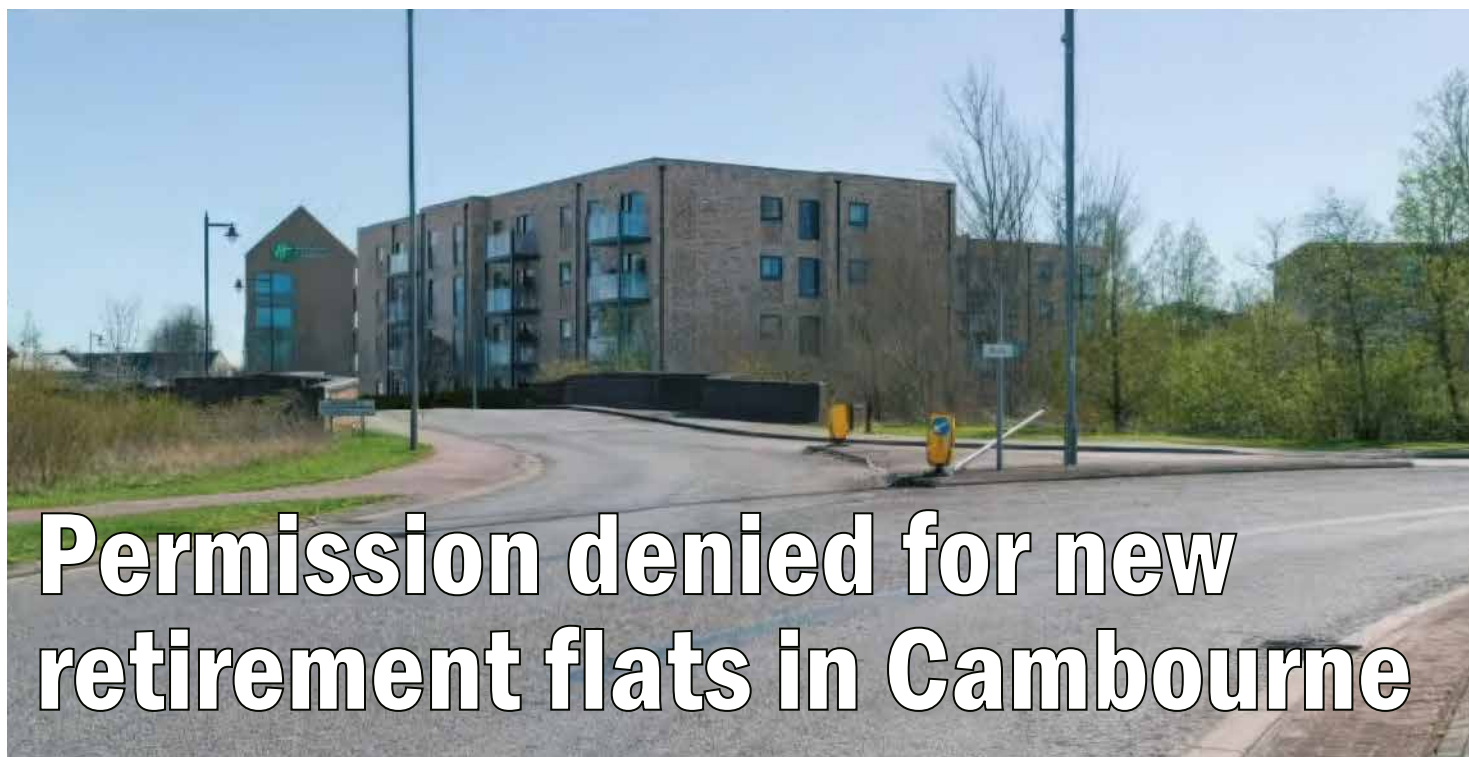




Permission denied for new retirement flats in Cambourne

South Cambs District Council has rejected a planning application for further retirement apartments in Cambourne, which would have been located on the vacant site next to the Holiday Inn Express hotel.

The prominent 'gateway site' was previously part of a major planning application – as reported in *Cambourne Crier* in 2018 – for both the

Holiday Inn hotel and a McMullen family pub/restaurant overlooking Lake Lambert.

While the hotel has since been constructed, the proposed pub/restaurant remains unbuilt, leaving the lakeside area undeveloped.

Subsequently, McCarthy Stone Retirement Lifestyles Ltd submitted an application to develop the site.

...continued on page 4



Artist's impression of the rejected retirement apartments (top). Many Cambourne residents would prefer to see a new pub/restaurant on the site, as originally proposed in 2018 (above)

- Town Council updates
- Community news
- Local events
- Cambourne Library
- Columnists
- Religious groups
- Schools & education
- Find a local business
- Sport



Could you help keep Cambourne Community Car scheme running?

Find out more on page 5...



Cambourne Tennis Club appoints Jedran Saric as its new head coach

See page 30 for more...

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: Donavan Bangs, Paul Jobling, Paula Brown, Seema Achall, Max Bangs, Martin Law, Ann Stephenson and Hannah Harris.

Distribution: John Panrucker

Finance: Pam Hume

Website & design: Tim Nash

To advertise please contact:

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Editorial submissions:

Submissions for the **October 2026** edition must be received by 9pm on **Sunday 13th**

September 2026. Please email articles and photos to 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

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 or download the application form at www.cambournecrier.org

TOWN COUNCIL

■ Community Spirit in Cambourne

It has been another busy few weeks, with plenty of opportunities to get involved, meet neighbours and enjoy everything Cambourne has to offer.

■ Art Attack and Coffee Morning Raises Funds for Breast Cancer

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent Art Attack and Coffee Morning, which was a fantastic success. It was wonderful to see the community come together, enjoy some creative activities and a coffee and cake, while raising much-needed funds for Breast Cancer. Events like this really show what can be achieved when our community comes together. Thank you to everyone who donated, baked, helped organise, or simply came along to support us.

■ Enjoying the Summer Trail

The summer trail has also been proving popular, with families and residents getting out and about and enjoying the warmer weather while exploring the community. It has been lovely to see people taking advantage of the trail and making the most of our outdoor spaces.

■ Stay Connected

We are launching a new WhatsApp Channel to help keep everyone up to date with what is happening in our community. Importantly, this is not a chat group. The channel will be used to share information about upcoming community events, what our ground staff are getting up to, and other useful updates as we continue to improve our community outreach. See page 3 for details.

■ Fireworks In November

Preparations for our Fireworks Night are now in full swing! See page 22.

■ Get Active This Autumn

Looking for a fun way to get moving, meet other people and enjoy being active in the community? See page 25.

■ Monthly Market

Don't forget that our Monthly Market takes place on the first Friday of every month at the Hub Community Centre 9am-12 noon. The market providing a great opportunity to browse local stalls, support small businesses and meet fellow residents.



The poster features a green background with a wooden crate filled with various vegetables like broccoli, eggplant, corn, and tomatoes. Text on the poster includes: 'Cambourne community FARMERS MARKET', 'Cakes by Ab Fab Bakes', 'Chocs Away', 'Granola Queen', 'Franks Farm', 'SweetPea Market Garden', 'Honey by Richard Honey Bee', 'Burlap & Twine', 'Highbury Farm', 'Crystals by Stacy and Kongs Cave', 'Melt by P & K Crafts and More', 'First Friday of every month.', '9am - noon', and 'The Hub Community Centre High Street Great Cambourne Cambridge CB23 6GW'.

Cambourne Town Council Office:

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

Tel: 01954 714403

Email office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

Website: 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

TOWN COUNCIL

■ New Community Painting Group

Fancy getting creative while meeting new people? A new Relaxed Social Painting Group is starting on Friday 11th September, running from 12 noon until 2.30pm at the Sports Pavilion.

This is a casual, friendly group designed to give people the opportunity to meet new people and socialise whilst drawing or painting. It is not a teacher-led class, so there is no formal instruction or pressure to produce a masterpiece! Simply bring your own painting or drawing equipment and enjoy some creative time with others in the community.

There will also be a drink and biscuit or cake included, all for just £2 per person, payable on the day. The group will run during term time only, so come along, bring your creativity and enjoy a relaxed afternoon with fellow residents.

■ **Council Meetings are held at 7pm in the Meeting Room at The Hub Community Centre.** Members of the public are welcome to observe.

8th September: Planning and Full Council

22nd September: Planning and Leisure & Amenities

6th October: Planning and Full Council

20th October: Planning and Finance & Policy



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Cambourne Councillors see off plans for retirement homes on gateway site

Continued from page 1...

McCarthy Stone's planning application proposed 58 retirement living apartments along with associated access, car parking, landscaping and related works. The company claimed the scheme would address a significant need for retirement accommodation in the area.

The planning application was reviewed by the South Cambs District Council Planning Committee on 12th August 2026. At the meeting, Julie Ayre, Cambourne Town Council Project Officer and Cambourne's District Councillors – Helene Leeming and Michael Booth – all spoke against the application.

Helene Leeming said the site was one of the last unallocated parcels of land in the town centre and that "Cambourne is a town where residents want more places to meet and spend leisure time."

Sixty-one objections had also been received regarding the scheme. One written objection said, "the last thing Cambourne needs is another retirement development."



An artist's impression (above) and elevations (below) of the rejected retirement apartments



The SCDC Planning Committee unanimously upheld the planning officers' recommendation to refuse the application, citing issues such as excessive bulk and scale, overdevelopment, negative impact on the street scene, inadequate pedestrian access, insufficient private and communal amenity space, removal of trees, inadequate parking, limited waste facilities and potential effects on protected ecological sites.

Cambourne Town Council has welcomed the refusal, expressing the view that future developments in the town should be of appropriate scale, in harmony with their surroundings and provide a suitable environment for local residents.

The site, owned by Hertfordshire-based brewer McMullen, currently has no confirmed plans for development of a pub or restaurant.

McCarthy Stone Retirement Lifestyles Ltd has the right to appeal – which must be lodged within six months of this decision. The company also has the right to re-submit an amended scheme.

"Cambourne is a town where residents want more places to meet and spend leisure time"



COMMUNITY

URGENT APPEAL: Could you help keep Cambourne Community Car Scheme on the road?



Our valued and long serving head of the Cambourne Community Car Scheme is considering a well-deserved retirement after many years of incredible service.

He will be sadly missed and we need to find a replacement as soon as possible to enable us to continue with this valuable service.

The position is voluntary and challenging but the service is incredibly worthwhile for our residents who require

assistance to attend medical appointments.

A basic knowledge of computers, good organisational skills, a friendly disposition and ability to drive and have a car available would be an advantage.

At present we have one full-time coordinator to assist plus a small team of dedicated drivers who are under huge pressure to help everyone who needs to use this service.

Can you help please?

Can you spare a few hours to help at your convenience?

If you can we will be pleased to hear from you. In the first instance contact Fiona on mobile 07526 998 465 or email cambournecarscheme@gmail.com

Anything you can do to help would be greatly appreciated. Thank you I look forward to hearing from you so we can have an informal chat.



Bee

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Discover the fascinating world of bats

Bats are fascinating animals but are hard to monitor.

Wildlife Trust BCN staff and volunteers do regular surveys in some of our nature reserves making use of static remote monitors and hand-held professional bat detectors, backed up by sonogram analysis, and specialist traps, which need a license to deploy and require strict protocols for handling animals. These kinds of surveys are carried out across the UK and the records add to a national picture, but the data is often not enough. My favourite fact is that we still don't know where common and soprano pipistrelles go in winter, and these are our most common bat species.

Here are a few more great bat facts. Why not join me for a night walk to find out more?

Noctules are the UK's largest bat, and quite common. They have a wingspan of around 40cm and are often seen flying in open sky before it is dark, so can be mistaken for birds.

Daubenton's bats are specialists in eating insects over water. They can scoop up insects using their tail membrane and then grab them with their feet.

Moths are furry in-part to absorb the sound that bats make to find their prey and make them harder to locate.

September events in Cambourne and Cambridge (visit wildlifebcn.org/events to book)

Fri 18th Sept, 7.30-9pm: Cambourne family night walk with bat detectors (£6 + booking fee for Wildlife Trust BCN member,

£9+ for non-members. Accompanying adults are free)

Sat 19th Sept, 9.30am-12.30pm: Cambourne Nature Girls nature journaling session. This is a social group for women. (£8 + booking fee for Wildlife Trust BCN members, £10 for non-members)

Mon 14th Sept, 9.30am-12 noon: Trumpington Meadows monthly meander (£8 + booking fee for Wildlife trust BCN members, £10+ for non-members)

Wed 23rd Sept, 6-7.15pm: Trumpington Meadows seasonal stroll about trees (£6 + booking fee for Wildlife trust BCN members, £9+ for non-members)

Sat 26th Sept, 7.15-8.45: Trumpington Meadows family night walk with bat detectors (£6 + booking fee for Wildlife Trust BCN member, £9+ for non-members. Accompanying adults are free)

Please check out the bat punt safaris in Cambridge run in partnership with Scudamores until the end of September. Visit their website to book: scudamores.com/bat-safari-punting

■ **Local enquiries**

Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org

Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

TrumpingtonMeadows@wildlifebcn.org

■ **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

Free bike repair for West Cambourne

Free Bike Repair Services provided by Smart Journeys in Partnership with Taylor Wimpey/Vistry is available exclusively for West Cambourne residents.

The service will be located on the green at Dobbins Avenue and delivered by Outspoken Cycles.

These services are put in place to support and incentivise the West Cambourne community to be more active, and commute

more sustainably. A session will be held on Saturday, 3rd October 2026 from 10:30am-1.30pm and is on a booking basis in advance.

Please visit www.outspokencycles.co.uk/cambourne-dr-bike to book a place.

For more information about this free service, please contact westcambourne@smartjourneys.co.uk



Patient Participation Group shares positive practice updates

Monkfield Medical Practice: Our Patient Participation Group (PPG) met in June, and we highlighted several positive developments across the practice. All actions from the previous meeting are completed, including improvements to appointment access guidance, clearer processes for managing cancellations, and enhanced support for handling urgent patient requests. The group were updated on the following items: Workforce updates, Collective GP contract action, Research activity and Estate plans.

Finally, PPG members shared ideas to enhance community support, including initiatives to better support certain patient groups and the potential for social groups such as older persons or bereavement cafés.

Our PPG is a crucial ally and resource to discuss challenges and pressures we face. It is an important way to communicate directly with patients and get an insight into needs and priorities of the population. If you want to be involved in helping shaping the service and to find out more about how we run the practice do consider coming along to the next Meeting: 8th September 2026 17:45, MMP Training Room, just let us know via the contact us button on our website.

Farewell and best wishes to Practice Nurse Laura Stampe

Laura Stampe, one of our valued Practice Nurses, will be leaving Monkfield Medical Practice in early September.

Laura has been part of our practice team for over 16 years, and during that time has shown remarkable dedication to both her patients and colleagues. Many of you will know Laura well from your appointments and will recognise her friendly, caring, and professional approach.

Laura began her career here as a Health Care Assistant, before progressing through the degree apprenticeship scheme to qualify as a Practice Nurse. It has been truly lovely to see Laura develop throughout her career, and many of us have also had the privilege of seeing and hearing about her children achieving in their own lives alongside her.

While we are naturally very sorry to see her go, we are incredibly grateful for the years of hard work, compassion, and continuity of care she has provided to our patients and the local community. On behalf of everyone at Monkfield Medical Practice, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Laura and wish her every success and happiness in her future role.



TALKS & WORKSHOPS FOR AUTUMN 2026

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Wednesday 11th November

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Potholes and subsidence in Cambridgeshire roads

Cambridgeshire had the worst pothole problem in England and Wales in 2024 with more than 22 potholes per mile.

A significant amount of the vital funding allocated to improve our roads is swallowed up by the high cost of maintaining peat-affected roads across our Fenland areas.

Earlier this year, I pressed the Transport Secretary to adjust the roads funding formula to take into account the unique geology of our area. Since then, I have submitted multiple Written Parliamentary Questions and a letter which all produced the same response: That the Government would be reviewing the funding

formula in due course, but it would not provide any further details of options or approach.

I am, therefore, pleased that a recent joint letter to the Transport Secretary from Charlotte Cane MP, Pippa Heylings MP and me produced a much more encouraging response which now states "the Department expects to consider underlying geology as one of the many factors that affect the wear and tear of local roads."

This is a clear step forward. I will be watching closely as the Government develops proposals for changes to the Highways maintenance funding formula, and I will continue pressing for a fair deal that recognises Cambridgeshire's unique needs.



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

Proud to advocate for Cambourne



AMBER THOMAS
District Councillor
Cllr.Thomas
@scambs.gov.uk

Hello, I'm Amber, and I am proud to serve as one of the District Councillors for Cambourne. I grew up here and was part of only the second-year group to attend Cambourne Village College.

At 23, I am the youngest member on SCDC. While my age has occasionally been presented as a criticism, I see it as an asset. Younger residents are directly affected by decisions on housing, healthcare and the cost of living, yet their experiences can be under represented in local government.

One of my first priorities at SCDC was strengthening the conversation around local healthcare. Cambourne is growing rapidly, and healthcare infrastructure must keep pace. With further development, including North Cambourne, adequate provision must be an integral part of sustainable growth, not an afterthought.

Having worked minimum-wage jobs myself, I also understand the impact of paying privately for essential dental treatment. I was, therefore, proud to present a motion on local healthcare at Full Council, which received unanimous support.

I also sit on SCDC's Planning Committee and Scrutiny and Overview Committee. Having grown up in Cambourne, ensuring its continued development is considered carefully is particularly important to me. I was among the members who voted to refuse the recent Back Lane planning application after considering the officer's report and planning matters. With contributions from ward colleagues Cllr. Leeming and Cllr. Booth, concerns included an inadequate Health Impact Assessment and existing retirement accommodation provision in Cambourne.

Why is the flu vaccine important?

Every winter, flu places significant pressure on the NHS. For many people it causes unpleasant symptoms, but for those at higher risk it can result in pneumonia, worsening of existing health conditions and, in some cases, hospitalisation. The flu vaccine helps reduce your risk of becoming seriously unwell and also helps prevent the spread of flu to family members, friends and others in the community.

Children are particularly effective at spreading flu, even when their symptoms appear mild. Vaccinating children not only helps protect them but also helps protect grandparents, babies and others who may be more vulnerable to serious

illness. Eligible at-risk children and other eligible child groups will be invited from 1 September 2026. Eligible adults will be invited from 1 October 2026.

For patients who are eligible for both vaccinations, we will aim to offer the flu and COVID-19 vaccines together where possible. Look out for your invitation – these may be sent by text message, the NHS App, letter or other communication channels.

Each year, GP practices order vaccines specifically for their registered patients. We have carefully planned and ordered the appropriate vaccines for our eligible patients and will be holding stock ready for those invited.



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CHURCHES

CAMBOURNE CHURCH

Bereavement Ministry Update

After running for more than two years, we are sorry to announce that our Church Bereavement Café (The Harbour) will be coming to an end. The last session will be Friday 11th September. The Harbour has been a special place where people who have experienced bereavement could come together, share memories, talk with others who are also walking their own bereavement journeys, and enjoy a friendly cup of tea and lunch, and some companionship.

We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has supported The Harbour, attended the sessions, volunteered, or helped make it such a welcoming and caring space. Although we are sad to be finishing, we are grateful for the friendships, conversations and memories that have been shared.

Our church's bereavement ministry will continue however. We are looking at new ways of offering support to

those who are grieving, including our planned Bereavement Journey course in the New Year. Although the format may be changing, our commitment to walking alongside people through their journey of grief remains.

The 7-week Bereavement Journey course in the New Year will provide another opportunity for people to explore their experiences of grief in a safe, supportive and caring environment. More information about the course will be shared in due course but if you would like to register your interest in attending The Bereavement Journey course, please contact the church office on office@cambournechurch.org.uk

Thank you to everyone who has been part of our Bereavement Café. You will be remembered with great fondness, and we hope to welcome you again through our Bereavement Journey course.

Jacqui Huckle



SUNDAY SERVICES AT CAMBOURNE CHURCH

6th September	10.00am	All Age Communion Service
13th September	9.30am	Communion Service
	11.00am	Communion Service
20th September	9.30am	Worship Service - Harvest
	11.00am	Worship Service - Harvest
27th September	10.30am	Joint Service at Comberton Leisure *
4th October	10.00am	All Age Communion Service

Our 11.00am services usually include break-out groups for children and young people. Please see the website for up-to-date information

* No services in Cambourne

PEACEHAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastoral thoughts: Burgers, Baptism and Bible Truth

We had our annual picnic at the beginning of August. This went well, as everyone brought things, including my own handmade 7-inch, ½ lb burgers, and a variety of other foods from around the world. We also had the privilege of baptising two young folks who, upon their public profession of faith, followed the Lord in believers' baptism. Now, as Baptists, we practise, as did John, baptism by immersion, so we used a pool they had set up in their back garden (before the hosepipe ban).

Although, with the first one, I did not get full immersion the first time, so I called them back and dunked them

again. A little extra shove, as the water was not very deep, and it was done. It did cause some amusement among those present, but if you are going to do a job, then do it well!

Deeper water makes it easier, as you do not have to lower and lift the person so far. But why baptise at all, some say? Well, it is done to signify a change, a death and rebirth, a cleansing into something new. Now, it does not save you, but it pictures what Romans 6 tells us: Romans 6:3 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4 Therefore we are buried with him by

baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.

Which is why, when I baptised them, I said, "Buried with him in baptism," as I dunked them under, and then said, "Raised to walk in the newness of life," as I pulled them back up. Normal water, normal people, but a new path, a new life, and a new destination.



**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

Charity number 1204927



CHURCHES

Secret agents on a mission at Christ Church holiday club

Secret agents on a mission – this was the theme for Christ Church's summer holiday club. To link with this theme and to invite people to the holiday club, Christ Church's stall at the Big Weekender had some secret agent challenges. Could children break a code to unlock and win a padlock?

During the summer holiday club in July around 40 children entered the Secret Agents Training Academy. The aim was to discover the truth about Jesus and his claims by looking at the evidence in Luke's gospel. The accounts of Jesus' life and death reflected the truth of Him being God. The 'secret agents' listened to Bible stories and joined in with songs, games, challenges and crafts. One of the song's words were: "We're on a mission to know this man His name is Jesus. We're searching for clues, we're checking the facts. We're reading the history, there's no turning back." The children also learned a Bible verse from Luke's gospel: "For the Son of Man (i.e. Jesus) came to seek and to save the lost." In fact, this verse shows that Jesus had a mission of His own.

On the last day we learned about Jesus' death and how it can be illustrated by the exchange of Jesus' righteousness to



one of the criminals who was crucified alongside Him whilst Jesus took the criminal's sins. This exchange shows how Jesus Christ's work on the cross is a substitution for the sins of those who seek His forgiveness and trust Him.

To conclude the holiday club a celebration evening was held at the Lower Cambourne amphitheatre, where the children performed a song with actions and were presented with awards and prizes. Ben reviewed some of the holiday club Bible stories and the claims of Christ and then he left us with the question "Is He your Saviour?" The evening finished with ice creams all round.

Christ Church meets at Cambourne Campus, Hardwick and Cambourne Community Primary School, Sheepfold Lane, on Sundays at the earlier time of 10.30 am, everyone is welcome to attend.

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SCAN ME





Cambourne twins complete Cross-Channel relay swim

Following on from an article last month, identical twins Patricia Tolliday and Claudette Ramsay sucessfully completed their cross-channel relay swim, for the Aspire charity, on 14th August.

Here they tell Cambourne Crier about the experience:

We were part of The Lynx relay team of six athletes that swam across the Channel. We left Samphire Hoe, near Dover, at 12:23 am and reached Wissant Beach, France, 13 hours and 45 minutes later. It was a great day for crossing the channel, we had sunny weather and calm sea conditions.

The first five swimmers swam in the dark, with green lights attached to them, and we experienced a beautiful sunrise. Claudette is pictured swimming at dawn. Patricia is pictured swimming later in the day. During the day, we saw a few pairs of dolphins, a couple of seals and a

couple of varieties of jellyfish. We only had a few jellyfish stings within the team and one bout of sickness.

As the final team member swam towards the French coast, the rest of the team were allowed to swim behind so that we could all experience being on Wissant Beach together.

It was an amazing day! Thank you to everyone who has supported the Lynx team and the Aspire charity.

I am only £38 pounds off my £3000.00 sponsorship target so I am sure that I will get there in the next couple of weeks.

Thank you to you everyone who has supported us and the *Cambourne Crier* for coverage of the event.





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Saturday, 19 September - Senior School & Sixth Form

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CamCare UK & CERC's African adventure

Cambourne's local charity CamCare UK & CERC travelled from Cambourne to Nigeria, Africa, to another classroom for Empowering Young Engineers Without Borders.

August 2026 marked a very special milestone for CamCare UK and Cambridge Electronics and Robotics Club (CERC) as they made their first African STEM mission by taking Robotics, Engineering, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and hands-on technology directly to young people in Lagos, Nigeria.

Across Lagos, CERC delivered eight large-scale STEM workshops, reaching around 1,000 Nigerian children and young people in primary schools, secondary schools, churches and summer camps.

It was their first opportunity to explore the BBC:Microbit for teachers and students, connect sensors, build and control rovers, develop real-life engineering projects, and discover the fascinating worlds of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

Dr Sujit Bhattacharya, mentor and Founder of CERC, said: "The children have a good foundation, and they have a real hunger for learning. It was a joy for me to teach so many children to give them hope for their future and, most



importantly, to help them believe that they can do it and feel like engineers."

Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya, Chair of CamCare UK and organiser, said: "Cambridge gave me the confidence in leadership to think beyond our own boundaries. We decided to go to Africa and empower teachers and students in the same way that we have been doing in Cambourne, Cambridge and across the UK."

"The mission was bigger than eight workshops, as CamCare UK and CERC

decided to continue to support the schools and build sustainable engineering education programmes in several African countries."

Another exciting outcome of the visit was to help introduce and expand the FIRST LEGO League robotics programme in southern Nigeria, particularly in the Lagos region, giving young people opportunities to participate in an internationally recognised robotics competition and innovation programme.



Remembrance Day poppies

Many thanks to all those who have volunteered to make poppies for the Remembrance garden!

There's still plenty of time if you'd like to join in. The aim is to have 303 poppies - one for each prong of the railings surrounding the garden. The poppies can be knitted, crocheted or sewn.

Where to leave your poppies: The library has kindly agreed to have a collection box so look out for a red shoe box from 1st October onwards. Alternatively feel free to pop them through my letterbox at 13 Willow Lane.

Deadline: Please get them to me, or the library on or before 5th November so I can ensure they are in place before Remembrance Day.





Monkfield Park welcomes a new headteacher

The start of a new academic year is always exciting with the shared sense of anticipation for the future as the children return to school.

This year in addition to welcoming our new cohort of Reception children we are also welcoming a new headteacher, following the retirement of Mrs Annie Howell.

A new Headteacher is always a key moment in the life of a school and we are delighted that Mr Matt Sweeney is joining Monkfield Park for the next chapter in our school's journey.

As an experienced headteacher, Mr Sweeney brings a wealth of knowledge, enthusiasm, vision and a passion for education with him and he is keen to stress that he will be using his many skills to guide the school forward and support every child to achieve their best.

"It is clear that our school community at Monkfield Park is built on strong relationships, high aspirations and a commitment to ensuring that every child is able to flourish, both academically and personally. I am looking forward to joining a dedicated team of staff, governors, pupils and families who work together to create a nurturing, inclusive and inspiring environment for all, whilst getting to know more about the wider Cambourne community."

Outside of school Mr Sweeney is a dedicated father to his young family, a keen runner and an incredibly passionate supporter of Liverpool FC.

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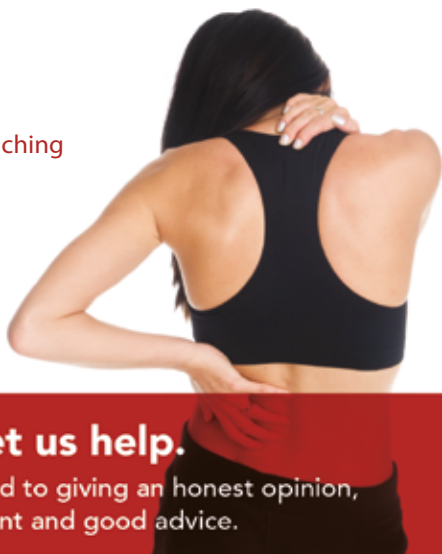




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Cambourne Fireworks Night: remember, remember 6th November

Preparations for our Fireworks Night are now in full swing! The Town Council We would like to say a huge thank you to Bowdens Estate Agents for their generous sponsorship, helping us bring this much-loved community event to life.

The event will take place on the sports pitches on Back Lane on Friday 6th November, with plenty to enjoy before the fireworks begin, including: Street food, Larry Gray's Fun Fair, Sweet treats and bakes, Two licensed bars and a spectacular fireworks display.

Sparklers

Please note that, for safety reasons, sparklers will NOT be permitted at the event. Instead, we will be encouraging everyone to bring or use LED-style light-up items to create that magical glow without the risks associated with sparklers.

We have discussed this with the fireworks company, who have explained that moving away from sparklers is becoming increasingly common at events of this type. This is partly due to the rising



costs associated with purchasing and managing them, but, more importantly, because of the risk of burns and other injuries.

We want everyone to have a fantastic evening while making sure it is as safe as possible for residents, families, staff and visitors.

Thank you to the Fireworks Management Committee

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to the Fireworks Management Committee for all their hard work, commitment and dedication over the years in helping to make this event such an important part of the town's calendar.

We hope that Fireworks Night will continue to be a much-loved tradition for the town for many years to come, bringing residents, families and the wider community together to enjoy a fantastic evening. We look forward to continuing this tradition as a council and working to ensure that the event remains something the whole town can enjoy.

Keeping Eastgate Clear

To help ensure everyone can get home safely, we have also arranged for parking restrictions on Eastgate during the event. This will help ensure that emergency services can access the area when needed and that residents can travel safely to and from Upper Cambourne.

Are you part of a local non-profit group, or organising a free event for Cambourne residents?

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HIGH BOURN

Save the Date
High Bourn formerly Bourn Airfield, Community Hub Stakeholder Preview

High Bourn is moving fast
We'd like you to see it for yourself

Please save the date for the official opening of the new Community Hub, the first dedicated community facility to open on site and a visible marker of the pace of delivery at what was Bourn Airfield.

As a key local stakeholder, we would be delighted if you could join us for our **preview event** for key stakeholders and partners on:

Saturday 12 September 2026
From 11:00 to 12:00
High Bourn Community Hub, Bourn Airfield (what3words: ///strutting.revealing.requested)

The Community Hub marks an important milestone for High Bourn. Designed as a welcoming space for local communities to meet the project team, learn more about the emerging neighbourhood and take part in future events and activities.

The preview session will provide an opportunity to:

- officially open the **Community Hub**;
- meet the **project team** and hear about the vision for High Bourn;
- tour the **Hub** and viewing platform;
- learn more about plans for the **new community**, and
- network with fellow stakeholders over refreshments before the Hub opens to the wider public.

On the afternoon of Saturday 12 September 2026, we will also be holding a public launch event for the local community. You are, of course, very welcome to attend this event instead if it is more convenient for you. A formal invitation with timings will follow shortly.



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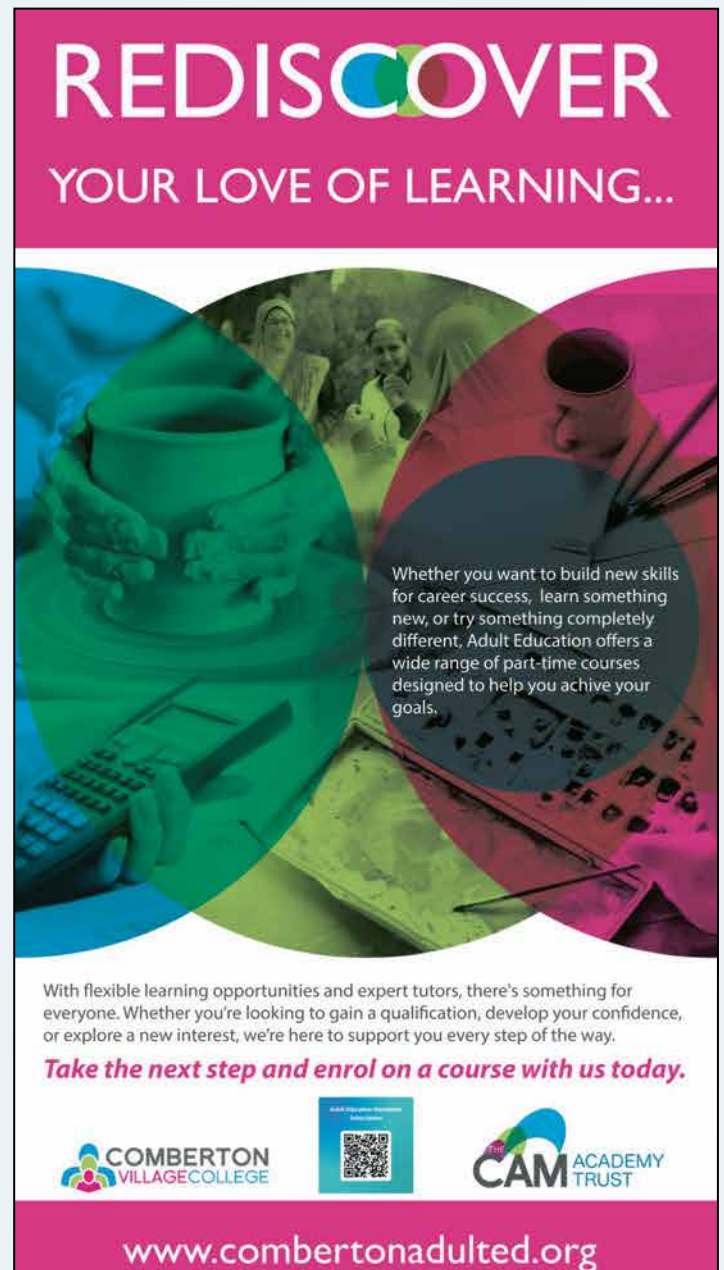
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- Anyone for coffee?
- Art Appreciation
- Board Games
- Book Clubs
- Bridge
- Classical Music
- Dance Fitness
- Darts & Pool
- Gardens Galore
- Genealogy
- Intermediate French
- iPad interest
- Out to Lunch
- Singing
- Study Trips
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- Walking
- WWII

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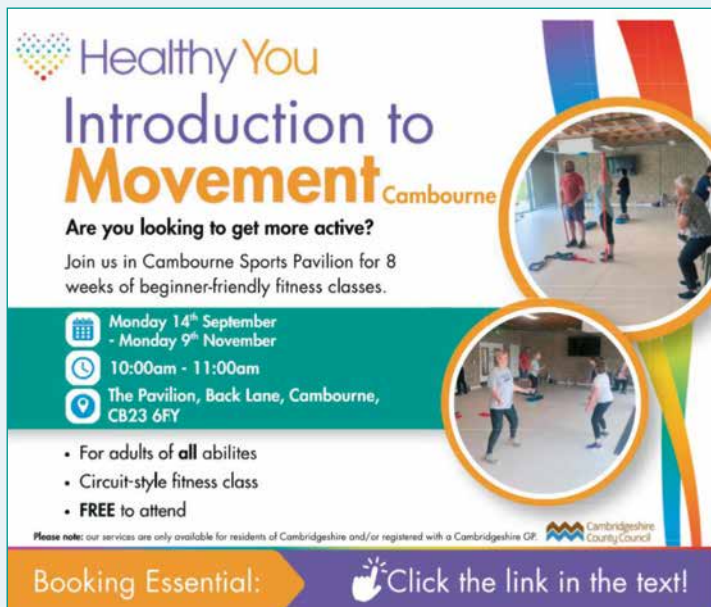
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Monday 14th September - Monday 9th November
10:00am - 11:00am
The Pavilion, Back Lane, Cambourne, CB23 6FY

- For adults of all abilities
- Circuit-style fitness class
- FREE to attend

Please note: our services are only available for residents of Cambridgeshire and/or registered with a Cambridgeshire GP

Booking Essential: Click the link in the text!

The sessions are designed to encourage adults to become more active in a friendly, welcoming and supportive environment. Whether you are looking to improve your fitness, get back into being active, or simply want to meet new people and enjoy some movement, this is a great opportunity to get involved.

Healthy You is a free lifestyle service for Cambridgeshire residents, offering support around becoming more active, healthy eating and a range of other healthy lifestyle goals.

Our new Active Adults sessions are all about being active, having fun and building connections within our community. You don't need to be super-fit or an experienced exerciser - the aim is to encourage everyone to take part at a level that works for them.

So why not make Monday your new active day?

Active Adults starts Monday 14th September.

Please book using this link bookwhen.com/healthyyou-activity

Sessions start at 10am and will be held in the Sports Pavilion off Back Lane (lift available)

Come along, get moving and meet some fellow Cambourne residents. We look forward to welcoming you!

For more information about Healthy You and the support available across Cambridgeshire, visit Healthy You Cambridgeshire.



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Read to the beat Summer Reading Challenge

Congratulations to everyone who took part in and completed the challenge. If you have one or two stickers left to collect there is still time, if you are quick.

Once you have finished it is very important that you come to see us in the library and let us know. We will ask you to choose which ceremony you will be able to attend to collect your certificate and medal. If you can't make either date, or we don't know you have finished, you can collect your prize from the day after the last ceremony.

Our ceremonies are on Thursday 17 September 2026 at 4pm and Monday 21 September 2026 at 4pm.

We have really enjoyed the Read to the Beat Summer Reading Challenge, and we have been impressed by everyone who has come to collect their stickers, talk about their reading and enjoy the weekly events we have held. If your child has taken part, we would welcome your feedback which can be done by scanning the QR code displayed in the library or by completing a paper feedback form.

Open Plus Access

The library operates Open Plus extending access during mornings and afternoons to better align with GP centre opening hours. Adult customers are encouraged to register for Open Plus. Ask in the library to find out more about Open Plus or follow the links on our website.

Blood Pressure monitors

Any library member aged 18 or over can borrow a monitor for three weeks. It's free, and you don't need a GP referral; simply visit the library and speak to a member of staff.

We also have a larger monitor available in the library for you to use.

Data SIMS

Available here at Cambourne library! Speak to a member of staff for more details. The National Databank provides free data if:

- You're over 18
 - Have a low household income
 - Have insufficient internet access at home
 - Have insufficient internet access away from home
 - Can't afford your monthly top up or contract
- One SIM per person. Subject to supplier availability.

Community Meeting Room

We now have a community meeting room available for hire. Please contact SouthCamsSouth.LibraryVenue@cambridgeshire.gov.uk for further information.

Library Events

Author Visit: Tuesday 6 October 7pm-8.30pm

Join us for an entertaining evening with author and historian, Matthew Sweet. Matthew presents Free Thinking on BBC Radio 4 and previously presented Sound of Cinema on BBC Radio 3. He is also the author of several books including The New Forest Murders and Operation Chaos. His most recent book is The Great Dictator: A life of Barbara Cartland for which he had unrepresented access to her archives.

Tickets £3.00. Available from the library or email cambourne.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Stay and Play-Tuesdays 9.30am-11am (term time only)

Join other families in the library for chat, play and interaction. We will provide baby and toddler toys. Suitable for 4 years and under. This is a drop-in activity, no need to book. These sessions start back on 8th September

Rhyme Time and Duplo Fun -Every Friday 9.30am-10am in Cambourne Library (term time only)

These sessions will return on Friday 4th September 2026

Cambourne Lunch Bunch Book Group

If you would like to join in with this friendly group, please contact Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. The next meeting will be on Tuesday 15 September at 1pm, in Cambourne Library.

Cambourne Library

Monday	9am-5pm
Open Plus	8.30am-9am; 5.10-5.50pm
Tuesday	9am-1pm
Open Plus	8.30am-9am 1.10pm-5.50pm
Wednesday	Closed No Open Plus
Thursday	1pm-7pm
Open Plus	8.30am-1pm
Friday	9am-5pm
Open Plus	8.30am-9am; 5.10pm-5.50pm
Saturday	9am-1pm No Open Plus
Sunday	Closed No Open Plus

Contact Us

Tel: 0345 045 5225

Cambourne.Library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

Social Media

Facebook @CambridgeshireLibraries

Facebook @CamsLibFamilies

Instagram @cambslib

YouTube @CambridgeshireLibraries

Lighting up Cambourne

It's been a busy few months for Light Up Cambourne, and we're delighted to see our fundraising making a real difference around the town.

Works have now been carried out by Balfour Beatty to provide new electrical supplies for the trees along Broad Street. The project has cost more than £6,600, a significant investment that wouldn't have been possible without the continued support of local residents, businesses and everyone who takes part in our fundraising events.

Our next event is our popular Bingo Night at The Hub on Saturday 3rd October. Then, on Saturday 17th October, we'll be getting creative with our Scarecrow Making Competition and Autumn Activities Day.

We're hoping to see lots of entries from residents, families, schools and local businesses. There's the chance to win a share of a £50 cash prize fund for the best scarecrows, with activities at The Hub during the afternoon including pumpkin painting for children. There'll also be tea and cake available, making it a great afternoon for all the family.

We also really enjoyed attending the Monkfield Arms Family Fun Day and meeting so many local residents. We're always looking for new people to get involved, whether by joining our committee or volunteering at our events, so if you'd like to meet new people and help keep Cambourne festive, we'd love to hear from you. Going forward, you'll find us at the Cambourne Farmers' Market at The Hub on the first Friday of each month, serving tea, coffee and cake. So come along and say hello! Thank you, as always, for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you at one of our upcoming events!



LIGHT UP CAMBOURNE
FESTIVE CHEER POWERED BY VOLUNTEERS

SCARECROW Making COMPETITION

17TH OCTOBER

- £5 ENTRANCE FEE
- ACTIVITIES IN THE HUB
- TEA & CAKE

CASH PRIZES!

1ST	2ND	3RD
£25	£15	£10

Get creative, have fun and bring your scarecrow to life!

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■ LOCAL SERVICES & ORGANISATIONS

To update or add a contact, email delivery@cambournecrier.org

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Town Council Office:

01954 714 403
office@cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk
cambournetowncouncil.gov.uk

District Councillors for Cambourne:

cllr.bhattacharya@scambs.gov.uk
cllr.drew@scambs.gov.uk
cllr.leeming@scambs.gov.uk

SERVICES

Cambourne Crescent Food Bank:

cambournecrescent.org/service/foodbank

Community Car Scheme: 07526 998 465

cambournecarscheme@gmail.com

Cromwell Veterinary Group:

01954 715 161

Hope Against Poverty CIC:

hopepic.uk@gmail.com
hopeagainst.org

Streetlight faults:

cambourne.info/street-lights

Wildlife Trust: Rebecca Neal

01954 713 516 wildlifebcn.org

CHURCHES

Cambourne Catholic Community:

cambournecc.com

Cambourne Church:

cambournechurch.org.uk
 Foodbank: Julie Whitbread
julie.whitbread@cambournechurch.org.uk

Christchurch Cambourne:

christchurchcambourne.org.uk

The Harbour Bereavement Café:

theharbour@cambournechurch.org.uk

Peacehaven Baptist Church:

peacehavenbc.org.uk

HEALTH CARE

Cambourne Dental Practice:

colosseumdental.co.uk/practices/

cambourne-dental-clinic

Community First Responder:

Mark Taylor 07858 394 719

mark.taylor@inheritancewills.co.uk

Jardines Pharmacy: 01954 718 296

Monkfield Dental: 01954 774 540

monkfield.dental

Monkfield Medical Practice: 01954

282 153 monkfieldpractice.co.uk

EDUCATION

Arabic Language School:

cambournecrescent.org/service/

arabic-school

info@cambournecrescent.org

Cambourne Day Nursery and Pre-School:

01954 719 440 kindrednurseries.co.uk

Cambourne Village College:

01954 284 000 cambournevc.org

Children's Centre: 01954 284 672 or

childandfamilycentre.south

@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Comberton Village College:

01223 262 503 combertonvc.org

Cambourne Pre-school: 01954 715 150

cambournepreschool.org.uk

Carers And Tots: [facebook.com/Carers and Tots, Cambourne](https://facebook.com/CarersandTots)

Educating Otherwise: [Facebook.com/Home Education - Cambourne](https://facebook.com/HomeEducation-Cambourne)

Hardwick and Cambourne Community

Primary: 01954 210070

hardwickandcambourneprimary.co.uk

Jeavons Wood Primary School:

01954 717 180 jeavonswood.org

Monkfield Park Care & Learning Centre:

01954 273 301 monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk

Monkfield Park Primary School:

01954 273 377 monkfieldpark.cambs.sch.uk

Vine Inter-Church Primary School:

01954 719 630 thevine.cambs.sch.uk

■ JOIN A LOCAL GROUP OR CLUB

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Blossomify CIC: (Boardgames & Learning sessions)

info@blossomify.org

Cambourne & District U3A: u3a.chair@cambourne.org

Cambourne Air Cadets: 105@aircadets.org

Cambourne Army Cadets: cambsacf.com

Cambourne Art Group: pat.goatly@gmail.com

Cam Care UK: camcare.org.uk

Cambourne Community Theatre Group:

info@cambournecommunitytheatre.org

Cambourne Crescent: cambournecrescent.org

Cambourne Experimental Cookery Club; Cambourne Electronics & Robotics Club; Come Cook Dine with Me;

Cambourne Digital Surgery 60+: shrobona@gmail.com

Cambourne Litter Heroes: cedric.jl.foster1944@btinternet.com

Cambourne Repair Café: cambournerepaircafe@gmail.com

Cambourne Shed: cambourneshed@gmail.com

CamSight: www.camsight.org.uk/peer-support

Chess Club: (up to Year 11): cambourne.chess@gmail.com

Community Gospel Choir: cambournegospelchoir@gmail.com

facebook.com/Cambourne

CommunityGospelChoir

Crescent Science & Technology Club:

info@cambournecrescent.org

Light up Cambourne: lightupcambourne@gmail.com

Photography Group:

Nicola Marriott 07811 154 901 [www.flickr.com/groups](http://www.flickr.com/groups/cambournephoto)

cambournephoto.org

Reading Groups: Cambourne.Referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Sunday Walks: Sandra 07747 012 245 or scalcraft@gmail.com

Words for Pleasure Writers' Group:

Pat Callaghan 01954 715 106

WW2 Aircraft Club: 01954 716817 or iancameron692@gmail.com

SPORTS & LEISURE

Cambourne Balkan Dance Club: cam.balkan.dance@gmail.com

Cambourne Bowls Club: Stuart Palmer 07860 654 057

Cambourne Comets Trampoline and DMT Club:

cambournecomets@gmail.com

Cambourne Cricket Club: cambournecc@gmail.com

Cambourne Fishing Club: www.cambournefishingclub.com

Cambourne Fitness & Sports Centre: 01954 714 070

Cambourne junior parkrun: parkrun.org.uk/cambourne-juniors

Cambourne Netball Club: [www.pitchero.com/clubs/](http://www.pitchero.com/clubs/cambournenetballclub)

cambournenetballclub

Cambourne Raptors Basketball Club:

info@cambournebasketball.org

Cambourne Runners: cambournerrunnersarc@gmail.com

Cambourne Tennis Club: clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC

Cambourne Town Football Club:

hello@cambournetownfc.org.uk cambournetownfc.org.uk

Cambourne Women Runners: information.cwr@gmail.com

Cambs Chargers Volleyball Club: cambschargers@gmail.com

Cambs Tai Chi Club: cambs-taichi.org.uk

Cambourne Tang Soo Do Club: [cambournekarate-](http://cambournekarate-tangsoodo.co.uk)

tangsoodo.co.uk

Cambourne Tae Kwon Do: stephenlacey73@gmail.com

Cambourne Karate School (AKS): 07929 100 612

karateschools.co.uk

Pilates: faybpilates.co.uk



Cambourne Cricket club stars continue to shine

Cambourne Cricket Club: the future of the sport has never looked brighter after another hugely successful summer of All Stars and Dynamos Cricket. Dozens of children aged 5-11 took their first steps in the game, bringing energy, enthusiasm and plenty of smiles to every session. Our youngest All Stars focused on strong foundations, developing catching,

throwing, batting and bowling through fun games before progressing to exciting matches where teamwork and communication were key.

Our Dynamos players aged 8-11, built on those foundations. Fielding became sharper, batting showed greater confidence and bowling grew more consistent. Sessions finished with match scenarios that allowed every child showcase their progress and love for the game. Beyond the cricket, the programmes showed the strength of our community.

Parents, volunteers and coaches created a welcoming environment where everyone could learn, make new friends and enjoy being active outdoors.

A special mention to our *Cambourne

CC Girls section* for making history this season. They won the *treble: CCB U13 Girls Cup, U13 Girls League and U14 Girls League*. It's a rare achievement to win every CCB Hardball league entered, and it highlights the dominance, dedication and team spirit they showed all year. We're incredibly proud of every participant. With so many eager to continue into junior cricket, the foundations are set for many more successful summers ahead.

Here comes the sunflower...

Neighbours on Bristol Drive in Upper Cambourne may have noticed something unusual rising above the fence line over the past few weeks.

Kavita, a keen gardener, has grown a sunflower that now stands at just over twelve feet tall – level with the first-floor windows of the house, and roughly twice the height of the gardener herself..

"It became a bit of a family project. Every few days someone would go out with a tape measure. Once it grew taller than us, we knew it was going to be special. Twelve feet is no small feat in a

Cambridgeshire garden.

"Sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*) are famously fast growers, but reaching this height needs a genuinely good spot, steady watering through the dry spells, and crucially enough patience to keep the plant fed and supported all the way through the season.

"Cambourne's open, exposed plots can be unkind to tall stems, so staking early makes all the difference. Sunflowers are excellent for bees early and birds later with dry seeds."



Cambourne Tennis Club coaching update

Cambourne Tennis Club is beginning an exciting new chapter with the appointment of Jedran Saric as its new head coach. The appointment forms part of the club's commitment to providing friendly, accessible tennis for the whole community – from complete beginners to experienced competitive players.

"I'm incredibly proud to become Head Coach at Cambourne. This club has been an important part of my life for many years, and I'm excited to give something back to our members and the wider community. My aim is to help every player learn, improve and enjoy tennis in a positive and supportive environment."

The new programme will offer structured group and individual coaching for children of different ages and abilities, as well as sessions for adult beginners, intermediate players and those looking to

improve their competitive game. For more information about the programme and to reserve a place, please visit:

clubspark.lta.org.uk/CambourneLTC/Jedscoaching

Whether you are picking up a racket for the first time, returning to tennis after a break or hoping to take your game to the next level, Jed and Cambourne Lawn Tennis Club look forward to welcoming you onto the court."

You can also scan the QR code to access the coaching programme:

Club Championship

The annual Cambourne Tennis Club Championships are in full swing, with members battling it out across several categories for a coveted place in the finals on Sunday 13 September 2026. Members of the public are warmly invited to come along, enjoy the atmosphere and support our local players. The junior finals will get the action underway at 10am, followed by the adult finals – so stop by and enjoy an exciting day of tennis! Play your way to Wimbledon

In August Sem and Karolina represented Cambourne Tennis Club at the Play Your Way to Wimbledon finals; a fantastic opportunity to compete on the famous courts! They played in two



matches: winning one convincingly and losing the other to a pair who went on to reach the final. Both players made the most of the experience, from walking through the historic grounds to competing on courts normally reserved for the world's best.

Cambourne Tennis Club is very proud of what they achieved!



Tae Kwon Do students pass their gradings with flying colours

Tae Kwon Do Club: The hot summer holidays are almost at an end as our classes resumed last month; but just before our summer break some of Cambourne's junior students were invited to a grading at Everyone Active sports centre against students from the Academy's other clubs. It was directed by Mr Lacey and the children performed

their line work, patterns and sparring in front of Grand Master Wurr, Master Elfleet and Mr Newton. They all performed well despite the heat and we're proud to announce that everyone passed, some with Plus Passes demonstrating their impressive abilities and extra effort on the day. It was great to witness how much they threw



themselves into it and their justifiable pride in achieving their new belt status. Congratulations to Abhinav, Afrika, Alvin, Anas, Ciara, Daniela, Jaydin, Jimena, Krishita, Lucas, Malek, Omar, Shaun and Yahya who progressed to the next level.

A new school year means a new start. Give your child the chance to develop their confidence and resilience and to challenge themselves in our fun Saturday classes. Contact Stephen on 07905 744777 or stephenlacey73@gmail.com for more details.

Cambourne Comets celebrate success



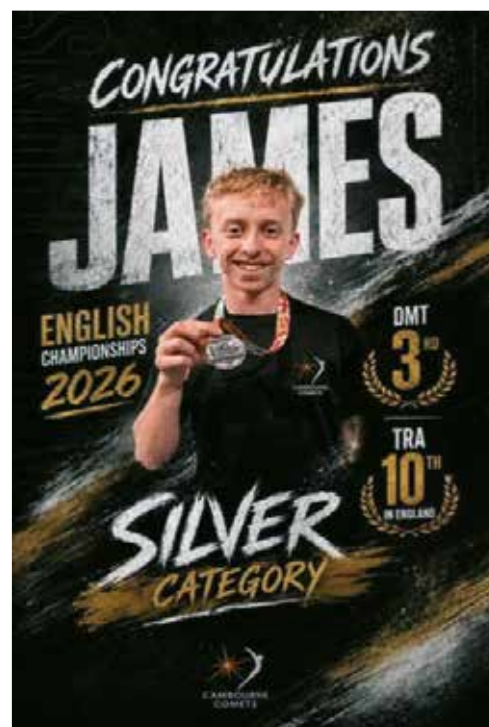
Cambourne Comet Trampoline Club is celebrating after another outstanding year, with achievements on and off the trampoline. It is delighted to announce that it has been approved as a Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) by HMRC. A major milestone for the volunteer-run group, recognising its commitment to providing a safe, fun and affordable environment where children and adults can enjoy the sport.

From its early beginnings to the thriving club it is today, Cambourne Comets has always focused on making trampolining accessible to the local community. CASC status is formal recognition of that commitment and confirms our position as a non-for-profit organisation dedicated to promoting participation in sport.

The summer has also brought excellent competitive success. After representing

the Eastern Region at the Inter-Regional Finals in June, gymnast James went on to win bronze in Double Mini Trampoline (DMT) at the English Championships in Telford in July. As the League season draws to a close, the club is also proud that 7 gymnasts have qualified for the League Finals in Derby this October. This is a terrific achievement reflecting the hard work of the gymnasts and coaches throughout the season.

To round off one of the club's most successful years, members celebrated with the Comets End of Term Party. Around 65 gymnasts, coaches and parents enjoyed an afternoon at Extreme 360, followed by pizza. The event was a great success, and plans are already underway for an even bigger Christmas party. For more information on joining: www.cambournecomets.co.uk



Fastbreak Basketball continues to grow locally

Cambourne Basketball: Following a successful year the club is looking forward to another exciting season both on and off the court. Last year the club extended its community programme to include more young people, while strengthening its player development pathway. From beginners taking their first steps in the sport to players competing in the National League, the future looks bright for the sport.

Registrations are now open for new players in the club's beginner-friendly U9, U11 and U12 mixed sessions, as well as the U13 boys' programme. Whether children are picking up a basketball for the first time or already have some experience, sessions are designed to be fun, welcoming and suitable for all abilities. The club's girls-only programme also continues to grow, and new players aged 12–16 are warmly welcomed. Basketball provides an inclusive environment where girls can develop confidence, make new friends and enjoy regular physical activity.

Fastbreak Basketball also continues to run invitation-only U14 and U16 National League training sessions in



Cambourne, providing a pathway for players with the commitment and ability to compete at a higher level. Older teenagers aged 16 to 18 are welcome to join the club's Saturday morning adult scrimmage sessions at Northstowe Secondary College, giving them the opportunity to play alongside experienced adult players in a competitive but friendly environment. For full session details and online registration, visit www.fastbreakbasketball.co.uk or contact info@fastbreakbasketball.co.uk



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