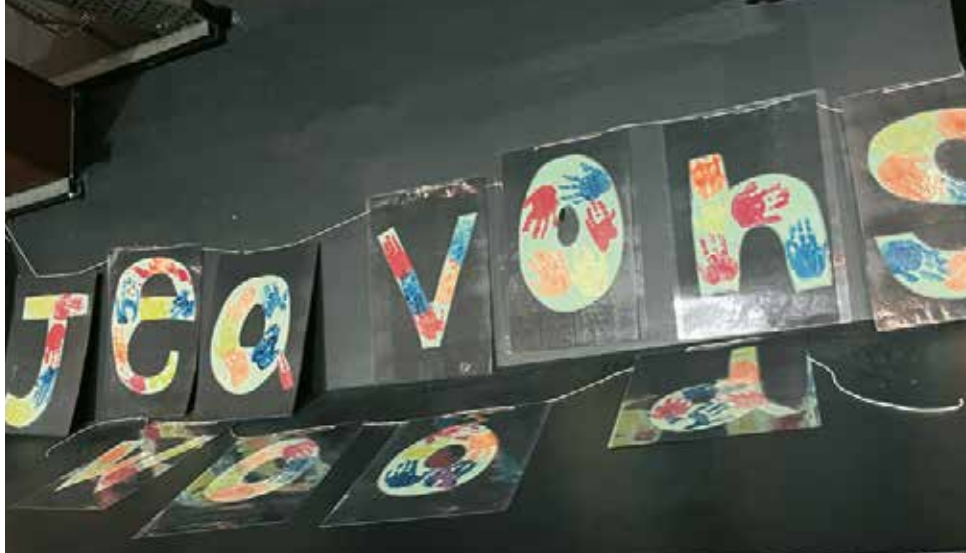
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## Jeavons Wood pupils travel to Birmingham for Young Voices Concert



The Jeavons Wood Primary School choir had the fantastic opportunity to travel to Birmingham NEC recently to take part in the Young Voices concert - the largest children's choir concert in the world!

Our wonderful Year 5/6 choir have been practising with dedication every week before school since the Autumn Term.

They have learnt a wide variety of songs and dances from Bob Marley to 90s pop.

On the day itself, the children took part in a rehearsal with around 5,000 other

children from schools all over the country, and met their special guests, including MC Grammar and Strictly singer Tommy Blaize!

It was incredible to be surrounded by so many voices singing together and to see how a concert comes together with lighting and staging.

After a break for dinner, it was time for the concert. Everyone sang and danced their hearts out, watched by proud parents. Oscar said: "I really enjoyed being able to sing with my friends and it

was really cool to be part of such a big choir."

Poppy commented: "I loved singing with my friends and the songs were really fun."

Shihua really enjoyed seeing the staging and how the lights brought it all to life: "I loved being under the lights, they were really cool and the stage was really big."

Team Jeavons Wood was a credit to our school (including our all-singing and dancing staff) and we are already looking forward to next year!





## Monkfield excel at public speaking event



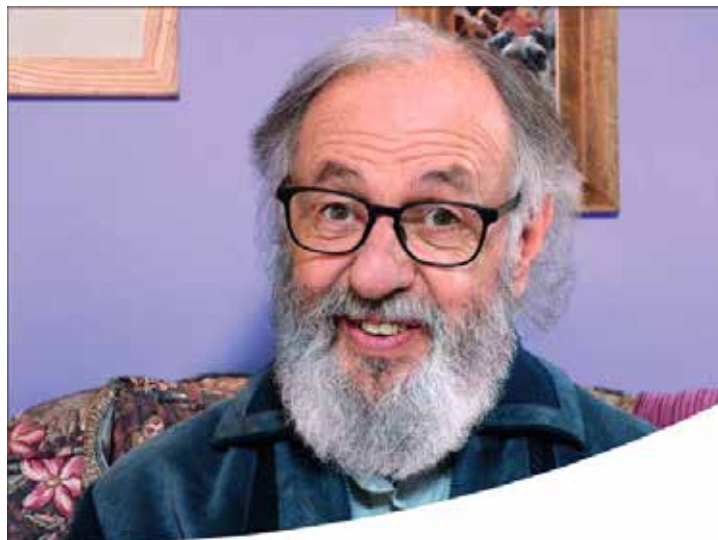
In our Monday morning assemblies at Monkfield Park Primary we have been discussing how important it is to learn about the many cultures and faiths that make up our school community, so that we have a greater appreciation of what makes our school community so strong and inclusive.

We are so fortunate to belong to such a diverse school community and benefit from being able to celebrate each other's cultures and festivals.

We celebrated Chinese New Year with a wide range of exciting activities including: counting to 10 in Mandarin, writing Happy New Year in Chinese, solving the maths mystery of the flowering blossom, making Chinese paper cuts and learning about the story of the animals of the zodiac.

Some of our Year 5 children did an amazing job putting together a presentation about Chinese New Year for everyone in school and taught us how to do paper cuts and write good messages (Fai Chun).

We have also been celebrating the success of our Public Speaking Team in the recent Network CB23 Public Speaking Competition. Most people would be more than a little daunted by the beautiful surroundings of Peterhouse College, however, our incredible children relished the opportunity to take to the stage and present their speeches to a panel of judges. The competition was incredibly strong and we were thrilled when the judges announced that Monkfield Park's team was the overall winner, having gained the most points in the competition.





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## COMMUNITY GROUPS

### Light up Cambourne:

lightupcambourne@gmail.com

### Cambourne Crescent:

www.cambournecrescent.org

### Cambourne Experimental Cookery Club:

### Cambourne Electronics & Robotic Club:

### Come Cook Dine with Me:

### Cambourne Digital Surgery 60+:

shrobona@gmail.com

### Cam Care UK: www.camcare.org.uk

### Words for Pleasure Writers' Group:

Pat Callaghan 01954 715 106

### Cambourne Art Group:

Pat Goatly on 01954 715702 or

pat.goatly@gmail.com

### Cambourne and District U3A:

u3a.chair@cambourne.org

### Photography Group:

Nicola Marriott 07811 154 901

www.flickr.com/groups

/cambournephotographygroup

### Reading Groups:

Cambourne.Referral@

cambridgeshire.gov.uk

### Crafty Ladies:

Maureen 01954 718542 or

craftyoldladies@gmail.com

### Sunday Walks:

Sandra 07747 012 245 or

scalcraft@gmail.com

### Cambourne Community Website:

hello@cambourne.info or

www.cambourne.info

### Cambourne Children's

Centre: 01954 284 672 or

childandfamilycentre.south

@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

### Chess Club (primary and secondary aged children to Year 11):

cambourne.chess@gmail.com

### Cambourne Community Theatre Group:

info@cambournecommunitytheatre.org

### Cambourne Community Gospel Choir:

cambournegospelchoir@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/Cambourne

CommunityGospelChoir

### WW2 Aircraft Club 01954 620 066 or

iancameron692@gmail.com

## CHURCHES

### Cambourne Church:

www.cambournechurch.org.uk

### Foodbank: Julie Whitbread

julie.whitbread@cambournechurch.org.uk

### The Harbour Bereavement Café:

theharbour@cambournechurch.org.uk

### Peacehaven Baptist Church:

www.peacehavenbc.org.uk

### Christchurch Cambourne:

www.christchurchcambourne.org.uk

### Cambourne Catholic Community:

www.cambournerc.com

## HEALTH CARE

### Community First Responder:

Mark Taylor 07858 394 719

mark.taylor@inheritancewills.co.uk

## HEALTH CARE (contd)

### Cambourne Dental Practice: 01954 718 585

www.colosseumdental.co.uk/practices/cambo  
urne-dental-clinic

### Jardines Pharmacy: 01954 718 296

### Monkfield Dental: 01954 774 540

www.monkfield.dental

### Monkfield Medical Practice: 01954 282 153

www.monkfieldpractice.co.uk

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### Town Council Office: 01954 714 403

office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

www.cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

### District Councillors for Cambourne:

Shrobona Bhattacharya:

cllr.bhattacharya@scambs.gov.uk

Stephen Drew:

cllr.drew@scambs.gov.uk

Helene Leeming:

cllr.leeming@scambs.gov.uk

## EDUCATION

### Cambourne Village

### College: 01954 284 000

www.cambournevc.org

### Comberton Village College:

01223 262 503

www.combertonvc.org

### Hardwick and Cambourne Community

### Primary:

01954 210070

www.hardwickandcambournepprimary.co.uk

### Jeavons Wood Primary

### School: 01954 717 180

www.jeavonswood.org

### Monkfield Park Primary

### School: 01954 273 377

www.monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk

### Vine Inter-Church Primary

### School: 01954 719 630

www.thevine.cambs.sch.uk

### Educating Otherwise:

www.facebook.com/Home Education

- Cambourne

### Arabic Language School:

www.cambournecrescent.org/service

/arabic-school

info@cambournecrescent.org

### Cambourne Crescent Science

### & Technology Club:

info@cambournecrescent.org

## PLAYGROUPS/PRE-SCHOOLS

### Cambourne Pre-school:

01954 715 150

www.cambournepreschool.org.uk

### Carers And Tots:

www.facebook.com/Carers and

Tots, Cambourne

### Monkfield Park Care & Learning

### Centre: 01954 273 301

www.monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk

### Kindred Cambourne Day Nursery

### and Pre-School:

01954 719 440

www.kindrednurseryseries.co.uk

## SERVICES

### Community Car Scheme:

07526 998 465 or

cambournecarscheme@gmail.com

### Cromwell Veterinary Group:

01954 715 161

### Wildlife Trust: Rebecca Neal

01954 713 516

www.wildlifebcn.org

### Cambourne Crescent Food Bank:

www.cambournecrescent.org/service/

foodbank

### Hope Against Poverty CIC

hopepic.uk@gmail.com

www.hopeagainst.org

### Streetlight faults:

www.cambourne.info/street-lights

## SPORTS & LEISURE

### Cambourne Comets Trampoline

### and DMT Club:

cambournecomets@gmail.com

### Cambourne Fitness & Sports Centre:

01954 714 070

### Cambourne Fishing Club:

www.cambournefishingclub.com

### Cambourne Bowls Club:

Stuart Palmer 07860 654 057

### Cambourne Cricket Club:

cambournecricket@gmail.com

### Cambourne Town Football Club:

hello@cambournetownfc.org.uk

For specific team email contact(s) see:

www.cambournetownfc.org.uk

### Cambourne Netball Club:

www.pitchero.com/clubs/

cambournenetballclub

### Cambourne Raptors Basketball Club:

info@cambournebasketball.org

### Cambourne Runners:

cambournerunnersarc@gmail.com

### Cambourne Women Runners:

information.cwr@gmail.com

### Cambourne Tennis Club:

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/cambourne-juniors/



## Warm welcome guaranteed at The Hub

If you - or someone you know - needs company, support for family health and care issues or just a friendly chat, the community hub team is here for all Cambourne residents. We open twice a week on Mondays and Fridays, 9.30am to 1pm at The Hub ( Cambourne Community Centre in the High Street, CB23 6GW across the road from the GP surgery), and offer a warm and friendly space, with free refreshments.

Come and have a brew with our fantastic volunteer team and our new Village Agent, Kari, and get help, advice and information with things like:

- health and care services
- cost of living
- energy bills and saving money
- community transport for medical appointments
- connections to local groups
- help applying for benefits, food vouchers, Blue Badges or bus passes

Whether you are new to Cambourne, have a young family, care for someone, or have a friend or neighbour that just needs a listening ear, we're here for you.

All our information and advice is free, independent and confidential.



### Come along and meet our new local Cambs Acre agent Kari

Kari joined Cambridgeshire ACRE in 2024, as part of the team of Cadent Village Agents, covering Community Hubs in South Cambridgeshire.

Kari's background is in communications and capturing people's stories.

She has previously worked for local health and care champions Healthwatch, helping share the work of the organisation and encourage local people

to have their say on NHS and social care.

She's excited to continue working with communities, volunteers and different organisations in the district to give people information and support to help their health and wellbeing.

T: 01353 865027  
E: [kari.payne@cambsacre.org.uk](mailto:kari.payne@cambsacre.org.uk)

### Cambourne & District u3a



Monthly meetings  
Third Friday of the month  
10.30 at The Hub  
Cambourne CB23 6GW  
Speakers, coffee and chat

Come and join us at The Hub in Cambourne

**u3a** is a very welcoming organisation

Meet new friends  
Find new interests  
Lots going on!

#### INTEREST GROUPS

- Allsorts
- Art Appreciation
- Book Clubs
- Bridge
- Classical Music
- Dance Fitness
- Darts & Pool
- Gardens Galore
- Genealogy
- Intermediate French
- iPad interest
- Out to Lunch
- Singing
- Study Trips
- Table Tennis & Badminton
- Theatre
- Walking
- WWII



Come and reimagine your retirement!

Guests are welcome to attend a meeting to find out more about us!  
<https://u3asites.org.uk/cambourne/welcome>



## Artists Shine at Cambridge Tech Centre

**Cambourne is home to many talented artists**, and recently, they took part in an art show at Cambridge Tech Centre, hosted by CamCareUK. Following its success, Cambourne's artists are now planning a regular Art Gallery Exhibition at the Tech Centre.

They are eager to collaborate with other artists from across the region. If you would like to participate in these exhibitions or organicse art classes, workshops, or art therapy sessions, please email Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya at [shrobona@gmail.com](mailto:shrobona@gmail.com)



## Nurturing skills with STEM

**STEM education comes with many challenges** - not just for local schools, but as a nationwide concern. Without enough students pursuing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in higher education, we risk missing out on better employment opportunities in the future.

To address this issue, CamCareUK and its academic wing, the Cambourne-based Cambridge Electronics and Robotics Club (CERC)—which also runs sessions in Sawston and Cambridge—organise STEM-related activities and competitions throughout the year.

The recent accompanying photos capture the enthusiasm of Cambourne's children, parents, and mentors as they prepare through internal competitions before participating in larger external events. These activities go beyond academic learning. They teach children valuable social skills, teamwork, and empathy—especially in supporting disadvantaged peers.

More than just winning competitions, these young participants are learning values that will help them grow into responsible, community-minded citizens, contributing positively to society as they get older.





## Activ8 takes lead in Lego League

We are excited to announce that **Team Activ8**, a group of ten bright young minds aged 9 to 14, emerged as Regional Champions at the First Lego League Robotics Regionals Competition held at the University of Cambridge on 21st January, 2025. Organised by the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), the competition provides a platform for future STEM leaders to showcase their creativity, innovation and problem-solving skills in robotics.

The 2024-25 First Lego League Challenge, themed 'Submerged,' invited teams to explore the mysteries of the ocean. Team Activ8 stepped up with a great creativity, creating their innovative project, "SenSea" - a budget-friendly prototype designed to capture underwater images and monitor key factors to assess ocean health.

This victory marks another significant milestone for Team Activ8, who last year won both the Regional and National levels of the First Lego League competition. Representing the UK, they showcased their skills at the Asia Pacific Open



Championship (APOC) in Sydney, Australia, where they earned the prestigious "Rising All Stars Award".

There were 11 teams from various villages in the competition, each showcasing their talent and creativity. In this fast-paced and challenging event, Team Activ8 made their mark by perfectly showcasing a flawless combination of technical skills and core values, which earned them the Champions Award at the regional level.

With this victory, Team Activ8 is now aiming for the National Finals in Harrogate in May 2025. Their journey is a testament to their dedication, perseverance, and



pursuit of excellence, supported by their coaches, parents, and mentors.

We congratulate Team Activ8 on their remarkable achievement and wish them ongoing success in all their future pursuits. Their enthusiasm for STEM is sure to ignite inspiration in young innovators everywhere!

## GSK director volunteers to support elderly residents

**GSK Director Volunteers to Support Elderly Residents in Cambourne.** In a heartwarming community initiative, Chuang Kee, a director at GSK in the pharmaceutical industry, volunteered his time to support the elderly population in Cambourne.

In February, he accompanied a group of social prescription members on a delightful visit to Coton Nursery, where participants enjoyed a day of group shopping, a leisurely stroll around the nursery, and a shared lunch, fostering connection and joy.

CamCareUK actively offers various volunteering opportunities in Cambourne and Cambridge for professionals and students alike. If you are interested in getting involved, please visit:

[tinyurl.com/Charity-CamCareUK](https://tinyurl.com/Charity-CamCareUK).

Additionally, if you know someone who could benefit from these small yet meaningful outings, please reach out and help bring a smile back to their face. Community support can go a long way in brightening someone's day. Please contact Shrobona Bhattacharya at [shrobona@gmail.com](mailto:shrobona@gmail.com)



## Stagecoach highlights partnership with local women's charity

Stagecoach East highlighted the importance of its partnership and the great work done by Turtle Dove, a local community interest company that aims to improve the futures of young women who are, or are at risk of becoming, unemployed through not having the confidence or experience to seek employment.

Stagecoach East provides free bus travel to Turtle Dove to help with its crucial work. The charity was founded by Kate Nation, based on her first-hand experience in the youth sector where she saw the effects of a system where there are twice as many young women not currently searching for jobs compared to their male peers.

She also wanted to create a safe, female-only space that offers these young women an opportunity to flourish away from the pressure of their male contemporaries.

Ross Barton, Operations Director of Stagecoach East, said: "We are very proud to be able to show our support for the work that Turtle Dove does in our local community. Everyone needs a bit of help and support – particularly when they are young – to truly reach their potential, so it is inspiring to see all the work that they do to help young people develop and achieve."



Katie Fryer-Olliffe

Katie Fryer-Olliffe, a Young Women's Development Worker at Turtle Dove, added: "We are very pleased to work with Stagecoach East as we seek to fulfil our ambitious plans to drive this project forward – reaching more young women than before, offering them the opportunity to strengthen their self-confidence and work towards building successful futures. This support offers increasing accessibility to the training and support we offer, meaning that young women, who might otherwise struggle to engage, are able to."

Last October, Stagecoach East officially became part of the Businesses Against Abuse scheme, run by Cambridgeshire and

## Cambourne Crier deadlines and volunteering

At *Cambourne Crier* we have no full time employees, everyone who works to produce the magazine is a volunteer. The only people that get paid are the young people who deliver *Cambourne Crier* to your door.

We have no professional reporters or photographers. Almost all of the content is generated and submitted by local groups, clubs and individuals. Items are emailed into us - hopefully with a photo or two attached as separate jpgs - and if it is suitable and we have space we will try to include it.

While we're happy to run free promotions for not-for-profit local groups and events, as an editorial team we have nothing to do with the paid advertising, we're very lucky to have a publisher which handles all that for us, generating enough revenue to cover our printing and delivery costs and if there's anything left over, it goes into our Community Fund.

### ■ Deadlines

For editorial, the submissions deadline is three weeks before publishing - this gives the volunteers time to decide what's going in, edit it, design it, proofread it, insert the advertising, get it printed and delivered to you. It's quite a long and involved

process for volunteers, most of whom have full time jobs and families too. But we feel it is worth the effort. You can always find the deadline for the next issue on page 2 of *Cambourne Crier*, or deadlines for forthcoming months on our website: [www.cambournecrier.org](http://www.cambournecrier.org). You'll find the email address for editorial submissions - [editorial@cambournecrier.org](mailto:editorial@cambournecrier.org) - on every page of the magazine. If you miss the deadline, it's unlikely your article will be included.

### ■ Seeking new team members

We are currently looking for more volunteers and one very special one in particular - someone to manage the *Cambourne Crier* distribution and delivery teams, also any leaflets that may occasionally be delivered alongside the magazine. If you'd like to find out more, please get in touch on [editorial@cambournecrier.org](mailto:editorial@cambournecrier.org)

### ■ Advertising

Without the support of local businesses advertising, we wouldn't be able to print *Cambourne Crier*, so if you would like to promote your business or service and support your local, free, independent publication, please email [Cambridge-press@hotmail.com](mailto:Cambridge-press@hotmail.com).

We deliver more than 5,000 print copies locally each month. Plus we now have a digital subscription for people outside Cambourne so our reach is continually growing. Use the QR code on the front cover or visit our website to sign up.



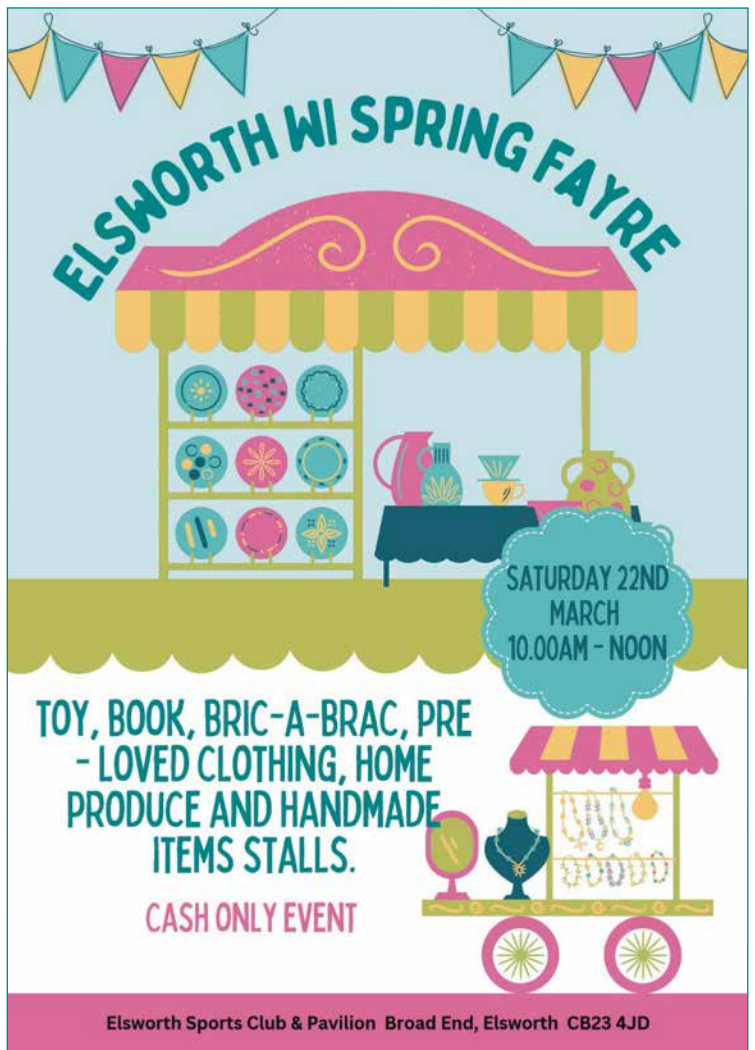


Ross Barton

Peterborough Combined Police Authority and the Cambridge and Peterborough Rape Crisis Centre.

Under the scheme, drivers are being trained to recognise people who are in vulnerable situations either on or off the bus – and are being given guidance in how to offer help. If a driver recognises that a woman or girl may be in fear of abuse on the street, they are now authorised to pull over and ask if they need help and then take her to a safe place on route if necessary.

To find out more about the work done by Turtle Dove, go to [www.turtledovecambridge.com](http://www.turtledovecambridge.com).



## Digital single and return tickets are now available for local bus travel

**Cambridgeshire bus travellers using Stagecoach East services can now buy digital single and return tickets using their mobile phones for all journeys.**

Digital single and return tickets are now available on the Stagecoach Bus App after it was updated to include new enhanced payment features to provide customers with an improved experience.

Buying tickets through the App before travel, speeds up boarding time, so helping the buses get to their destinations on time. It also reduces the number of paper tickets required which is good for the environment.

Single fares offer outstanding value for travel. Across Cambridgeshire, Stagecoach East is part of the Mayor's

fare-cap scheme, meaning that customers will never pay more than £2 for a single journey.

David Boden, Business Development Director of Stagecoach East (pictured right) said: "At Stagecoach, one of our key values is that we 'plan for the future', so it is essential that we are always looking to the future with the best technology. Our customers want us to provide them with easy and convenient ways to pay for a great value journey, so we are pleased to do that.

"And don't forget: the Stagecoach App is a great place to find all about our local fares – if you travel regularly, you might save even more with a, for example, a weekly or monthly ticket



## Help your local community – become an on-call firefighter!

**Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service** is looking to recruit more on-call firefighters to help local communities by responding to emergencies.

On-call firefighters are a vital part of your fire and rescue service. They respond to a wide range of incidents, from fighting fires and attending road traffic collisions to rescuing people and animals in need. They also respond to medical emergencies.

In addition to responding to emergency incidents, on-call firefighters support their communities by providing a range of safety advice helping people to keep safe in their homes.

Being an on-call firefighter has many benefits. As well as being paid an annual wage and for the time spent at incidents or training, there are also opportunities to develop first aid skills and heavy good vehicle driving qualifications.

Find out more about becoming an on-call firefighter by visiting our website: [bit.ly/CFRSONcall](http://bit.ly/CFRSONcall)

**Help keep your home and family fire safe – complete our online home safety check**

You can carry out your own home fire safety check online by visiting the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service website.

The online home safety check helps you carry out your own fire risk assessment and is a simple way to help reduce risks and



keep your home safe from fire. It takes you through some simple questions about you and your home, then provides an action plan that you can download and print. You can fill it in for yourself or a member of your family that might need help.

Visit [bit.ly/Home\\_Safety\\_Check](http://bit.ly/Home_Safety_Check) to find out more and start your online home safety check.

**Consider where you park!**

Motorists are urged to take care when parking their vehicles so they do not prevent our fire engines from attending potentially life-threatening emergencies.

There are some areas around the county that are notorious for motorists parking down both sides of a narrow street and there have been times when fire engines haven't been able to get past

## District Council's Cabinet outlines aspirations for years ahead

**South Cambridgeshire District**

**Council's** Cabinet met on Tuesday 4th February to discuss goals not only for the next 12 months – but also a longer-term Corporate Plan for the years ahead.

Following the successful introduction of the Council's first public-facing use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on its website during the past year – new websites for the Council, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning and Greater Cambridge Shared Waste will make it even easier for residents to access services, find information and complete tasks online. The new sites will help signpost localised information for residents in one central place – including bin collection dates, important information and local community events.

A telephone Voice AI Assistant will also be introduced – to complement Contact Centre staff who take calls. This will help free-up Contact Centre staff, for longer, to support residents with more complex issues over the phone.

Meanwhile, the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste service that South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City councils share will commence the roll out of a new food waste collection service to residents in 2026.

Residents will be given plenty of notice to help prepare for the introduction – which will see them benefit from a dedicated weekly food waste collection. This will help Greater Cambridge Shared Waste capture even more food waste - by diverting it from disposal in the black bins

- which will then be transformed into renewable energy or a valuable compost product for agricultural use.

**Setting a vision for the years ahead**

Cabinet members also backed the Council's proposed new priorities for the next five years.

It's after the Council asked residents to help shape its plans for the years ahead – to ensure South Cambridgeshire remains one of the best places to live and work in the country. Almost 400 responses were received during last year's six-week consultation which asked for views on the proposed new priorities. That feedback helped develop a new draft Corporate Plan, setting out key objectives for how, over the next five years, the Council will achieve its new priorities for South Cambridgeshire.

The five new proposed priorities are:

■ **Healthy and Supported Communities**

- Supporting and engaging with our communities is key to tackling the





at all. This of course can cause us a significant delay in responding to emergencies where someone's life could be at risk and our attendance time is crucial.

This is a growing problem due in part to increasing car ownership, reduced or unused resident parking areas, traffic calming schemes and thoughtless parking by some motorists. The problem can be compounded at night and during the school pick-up and drop-off times. The average fire engine is 2.6 metres (nine feet) wide and 8 metres (26 feet) long - when you park your vehicle in a narrow street, always check you have left enough room for a fire engine to get past.

For more information log on to [www.cambsfire.gov.uk](http://www.cambsfire.gov.uk), follow us on social media or call 01480 444500.



challenges we face as a district. Our diversity is our strength and helping everyone live freely and independently is essential to promoting healthy and supported communities.

■ **Sustainable Homes and Vibrant Places** - A home is more than a roof over your head, it is the foundation on which people build their lives. In light of the housing crisis, we are committed to strengthening our communities by delivering sustainable, affordable homes and vibrant places to live.

■ **Being Green to our Core** - Being green is at the heart of everything we do. We're tackling the climate and ecological crises head-on, ensuring our district is ready for the challenges of climate change.

■ **Helping Businesses to Thrive in South Cambridgeshire?** - Already recognised as a nationally significant area for development, helping local businesses thrive is key to the

development of our district - bringing new jobs and opportunities into people's communities.

■ **Financially Secure and Fit for the Future** - We have a duty to provide high quality cost-efficient services. Being open, transparent, and inclusive and letting evidence guide our decisions is critical to putting residents first.

#### **Balancing the budget**

Most of the Council Tax that SCDC collects is passed to Cambridgeshire County Council, Police, Fire and Rescue Service and parish or town councils. Some is also passed to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, to support local buses. Less than half of the District Council's annual budget is funded from local Council Tax. Other funding sources include some outside of the Council's control, such as Business Rates and grants, whilst funding is also generated from our investments.

A £5.09 per year increase in Council Tax for the average band D home was agreed by Cabinet members – to help to ensure essential frontline services continue to be delivered effectively. If approved at the Full Council meeting on 25 February, this would mean the average band D home charge for South Cambridgeshire District Council would become £175.40 per year.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Lead Cabinet Member for Resources, Cllr John Williams, said: "It continues to be challenging for councils due to increasing demand for our services coupled with reduced funding. So, it's a fantastic achievement for residents that we're a financially-sound Council – but important to remember we only retain a very small amount of the Council Tax we collect. Most of it gets passed on to other authorities – and we continue to do all we can to make the most of every pound we do receive."



## Apply soon for Everyone Active talent scheme

**Up-and-coming athletes in Cambourne** are being given the chance to take their sporting careers to the next level with Everyone Active's Sporting Champions scheme.

The programme empowers aspiring athletes to achieve their full potential through access to training facilities and invaluable mentoring support from Olympians and Paralympians.

Since its inception in 2016, the scheme has elevated the sporting careers of more than 6,000 athletes by providing them with free access to Everyone Active's 240-plus leisure centres nationwide, including Cambourne Fitness and Sports Centre, run in partnership with Cambourne Town Council.

Olympic silver medallist and former world record holder Colin Jackson will return as the scheme's Ambassador for 2025-2026. He will work alongside a line-up of inspiring elite athletes who have starred on the Olympic and Paralympic stage - Lauren Steadman, Lutalo Muhammad, Richard Kilty, Maisie Summers-Newton and Harry Aikines-Aryeetey - in mentoring sessions throughout the year. These sporting heroes will offer wisdom, guidance and expert advice, guiding rising athletes through every milestone of their sporting journeys.

Last summer, the scheme supported 26 Sporting Champions who competed in the Paris Olympics and Paralympics, achieving nine gold, six silver and eight bronze medals. An incredible 14 of these athletes made their debuts at Paris 2024, coming home with 11 medals between them.

Colin said: "I am more excited than ever to support athletes of all ages and from all disciplines to achieve their dreams. I'm passionate about nurturing young talent and the Sporting Champions scheme goes above and beyond in this mission."

Simon Clasby, Everyone Active's general manager, said: "We are delighted to support up-and-coming athletes from Cambourne on their journey to success."

"As a leisure provider working in partnership with Cambourne Town Council, we feel it is important to cater for all sections of the community to ensure all budding athletes have access to the same facilities and opportunities."

"The Sporting Champions scheme has supported thousands of athletes over the years, and we are proud to be continuing this again in 2025. We hope to continue making a real difference to our athletes' success."

Applications opened on Tuesday 11th February 2025 and run until **Tuesday 11th March 2025** via the Everyone Active Sporting Champions website: [easportingchampions.com](https://easportingchampions.com)

Follow the Sporting Champions Instagram (@easportingchamps) for more information on how to apply.



## Jeanette's going the distance

**Local resident Jeanette will be running the London Marathon on 27th April 2025.** She has previously run the Cambridge Half Marathon five times but this will be her first time running a marathon and she needs to raise £1,800 for the charity Contact, which support families with disabled children.

She has personally benefitted from their resources, having received support for her daughter for a genetic condition. You can find out more about Contact here: [contact.org.uk/help-for-families/information-advice-services/](https://contact.org.uk/help-for-families/information-advice-services/)

Jeanette has been training throughout the winter months and has smashed her previous best, the half marathon stage. She is hoping to continue this good

progress, but would appreciate some motivation if you could sponsor her.

Use the link below or scan the QR code. Fundraising page: [2025tcs.londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/jeanette-louis](https://2025tcs.londonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/jeanette-louis)

The new manager of the Monkfield Arms, James, has kindly agreed that the monthly quiz for St Patrick's Day on Saturday 15th March at 8pm will be in aid of Jeanette's charity helping towards her fundraising goal. There will be a raffle with prizes donated from local businesses including Greens and other prize-winning activities. Please come and support if you can!





## Tennis Club nominations for Cambs awards

**Cambourne Tennis Club's competition secretary Ben Jarvis**, has been nominated for the Cambridgeshire Tennis Volunteer of the Year award for his many contributions to the club, including organising all the adult tennis competitions. In addition, Head Coach Toby Jackson, has been nominated for the Cambridgeshire Coach of the Year award for running an excellent and inclusive coaching programme.

The winners will be announced at the Tennis AGM.

On Sunday 2nd March our members will have their say at our own annual general meeting, where the committee will review the Club's past year and announce plans for 2025, listen to feedback from members, and committee members will be up for re-election.

### EASTER TENNIS CAMPS

Week 1 (7-11th April) & Week 2 (14-17th April)

Open to all abilities, 3-16yrs old. Our camps are slightly longer this year to allow for more learning and matchplay!

Book per day or a full week and get 10% off! Sign up at [www.gamesettennis.co.uk](http://www.gamesettennis.co.uk)

Finally, a reminder that the new Tennis season starts in April, and we ask all our members to renew their membership using the link on the website so that their access to the courts is not interrupted.

Are you new to Cambourne or to Tennis? Please see our website for more information on our activities and how to join: [clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC). We look forward to seeing you on the courts!



## Ramble with new people!

Do you enjoy the outdoors and have recently found yourself with more time on your hands? How about joining the Comberton Ramblers - we've been walking for 50 years since being founded in 1974!

A friendly group that enjoys walking, making new friends, and seeing beautiful countryside and wildlife throughout Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire, Suffolk & Essex. We walk on alternative Sundays between 5 – 7 miles. You are welcome to join us on any 2 of our walks to see if our group is for you. Then, once you have enjoyed the views, fun, exhilaration, it is just a case of becoming a member.

Annual membership membership fee is £10.00 per person. No dogs, except assistance dogs.

For further information please contact [stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com](mailto:stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com) or visit [combertonramblers.org.uk](http://combertonramblers.org.uk)

## Cricket club sets its sights on Cricket365 in 2025

**Cambourne Cricket Club** is gearing up for an exciting 2025, offering cricket opportunities for all ages and a range of social events for the local community. Whether you're a keen cricketer or just looking for a welcoming social space, there's something for everyone.

We have an ambition for Cricket365 - ensuring that cricket is available all year round, and keeping players active and engaged outside the traditional summer season.

This is perfect for those looking to develop their skills or simply enjoy the game throughout the year - with outdoor, indoor or even walking cricket on offer! Please email [cambournecc@gmail.com](mailto:cambournecc@gmail.com) for more details.

The club will be hosting a free Open Day on 2nd March at the Village College and inviting prospective players to meet the team and find out

more about Academy playing opportunities. Please see the flyer or email [academy.cambournecc@gmail.com](mailto:academy.cambournecc@gmail.com) for more information.

Adding a splash of colour to the calendar, CCC will be hosting Holi celebrations on 15th/16th March (final date TBC & weather dependent - please check Town Council notices for final information), bringing the community together for the vibrant festival of colours with music, food, and plenty of fun.

For those looking to enjoy the club's facilities socially, we will be launching a supporter's social membership with fantastic benefits including discounts at the Third Man. It's a great way to support the club and be part of the community, so watch this space for more information.

Don't miss out on these fantastic opportunities - join us for a year full of sport, fun, and community spirit!

**CAMBOURNE CRICKET CLUB**  
PRESENTS

# CRICKET OPEN DAY



- \* Free Event
- \* Explore the cricket with us
- \* No Registration required
- \* Opportunities to experience cricket
- \* All boys & girls of any age are welcome

**SUNDAY 2ND MARCH 1PM-3PM**

**CAM VC SPORTS HALL  
CB23 6FR**

<https://www.cambournecc.com>  
[facebook.com/CambourneCC](https://facebook.com/CambourneCC)






**Gambourne Balkan Dance Club**

**BALKAN DANCE  
FOR FUN AND FITNESS**

Every Sunday, enthusiasts meet up to practice traditional dances from Bulgaria and Greece. The dance is open to all.

5:20pm (Beginners)      6:30pm (Intermediate)  
Easy and basic dances      Complex and quick dances

The Blue Space, Cambourne  
CB23 6DZ

Find us on Google or Facebook  @Cam.Balkan.Dance  
Tel: 07551 203866



**junior parkrun**

for 4 to 14 year olds  
adults can join in too

family friendly 2k events  
everyone's invited

**free**

every Sunday at 9am  
(arrive 8:50 on your first visit)  
**except cancelled 3<sup>rd</sup> November**  
Cambourne Sports Playing Fields

Register: [parkrun.org.uk/register](http://parkrun.org.uk/register)  
Info: [parkrun.org.uk/cambourne-juniors](http://parkrun.org.uk/cambourne-juniors)

# LEAFLET DELIVERY

**We can distribute your leaflets alongside  
*Cambourne Crier***

The current distribution covers 4,300 houses in Upper,  
Lower and Great Cambourne

For details of cost and deadlines please contact  
[delivery@cambournecrier.org](mailto:delivery@cambournecrier.org)