

COMBERTON CONTACT TEAM

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ADVERTISING RATES FOR COMBERTON CONTACT
from June 2009

Changes will be effective at the time of booking advertisements.

	Size (w x h)	Annual	Single edition
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One tenth page	60mm x 35mm	£50	£6
Coloured back cover (one-off)		Whole page £88	

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Tuesday	Comberton Café at the Village Hall
Every Tuesday	Table Tennis in Village Hall
Every Tuesday 2.00pm	Slow 'n' Low in Village Hall
Every Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30	Comberton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Every Wednesday evening	Tang Soo Do at Meridian School
1st and 3rd Sunday of each month	S.E.F at Comberton Baptist Church
Every Tuesday	Young Enterprise after school at Meridian School
1 st 2 nd and 4 th Monday Evenings at 7.00pm	Carpet Bowls at Village Hall.
4th Tuesday of each month at 8.00pm	Comberton Antiquarian Society at Village Hall

DECEMBER 2010

3 December	7.30pm	Christmas Lights at the Crossroads
3 December	7.45pm	Carols by Candlelight at St Mary's
4 December	10.30pm	Christtmas Fayre at Village Hall
4 December	5.00 - 7.00pm	Reindeer Evening at Birds Farm
4 December	11.00 -2.00pm	Christmas Bazaar at CVC
7 December	5.30 - 7.30pm	Reindeer Evening at Burwash Manor
8 December	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting
9 December	12.45pm	Friendship Club's Christmas Lunch at Village Hall
10 December	7.30pm and	11th December 2.30 &7.30pm Aladdin at Village Hall
12 December	4.30 - 6.30pm	Conservatives Christmas Tea Party
13 December	7.30pm	A Night of Nostalgia at Comberton Leisure Centre
13 December	6.00 - 9.30pm	Caldecutts Charity Evening
14 December		Comberton WI Christmas Party at Village Hall
15 December	7.30pm	Film - The Holiday at Village Hall
19 December	4.00pm	Candlelit Service at Baptist Church
19 December	6.30pm	Candlelit Service at St Mary's Church
24 December	3.30pm	Crib Service at St Mary's Church

JANUARY 2011

11 January		Adult Education starts at CVC
27 January	2.30 - 7.00pm	Little Footsteps Children's Centre Official Opening

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Is it really Christmas time again? Yes it is, and I hope that you all have a happy Christmas and New Year. Being a double issue and having so much going on in Comberton during the Christmas season, this issue is a little larger than usual. So enjoy! I really do hope that the weather in East Anglia is not typical of the rest of the country and that we have bright sunny days to enjoy over the holiday, even if cold.

Please do go on using the small ad website for clearing out your unwanted clutter and seizing a bargain.



Christmas Lights at the Crossroads

Friday 3rd December

7pm

An event for the whole community

Hot 'festive' Punch
Roasted Chestnuts
Mince Pies
Christmas Carols
with the Salvation Army Band

*Venue by kind permission of Comberton Playgroup.
Please bring a torch or lantern
Parents and carers are respectfully asked to ensure that
playgroup equipment is not used*



Little Footsteps Children's Centre and Caldecote School's After Schools Club

Invite you to the
Official Opening and celebration
Thursday 27th January 2011

Come and join us as we celebrate the opening of our
new building.

Centre open for visitors 2-4pm
Official opening by Lord Laming 3.30pm
Centre open for visitors 6-7pm

Caldecote Children's Centre
Caldecote Primary School
Highfields Road, Highfields, Caldecote, Cambridge, CB23 7NX
01954 214444

caldecotechildrenscentre@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
www.cambridgeshirechildrenscentres.org.uk

REINDEER EVENINGS

The Cairngorm reindeer make a welcome return. Visit some of Britain's only herd of free-ranging reindeer on their seasonal pilgrimage south!

4th December, 5.00pm to 7.00pm **Bird's Farm, Haslingfield Road, Barton**

Plus carol singing, children's entertainer and crafts, festive refreshments and Santa will be popping in too, so bring the family. Entry: £3 adults; £2 children; u-3s free. For more details phone The Countryside Restoration Trust (CRT) on 01223 262999.

7th December, 5.30pm to 7.30pm **Burwash Manor, Barton**

Plus Father Christmas, Jezzo the magician, fairground rides, children's activities, live music, food stalls and mulled wine! All proceeds to The Countryside Restoration Trust.

Entry: £3 adults; £2 children, u-3s free. Prepaid tickets available from The CRT office and Fulbourn Manor Florists at Burwash Manor.

For more details visit www.burwashmanor.com

COMBERTON CINEMA

PRESENTS

Kate Winslet, Jude Law, Cameron Diaz, Jack Black in the
Christmas Comedy

The Holiday 12A

Wed. 15th December

Doors open 7.30

Film starts 7.45

Festive Refreshments

Tickets cost £3.50

On the door



For further information contact Sandra Hyde Tel: 262075

This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees



Comberton Table Tennis Club

The Tuesday morning recreational table tennis group at the village hall has transformed itself into a club. The club continues to meet every Tuesday morning at the village hall. At present the core time is 10am to 12 noon but these hours can be extended to accommodate increased numbers and/or varying levels of ability. As soon as funds permit, we will purchase a second table. Our fees are a modest £3 per session and potential new members are welcome to come and try a free taster session. All equipment is provided.

Co-ordinator: Brian Burton, 01223 264072.

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For help, call me, **Brian Girling,**
on **01223 208529 (Wimpole)**

E-mail bg@moncraft.co.uk

Comberton Village Hall

Saturday 4th December

10.30 a.m.

Christmas Fayre

Cards & gifts & STALLS

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FATHER CHRISTMAS

arrives on his scooter at 10.30a.m.

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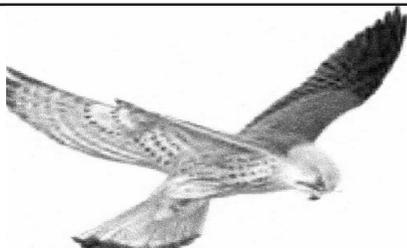
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Cambs CB23 3NZ

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Where?

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CB23 7AA
01954 211383

When?

Monday 13 December 2010
6pm to 9:30pm

Mulled wine and
mince pies

Vintage Button Jewellery at the CVC Christmas Bazaar

One enterprising student will be selling her handmade button jewellery and delicious confectionary so please come along and visit the Bazaar. Whether you are looking for an unusual gift, want to visit Santa or try your luck in the legendary Christmas raffle there is something for everyone at the Christmas Bazaar. Many of the stalls being run by students are raising money for their chosen Charities so please come along and support them.

Saturday 4th December from 11am to 2pm.



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Christmas @ Comberton Baptist Church

Candlelit Carol Service

Sunday 19th December @ 4pm
Followed by mulled wine and mince
pies!



Christmas Day Service @ Comberton Baptist Church - 10:00 am
Everyone welcome!

Comberton Conservative Association

Christmas Tea Party

Sunday December 12th 4.00 – 6.30pm

All supporters welcome to enjoy
festive foods and lights.

Tickets £10.00 available.

Telephone 01223 262686.

Further details on application.

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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FROM THE CLERK

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 10 November 2010

Parking problems associated with CVC – B1046 road including junction with Kentings

The Parish Council will consider at its next meeting the report on the site meeting with representatives from the Parish Council, the County Council, Bennell Farm, Toft Parish Council to discuss the proposals for yellow lines along West Street outside the Village College.

Recreation Ground Day to Day Management

At its last meeting the Parish Council approved an inclusive fee for the use of its facilities (pitch and pavilion) by the Sports Clubs. All Sports Clubs which currently use the facilities have been consulted on their views for the short and long term management of the recreation ground. These together with the results from the Parish Plan questionnaire which all residents have recently received and hopefully by now completed will help the Parish Council progress its plans for the long term management of the facilities on the recreation ground.

In the short term the Parish Council is putting in hand a thorough cleaning of the pavilion and in Spring it will arrange the deep steam cleaning of the facilities to supplement the cleaning already undertaken by the Cleaner. It is also considered at this meeting a quotation to draw up a detailed report for the pitch and drainage requirements for the land extension in a move to turn this land in to a more useable area in line with the requirements of the planning permission. This report should provide the Parish Council with what it needs to seek quotations for the required works and to progress applications towards the funding that will be needed.

Andy Marsh has been appointed as the Parish Council's Recreation Ground Manager on a short term contract following the resignation of Roger Abraham. The Parish Council is very grateful to Mr Abraham for all his hard work and efforts in the past. Mr Marsh should be contacted for any day to day management matters on 07773034336. I will inform you again if this changes.

Residents requests to use, lease or purchase Parish Council land in the Janes Estate

Two requests from residents one for permission to plant a hedge adjacent to his home to allow both an access from the front to the back of his premises and to protect his side wall from damage by ball games and the other to allow off road parking. Having had an opportunity to visit both areas and also taking into account legal advice received in the past the Parish Council refused both requests as the open space in the valley is for the benefit of all residents and to allow one resident exclusive use is contrary to the lands' designation.

Grass cutting and village maintenance contract 2011-2013

Notice is given that the Parish Council is inviting tenders for the above. Anyone interested in tendering for the work must carry a minimum level of insurance cover and appropriate licenses and have the correct equipment for the work.

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For a copy of the tender specification contact the Clerk.

NHS Pharmaceutical Services Consultation

The purpose of the consultation was to gather the views of stakeholders on our assessment of the county's pharmaceutical services. Comberton Parish Council responded that the village is very well provided for by the pharmacy at the village surgery.

NHS notification of application for pharmacy in Hardwick

Two months ago I reported that responses from the Surgery and others who have response to the consultation were considered and the Parish Council will be writing to object strongly to the proposals. The Parish Council has now heard that the application by PSL Locums Ltd for inclusion in the NHS Cambridgeshire Pharmaceutical list in the vicinity of Hardwick has been turned down. "The Committee discussed the application in full and noted the representations from the interested parties and concluded that the application was speculative and that a pharmacy within Hardwick was neither necessary nor expedient". There is a right of appeal against this decision by the applicant.

Other

Parish Council vacancies

The next Parish Council elections will be held in May 2011. Information on the procedure if you are interested in standing for the Parish Council will be displayed on the parish notice board in approximately March/April. Nomination forms will be available at that time from either the Clerk or the District Council.

There is currently still a vacancy on the Parish Council so if you are interested please contact the Clerk for an application form. If filled the length of this appointment will only be until the next elections in May 2011 however the applicant could stand for re-election.

Hedging and vegetation adjacent to the highway

A plea goes out to all residents who have hedging or other vegetation adjacent to either the road or pavement. Please check that this is not overhanging and causing an obstruction either physical or visual. If it is the Parish Council would be grateful if it could be trimmed. Thank you.

Road Closures for Village Events

The County Council has written to say "In light of the spending review delivered by Central Government recently we will be facing severe cuts to our budget over the next 5 years. We are therefore looking to make as many savings as possible. Currently we pay to advertise every road closure, as is required by law. In cases where this is for a charitable or community event this is paid out of the Public Purse and at no cost to the event organiser. We intend to continue to provide this service because we feel that events are important to the community.

However, we have to reduce outgoings and can achieve this by advertising in bulk, thereby achieving economies of scale and dramatically reducing our costs.

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We estimate that we may make savings of at least 50% a year by advertising all the closures in one go. This means we would like all charitable or community event road closure applications for 2011 by **31 January 2011.**" For further information please contact the County Council on 0345 045 5212

Parish Council members contact details

Miss Chris Westgarth (Chairman)	85 Barton Road	263242
Dr Janet McCabe (Vice-Chairman)	3 Westcroft	263387
Miss Amanda Bacon	Arial View, 92B Swaynes Lane	264711
Mr Andrew Hollick	73 Swaynes Lane	263089
Mrs Sandra Hyde	57 Long Road	262075
Mr Simon Moffat	86 Swaynes Lane	
Mrs Dorothy Morison	5 The Valley	263027
Mr Richard Rowlands	43 West Street	264508
Mr Jock Walsh	38 Fox's Way	263225

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 8 December 2010 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so is open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on Comberton matters or on items on the agenda. If the matter is or has already been under discussion a response may be given at the meeting otherwise the matter will be tabled for fuller discussion at the next or a future meeting.

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, COMBERTON

Priest-in-Charge of St Mary's, Comberton and St Andrew's, Toft: Revd.

Michael Booker tel: 01223 260095

www.combertonchurch.co.uk

Churchwardens Mr M.R. Evans 82 Green End Tel 263215
Mrs M Jenkins 80 West Street Tel 263751

Arrangements for **Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings** should be made with the Priest-in-Charge.

Services and Events at St Mary's in December and New Year

Frid 3rd 7.45pm **Comberton Village College Carol Service** at St Mary's
Sun 5th 8.00am **Holy Communion** (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
9.30am **Holy Communion**
Sun 12th 8.30am **Holy Communion** (Prayer Book) at St Andrew's Toft
9.30am **Holy Communion** (with dedication of our servery)
Frid 17th **Meridian School Carol Service** at St Mary's in the morning
Sun 19th 8.00am **Holy Communion** (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
9.30am **Morning Prayer** - a shorter service
6.30pm **Carols by Candle Light**
Christmas Eve 3.30pm **Crib Service**

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	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	9.30am	Christmas Family Communion
Sunday 26th	No service this Sunday	
Sunday 2nd Jan	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
	9.30am	Holy Communion for Epiphany
Sunday 9th Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion and Covenant Service

This is the month of our great celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ - God with us. You are very welcome at all St Mary's services over the Christmas period, even (or especially!) if you have not managed to come at any other time of the year. If you have family members, friends or neighbours who are unable to get out and would like to receive Christmas Communion at home, please let Rev Mike Booker know.

St Mary's Church building is open all day every weekend, not only when there are services. Please feel free to come in at any time, to sit, pray, think or simply enjoy the quiet.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS

Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 1JR
01223 350787

The Catholic Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs (OLEM) serves much of the south and west of Cambridge.

A warm invitation is extended to all to join us at the services over the Christmas period and below are some details.

Penitential service on Tuesday 23rd December at 7.30 pm at OLEM

Christmas Eve

5.00 pm	OLEM (Children's Christmas Mass)
5.00 pm	Cambourne – in the new Church
6.30 pm	Bar Hill Community Church
9.00 pm	Polish Mass at OLEM
11.30 pm	Carols followed by followed by Midnight Mass in OLEM

Masses on **Christmas Day** are at the usual Sunday times with the exception that there are no afternoon or evening masses, (including no vigil masses for Sunday - Boxing Day). There will be mass at Cambourne at 5.00 pm on the Sunday - Boxing Day.

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord will be celebrated on Sunday 2nd January. All the masses are at the usual times.

Further details may be found on the parish web site which also includes the weekly newssheet and other parish information. www.olem.org.uk

The Catholic Community wishes you all a holy and peaceful Christmas and a happy new year.

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YOU ARE WELCOME AT COMBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

Our Minister Stephen Henderson and his wife Kate are moving on after 3 years here at CBC. We would like to thank the Henderson family for all they have brought to the church during this time, and send them our best wishes for the future.

SUNDAY SERVICES: Our morning services begin at 10.30 am - 12 noon and feature a mixture of traditional and contemporary music, engaging topics and a variety of speakers. Refreshments are served after the service. Children stay for the first part of this service and then have the opportunity to go to their teams in the *'The Lighthouse!'*



PARENTS WITH INFANTS: At CBC we want to make every one feel welcome, this includes our youngest guest. We have a crèche available during the service where parents with young babies can go if their children become restless – there is also a monitor so you can see and hear and still feeling part of the service.



CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE: The Lighthouse are groups for children and young people aged 2-17 years, running alongside the main adult service. We also have Junior Church every 4th Sunday of the month, packed full of exciting themes and activities. Here @ CBC young people can make friends and explore their faith together!



Junior Church is an exciting programme for children and young people aged 2-13 years, with a newly formed group for 11-13yrs. Packed with great activities, craft, bible stories, singing, games and lots more...

Where: Comberton Baptist Church (in the centre behind the church)

When: Every fourth Sunday of each month

Time: Doors open at 10.15am with activities starting at 10.30-11.45am
Comberton Baptist Church, Green End, Comberton

For more information please call Donna on 01223 264707 or 01954 211259



PRAYER & COUNSELLING: After each morning service members of CBC's Prayer Team will be available at the front of the church to pray with you regarding any needs you may have. CBC also offers confidential counselling on an ongoing basis, please contact the church office for more information.

For further information on any of the above please contact the church office on 01223 264707 or dan@c-b-c.org.uk; or visit our website: www.c-b-c.org.uk.

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NEWS FROM THE MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Key Stage 2 ('the juniors') have been having a very exciting time of late. You may recall that we are committed to using Shakespeare to enhance our children's learning and raise aspirations as high as possible. As part of this work the whole of Key Stage 2 (138 children in all), together with lots of staff, went to the Corn Exchange to enjoy a morning performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* put on by Shakespeare4Kidz. For those of you who haven't had the good fortune to experience one of their productions, they really are a tremendous company. They take a Shakespeare play and adapt it so that it becomes accessible to young children. Whilst retaining some of the original language and all of the story, they add modern colloquial English, songs, dances, topical references (e.g. to the X Factor!) and create a truly compelling and enjoyable event. Our children (the youngest only just 7) were enthralled. Their favourite character was, without doubt, an energetic and green-painted Puck. He was naughty, lively and iconoclastic. They loved him!

Our teachers were, of course, very keen to capitalise on this enthusiasm and the rest of the week was spent in follow-up work across the whole key stage – the youngest working happily alongside the oldest. They had competitions to see which group could best interpret a scene dramatically; they designed

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posters to advertise the play and created menus for the wedding feast. We now have a lovely display in the front entrance celebrating their work. For me, perhaps the most important outcome of all this is that when Shakespeare is mentioned to them in future (at secondary school perhaps) their response will not be a groan but an enthusiastic grin.

By the time you read this, we will be in the throes of Christmas preparations. The children and their families have already shown that they think of others as well as themselves at this time. We have a large pile of filled shoeboxes in the front entrance ready to be collected by Operation Christmas Child and distributed to children much less fortunate than ours across the world. We have also been selling Christmas decorations in aid of the Arthur Rank Hospice. These are in the form of very attractive tiny teddies wearing woolly hats so, as you can imagine, it's hard to keep up with the demand!

On behalf of the whole school, may I wish you all a very peaceful and happy Christmas.

Glennis Virgo, Headteacher

APPLICATIONS FOR A PLACE AT

MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2011

If you would like to apply for a place for your child to enter Reception in September 2011, the closing date is **15 January 2011**.

You can apply online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions or visit the school for an application form.

Glennis Virgo, Headteacher

COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE: A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Remembering is an important aspect of education. This is at a range of levels. Remembering to bring one's equipment to school generally helps pupils to make progress. Remembering certain key aspects of knowledge is often crucial in performing well in examinations. It would be easy to go on.

There are various techniques that can be used and can be taught to help pupils to remember and to recall. Schools will often now overtly teach some of these techniques, especially in the lead up to significant examinations and assessments. However, regardless of any particular technique, one thing really helps people to remember something. If we believe something is important and has significance, we tend to remember it. If not, it is hard to force ourselves to remember. For this reason, at the college we do not just hold a whole-school silence on 11th November at 11am. We do do that, and this year it was, as always, perfectly observed. However, we also have a week of assemblies during that week for all pupils on the theme of remembrance. During these assemblies, the importance and significance of what it is that we seek to remember on

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11th November is explained. This is done by using personal, striking, often local examples of those powerfully affected by the First World War (and possibly the Second World War). Through this, we hope that our young people will not only appreciate Remembrance Day now, but will be very keen to preserve it for future generations.

Ironically, it was on 11th November that we also set aside time to remember something significant in the lives of many young people. It was the day of our Presentation Evening when we remembered and celebrated together the tremendous achievements in public examinations and assessments by last year's Year 11 students. There was an excellent turnout of both students and parents, and quite rightly so. They really did do spectacularly well (breaking every single school record) and deserved to celebrate together. Stephen Munday

SUE WESTGARTH 25 OCTOBER 1958 – 12 OCTOBER 2010

Sue sadly died on 12 October 2010 having battled with Motor Neurone Disease for the last year. She was one truly amazing daughter, sister, friend and teacher - so brave, determined, generous and special! We hope, pray and know her memory will live on in our hearts...We would like to express our sincere thanks to everyone for their cards and messages of love and support during this difficult time. Thank you for the overwhelming attendance at the service and the generous donations for MNDA and Enfield Dogs Rescue in Sue's memory.

Fred, Val and Chris Westgarth

1ST COMBERTON SCOUT GROUP

1st Comberton Scout Group would like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our Bonfire and Firework event on 6th November and helped make it such a success. In particular, we would like to thank Mr John Baker for once again allowing us the use of his field; we could not carry on this event without his generosity. Thank you to all the parents, carers and friends who very kindly donated raffle prizes and to the following local businesses: Cruickshanks Butchers, Millionhairz, Costcutter, Madingley Mulch, Coton Orchard, The Farm Shop at Coton Orchard, The White Horse, Barton, The Christmas Shop, Barton, The Gift Smith and Nest at Burwash Manor and also our thanks go to Comberton Contact Magazine for their adverts.

Hope to see you all again next year!

THE GRAND PIANO APPEAL AT COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE – AN UPDATE

The Comberton Village College (CVC) Trust Fund is extremely pleased to have recently received confirmation of a £7,000 grant from South Cambridgeshire District Council towards the cost of the Yamaha Grand Piano.

The CVC Trust Fund also acknowledges the contributions from The Orchard Ensemble, The Combertones, the cast and crew of Sweeney Todd, CVC Year 11 of 2010 and Cambridge Concert Orchestra and, of course, the many individual do-

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nors. The various fundraising events held during October and November was supported by a cross section of the community which has helped us to raise just over £1,000. The appeal now stands at just over £14,300 @ 89% of the target. This brings us tantalisingly close to our target, with approximately £1,700 left to raise. Our forthcoming fundraising events in December for the Piano Fund include:

December 4 – An evening with Capriccio (singer, pianist, violinist and cellist). The programme will include light classical, early 20th century popular music, from around the world by composers such as Gershwin and Weill as well as instrumental arrangements of Schubert, Piazzolla and Gershwin. The second half of the programme will include some Christmas music including community carol singing. 7.30pm

December 14 – CVC Christmas concert - Pupils and staff celebrate Christmas with a range of performances from pop to jazz to classical. 7.30pm

Any donation, however big or small, will be welcomed. You might like to sponsor a particular part of the piano individually or as a group, you can sponsor, for example, large components such as the frame for £500 or the keyboard lid for £400 or choose any number of keys, hammers and strings which are valued from just £15 each. To make your selection, please visit:

<http://www.justgiving.com/CVC-Trust2>

Tickets are priced at £5 & £3 for each event. They are available from the box office at Comberton Leisure (01223 264444) or via the website www.comberton-leisure.com

COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

FROM chocolate to candles and books to bracelets – there's a whole range of stalls waiting for you at Comberton Village College's annual Christmas Bazaar. Entry is free to the event on December 4 (11am-2.00pm) and we will be delighted to see you there.

Come and enjoy a wide range of delicious home-made food, pick up some Christmas bargains and take the children to see Santa in his grotto.

There will also be a grand raffle and our Africa volunteers 2011 will be pedalling their way through the day on their sponsored 24-hour static bike cycle ride.

Don't miss the spectacular Winter Dance Showcase with Comberton pupils performing some of the pieces they have worked on this term during the college's thriving extra-curricular programme then get into the Christmas spirit with our annual Christmas concert which promises an entertaining mix of music and readings.

More details of all our events can be found on the college website www.combertonvc.org or the Comberton Leisure website at www.combertonleisure.com

We look forward to seeing you at the college soon.

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Frid 3 rd Dec	Carols by Candlelight (St Mary's, Comberton)	7.45pm	Free but by ticket only available from CVC
Sat 4 th Dec	Christmas Bazaar	11.00am-2.00pm	Free
Sat 4 th Dec	Capriccio	7.30pm	£5 / £3
Frid 10 th Dec	Winter Dance Showcase	7.30-10.00pm	£5/£3
Tues 14 th Dec	School Music Concert		Price tbc
Frid 17 th Dec	Custard Comedy	Doors open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Frid 21 st Jan	Custard Comedy	Doors open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Frid 4 th Feb	No Competition – local bands' rock night	More details after Christmas – see website.	£3
Frid 18 th Feb	Custard Comedy	Doors open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door

ADULT EDUCATION AT COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE IN JANUARY 2011

Activities start 11th January 2011 and run for 10 weeks unless stated otherwise. For further information, please ring 01223 264721 or

e mail commed@comberton.cambs.sch.uk

www.commed.combertonvc.org

ART Drawing & Painting Improvers (Mon 9.30-11.30a.m.)

Jewellery: Improvers (Mon 7.30-9.30pm), **Beginners** (Weds 7.30 -9.30pm)

Life Drawing with model starts 17th Jan (Mon 6.30-8.30pm) 5wks.

Watercolours: Beginners (Weds 9.30-11.30am), **Improvers** (Thurs 9.30-11.30 a.m.)

COMPUTING Computers for Beginners (Weds. 3.15 -5.15 p.m.) start 9th February, 6 wks.

Photoshop Day School (5th March 10.00-4.00pm)

Microsoft Access Database (Mon 7.30-9.30pm), 8 wks

DANCE FITNESS AND HEALTH Ballroom & Latin: Beginners (Mon 7.00-8.00pm) **Improvers** 8.05-9.35pm

Get Fit Mixed (Tues.1.00-2.00pm); **Get Fit Seniors** (Tues 2.00-3.00pm)

Keep Fit to Music Over 65's (Thurs 9.40-10.55 a.m. in Toft People's Hall)

Pilates: Mixed (Mon.10.35-11.35a.m) **Beginners** (5.45-6.45pm) **Improvers** (6.50-7.50pm)

Pilates: Beginners/bad backs (Weds 7.00-8.00pm) **Intermediate** (8.00-9.00pm)

GENERAL INTEREST & EMPLOYMENT Balti Cookery Day school (Sat.5th Feb.10.00-4.00pm)

Colour Analysis Day school (Sat. 12th March 10.00-2.00pm)

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Cooking Indian Food for Dinner Parties Day school (Sat.5th March 10.00-4.00pm)

Food Safety in Catering Level 2 (Sat. 5th March 10.00-4.00pm)

French Cookery (new recipes) (Sat. March 12th 10.00-4.00pm)

Indian Vegetarian Cookery Day school (Sat. 15th January 10.00-4.00pm)

Indian Cookery (new recipes) (Weds. 7.30-9.30pm) 5 weeks starts 19th Jan.

Paediatric First Aid (2 consecutive Saturdays 10.00-4.00pm, 5th & 12th March)

LANGUAGES French Beyond Beginners term 2 (Weds7.30-9.00pm), **Italian beginners** (Weds 7.30-9.30pm) 8 wks, **Polish Yr 2** (Mon 7.30-9.00pm), **Spanish Beginners term 2** (Weds 7.30-9.30pm); **Spanish GCSE term 2** (Fri. 9.30-11.30a.m.)

A BIG THANK YOU

The Comberton Contact editorial team would like to say a very big thank you to Mrs Bloor and Mrs Condor, retiring long-term distributors of the magazine. This is a dedicated task undertaken in all weathers and without these volunteers and their successors your magazine could not be delivered to your door.

COMBERTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The November meeting held on Thursday 11th November at 2 o'clock start, from now until April to try and miss the dark evenings. Our speaker was the familiar Robin Page from Barton who always manages to cheer us up with his stories and facts. This time he was talking about English fruits from our orchards which are not sold in many supermarkets, a great loss to the customers. Our next meeting on December 9th is the Christmas Lunch, which is for members only please. The time to arrive is 12.45 for 1 o'clock at the Village Hall.

COMBERTON WI

Members enjoyed a very pleasant 70th birthday lunch at Cambridge Regional College in October. Our speaker at the November meeting was Andy Malcolm who represents the 'Fishermen's Mission'. Andy was an excellent speaker and told us about the difficult lives modern fishermen face and gave us an idea of the true cost of fish and chips. About eighteen British fishermen die each year and a boat is lost every two weeks on average. The Fishermen's Mission helps support the fishermen and their families throughout their lives. We heard some heart-rending stories, interspersed with poignant sea shanties. Andy was very entertaining but really got his message across. Members will certainly consider the fishermen who catch their next piece of cod.

Date for the diary: December 14th – Christmas Party. Dress to dazzle!



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Typical high pressure sales techniques include calling through to their manager for 'the very best price', saying that that price is only available on that day, and overstaying their welcome, all used to put extra pressure on you.

We want you to avoid such problems, so below we offer a few tips:

- Where possible, when looking for a trader, go on recommendation from someone you know
- Get three quotes so that you know the price you are paying is reasonable and fair.
- Always get quotes in writing and make sure they set out what exactly you will receive for that price
- If a trader needs to visit you in your home and you will be alone, see if you can arrange for someone else to be there for extra support in case the trader puts pressure on you.
- If the contract is signed in your home and is for over £35, make sure you are given a seven days cancellation notice – you will almost certainly be entitled to this in law and means that you can change your mind up to seven days after signing the agreement.
- If you are given terms and conditions, make sure you read them before signing the contract. Be careful if you are asked to sign something to say that work can start there and then – this will impact on your right to cancel the contract.
- If possible, look for a trader that is a member of a Trade Association as many of these will operate a Code of Practice for their members and some also offer a mediation scheme in case of problems.

In addition, you can get a free 'We're not buying it' sticker for your front door to discourage salespeople from calling on you at home in the first place. Simply contact Consumer Direct for one of these (details below).

You can also reduce the number of telephone sales calls you receive by registering with the Telephone Preference Service on 0845 070 0707 or online at www.tpsonline.org.uk.

If you need advice on this or any other consumer issue, contact our partner organisation, Consumer Direct, on 0845 4040506 for free, impartial and confidential advice. Calls cost no more than 4p a minute for BT customers -other networks may vary.

For more information on Trading Standards visit our website

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VEHICLE CRIME REDUCTION EVENTS

The South Cambridgeshire Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership would like to invite all South Cambridgeshire residents to their vehicle crime reduction events.

Organised by the police and South Cambridgeshire District Council, the unique events are running throughout December.

Visitors will have the chance to get hands-on advice and information directly from the police on how to keep valuables safe in their cars during the Christmas season.

Chief Inspector Dave Sargent said: "This is a unique opportunity for the public to come and meet the local policing teams, crime reduction officers and partners and seek advice and guidance on keeping their vehicles safe and secure. Seasonally this time of year always sees an increase in people's cars being broken into by opportunistic thieves searching for presents. We will do anything we can do to raise awareness."

The mobile police unit will also be on hand to give residents the opportunity to directly discuss any concerns they may have in their local area with the police.

The events will take place between 4pm and 8pm on:

Thursday 2 December at Morrisons car park, Cambourne

Thursday 9 December at Tesco car park, Milton

Thursday 16 December at Tesco car park, Bar Hill

For more information please contact Tara Crabtree, communications officer at South Cambridgeshire District Council on 01954 713262.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PROFILE UPDATE

(relevant extracts)



Objective	Tackle anti-social behaviour at Recreation Grounds in Bourn, Caldecote and Comberton
Action Taken	Your neighbourhood team conducted 21 proactive patrols of potential hot spots during the period and responded to one recorded incident of ASB in these areas. Nobody was found to be causing ASB during any of these patrols and, reassuringly, the groups spoken to on two occasions were well behaved and interacted in a positive manner with officers. These patrols have had two additional beneficial outcomes as they resulted in 3 drug searches and a cannabis warning being issued at Byron's Pool and three door to door sellers being stopped and searched in the Hardwick area.
Current Situation	No identified ASB trend in the previous hot spot areas at this time.

5th GENERATION ARCHITECTURE

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*Pre-Christmas de-cluttering?
Want a bargain?*

Don't want to pay postage?

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Free and local

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VILLAGE CAFÉ at the VILLAGE HALL

Open every Tuesday

10.30 - 12 noon

Meet up with friends or make new ones.

Families welcome!

Coffee/Tea/Squash

Hope to see you there soon.

Continue or Discharge?	Discharge the action plan. As the occurrence of ASB on recreation grounds tends to make this more relevant during the summer quarter, consideration should be given to revisiting this action plan at the May 2011 Panel Meeting.
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Comberton Ward

Crime

- Only six offences were reported in Comberton Ward over the three month period which is lower than the previous period and the same period last year. Due to the small number of offences no patterns or trends were observed.

ASB

- Over the three month period, there were only ten ASB incidents reported.
- Three of these calls from the same location concern a male who either has harmed himself or is threatening to do so.
- Two calls from Harbour Avenue are complaints about vehicles parking inconsiderately to drop children off at the school, which is causing problems for buses and for children who want to cross the road.

COUNCIL AIMS AND APPROACHES
PROPOSED 2011-2012

Public consultation - Help to shape our future direction! Budget and objective setting from 2011

We're already thinking about our service priorities for 2011 onwards and how they'll be paid for at a time when substantial reductions in funding are anticipated. We've developed 15 key actions which we intend to carry out in 2011/12 to improve customer service and the local environment in which you live and work. The actions will be finalised in February 2011, along with our budget for the following year but, before we do, we're keen to hear your views on whether these actions are the right ones.

Please take a few moments to tell us your thoughts, by [completing our online survey \(https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JDZM9FY\)](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JDZM9FY); alternatively please telephone (01954) 713366, or email policy.performance@scams.gov.uk ([This link will open in a new window](#)) if you'd like us to send you a hard copy, or pop into the [Council Offices](#) to pick one up.



LAWN CARE IN DECEMBER

Moss

Moss will start to encroach now and it is advisable to treat now



Would you appreciate help with small jobs around the home, garden or in the wider village?

Isaiah58 involves young people from local churches helping out in the village community.

We have moved furniture, trimmed hedges, weeded gardens, swept leaves and painted bus shelters....

No project too small!

If you have a possible project for the team please call
Jonathan Catley, 01223 263508
07971 758041
jonathan.catley@hotmail.co.uk

We don't charge or ask for any donation for the help.
It is part of us putting our faith into action.

*Isaiah58 is a project run by WCCYM
(West Cambridge Christian Youth Ministries)*

COMBERTON LIBRARY

Monday	2.00pm - 7.00pm
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10.00am - 1.00pm 2.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	2.00pm - 7.00pm
Saturday	10.00am - 1.00pm
Sunday	Closed

The Village College, West Street, Comberton, Cambridge, CB23 7DU

Tel: 0845 045 5225

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

RECREATION GROUND ROTA DECEMBER 2010 TO FEBRUARY 2011

Gate Open 8-30am to 1/2 hour after lighting up time Monday to Sunday inclusive.

November 29th to December 12th	Martin & Ingrid Sims
December 13th to December 26th	Alan & Mary Clarke
December 27th to January 9th 2011	Raymond Sewell
January 10th to January 23rd	Mick & Barbara Waters
January 24th to February 6th	Alan & Mary Clarke
February 7th to February 20th	Martin & Ingrid Sims
February 21st to March 6th	Raymond Sewell

Access on foot is not affected

before it competes with the lawn. Treating now allows the moss to die back and the grass to fill in. Don't leave until the spring as it will not be as effective.

Aeration

Soil compaction is a frequent cause of turf deterioration and moss invasion. For optimal effectiveness the lawn needs aerating in autumn/winter. Over sow additional grass to help any bare areas re establish before weed and moss do!

Actions required in December

- Carry out Moss control
- Aerate lawn if conditions allow
- Brush off worm casts (or treat the cause of the problem)
- Look out for disease

The lawn owner can carry out some of the above tasks; other tasks may need some professional intervention.

For more information about lawn care and the services that Pro-Lawncare Ltd offer call

01480 812393

e-mail info@prolawncare.co.uk "....for that Lawn you've longed for"

www.prolawncare.co.uk

Lawn fact: "A dense lawn is six times more effective than a wheat field at absorbing rainfall"

WINTER SUNLIGHT IN THE GARDEN

Helen Skaer

The characteristics of winter sunny days are low light angles; 14° elevation at mid-day for the winter solstice in Cambridge. This effect means that we tend to get light reflection off the plant, tree and shrub stems. This is one reason why coloured stem plants, such as those belonging to the genus *Cornus*, create such a good effect in winter gardens. In contrast, the sun's elevation at the summer solstice is 61°; light bounces off the top of flowers and we see them to their best effect in summer. Graham Stuart Thomas in his book 'Colour in the Winter Garden' (costs 1p plus P&P from Amazon!), the most comprehensive English book on winter gardens, makes use of the sun's low elevation in planning the garden. His advice is to arrange coloured stem plants on the north, east and west sides of a garden so that they will pick up the sunlight. Tall plants situated on the south side will be in their own shadow and their stems will look unremarkable.

Winter bark effects

Good winter gardens make strong use of bark on trees as a feature to promote. I have written before on various coloured barks from the genus *Cornus*, so will resist the temptation to repeat myself. However, I have come across an interesting colour pairing with *Cornus alba* 'Westonbirt'. The 'black ivy', *Hedera helix* 'Atropurpurea', has dark green leaves that turn dark purple in winter. If the ivy is grown against a south-facing wall, and then the Westonbirt is planted in front of it, the bright crimson *Cornus* stems stand out wonderfully, in low-angled sunlight, with the backdrop of deep purple. The contrasting colours are stunning. Birch trees provide a good range of pale coloured barks. The British native silver birch has the bark surface spoiled by black nodules and crevices; as a consequence, many smooth bark species have been introduced. A favourite is *Betula utilis* var. *Jacquemontii* 'Silver Shadow'; this has superb white stems and a velvety feel. Another good variety is 'Jermyns' with cream bark on the main trunk and old branches, together with copper bark on new branches. A more unusual birch is *Betula lutea* *alleghaniensis*; its bark is a soft amber-buff colour. All these birch varieties look their best if they have a dark evergreen hedge, such as yew or *Thuja plicata*, as a background to contrast with the sunlit stems. If the birch trees are grown on an area of grass, they can be under-planted with spring bulbs. For mown grass there can be no better sight than a swathe of *Anemone blanda* 'White Splendour' to pick out the white-coloured trunks, or if you like a sharp contrast, try *A. blanda* 'Blue Shades'.

Have a happy Christmas. Take time out on a sunny day in January to visit the Winter Garden in the Cambridge Botanic Garden.

R.T. Choke



A MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS AT DENNY ABBEY

Saturday December 11th, 12-5pm

Visit Denny Abbey and The Farmland Museum for a Christmas family event with a Medieval Flavour full of festivities reflecting the ancient heritage of Denny Abbey.

Make a wassailing cup from clay, construct a mini wreath for your front door, listen to some story telling and follow the mummings play trail around the museum.

Join in with carols by candlelight in the intimate setting of Denny Abbey from 4pm-dress warmly and bring a torch or lantern.

Cafe open for Medieval hot spiced apple juice and the usual tea, coffee, scones and cakes. Shop open for stocking fillers.

Event Admission Prices: Adults £5, Concessions £4, Children over 5 £3, Family ticket £15

The Farmland Museum & Denny Abbey open season runs from the 1st April until 31st October, 12 - 5pm weekdays and 10.30am - 5pm weekends and bank

holiday, and several event days running throughout the year. It is situated on the A10 between Cambridge and Ely. Admission prices are Adults £4.00, Concessions £3.00, Children £2 (under 5s are free) and family tickets £10, with reduced admission to the Farmland Museum for English Heritage members.

Laura Pearson

Administration Assistant, Farmland Museum, Denny Abbey, Ely Road, Waterbeach, CB25 9PQ

T: 01223 860988

email: admin@farmlandmuseum.org.uk Usual office hours: 09.00-13.00 Tuesdays and Thursdays.

THE CHALLENGE NOVEMBER SOLUTION & WINNER

Siamese from Wilmslow?	CHESHIRE CAT
Why trab it?	WHITE RABBIT
“That dream” when deciphered is the answer.	MAD HATTER
A member of the Myodidae . *	DORMOUSE
A liquid food made from a calf’s head.	MOCK TURTLE
A moth grub, or tractor.	CATERPILLAR
A roofing slate 24” x 12”	DUCHESS
Of the order Lagomorpha in early spring.	MARCH HARE
Alternative spelling to ex leader of the PHON	B.N.P GRY-
This character has an ODD RING about it.	DODO
WAONLDEIRLCANED is of course... CanEd	wAonLdeIrl-

*Apologies.I could have used GLIRIDAE or Muscardinus avellarius but chose MYOXIDAE and then misspelt it !

Special thanks to those of you who completed the puzzle despite this.

WINNER: APRIL PENNICK, HARBOUR AVENUE
(One of 7 entries).

THE CHALLENGE
SPONSORED BY COSTCUTTER STORES

All of the answers to the clues below are connected and have an ascending order. Please number them 1 to 8, beginning with the smallest. The puzzle is, in one sense, associated with this time of year which prompts me to wish all of you a Very Merry(Nudge nudge wink wink) Christmas and a Happy(Nudge nudge wink wink) New Year. Please note you have a whole month to complete the task. A fill-in between the rubbish TV programmes?

11 Kings 17.3 mentions this Assyrian king.....

Simply a large calibre hand gun (as used by Dirty Harry)

.....

King of Babylon 605-562 BC.....

Son of Solomon

In the 1956 Danny Kaye film The Court Jester "The pellet with the poison is in the

with a dragon"

Travelling companion of Caspar and Melchior

First king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel

969 years is the only clue.

Entries please to Costcutter, Library or Green End Surgery by the 31st December.

The prize, £5 generously donated by Sayna & Vijay, is to be spent in store.

Name.....

Address.....