



# Time for some new councillors?



**Which current Town Councillors are putting in the hours and who isn't turning up? Check out council meeting attendance figures for 2025-26 on p28...**

**On 7th May 2026**, elections will be held for all councillors on Cambourne Town Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council. Following the news in 2025 of failures in governance at

Cambourne Town Council and the subsequent announcement that residents will see an increase in Council Tax as a result, many residents are laying blame at the feet of the current

Town Councillors. How many would be willing to take their place, however?

*Find out what it takes to be a Town Councillor and how you can stand for election on page 28...*

- **Town Council updates**
- **Community news**
- **Cambourne Library**
- **Wildlife Trust**
- **Columnists**
- **Religious groups**
- **Schools & education**
- **Find a local business**
- **Sport**



**Cambourne Library is back in action; finally reopened after long closure**  
*See page 6 for more...*



**Cambourne's annual pancake race took place on 17th February**  
*Find out more on page 23...*

**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 issue's editors were: Donovan Bangs, Paul Jobling, Paula Brown, Seema Achall, Max Bangs, Martin Law, Ann Stephenson and Hannah Harris.

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**Editorial submissions:**

Submissions for the **April 2026** edition must be received by 9pm on **Sunday 15th March 2026**.

Please email articles and photos to [editorial@cambournecrier.org](mailto:editorial@cambournecrier.org) or post to Cambourne Crier, The Hub, High Street, Great Cambourne, 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

### ■ Budget 2026/27

The Town Council has set and issued its budget to South Cambridgeshire District Council, Councillors agreed a total precept of £1,493,098, which is an increase of £636,061.00.

For residents in a Band D Property, this means the annual council tax contribution will be £319.17.

This represents a 68% increase, which works out an additional £2.97 per week. For more information on the budget please visit the Town Council website.

The Town Council is responsible for Allotments, Burial ground, Community Buildings, Events, Play areas and public open spaces and a number of other functions. These are all funded from the precept and other income the Town Council receives throughout the year. The Town Council receives no funding from Central Government.

### ■ Elections

The Town Council website now features an exciting new page explaining how to become a Councillor.

A prospective Councillor Training session will be held via an online webinar by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils.

This session will provide valuable information about the role of a Councillor, including responsibilities, expected commitment, and how to join your local council.

The exact date is still to be confirmed; however, the session will take place in the evening. This is particularly helpful as the Town Council currently meets at 7:00pm on Tuesday. Further details will be announced soon.

### ■ Staffing

The Town Council has appointed a Community Development Officer, Sports Development Officer and Office Administrator. Please see our website for information on how to contact officers.

### ■ Community

Officers held an informal consultation at the Lower Cambourne Play Park as a part of the refurbishment works that have been budgeted for.

There is still time to give your views, and we want to hear from you.

Please check our website for any consultations we are running as well as refer to the Council notice boards and relevant committees.

Any decisions regarding the playpark will be made at the Leisure and Amenities Committee and members of the public are welcome to attend.

### ■ Council meetings are held at 7pm in the Meeting Room at The Hub Community Centre

Members of the public are welcome to observe.

3rd March 2026

- Planning Committee
- Followed by Full Council

17th March 2026

- Planning Committee
- Followed by Finance and Policy

14th April 2026

- Planning Committee
- Followed by Full Council

### Cambourne Town Council Office:

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

Tel: 01954 714403

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

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

Facebook/Instagram: @cambournetowncouncil



### 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)

## COMMUNITY

# Cambs bus drivers recognised for quality driving

An outstanding 201 drivers from Cambridgeshire's biggest bus operator, Stagecoach East, have been recognised for their exceptional driving standards and dedication to road safety, throughout 2025.

This means that approximately a third of all Stagecoach's local drivers have achieved this important accreditation.

Driver safety specialists GreenRoad monitor the performance of drivers across Stagecoach East and award a 'Fleet Elite' status to drivers who demonstrate sustained driving excellence, as evidenced by outstanding safety scores and displaying true mastery of the driving profession.

The aim is to inspire a continued focus on road safety and offer a source of pride for drivers who help to improve passenger and driver safety, reduce risk, and save lives.

In total, 66 local drivers have reached 'Grand Master' or 'Master' Fleet Elite status for having maintained the highest standards of safe and fuel-efficient driving for 10 and four years.

Darren Roe, Managing Director of Stagecoach East, said: "These are really impressive result that show how much effort



our teams have put in to ensure we run a safe and smooth bus service each and every day. Huge congratulations to everyone who has achieved Fleet Elite status!

"As a bus operator, the safety of our staff and passengers is our number one priority, so I am extremely proud that such a huge number of our drivers have been recognised for their driving excellence.

"We know that our customers rely on us, so we cannot get things wrong when we are out on the road. Our drivers continue to demonstrate their commitment to achieving the highest standards, day in day out."

■ To find out more about local bus routes and services, to buy before you board, and to track your local bus, you can download the Stagecoach Bus App from [www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/national/stagecoachbusapp](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/national/stagecoachbusapp)



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# Help amphibians thrive by making your garden wildlife-friendly



**Climate change is affecting amphibians.** This year's mild February and unpredictable weather caused them to wake early, when there was less food available, and put their spawn at greater risk of being frozen. Connecting your garden to your neighbours', and leaving areas wild can help improve their hunting ground, and providing even a small amount of water can make a difference. March is a busy time for amphibians. They might only spend a short time at their breeding pond, so can sometimes be seen around dusk on warmer wetter evenings migrating to or from their terrestrial feeding grounds, which might be gardens or wilder green spaces.

### Common frog or common toad?

- Common frogs and common toads are about the same size
- Female frogs and toads are bigger than males (up to 13 cm for females, 8cm for males)
- Frogs have 2 creases (like folds of skin) down their back, and their skin is wet, toad skin is very warty and drier
- Frogs have a circular mark behind the eye and often have a black eye stripe, toads have a rugby-ball-shaped lump

behind the eye

- Frogs have long legs with obviously webbed back feet, and move mostly by jumping, toads have shorter legs with less webbing and move by crawling
- Frogs are more likely to breed in small garden ponds, both frogs and toads can be found in larger ponds and lakes (and both can be found in gardens)
- Frogs lay eggs in clumps, toads in long strings

### Common (smooth) or great crested newt

- Both male smooth and great crested newts have an orange belly
- Smooth newts are up to 10cm, great crested newts are up to 15cm
- Smooth newts look brown in and out of water, great crested newts look black out of water, and dark brown in water
- Smooth newts are smooth! Great crested newts have warty skin with tiny white dots

Please consider submitting official wildlife records of any amphibians you see via the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records centre website. Please email if you come across large numbers dead on a road.



**Wildlife Trust for  
Beds, Cambs  
& Northants**

### Local enquiries

Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org  
Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN  
TrumpingtonMeadows@wildlifebcn.org  
Facebook: @TrumpingtonMeadowsNatureReserve

### General enquiries

cambridgeshire@wildlifebcn.org  
@wildlifebcn  
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.*



## Become a firefighter!



Your local fire crew is looking for local people to join them and respond to emergencies.

You might not be aware, but the fire station on Back Lane is solely crewed by on-call firefighters. They are available on a rota basis around their work, childcare, studying or other commitments. When providing availability, an on-call firefighter will carry a small pager that alerts them when they are needed. They will then need to get to the fire station within five minutes with the rest of the crew to travel to the emergency.

Being part of the fire crew at Cambourne Fire Station provides a vital service. On-call firefighters 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 and provide a range of safety advice to help local residents keep their homes fire safe.

The crew meets every week to catch up on training and practice their skills. These are called drill nights and take place every Tuesday between 7 and 9pm. You will be required to attend drill nights every week.

Being an on-call firefighter has many benefits. As well as being paid an annual wage for being available and additional payments for the time spent responding to incidents and training, plus annual leave, there are also opportunities to develop first aid skills and heavy goods vehicle driving qualifications.

Working for the Service also brings a number of other benefits, such as a health cashback plan, access to gym facilities across the county, a competitive pension scheme and access to discounts with a Blue Light Card membership.

Find out more about becoming an on-call firefighter and how you can be part of a team that helps your community, by visiting [bit.ly/CFRSONcall](https://bit.ly/CFRSONcall) or use the QR code provided here.



## Travel into Cambridge on the 4 bus service

UP TO EVERY **20** MINUTES MON-SAT

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Timetable information correct at time of print, April 2025. Some journeys are operated with the financial support of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority as part of their Tiger bus network.

## IS YOUR WEBSITE A HEADACHE?

Don't let a slow, broken, or invisible website hold your business back.

- ✗ Slow Website?
- ✗ Bad Hosting?
- ✗ Old or Broken Design?
- ✗ Invisible on Google?
- ✗ Wasting Money on Ads?

### WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

**DISCOVER HOW WE CAN HELP!**

WEB: [DARYO89.COM](https://DARYO89.COM) | MAIL: [D.LAPEGNA@DARYO89.COM](mailto:D.LAPEGNA@DARYO89.COM)  
MOBILE: 07466 630557

# Cambourne Library's back in action!

### A very warm welcome to all our customers to the newly opened Cambourne Library.

If you have already visited, I am sure you will agree that the changes to the library are impressive. We can offer a modern space for customers to choose, return and collect books, attend events and workshops, study, meet friends, book a space for meetings and so much more. There really is something for everyone- this is your local library. Please ask in the library for information about Library membership or see our website [Cambridgeshire Libraries](http://CambridgeshireLibraries).

### Open Plus Access

The library will introduce Open+ from April, extending access during mornings and afternoons to better align with GP centre opening hours. Customers will be encouraged to register for Open+ during March, ahead of the formal launch at the grand opening in April.

Find out more about Open Plus here- [cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/visit-a-library/open-plus-out-of-hours-library-access](http://cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/visit-a-library/open-plus-out-of-hours-library-access)

### Public PCs

We now can offer 4 Public PC desks in the foyer of Sackville House. One of these is on a rise and fall desk that can be adjusted to suit the user, using button controls. Printing, scanning and photocopying is available in the computer area and is payable by card using the Nayax card reader. There is also one Public PC in the library area and several desks for customers to use with their own laptops. Public PCs are used on a first come first served basis or can be booked in advance by following the links on our website.

### Community Meeting Room

We now have a community meeting room available for hire. Please contact [SouthCambsSouth.LibraryVenue@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:SouthCambsSouth.LibraryVenue@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) for further information.



### Cambourne Library Events

Engage - 2pm-3.30pm Wednesday 1 April 2026

Christina Koning- Author Talk  
Christina will be talking about writing the Blind Detective series of 10 books and the challenges this has entailed.

Books available to purchase with cash for £8.99.

Donations for refreshments welcome  
Copies available to purchase £8.99 cash only please

Please book your place in the library or contact us at [Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

### New! Stay and Play

Tuesdays 9.30am-10.30am

Join other families in the library for chat, play and interaction. We will provide baby and toddler toys for you to play with while in the library. Suitable for 4 years and under. This is a drop-in activity, no need to book.

### Rhyme time/Storytime (term time only)

In the National Year of Reading ([goallin.org.uk](http://goallin.org.uk)) there's no better way to

get little ones off to a flying start than with stories. Bring your children along to our free and fabulous Rhymetime sessions. Every Friday 9.30am-10am in Cambourne Library. Stay on afterwards for half an hour of Duplo play. No need to book- these are drop in events.

### Friday 27th March. Special Easter themed session

9.30am-10.30am

Knit, Sew and Natter Group Craft Group  
The craft group meet every Tuesday 10am-12pm. Bring along any portable craft you like. Please contact [Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) to confirm where the group will be meeting.

### Cambourne Lunch Bunch Book Group

If you would like to join in with this friendly group, please contact [Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 18th March 12.30pm, in Cambourne Library Meeting Room.

### Cambourne Library Opening Hours (until 10 April)

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

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

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

Social Media

Facebook: @CambridgeshireLibraries

Facebook: @CambsLibFamilies

Instagram: @cambslib

YouTube: @CambridgeshireLibraries

# COMMUNITY

## Bike repair in West Cambourne

**Saturday, 7th March 2026, 10:30am-1:30pm**

Smart Journeys in Partnership with Taylor Wimpey/Vistry are still providing FREE monthly bike repair services, delivered by Outspoken Cycles, and exclusively for West Cambourne residents. These sessions are put in place to support and encourage the West Cambourne community to be more active and travel more sustainably. To book a place, please visit [www.outspokencycles.co.uk/cambourne-dr-bike](http://www.outspokencycles.co.uk/cambourne-dr-bike)

A following session will be held on Saturday, 4th April 2026. For more information about this free service, please contact [westcambourne@smartjourneys.co.uk](mailto:westcambourne@smartjourneys.co.uk)



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## Potholes and damaged roads in Cambridgeshire

**I know that people are fed up, even frightened, and spending far too much money on car repairs due to potholes and subsidence in our roads across Cambridgeshire.**

Cambridgeshire County Council has had to repeatedly fix these roads for years, but the funding it receives from the Government is massively stretched and doesn't account at all for the unique geology of the terrain in Cambridgeshire. Many built on fen soils, our roads are particularly susceptible to deterioration during wet weather and extreme heatwaves, and cost up to four times as much to maintain, with repairs lasting just a fraction of the time.

I recently raised this directly with the Secretary of State for Transport, making the case that the Government must adjust funding for roads to take

into account the geological conditions of the area. It is quite unbelievable that the funding formula for highways maintenance is still only based on road length, and not on the difficulty of actually fixing the holes in it.

I will now be writing to the Minister for Roads, urging the Government to recognise the crisis we are facing with our roads in Cambridgeshire, and pressing for action to address the pothole funding deficit.

I continue to hold both in-person and online surgeries to speak directly to constituents about their issues. If you feel you have a problem I could help with, or you have a policy matter you would like to discuss with me, please don't hesitate to contact me at [ian.sollom.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:ian.sollom.mp@parliament.uk)



**IAN SOLLUM**  
MP for St Neots and  
Mid Cambridgeshire  
[ian.sollom.mp](mailto:ian.sollom.mp)  
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**SHROBONA BHATTACHARYA**  
District Councillor  
[Cllr.Bhattacharya@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Bhattacharya@scambs.gov.uk)

## A question of happiness for the District Council

**In February 2026 I asked the District Council whether it had ever surveyed or measured the happiness or wellbeing index of Cambourne residents.**

How does the council plan to address concerns of the residents' wellbeing, loneliness and mental health in Cambourne?

I strongly believe kindness, humanity and wellbeing factors should influence the Council's policies and decisions. In 2018, a group of seniors from Uplands Place came to me and said, "Shrobona, we are disconnected from Cambourne, as we cannot cross the road." I invited them to come and speak at the Town Council in May 2018. Still in 2026, I am asking

for a zebra crossing around the retirement homes for the most senior residents in Cambourne to access medical facilities, the GP surgery, and grocery stores.

I am still chasing for more bus shelters and new bus stops in Cambourne. Only recently, I succeeded in installing a bench by the bus on Broad Street.

Many residents in West Cambourne do not feel connected to the rest of the town due to not having any connecting buses, footpaths, or cycle routes, no community space to organise meetups or events, no newsletter distribution, no amenities, and neither primary school, GP, nor dental facilities nearby.

## Breast cancer in women and men

**Breast cancer is the most common form of cancer in women. However, as both men and women have breast tissue, it can also, though rarely, occur in men.**

Many symptoms of breast cancer are similar in everyone, including a lump or swelling in the breast, chest or armpit, unusual discharge from the nipple, a change in size or shape of a breast / side of the chest, a change in the skin around the breast or nipple or pain in the breast or armpit that does not go away.

Breast cancer can occur at any age, but is more likely for women over 50 and those with dense breast tissue. A family history of breast or ovarian cancers may mean there is an

increased risk of breast cancer for both men and women. Men over the age of 60 are more at risk, along with those who have had surgery or damage to their testicles or have had radiotherapy on their chest.

Everyone's body is different and it is important to know what is normal for you, so any changes in how things feel or look can be noticed quickly. There are often less worrying causes for many of the symptoms, but it is important to report anything unusual to a GP.

As with all cancers, catching it early can make it easier to treat and easier to recover.

■ **Further information:**  
[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) (search breast cancer)



**CATHERINE PRICE**  
Cambourne Parish  
Nursing Service  
[nurse@cambournechurch.org.uk](mailto:nurse@cambournechurch.org.uk)

# COMMUNITY

## Cambourne Minibus – volunteer drivers needed!

**Cambourne Community Minibus is making a real difference to the lives of our senior residents.**

We regularly take members of the community to local cafés, garden centres, and markets for group shopping trips or simply to enjoy a warm cup of tea and good company.

Our charity proudly collaborates and works together with the Social Prescription Network to help reduce loneliness and improve wellbeing among elderly residents in Cambourne.

Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya, Chair of CamCareUK, said: “We are fortunate to have Kerry Gormann from Papworth and CK from GSK for their volunteering



service in Cambourne. With a few more volunteer drivers, we could make many more trips for our seniors.”

### Why We Need You

We operate a light 17-seater minibus, and a standard UK driving licence is sufficient to drive it. Some experience driving a minibus would be helpful.

With more volunteer drivers, we can:

- Increase the number of trips
- Reach more elderly and lonely residents
- Create many more happy outings and

social opportunities

- Strengthen our collaboration with the Social Prescription Network

Even a small amount of your time can make a big difference.

If you are interested in volunteering or would like to find out more, please contact: [shrobona@gmail.com](mailto:shrobona@gmail.com)

Together, we can make many more happy trips for the elderly residents of Cambourne.



## How Can We Help?

### Struggling to sell your property?

There is an alternative to reducing the price.

Renting your property out gets you moved a lot quicker and the financial rewards could be significant.

The new Renters Rights Bill means you do not have to agree a long term let, giving you even more flexibility.

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## ■ CAMBOURNE CHURCH

### 19 The Coffee House

**19 The Coffee House** is run by a group of volunteers to provide a friendly, welcoming space to meet together and enjoy something tasty to eat or drink.

I have been one of the team of volunteers since around 2020. I used to enjoy coming to the café when my son was small to meet other people and sometimes just to get out of the house for a change of scenery.

After my son started school, I decided to become a volunteer as I wanted to give back to the community that had been there for me.

As a Christian, we are called to use our gifts to help others and if a friendly smile, a little conversation and a cake suggestion help to brighten someone's day then I feel that I have made a small difference

in the lives of others in my community.

I love my morning spent at the café. I have personally learnt a lot of new skills (although the till likes to surprise me on a regular basis!), made new friends and I love meeting the customers who make it such a lovely place to be.

19 The Coffee House is open Tuesday - Thursday 9am - 12pm. We would love to see you there.

Did I mention the delicious cakes?

**Anne Rees**

*19 The Coffee House operates in the foyer of Cambourne Church on Jeavons Lane*



#### SERVICES IN MARCH 2026

1st March	10.00am	Sunday One: All Age Communion Service
8th March	9.30am	Sunday Worship Service
	11.00am	Sunday Worship Service*
15th March	9.30am	Sunday Worship Service
	11.00am	Sunday Worship Service*
22nd March	10.00am	Sunday Worship Service*
29th March	9.30am	Communion Service
	11.00am	Communion Service *

\* The 11.00am services include age-appropriate groups for children and young people.

For details of our Easter services, please see the Easter card enclosed with this issue of the Cambourne Crier or visit our website [www.cambournechurch.org.uk](http://www.cambournechurch.org.uk)

## ■ PEACEHAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

### Pastoral thoughts: Marching on to Mothers' Day

**Mothers day will be this year on March 15th.** Now, I know it is not a biblically mandated holiday, but that does not mean the subject of parents and children should not be addressed. Indeed, the Bible has much to say on the subject. The family is a precious thing. Before the rise of governments, nations, or even tribes, there was the family. In fact, before the institution of the Church, there was the family right there in the Garden of Eden. All of society begins in the family, the moral and social structure and the basic principles of life are formed there. In the past, I have preached on parenting, a mother's love and our love for our mothers. But what if you do not have a good mother, or even a father?

Maybe your mother has passed away, walked out of your life, or in some way was unsuitable. Perhaps she struggled with addiction, lacked moral direction, or was not a good example. What do the forsaken children do then?

In life, people will leave you, let you down, or betray you. Sadly, it is to be expected that at some point someone may forsake you. Sometimes it is family, and this happens more often than many realise. All around us we see mothers and fathers abandoning their responsibilities, sometimes out of selfishness, believing a child would slow them down or inconvenience them.

How do we deal with that?

For the believer, we should strive to be better than what we may have experienced. We can still honour our parents by living a righteous life, one that reflects well, even if it is despite their failures. Be a better mother or father than you had. Show your children what it is meant to look like.

Even if others forsake you, the Lord will not. Jesus said in John 6:37 All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.

Looking forward to our mothers day service and Easter in early April.



**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](mailto:PeacehavenBC@aol.com) [peacehavenbc.org.uk](http://peacehavenbc.org.uk)  
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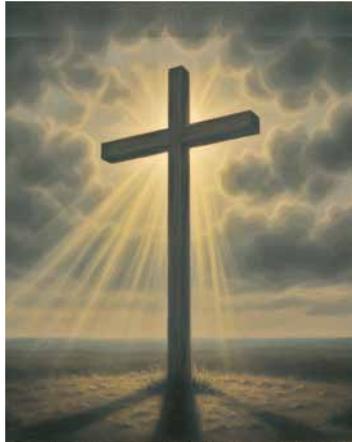
# CHURCHES

## St John Fisher Catholic Community

We are now in the period of Lent when we reflect, and prepare for the Easter season.

We are delighted to publicise our Easter Week service dates and times:

Maundy Thursday (2nd April) 18:00;  
 Good Friday (3rd April) 18:00;  
 Easter Saturday (4th April) Swieconka 14:00, Vigil Mass 18:00;  
 Easter Day (5th April) 17:00,  
 all in Cambourne Church (main hall).



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## SCOUTS & GUIDES

# Hands-on start to spring for 2nd Cambourne Scouts

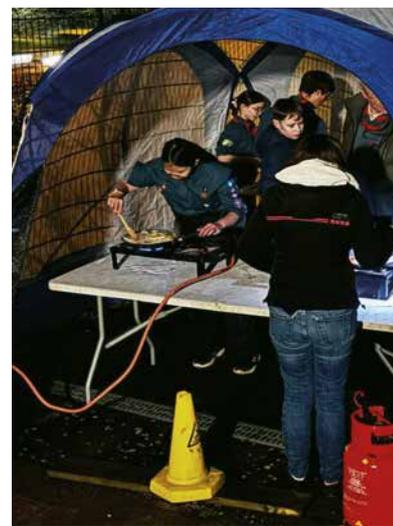
**2ND CAMBOURNE SCOUTS:** Our three sections have been enjoying the spring term and working on skills projects.

The Beavers made bird feeders for the Big Garden Bird Watch, created Pitta Pocket Pizzas and enjoyed some wide games outdoors in the dark.

The Cubs had a bicycle maintenance evening, made pancake art and with the help of members of Cambourne Shed, completed their DIY badge by building bug hotels. The finished hotels will be sold by Cambourne Shed to raise money for the Wildlife Trust BCN.

Our oldest section, the Scouts, had a First Aid evening run by three volunteers from St John Ambulance (The Cambridge Universities First Aid Society - CUFAS), had an evening of map skills, and also made bird feeders. Just before half term, there was a Ready, Steady, Cook! Night, which involved the senior Scouts choosing meals to make and buying supplies from Morrisons, before returning to the Blue Space to join the junior Scouts where the meals were prepared and cooked on burners and hobs – there were five really tasty meals made!

■ *Many thanks to the members of Cambourne Shed and CUFAS for their help!*



## Guides get creative

**3RD CAMBOURNE GUIDES:** This term the guides have been getting to know our new recruits through team-building activities and plenty of laughter. It's been wonderful to see new friendships forming and confidence growing with every meeting. Of course, no term would be complete without a few energetic games, with 'Jailbreak' and 'Gaga ball', bringing plenty of healthy competition and teamwork to our sessions. The Guides have also been reaching out beyond our local community. The unit

has written thoughtful cards to a Guide group in Scotland and are eagerly awaiting their replies. The girls put real care and creativity into their correspondence, designing and decorating beautiful handmade cards (see the accompanying photo). We hope this will be the start of a lasting connection and a chance to learn more about guiding in another part of the country.

To round off the half term, the girls enjoyed a craft evening making their very own pet rocks – or “love bugs.” Using paint markers, they transformed ordinary stones into colourful characters full of personality. From bright patterns to little creatures, each creation was

unique, and the girls were proud to take home their new miniature companions. It has been a busy and rewarding start to the year, and we're looking forward to even more adventures, challenges and creativity in the weeks ahead.



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## EDUCATION

# Year 3 travels back to ancient Egypt for immersive history day

**MONKFIELD PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL:** To round off an exciting topic on life in Ancient Egypt the children in Year 3 arrived at school to find they had been transported back in time to the 14th Century BCE and the 8th year of the pharaoh Akhenaten's reign. Dressed as pharaohs, queens, scribes and gods the children stepped into the school hall only to discover that it had been transformed by 'History off the Page'. Throughout the morning the children rotated through hands-on workshops designed to deepen their understanding of this fascinating civilisation, its beliefs and way of life.

In the hieroglyphics station, children learned to write their names using ancient symbols and created cartouches on papyrus. Having learned about mummification in class the children made Canopic jars, produced their own perfumes and made amulets to ward off evil spirits. Each workshop was awash with colour and exotic scents which grabbed the children's imagination.

The afternoon saw the children taking part in a celebration and banquet as the Pharaoh prepared to announce the name of his new high priest, the Mary-Ra. The day culminated in a spectacular showcase where each class displayed their costumes and shared what they'd learned and made with their parents and families.



This immersive experience perfectly complemented our history curriculum, allowing the children to engage with Ancient Egyptian culture in a meaningful and memorable way. The excitement and enthusiasm demonstrated throughout the day showed how powerful experiential learning can be in capturing children's imaginations and deepening their historical understanding.

# Safari Stu brings wild adventure to The Vine

**The Early Years children at The Vine had a very special visitor recently** - Safari Stu came to visit them, bringing with him a fascinating selection of animals for the children to meet up close. The children were amazed by the variety of creatures, which included snakes, cockroaches, skinny pigs and a super cute tenrec (don't worry if you're not sure what that is, feel free to Google it!). Safari Stu shared interesting facts about each animal and answered lots of thoughtful questions from the children.

Many of the children showed great bravery, stepping outside their comfort zones to touch or even hold some of the animals. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow as curiosity replaced nerves, and there were lots of excited faces and proud smiles throughout the session. The visit was a fantastic hands-on learning experience and a memorable opportunity for reception children and pre-schoolers alike.

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# COMMUNITY

## Curiosity Crew 2026 lead the way in robotics and innovation in Cambourne

**FIRST LEGO League Challenge (FLL Challenge)**, part of programmes run by FIRST, is an international robotics competition for students aged 9-16.

For the past ten years, Cambourne's children have proudly taken part in the competitions. These advanced STEM activities have helped children to learn hands-on technologies, engineering, physics and mathematics.

Cambourne students work tirelessly to refine their robot designs, practise programming runs and strengthen their teamwork. Many of these practice



sessions take place at Cambourne Church, where the children meet regularly to prepare their projects and robots.

The Curiosity Crew, the team for 2026, also created solutions to real-world community problems through innovation projects along with the robot games. Cambourne's children have consistently impressed with their creativity, confidence and dedication to the

teachers, mentors, stakeholders and tech companies in Cambridge.

Through this advanced STEM activity outside school hours, Cambourne's young participants continue to prove themselves talented, resilient and full of innovation.

Please contact Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya on [shrobona@gmail.com](mailto:shrobona@gmail.com) to join the next batch of FLL.

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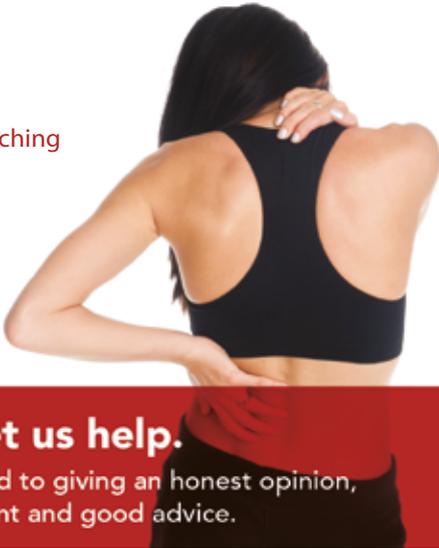
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# COMMUNITY

## Families flip for fun at Cambourne pancake race

**The annual Shrove Tuesday celebration at Great Cambourne Cricket Pavilion brought families together through food, fun, and friendly competition**

Residents from across Cambourne gathered on 17 February 2026 to celebrate Shrove Tuesday with a lively community Pancake Race hosted by local charity CamCareUK.

The free public event welcomed families, friends, and visitors of all ages for an afternoon filled with laughter, community spirit and freshly made pancakes. Instant pancakes were prepared, giving everyone the chance to



enjoy a warm taste before stepping up to the starting line for the races.

Children tested their balance and speed in the classic pancake race. Adults also joined in the fun with a traditional spoon-and-egg race, adding another playful element to the celebration.

The event was completely free to attend, helping ensure an inclusive and welcoming atmosphere for all members of the local community.

“The joy on people’s faces said it all, it was wonderful to see everyone enjoying fresh pancakes and taking part together,”

Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya, the organiser, said. “Events like this show the

strength of community spirit in Cambourne.”

Photographs from the day, captured by Mrs. Joanna Patterson-Cross, show smiling participants, energetic races, and the dedication of volunteers, reflecting a successful event that combined seasonal tradition with charitable purpose.

CamCareUK thanked Clare Gilbert, Archana Paikray, Adi, Arya, and Ashvi for their volunteering support and everyone who attended and supported the event, expressing hopes that the Pancake Race will continue to grow as a much-loved annual tradition.



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## LUC sellout success kicks off 2026 fundraising events

**LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE:** By the time you are reading this we will have held our first fund raising event of 2026, the Murder Mystery evening on 28th February - a sellout event, which reminds me to say that tickets for our next event, the Easter Paint and Sip on 21st March are selling well with half of them already reserved, please act quickly to avoid being disappointed, our last Paint and Sip event back in November was deemed by all who attended to be a great success and a most enjoyable evening.

This time we have had to increase the ticket price but will be offering reductions on bottles of wine and Prosecco to compensate. So come along and get creative by painting a ceramic Easter Bunny to take home with you. Just right for Easter!!

Next up after the Paint and Sip it's one of our very popular Bingo nights on 11th April, again if past experience is anything to go by this event will be very well attended, tickets are now on sale.

Further details of these events are on the posters below, two great evenings to look forward to.

The need for continued fundraising was highlighted at a recent LUC meeting with Balfour Beatty, Cambridgeshire

County Council and Cambourne Town Council on 20th January. For the past number of years, the lights in the trees on Broad Street have been powered from adjacent lampposts, this is no longer deemed to acceptable by the County Council, the meeting being called to 'design a way out' of this issue that LUC could afford - an original proposal for power supplies by way of feeder posts was rejected by LUC as being totally unrealistic due to the expected costs involved being way beyond any fund raising that LUC could realistically achieve.

LUC have put forward a design proposal and await a reply from Balfour Beatty and Cambridgeshire County Council as to if it conforms with their policies and is a practicable solution, it will then be costed to ensure that as hoped LUC are in a position to raise enough money to cover the costs involved. We anticipate that whilst it will cost considerably less than feeder posts it still isn't going to be cheap.

As an example of costs, we have had to cover recently, the price for getting the defective lights sorted out during December was £1,600. The bill for which arrived during January. As always, it's the support we receive from those who attend our events and make donations that mean we can pay these costs as they arrive.



**Est. 2013 LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE**  
VOLUNTARILY TRIMMING THE TOWN

# Easter SIP & PAINT

SATURDAY | MARCH 21ST | 19:00 - 22:30  
LOCATION: THE HUB, CAMBOURNE

**£18 per person**

Includes:  
-All painting materials  
-Easter treats  
-One complimentary drink (alcoholic or non alcoholic)

Additional drinks and snacks can be purchased from the bar on the evening.

**SPECIAL OFFER:**  
Enjoy £10 Prosecco | £8 Wine (per bottle) for this night only!

To book: contact us via Facebook or email [lightupcambourne@gmail.com](mailto:lightupcambourne@gmail.com)



**Est. 2013 LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE**  
VOLUNTARILY TRIMMING THE TOWN

# BINGO night

Saturday 11th April 2026  
The Hub, Cambourne  
Doors open at 6.45 PM,  
Eyes down at 7:30 PM

Tickets £17\* including all bingo games and a chip shop supper!

\*Please note a £1 surcharge applies to all cod orders

Dabbers (£1) and extra books (£3) available on the night!  
Also featuring a bar, snacks and Rock 'n' Roll Bingo!

**Wine and cash prizes to be won!**

Book in advance by contacting us on Facebook or emailing [lightupcambourne@gmail.com](mailto:lightupcambourne@gmail.com)

## Chinese New Year celebration in Cambourne

On Saturday 21 February 2026, the Chinese and Hong Kong communities of Cambourne came together at the Cambridge Tech Centre for a vibrant and welcoming Chinese New Year celebration held in support of CamCare UK.

Taking place from 12 pm to 5 pm, the event marked the Year of the Horse with an afternoon full of cultural experiences, creativity, and community spirit. Open to people of all ages and backgrounds, the celebration invited families and friends to drop in, connect, and enjoy the festivities.

**Highlights of the celebration included:**  
- Live Chinese calligraphy, a Lunar pop-up market, and hands-on art and craft workshops.

- Traditional festive games and authentic Chinese cuisine in a beautifully decorated red and gold setting.

- An interactive children's workshop featuring storytelling, songs, and lion and dragon dance experiences led by a Mando School teacher.



Throughout the afternoon, guests embraced the welcoming atmosphere while learning more about Chinese cultural traditions in an engaging and accessible way.

The Community Chinese New Year Celebration was a joyful and meaningful occasion, bringing people together to welcome the new year with hope, culture, and shared happiness.



## Cambourne Kite festival

A free Valentine's weekend event brought colour, laughter and togetherness to Cambourne's open fields on Saturday 14 February 2026. The Kite Festival, organised by local charity CamCareUK, turned a bright winter day into a colourful celebration of outdoor fun and community spirit.

The event welcomed around 70 to 80 families with children, creating a lively atmosphere filled with music, laughter and the sight of colourful kites rising into the sky. The sunny but cool weather provided ideal conditions for flying kites, with gentle winds helping even first-time flyers achieve successful launches.

The organisers described the festival as a chance to bring people together, encourage active family time, and celebrate community connection through accessible, free events.

"Seeing families smiling together under a sky full of kites was truly special," Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya, the organiser and chairperson of CamCareUK, said. "Events like this show how strong and welcoming our Cambourne community can be."



The festival formed part of CamCareUK's ongoing work to support residents through inclusive community activities. Photographs and video shared by organisers captured the energy of the day, from children proudly flying their first kites to parents joining in the excitement.

As the kites danced overhead throughout the afternoon, the event highlighted the value of simple, shared experiences in strengthening local friendships and creating lasting memories for families in Cambourne.

# Viking-era 'execution pit' found in Wandlebury

**The aftermath of a battle or execution from around the 9th century AD has been discovered by Cambridge University archaeologists and students conducting a training dig as part of the University's undergraduate degree in archaeology.**

The burial pit, found on the outskirts of Cambridge, may date from a time when the area was a "frontier zone" in the conflict between the Saxon-run kingdom of Mercia and the kingdom of East Anglia, which was conquered by the Vikings in around 870 AD (CE).

Unearthed during spring and summer last year, the pit contained the remains of ten individuals, including at least one decapitation and a man well over six foot in stature – extremely tall for the time – with a trepanned head.

All appear to have been relatively young men flung into the pit without care, leading archaeologists to believe they found the wake of a skirmish or battle, or perhaps a mass execution. The discovery was showcased in a 'Digging for Britain' episode broadcast in February on BBC Two.

The training excavation, led by Dr Oscar Aldred from the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU), took place at Wandlebury Country Park, famous for its "ringwork"; a series of banks and ditches that mark an Iron Age hillfort constructed a millennium before the Viking era.

These are the first human remains found at Wandlebury since 1976, when a storm uprooted a tree close to the recent dig site, and a cache of five skeletons dating to the same time were uncovered.

Among the most intriguing aspects of the latest find are the complete remains of a man aged between 17 and 24, flung face down into the pit, who would have stood at around 6 foot 5 inches tall.



His height may be down to a growth condition, according to archaeologists, who say he would have towered over others at a time when the average male height was around 5 foot 6 inches.

The man has a large oval hole in his skull, 3cm in diameter, suggesting he underwent trepanation: an ancient surgical procedure in which a hole is bored through a living human's skull.

The inclusion of dismembered remains alongside fully articulated bodies is highly unusual even for a mass grave, and has puzzled archaeologists.

Cambridge in the late 8th century was under the control of Offa, ruler of the

kingdom of Mercia, but in the late 9th century (around 874-5 AD), half of the Viking Great Army set up camp close to Cambridge, and sacked the town.

Cambridgeshire was then incorporated into the Viking kingdom of East Anglia, and stayed under Viking control up to the early 10th century as part of the Danelaw agreement.

Initial radiocarbon work dates some bones to around this time, but with no associated grave materials more research is required to establish if these are Saxons or Vikings.

"Cambridgeshire was a frontier zone between Mercia and East Anglia, and the continual wars between Saxons and Vikings as they clashed over territory across many decades," said Dr Aldred. "We suspect the pit may relate to these conflicts."

Historic England, who are supporting the excavation and monitor and manage archaeology on protected Scheduled Monuments such as Wandlebury, have commissioned a new geophysical survey of the area that archaeologists hope will reveal more about the site surrounding the burial pit.

Future work from the Cambridge team will include bone analysis including ancient DNA and isotopic work to investigate health, kinship and ancestral links, which will help to establish if these are Viking remains.

The archaeologists will also attempt "refitting" to see if any dismembered remains can be reconstructed to determine how many people were thrown into the pit.



## MMP: Managing hayfever this season



**MONKFIELD MEDICAL PRACTICE (MMP):** Avoid repeating last year's hay fever symptoms by starting your allergen avoidance and antihistamine treatments at least 15 days before your symptoms start. If you have no idea when that is, start the following now:

### ■ Simple self-care

- Keep windows closed on high pollen days
- Shower and change clothes after being outdoors
- Use petroleum jelly around the nostrils to trap pollen
- Check daily pollen forecasts to plan ahead
- Wear "shades, indoors, at nighttime"

### ■ Over-the-counter treatments

- Antihistamine tablets or liquid taken daily such as cetirizine, loratadine or fexofenadine
- Steroid nasal sprays to reduce inflammation and congestion
- Antihistamine eye drops
- Sinus rinse products

### ■ Prescriptions

Remember, if you needed prescribed medication last year, contact us soon so that you can start your treatment before your symptoms start.

### Patient Participation Group

Our quarterly Patient Participation Group (PPG) meeting will take place on Tuesday 10th March at 17.45 in our training room on the first floor.

This is a chance for a two-way conversation with the partners of the practice to learn about primary care process, provide feedback, and receive updates on the practice and patients' local initiatives and needs.

Anyone can attend as much or little as they want. Drop into one session to see what it is about.

## Cambourne & District u3a

**u3a**  
learn, laugh, live

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
- Anyone for coffee?
- Art Appreciation
- Board Games
- 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

**u3a**

Come and reimagine your retirement!

Guests are welcome to attend a meeting  
to find out more about us!  
<https://cambourne.u3asite.uk>

## 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)  
Easy and basic dances

6:30pm (Intermediate)  
Complex and quick dances

The Blue Space, Cambourne  
CB23 6DZ

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

## Your town needs you! How to become a town councillor

**Are you genuinely interested in local matters? Do you fancy becoming a Town Councillor?** Do you think you can make a positive change to the quality of life of residents while addressing their social concerns?

We need energetic and enthusiastic citizens from various backgrounds to reflect our community. The role is quite varied and doesn't require any experience or special qualifications, while you will gain lots of new skills, experience and knowledge.

### WHAT IS THE TOWN COUNCIL RESPONSIBLE FOR?

- Community buildings and open spaces – parks, play areas, allotments, a trailer park, a cemetery, and 8 buildings.
- Events and activities – from council run events like the fete and big squiggle to working with local groups and charities to help deliver their services too.
- Town Development – supporting and commenting on neighbourhood growth and improving local infrastructure.
- Delivering projects – working with the District and County Council to deliver projects for the community such as the war memorial and the Miyawaki woods

As a Councillor, you can directly influence these services and decisions, and work with colleagues, staff, and residents to deliver a better future for the town.

### WHAT DOES A TOWN COUNCILLOR DO?

- Representing local people by listening to residents and raising their concerns
- Attending Council and Committee meetings to make decisions on budgets, policies, and services
- Working with local groups and charities to build strong community partnerships



- Promoting transparency by ensuring residents are informed about council activities

### HOW MUCH TIME AND COMMITMENT DOES IT TAKE?

The time commitment varies with additional responsibilities, but Cambourne Town Council would like to see Councillors spend 10-15 hours per month on council duties, including:

- Attending Full Council meetings once a month (typically 2-3 hours long).
- Taking part in committee and working group meetings.
- Reading agendas, reports, and preparing for discussions.
- Responding to resident enquires and casework.
- Attending community events and representing the Council.

### HOW DO I STAND FOR ELECTION?

- Check if you're eligible
- Choose to stand as independent or party candidate (Cambourne Town Council is not currently a political council)

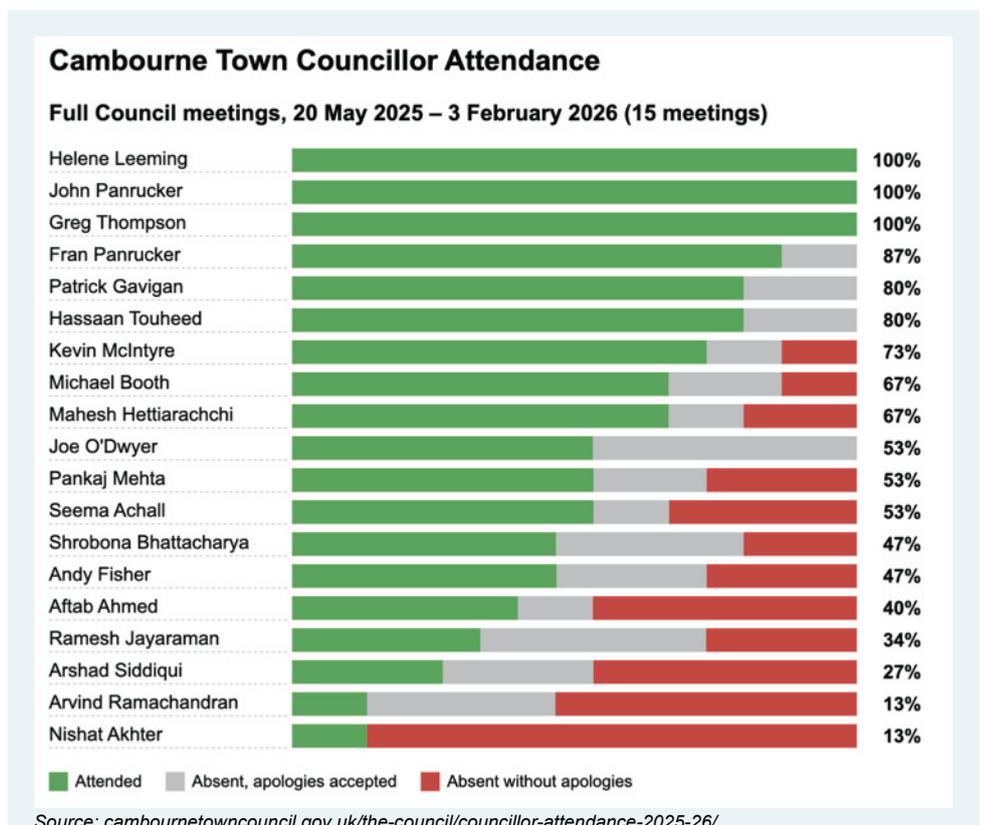
- Complete a nomination form and submit it to South Cambridgeshire District Councils Electoral Services

The nomination period opens on 30th March and closes on 9th April at 4pm.

All nomination papers must be delivered by hand to the Elections department at South Cambridgeshire District Council during office hours (9am to 5.30pm). Nominations cannot be accepted by post.

For more information on the 2026 Town and District Council elections and nomination forms, please visit:

[scambs.gov.uk/elections/elections-2026](https://scambs.gov.uk/elections/elections-2026)



## Cambourne Town Council increases Council tax – and a resident responds...

**Cambourne made the national news in February when the Town Council announced residents would be facing a rise in Council Tax payments as a result of financial mismanagement.**

For residents in a Band D property, this means the annual council tax contribution will be £319.17.

This represents a 6.8% increase, which works out at an additional £2.97 per week.

A statement from the council said: “The Council acknowledges and sincerely apologise for the impact that the 2026–27 precept will have on our residents. The Council fully recognise that this increase comes at a time when many households are under financial pressure, and we do not underestimate the concern this will cause.

“Following the Council’s Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) in 2025, serious issues were identified, particularly around the management of Council reserves and the receipt and use of Section 106 funds. Since that time, the Council has been working intensively to address and rectify these matters and to rebuild trust.

“The Council accepts that restricted funds, including S106 monies, were previously used for revenue expenditure when they should not have been. These funds must now be replenished and the projects they were intended for delivered. We deeply regret these decisions and the consequences they have had for the Council and the community.

“As part of this improvement programme, the Council has strengthened its governance and operational arrangements.”

*Dear Editors,*

*A 68% increase in the Town Tax!  
Why? For the coming year 2026/27, the Town Councils’ budget expenditure is estimated to be £1.35 million. The budget for the current year which ends 31st March, passed in January 2025 was £1.4 million. No real change there.*

*Where the change has happened is the funding of the £1.4 million. Back in January 2025, the Town Councillors decided to implement the budget by taking £857k from the Council Taxpayers and making up the rest of the total by using £519k from reserves. Whether they had those reserves in the first place is open to question. For 2026/27, no reserves are available to soften the Council Tax. Therefore, we the Cambourne Council Taxpayer have to pay the £1.35 million! Plus, as there are no usable reserves left, this standby money needs to be replenished by adding an extra £150k.*

*Who is to blame? The former Town Clerk has to take some of the blame. Our Town Councillors need to take the rest. We elect Town Councillors to the Town Council. Some have been co-opted as some of the elected have left. As our representatives, Town*

*Councillors are in charge. They are the only ones who can hire and fire the Town Clerk and other officers. They agree contracts; they agree payments; they keep the Council within the law; they appoint the Internal Auditors; they agree the budget and must keep an overview on the budget and spending.*

*Sadly, they have failed in their duties. The Internal Audit of the 2024/25 was a shocker. It showed how badly our Town Council was being run. The 68% increase is the culmination.*

*The only way to cut the Council Tax is to raise income and/or cut expenditure. As the Town Council is taxing us its net expenditure, this level of Council Tax will remain for a few years but will not drop significantly after the minimum reserves have been replenished.*

*There is no knight coming over the hill to sort this Town Council out. The only people who can sort this Town Council out are the electors of Cambourne. On 7th May 2026, the Town Council is up for election, if enough people stand.*

**Cambourne resident, council tax-payer and allotment holder**  
{name and address supplied}



# Cambourne Open Gardens 6th & 7th June 2026

**Are you proud of your garden? Would you mind sharing the joy it brings with others interested in gardens in our community? If so, would you like to open your garden as part of this annual community event? If so read on...**

Anyone in Cambourne may open their garden no matter its size. There is no standard to reach; only your own desire to share it with others. You would open on either Saturday 6th or Sunday 7th June.

Full instructions are given and it's simply a case of opening your gate at 11am and closing it at 5pm. You would greet visitors who already have a ticket or sell them to those that don't. Tickets are £5 an adult with accompanied children free. A ticket covers all the gardens over both days. At the end of the day unsold tickets and money taken is collected.

The money raised by the event goes to Cambourne Church for the work it does for the wider community. Recently, this has gone towards creating the Jubilee Garden at our church which grows produce for the Food bank as well as providing a space for us all to enjoy.

There is still much to do and the money raised this year will continue to develop the garden.

It's really an enjoyable day spent welcoming neighbours and chatting.

If you are interested in opening your own garden, as part of this year's event, email [juleshannaford@hotmail.com](mailto:juleshannaford@hotmail.com)



# SPORT

## Spring into the new tennis season in Cambourne

Despite the cold and wet weather, our popular adult social mix-in sessions keep attracting many players, making full use of our five excellent courts! The sessions run on Sunday mornings from 10-noon and on Wednesday evenings from 7-10 pm. During our mix-ins, we play several short 8-game doubles matches in randomly allocated pairs. This format is great for meeting other Cambourne tennis enthusiasts and an excellent way to play against a range of different player types. The mix-ins focus on social play and are not particularly competitive. We therefore welcome players of all levels - as long as you can occasionally hit a service in and return one.

For those who are entirely new to tennis, our Head Coach Toby Jackson runs an excellent coaching programme to get you up to speed.

For more information see: [www.gamesettennis.co.uk](http://www.gamesettennis.co.uk)

### Coaching update: EASTER TENNIS CAMPS!

- Week 1 (30th March to 2nd April) & Week 2 (7-10th April)
- Open to all abilities, 3-16yrs old



Our camps times are slightly different this year to allow for more learning and matchplay!

- Book per day or per week and get 10% off!
- SIBLING DISCOUNT!

Sign up at [www.gamesettennis.co.uk](http://www.gamesettennis.co.uk)

### AGM

On Sunday, March 15th, our members will have their say at our own annual general meeting! At our AGM, the Tennis committee will review the Club's past year and announce plans for 2026, listen to feedback from members, and committee members will be up for (re-)election.

### NEW SEASON

Finally, 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!

## Are you genuinely interested in local matters?

Do you think you can make a positive change to the quality of life of Cambourne residents while addressing their social concerns?

**Find out more about becoming a Town Councillor on page 28...**

ADULT EDUCATION

Weekend Workshops  
Saturday April 25<sup>th</sup>



### Calligraphy : Take a Letter

In this 5 hour workshop we will be creating original and exciting designs using one letter of the alphabet. Rotating and repeating different styles to make patterns and motifs. The results will make fabulous, highly original greeting cards and gifts. £49



### Dressmaking : Beginners

Guidance and support as you learn how to construct a garment using a commercial pattern and a domestic sewing machine. Learn terminology, pattern markings and how to make alterations, to ensure a good professional fit of your garments. £49



### Fused Glass : An Introduction

Explore your creativity with June Masey as she guides you through the processes to make beautiful and unique pieces of glass art. Creating a wavy piece and a coaster this 2 hour course is designed for complete beginners. £38



### Mixed Media Painting : A Spring Pond

Step into the gentle world of spring with this peaceful and imaginative workshop led by illustrator Carolina Rabel. Inspired by the quiet beauty of a springtime pond, you will create your own layered artwork using a variety of materials and techniques. £49



### Pottery : Nature Inspired Designs

Designed to give you a basic understanding of the ceramic processes and the opportunity to explore, create and express ideas in the medium of clay. We will be looking at creating pottery inspired by nature and creating small bowls & plates. £62



### A Journey into Alternative Healing

A 3 hour introduction to alternative healing, including reiki, acupuncture, movement and kinesiology. The aim of this course is to introduce ways we can use holistic health practices alongside modern medicine to reduce levels of anxiety and stress. £24



### Woodwork : A Summer Garden

Learn new skills whilst you are guided to construct and manufacture products that can be used in the garden or alternatively given to others as a present. Within this 5 hour workshop we will use a variety of materials and learn to shape, form and join. £62

We are delighted to now welcome, accompanied children (14+) to some of our workshops too!

All workshops held in Cambourne Village College.

For more information and to secure your space email us:  
[commmed@combertonvc.org](mailto:commmed@combertonvc.org)

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



## Girls' basketball thriving in Cambourne

Girls' sport continues to thrive in Cambourne and the surrounding area, and basketball is becoming an increasingly popular choice for young players.

Fastbreak Basketball recently hosted a friendly match between the Cambourne Owls and Bedford Thunder girls' team at Cambourne Village College. While Bedford Thunder brought a strong and experienced squad, the focus for the Owls was development, confidence and teamwork. Many of the Cambourne players have only been training for five to six months, yet showed impressive commitment and resilience in a supportive environment.

The current girls' sessions cater primarily for players aged 10 to 14, and the programme continues to build momentum. New players are warmly welcomed, whether completely new to the

sport or already experienced. Slightly older players are also encouraged to get involved, particularly those looking for a competitive and fast-paced team environment.

Each session is delivered by two coaches, allowing training to be tailored to different ability levels. Beginners receive structured guidance to develop core skills, while more experienced players are challenged to progress and take on leadership roles within the group.

Basketball offers a dynamic team sport that develops agility, coordination and decision-making. Importantly, sessions take place indoors at Cambourne Village College, providing a consistent, year-round environment regardless of weather conditions.

Beyond competition, basketball helps build confidence, friendships and a strong sense of belonging. As the Cambourne Owls continue to grow, Fastbreak Basketball invites more girls to be part of this exciting journey.

Further information is available at [www.fastbreakbasketball.co.uk](http://www.fastbreakbasketball.co.uk). Enquiries can be directed to [info@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk](mailto:info@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk).

## New leadership roles signal inclusive future for Cambourne cricket

Cambourne Cricket Club is gearing up for an exciting year.

At our recent AGM we were pleased to confirm our new committee for 2026/27. This year marks a significant step forward for the club as we introduce two new roles that reflect our long-term ambitions: an Inclusion Lead and a Women's Representative. These positions will help us strengthen our commitment to making cricket in Cambourne accessible and reflective of our community.

As our membership continues to grow these roles will ensure all players, feel supported and valued.

Looking ahead to March & April we're excited to host our Academy Open Day, an annual highlight for those interested in taking up cricket. The event offers aspiring players the chance to meet our coaching team, explore our facilities, and get a feel for the club.

On the pitch or in the sports hall, our indoor cricket tournaments offer fast-paced 6-a-side action, competitive and social opportunities over the off-season, concluding over the next couple of weeks, with the "A" team still in contention to win their league.

We are also in the midst of our winter nets sessions across Cambourne and Cambridge, as we ramp up preparations for the upcoming season. Please look at our website and social media channels for further information on these events.

The club has recently submitted a grant application to the A428 fund, to support the creation of a new fixed nets training facility adjacent to the Great Cambourne Pavilion. This project represents a major upgrade to our training provision and will benefit players across all age groups and abilities. As part of our commitment to transparency and community



Helene Leeming, South Cambs District Councillor with Michael Booth, Cambourne Cricket Club Chair

engagement, we hope to shortly announce the date of a public consultation evening, where residents will be invited to learn more about our wider plans, ask questions, and share their thoughts.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to our local councillors for their support for the project.