

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
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£400	£44
Three fifth page	122mm x 109mm	£240	£27
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	60mm x 72mm	£ 80	£ 9
One tenth page	60mm x 35mm	£ 50	£ 6
Coloured back cover (one-off)		Whole page	£66

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REGULAR DATES

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
Every Wednesday 12.25 - 1.10	Lunchtime Badminton at Village College
1st and 3rd Sunday of each month	S.E.F at Comberton Baptist Church
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 V H
4th Thursday of each month	2.30pm Service & Social at Village Hall

DECEMBER 2011

2nd December	6.30pm	Christmas Lights at the Duck Pond
2nd December	8.00pm	Comberton Cantabile Christmas Concert at Village Hall
3rd December	10.30am	Christmas Fayre at Village Hall
3rd December	5.30pm	Reindeer Evening at Bird's Farm
5th December	5.00pm	Reindeer Evening at Burwash Manor
9th December	7.30pm	Sleeping Beauty at Village Hall
10th December	2.30 & 7.30pm	Sleeping Beauty at Village Hall
10th December	10.30-12.00am	St Mary's Church Coffee Morning at V. Hall
12th December	7.30pm	Winemakers Christmas Cheer Toft V. Hall
13th December	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting at Village Hall
13th December	7.45pm	WI Members Evening at Village Hall
18th December	11.00-3.00	Comberton Market at Comberton Leisure
21st December	7.30pm	Film - White Christmas at Village Hall

JANUARY 2012

14th January	7.30pm	Winemaker's New Year Social at Village Hall
28th January	7.15pm	1st Scout Group Quiz Night & Raffle

FEBRUARY 2012

20th February	Winemaker's Commercial Winetasting V. Hall
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A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

A Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year to you all.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that Terry Coad has agreed to become our Treasurer. He will take over from Liz at the end of the year and she can take the retirement she so deserves.

Please don't forget that we do have an issue of Contact for January but not for February. More of the reasons for this in the March issue. The deadline for the January issue is 10th December for the covers and 15th December for the inside pages.

**WHO WOULD LIKE TO BOOK THE
FRONT AND BACK
COVERS FOR JANUARY, MARCH, APRIL
AND MAY 2012?
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED.**

COMBERTON CINEMA

At the Village Hall

Wed. 21st December

White Christmas (1954) U

Let Bing Crosby, Danny Kaye and Rosemary Clooney get you in the festive spirit as they sing and dance to Irving Berlin numbers in this classic feel good film. Our festive food might help too!

Tickets £3.50 on the door.

Doors open 7.30, Film starts 7.45

For further information Sandra Hyde Tel: 262075

This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees

COMBERTON VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 3rd December

10.30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

cards & gifts & more

coffee and mince pies

bran tub



FATHER CHRISTMAS

arrives on his scooter at 10.30a.m.

Admission £1 (includes coffee and mincepies)

Children 50p (includes juice and biscuits)

Comberton Players present
A Pantomime at Comberton Village Hall
Sleeping Beauty

Friday 9th December at 7.30, Sat. 10th December at 2.30 & 7.30

Tickets £6/£4 available from 01223 262214

Fun & Sparkle for all ages

Helpers are still welcome

VILLAGE CAFÉ at the VILLAGE HALL

Open every Tuesday 10.30 - 12 noon

Coffee/Tea/Squash

Meet up with friends or make new ones

Families welcome!

Hope to see you there soon.

COMBERTON CANTABILE'S CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT

COMBERTON VILLAGE HALL ON

Friday 2nd December at 8 p.m.

The first half of the evening will be the formal concert, then refreshments will be served in the interval, followed by a more light-hearted second half with some audience participation.

Bring your own wine, glasses provided.

Tickets will be limited and **none will be available on the night.**
Tickets £7 from Brenda Brown at 01223 262407 or from members of the choir.

In Aid of the 'Save Comberton Library' Fund

St Mary s Church, Comberton

Christmas Coffee Morning

Saturday 10th December

10.30 – 12.00

In the Village Hall

Raffle, Christmas Decorations, Bring & Buy, Cakes etc

Admission £1.00 to include Coffee and Mince Pie

REINDEER EVENINGS

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Entry £3 adults; £2 children (under 3s free).

Saturday 3rd December, 5.00 - 7.00pm
at Bird's Farm, Haslingfield Road, Barton
www.countrysiderestorationtrust.com

Monday 5th December, 5.30 – 7.30pm
at Burwash Manor, New Road, Barton
www.burwashmanor.com

Comberton Market

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER

New time - 11am - 3pm

New venue - Comberton Leisure

Shop locally - come to Comberton Market

Fruit, vegetables, Christmas trees, logs, coal, jams, pickles, cakes,
local game, cards and stationery, books, order lamb/pork and
more...

Refreshments in aid of Kidney Research UK

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SAVE THE DATE

28th January 2012

Quiz Night & Raffle 1st Comberton Scout Group

7.15 for 7.30 start

Venue, prices etc. to be confirmed nearer the date

For tickets contact Tracy Pemberton on 01223 262445

Email: combertonbeavers@hotmail.co.uk

Comberton Winemakers

The December meeting of Comberton Winemakers will be

CHRISTMAS CHEER

to be held at **TOFT Village Hall** at 7-30pm on December 12th.

Please bring along a contribution for the Buffet.

There will also be a **Seasonal Quiz**

and

a **Competition for the best Sausage Rolls and Cheese Straws.**

The **NEW YEAR SOCIAL** is on

Saturday January 14th in Comberton Village Hall, starting at 7-30 pm.

The usual Games organised by June.

Contributions for the Buffet will be welcome.

Please bring your own crockery etc. Cost £2-50.

In February we will hold our **Commercial Wine Tasting** on Monday
February 20th in Comberton Village Hall. Cost £3-00



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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

from the Clerk

The Parish Council met on 9 November 2011.

Recreation Ground Land extension request to lease and Jubilee Wood

It was a lively start to the meeting. 25 members of the public attended; many from the Comberton Crusaders to express their views on the Parish Council's recent decision to plant a Jubilee Wood on the recreation ground extension and the impact that this would have on their request to lease the whole of the land extension and the number of pitches that they would wish to see developed on the land.

Some other residents expressed alternative views about how the land should be used such as for other forms of recreation and not just sport pitches and also the cost implications of running the recreation ground, pavilion and facilities. The Parish Council has asked its Recreation ground Working Group and Tree Group to meet with representatives from the Comberton Crusaders to see if there is a compromise.

Hillfield Road proposed bollards and meeting with Cambs County Council (CCC)

A report on a site meeting with the County Council was considered. It has been agreed to undertake further consultation with the residents of Hillfield Road as follows –

asking them if they wish to get together to pursue any of the options detailed in the report at their own cost;

pointing out that they will not own any spaces even if they pay for it or contribute towards them;

pointing out that if they fail to choose any of these and continue parking on and thereby damaging the verges, then the CPC will have no choice but to install bollards as previously agreed;

enclosing a copy of CCC's Highway's specification for construction of highways which contains a list of approved contractors who can be contacted for quotations for the works;

The deadline for responses and or proposals from the residents will be end of January 2012. If any other resident in the village wishes to comment on this matter please contact the Clerk.

Proposed Barton Road speed reduction from the Long Road roundabout towards Barton –

The Parish Council is looking to implement a 40 mph buffer zone for about 650 meters as the County Council's policy is now permitting parish councils to do this if they pay for it. The estimated cost for the provision of new signs and posts as well as the Parish Council's contribution to advertising in the Cambridge News the public notices associated with the change in speed limit is estimated at £1800. The process for implementing speed limit changes that takes approximately 3 to 4 months to complete. The first stage of this is for the Parish Council to carry out local consultation to establish the level of support

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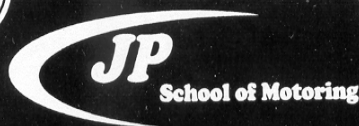
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for the change; this includes contacting the police for their views. If you have any views on this proposal please email or write to the Clerk.

Proposed affordable housing development Long Road - update

Alan Finch of Stepford Homes (a building company) has contacted the Parish Council regarding the potential Affordable Homes development on Long Road on the same site that Laragh Housing pulled out of. The Hundred Houses Society recognises that there is a need for Affordable Houses in Comberton and Stepford Homes are holding discussions with the Society soon. It has been emphasised to Stepford Homes that the Parish Council had agreed that there would be a Public Consultation before it made a decision on whether to support the principle of such a development. He is happy to be involved in a Consultation. The purpose of the public consultation is to seek the views of residents, take into account the housing need in the village and make an informed decision. If you are interested or want to know what is being proposed then please take time to look the notice board where, when arranged the consultation information will be published and attend Council meetings.

Flower beds at the Crossroads

The contract for maintenance of the flower beds has been extended as the beds are looking really nice and well tended.

Routing of services for The Valley Development across/under Parish Council land and impact on the trees on the green adjacent to 21-59 The Valley

Services are to be laid under this land and as a result one tree, a silver birch, will have to be removed. The developer will replace this with a tree of the Parish Council's choice. The advice of a tree surgeon is being obtained on one other tree in this area.

Parish Plan

A summary report on what the results of the Parish Plan Questionnaire results is being compiled and will be delivered to each home as soon as it is ready.

Millner Road trees

The advice of a tree surgeon is being obtained on the condition of a silver birch and some lime trees and depending on the outcome work on these trees may be undertaken.

Consultation on review to remove all subsidised bus service funding

Cambridgeshire County Council wants to hear your views on changes and reductions being proposed to bus services which are supported by financial contributions from Council funds. A questionnaire is available on the following link: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/busreview

The Parish Council is meeting with Cllrs Harangozo and Whelan to discuss the implications for the Comberton bus service and if a grant can be obtained from South Cambs District Council to contribute towards the service.

Other not discussed at the meeting

Donations and grants

Each year the Parish Council is able to support village groups and clubs which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants.

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If your Group, Club or Society would like to be considered for a grant please write to the Clerk explaining why the grant is required and how much you are asking for and enclosing a copy of your accounts by 4 December. Grant applicants will be informed in April or May 2011 if they have been successful.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific

Proposals Plan - Inspector's Report now published

Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council have confirmed they have received the final Inspector's Report on the joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals (SSP) Development Plan Document. The independent Inspector has found the SSP sound and has confirmed "the Plan provides an appropriate basis for the planning of mineral and waste over the next 15 years".

<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/environment/planning/mineralswastefram>

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) is launching a pilot scheme in South Cambridgeshire to encourage residents to carry out safety checks on their homes.

The scheme is innovative in that it will rely on local volunteers to liaise with the community on its behalf. CFRS is now looking for people who live in the South Cambridgeshire area to volunteer to become 'Community Champions'. Community Champions will be trained to speak to local community groups about home fire safety and escape plans, and to refer those people who are unable to carry out a check of their own home to CFRS for additional support. Champions will also attend community events and take part in CFRS's public consultation activity. Cambridgeshire ACRE is running this pilot scheme on behalf of CFRS. We believe that our strong links with South Cambridgeshire parishes means we are well placed to generate a good level of support for the scheme and we would encourage anyone looking for an opportunity to take on a more active role in their community to consider becoming a Community Champion. More information on the scheme can be obtained by contacting the Clerk or calling Cambridgeshire ACRE on 01353 865037.

Bonfires

A bonfire can be a convenient way of getting rid of a large amount of waste. If a bonfire is the most practicable way to dispose of dry garden waste (for example, diseased plant material that cannot be composted) please warn your neighbours - so that there are no complaints.

Avoid lighting the fire in unsuitable weather conditions, smoke hangs in the air on damp, still days and in the evening. If it is windy smoke may be blown into neighbours' gardens and across roads.

Avoid burning at weekends and on bank holidays when people want to enjoy their gardens.

Avoid burning when air pollution is high.

Parish Council budget and Precept for the financial year 1 April 2012 to 31 March 2013

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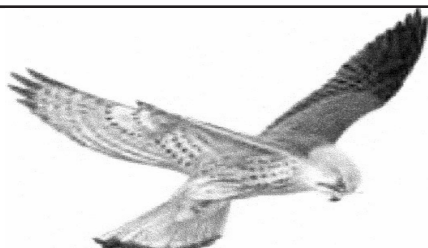
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At its January meeting the Parish Council will review its budget for the current year and consider its budget for the financial year starting on 1 April. The result of this discussion will be that the Council will set its precept. This is the amount of money that it requires from each home to balance its budget and run your village and its facilities.

If you have any views on this let the Council know by writing to the Clerk or attending the January meeting.

Parish Council members contact details

Miss Amanda Bacon (Chairman)	Arial View, 92B Swaynes Lane	264711
Mr Antony Bateman	19 Bush Close	262243
Mr Hywel Griffiths	18 Barrons Way	263390
Mr Andrew Hollick	73 Swaynes Lane	263089
Dr Janet McCabe (Vice-Chairman)	3 Westcroft	263387
Mr Simon Moffat	86 Swaynes Lane	
Mrs Mary Richards	38 Barrons Way	262180
Mr Tim Scott	Moat House, 65 Green End	263434
Dame Veronica Sutherland	12 Hines Lane	362050
Miss Chris Westgarth	85 Barton Road	263242

There are still three vacancies so if you would like to apply to join the Parish Council please contact the Clerk for an application form.

The Parish Council extends its thanks to Mrs Dorothy Morison for all her hard work and efforts both as a Councillor and also more recently as an active member of the Tree Group and Planning Committee. Mrs Morison has now left the village to live in France and the Council wishes her well.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 13 December 2011 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so are open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on Comberton matters or on items on the agenda. If the matter is on the agenda 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

In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry

Rev'd. Michael Booker 01223 260095

Rev Corin Redsell - curate 01954 212970

www.combertonchurch.co.uk

Churchwardens Mr M.R. Evans 82 Green End Tel 263215

Mrs M Jenkins 80 West Street Tel 263751

Please contact Rev Mike Booker about arrangements for **Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings** and the readings of Banns.

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Services and Events at St Mary's in December

Sunday 4th	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
	9.30am	Holy Communion
Friday 9 th	7.45pm	Comberton V College Carol Service at St Mary's
Saturday 10th	10.30am	Christmas Coffee Morning, Village Hall
Sunday 11th	9.30am	Holy Communion
	6.30pm	Confirmation Service at Cambourne Church
Sunday 18th	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Mary's
	9.30am	Informal worship and Baptism
	6.30pm	Carols by Candle Light
Christmas Eve	3.30pm	Crib Service
	11.30pm	Midnight Communion
Christmas Day	9.30am	Christmas Family Communion

January 2012

Sunday 1st Jan	9.30am	A quiet Communion service
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In December the year ends with the great celebration of the arrival of Jesus Christ. At St Mary's we have a range of different services, with something to suit everybody of every age. Please come and join in, but even more importantly, please drink in once again the amazing truth - God is with us. We need not face the New Year and all the uncertainties of 2012 alone. Christmas is not only a time to remember a story from long ago. The birth of Jesus, heralding God coming to live on earth as one of us, was a world-changing event. And because of what happened all those years ago, each New Year we face can be faced with confidence. God is still with us! If you would like to receive Communion at home the Christmas, or if you would just like to talk through what Christmas is all about, please feel free to contact Mike or Corin.

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Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening:-

5.00 pm	Cambourne
6.00 pm	Bar Hill
6.00 pm	OLEM

Sunday Masses at OLEM

8.00 am	
9.30 am	(Children's)
10.45 am	(Sung)
12.15 pm	(Polish)

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5.00 pm (Folk)
6.15 pm (Latin)

Masses on **Christmas Day** are at the usual Sunday times with the exception that there are no afternoon or evening masses. Midnight Mass commences at 11.30 pm on Christmas Eve.

Penitential service on Tuesday 20th December at 7.30 pm at OLEM

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord will be celebrated on Sunday 8th 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.



NEWS FROM THE MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Opportunity - Creativity - Challenge
Excellence for All

This term Year 6 are studying the Second World War – in particular, from the point of view of children at the time. This is a joint piece of writing by the whole class describing their ‘evacuation day’ at Denny Abbey:

On the 14th of October 1943, we received a one-way ticket to the desolate countryside. Everyone was shocked when our Prime Minister, Chamberlain, announced the first evacuation on our wireless. We were informed the week before that our country was involved in the most deadly war of our time.

The evacuation for was our own safety and well being. We were required to take our gas masks and labels for a safe journey to Denny Abbey. Once the packing was finished, we were ready to leave. Two hours later, we were on the country bound carriage. Flapping white handkerchiefs filled the air like seagulls at the beach. Tearful parents were trying not to show their emotions. Suddenly, we were spirited away to what would soon be called home.

Our new home was the smallest cottage we had ever seen! There was no central heating and no hot water on tap! In the house, there was no television but they did have a wireless radio, a chess set, some magazines and books for entertainment. The toilet was outside in a little shed, with no separate bathroom in the house. If you wanted a bath, you had to use a tub in front of the kitchen stove where you would not have any privacy! The garden was also quite small but crammed with home-grown vegetables, which needed to be watered and cared for everyday.

During our stay, we also had a cookery lesson and made cottage cheese. You mix warm milk with lemon juice and stir it until it curdles. When curdled, you

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put in a muslin cloth and squeeze out the liquid. Serve it with chives and biscuits – enjoyment for all!

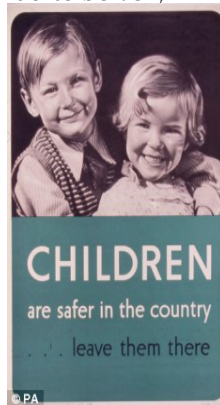
We also visited the local shop with our ration books. It was quite small but had everything you would need for a weekly shop, although because of rationing, that wasn't a lot! Sweets, sugar, meat, eggs and milk were all rationed and people were encouraged to 'Dig for Victory' and grow their own food. We planted cress seeds as cress is quick and easy to grow.

As well as digging for victory, we were also encouraged to 'Make, Do and Mend'. During the war, clothes were also rationed so you had to be very inventive and recycle old material. We made rag rugs with leftover strips of fabric, which were easy to make and looked very colourful.

Whilst at Denny Abbey, we had a near-death experience! The air raid siren sounded and we had to run for safety. The abbey itself was our bomb shelter and was packed with first aid kits, helmets, gas masks and playing cards. We were taught what to do in an emergency and we sang songs to keep our spirits up!

We soon got used to life at Denny Abbey as our host family was very welcoming. It was a great learning experience for everyone and made us appreciate what life was really like for an evacuee during World War 2.

Class 15, Meridian Primary School



APPLICATIONS FOR A PLACE AT MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

If you would like to apply for a place for your child to enter Reception in September 2012, the closing date is **15 January 2012**. You can apply online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/admissions or visit the school for an application form.

Glennis Virgo

Headteacher

COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

There is still time to enjoy events at Comberton Village College this festive season.

Tickets are on sale now for both our Christmas Concert, featuring seasonal music and readings, on Tuesday December 6th and our Winter Dance Showcase on Saturday December 10th. This is a fantastic opportunity to see the outstanding work that our pupils have been doing in dance this term. You will be amazed!

For over-18s, don't forget to check out our regular Custard Comedy evenings. Not only will you have a laugh, but you'll get the chance to see some of the best established and up-and-coming comics on your doorstep.

For more information on these and any of the events at Comberton Village

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College, please visit our website www.combertonvc.org or call into either the school reception or the reception at Comberton Leisure.

Thursday 1 st - Saturday 3 rd December	Grease All-action musical with pupils from all years.	7.30 (plus 2.30 matinee on Saturday)	£6 & £7 (adults); £4 & £5 (con- cessions)
Saturday 3 rd December	Christmas Bazaar In the main school	11.00-3.00pm	Free admis- sion
Tuesday 6 th December	Christmas Concert	7.30pm	£5/£3 (con- cessions)
Saturday 10 th December	Winter Dance Show- case A chance to see the out- standing work that our pupils have been doing in dance this term	7.30	£5/£3
Friday 16 th December	Custard Comedy	Doors Open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Saturday 14 th January 2012	Splitz Dance Show	TBC	TBC
Friday 20 th January	Custard Comedy	Doors Open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door
Saturday & Sunday January 28 th & 29 th	Empowerment Live Self-Help Conference http://www.empowerment-live.co.uk/		
Saturday 4 th February	Energise dance Showcase Featuring dances from secondary schools and dance classes around South Cambs	TBC	TBA
Friday 17 th February	Custard Comedy	Doors Open 8.00	£8 adv / £10 Door

ADULT EDUCATION

COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE JANUARY 2012

Places exist in the following classes in 2012. For further information phone 01223 264721, e mail commed@comberton.cambs.sch.uk, or see the website www.commed.combertonvc.org It is often possible to join a class in term 2 but please come and try a session if unsure. Many classes start 9th January but please check.

ART

Acrylic & Oil Painting term 2 (Weds 7.00-9.00pm) 8 weeks.

Digital Photography Pt.2 (Mon 7.15-9.15pm) new course, 10 weeks

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Drawing & Painting Improvers term 2 (Mon 9.30-11.30a.m.) 10 weeks
Jewellery Beginners (Weds 7.30-9.30pm) 10 weeks
Life Drawing Day School (Saturday 3rd March 10.00-3.00pm)
Stained Glass Day School (Saturday February 25th 10.00-4.00pm)
Watercolours Beginners term 2 (Weds 9.30-11.30am), Improvers (Thurs 9.30-11.30 a.m.) 10 weeks

COMPUTING

Computers for Beginners Pt. 2 (Tues. 3.15-5.15 p.m.) new course starts 17th January, 6 weeks.

Microsoft Access Day School Pt.1. (Saturday February 25th 10.00-3.00pm)
Photoshop Adobe Elements Day School (Saturday 3rd March 10.00-4.00pm)
Webpage Design Pt.1 (Mon 7.30-9.30pm) new course starts 9th Jan. 5 weeks.

DANCE FITNESS AND HEALTH

Ballroom & Latin term 2: Beginners (Mon 7.00-8.00pm) Improvers (8.05-9.35pm) 10 weeks
Get Fit Mixed (Tues.1.00-2.00pm) Get Fit Seniors (Tues 2.00-3.00pm) 10 weeks
Keep Fit to Music Over 65's (Thurs 9.40-10.55 a.m.) in Toft People's Hall. 10 weeks

Pilates Monday: Mixed (10.35-11.35a.m) Intermediate (5.45 -6.45 or 6.50-7.50pm) Beginners (7.55-8.55pm) Pilates Weds: Beginners/bad backs (7.00-8.00pm) Advanced (8.00-9.00pm) 10 weeks
Zumba (Weds 7.15-8.15pm) 10 weeks

GENERAL INTEREST & EMPLOYMENT

Balti Indian Cookery Day school (Saturday 4th February 10.00-4.00pm)
Food Safety in Catering Level 2 (Saturday 17th March 10.00-4.00pm)
Italian Cookery Day School (Saturday Feb 25th 10.00-4.00pm)
Indian Cookery new course (Weds. 7.30-9.30pm) starts 18th January. 8 weeks
Paediatric First Aid (2 consecutive Saturdays 10.00-4.00pm) 10th & 17th March
Thai Cookery (Mon 7.00-9.00pm) new course, 5 weeks

LANGUAGES

French Beyond Beginners term 2 (Weds 7.30-9.00pm) 10 weeks
Italian Beginners term 2 (Weds 7.00-9.00pm) Spanish Beginners term 2 (Weds 7.30-9.30pm) 10 weeks
Spanish Intermediate Conversation term 2 (Fri. 9.30-11.30a.m.) 10 weeks

COMBERTON 1ST SCOUT GROUP

We would like to say a big 'Thank You' to everyone who supported our Bonfire and Firework event on 5th November and helped make it such a success. We are very grateful to 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 also to the following local businesses: Cruickshanks Butchers, Millionhairz, Costcutter and Morrison's. A very special 'Thank You' goes to those involved with Comberton Contact Magazine. Not only have they allowed us to advertise our events again, but this year they also gave us a fantastic donation towards the Firework Display.

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COMBERTON ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS ASSOCIATION

At the time of writing (early November) we have the AGM to look forward to, and hopefully some more committee members to help us in the coming year. By the time this reaches you in early December, we should have had a successful AGM and a strong band of committee members to help run the Allotments and arrange the outing, plant sale and, of course, the Comberton Show for 2012.

Comberton Show 2012. A Photograph title for the Mike Winney Trophy will be **"A Winter Scene"**. (Just in case the weatherman's prediction comes true, you can be ready!)

COMBERTON WI

Our November speaker was Geoff Evans, a man who holidays in wild and rugged places and indulges his passion for photography. Geoff's topic was the Western Isles of Scotland and members thoroughly enjoyed the spectacular scenery and beautiful range of colours. For many it was an introduction to the magnificence of a landscape reasonably close by, for others it was a reminder of happy visits in the past. Geoff uses his talks to raise money for Riding for the Disabled Association.

Date for diary: 13th December at 7.45pm – Members evening. Bring present, food and a sparkle.

COMBERTON LIBRARY

The Comberton Library re-opens on Monday 14th November after a week's closure for the installation of self-service machines. There will be a social event on the Monday night at 7.15 for 7.30 when Rose Melikan, a Cambridge author and academic, has been invited to speak on her historical novels "The Blackstone Key", "The Counterfeit Guest" and "The Mistaken Wife".

All welcome.

Please try out the new system and encourage others to revisit the library.

Membership increased over the summer as a result of campaigning, especially the WI birthday campaign; there were 15 new members in August and 16 in September. Perhaps budding journalists could write pieces for local press and parish magazines on why the library is important to them.

On Friday 2nd December at 8pm Comberton Cantabile's Christmas entertainment in Comberton Village Hall is in aid of the Support Comberton Library fund, tickets are £7 and there will be a raffle organised by members of FOCAL.

At the volunteer recruitment fair held at Cambridge Central Library I picked up job descriptions for the following posts:

Library visitor for the doorstep service

Engage in the afternoon helper

Craft volunteer



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Rhymetime assistant

Reading challenge assistant

Craft Assistant

Homework helper

I am happy to pass on details but hope that Lynda Martin who spoke to FOCAL can advise at a future meeting about these and other opportunities to support Library Staff.

Suzan Griffiths, Chair FOCAL, 18 Barrons Way, Comberton

<http://friendsofcombertonlibrary.wordpress.com/>

UPDATE ON LIBRARY CAMPAIGN

On 24th October David Harty, County Councillor responsible for Learning and Libraries, Christine May, Head of Library and Information Services and Marjorie Smith District Library manager attended a FOCAL meeting in Comberton Public Library. David and Christine are keen to explore community involvement in delivering the library service in the future and are meeting with Friends Groups and Parish Councils throughout the County. A reduction of £3.2 million in the County Library budget means that staff restructuring and reduction of opening hours will go ahead. Comberton is currently open for 19 hours a week with 27 hours of staffing; this will be reduced to 15 hours opening, a self-service terminal and 1 library assistant during opening hours. Public support, petitions and the formation of Friends groups indicated that communities wanted to protect their local library services and that they attach significant social value to libraries and the public spaces they provide.

FOCAL had its first social event on Monday 14th November when Cambridge author and academic spoke of her research for the Mary Finch stories (The Blackstone Key, The Counterfeit Guest and The Mistaken Wife) appropriate roles for the heroine and read extracts from the books. There was a good attendance and plenty of questions.

FOCAL will have its first fundraising event on 2nd December, a raffle at Cantabile's Christmas entertainment.

If you are interested in volunteering to support library staff there are job descriptions for the following posts, and more will be drawn up: Library visitor for the doorstep service, Engage in the afternoon helper, Craft volunteer, Computer buddy with family history option, Rhymetime assistant, Reading challenge assistant, Craft Assistant, Homework helper. Please contact library staff or email friendsofcombertonlibrary@gmail.com for more information.

Suzan Griffiths Chair FOCAL

THE VILLAGE HALL

The recent concert at the Village Hall by the 50 strong Cambridge Concert Orchestra was a great success much enjoyed by the capacity audience. It was

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good to see the Hall being used so fully at one time. The concert was a fitting way to celebrate the 5th Anniversary of the opening of the Hall which occurred a week earlier.

The past five years have seen steadily increased usage of the Hall resulting in the accumulation of more equipment. More storage space is therefore needed and so the Trustees have commissioned the construction of a building for this purpose behind the Hall which is currently being erected. The proceeds of the concert are being used to help finance this building. We are therefore very grateful to the Orchestra which regularly raises money for good causes.

The Hall is used for a wide variety of events. It is now necessary to book at least a year in advance to guarantee that it is free on the date required.

Malcolm Wright

COMBERTON RAMBLERS

Join our friendly group for wonderful walks

Comberton Ramblers' Association walks an average of 5-6 miles every fortnight on a Sunday morning. We are a very friendly group who totally enjoy the lead walks in our beautiful countryside. There's time to take a rest break if needed or to simply stop and enjoy the view or visit places of interest along the way.

Our members come from many local villages and from within Cambridge itself.

Go on, give us a try, you'll have the benefit of an exhilarating walk plus the companionship of a group of like-minded people.

Membership is £7.50 per person for the year and people under 18 are free.

For more information and a further list of our walks, please contact the Secretary, Eileen Marsh on 01223 262940 or email marsh.eileen@gmail.com www.combertonramblers.org.uk

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paper to help raise funds for local worthy causes.

How does it work?

Press Relief has a number of voluntary trustees who give their time and expertise free of charge. They jointly decide how money raised for the charity is donated to as many good causes as possible. Requests for help can be from individuals and groups. Each request for help is considered on its own merit and if successful, awards can be made for the full or part of the amount.

Where do we get our funds from?

Through a number of organised events in and around Cambridge. We rely heavily on the goodwill of local businesses to support us through sponsorship and acts in kind to help us get these events off the ground. We also rely on the generosity of the public to support our many events, sometimes by asking for help in the form of sponsorship.

So far Press Relief has raised more than £350,000 and has made awards to a whole range of groups and individuals.

How can you apply for help?

Go to www.pressrelief.org where you will find guidance notes and a downloadable application form. Alternatively contact Press Relief on **01223 434378**

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE COMMUNITY CHAMPION SCHEME

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service (CFRS) is launching a pilot scheme in South Cambridgeshire to encourage residents to carry out safety checks on their homes. The scheme is innovative in that it will rely on local volunteers to liaise with the community on its behalf.

CFRS is now looking for people who live in the South Cambridgeshire area to volunteer to become 'Community Champions'.

Community Champions will be trained to speak to local community groups about home fire safety and escape plans, and to refer those people who are unable to carry out a check of their own home to CFRS for additional support. Champions will also attend community events and take part in CFRS's public consultation activity.

Cambridgeshire ACRE is running this pilot scheme on behalf of CFRS. We believe that our strong links with South Cambridgeshire parishes means we are well placed to generate a good level of support for the scheme and we would encourage anyone looking for an opportunity to take on a more active role in their community to consider becoming a Community Champion.

More information on the scheme and to apply please contact **Lynda Bubb** via the following contacts details:

Lynda Bubb **CFRS Community Champion Scheme Co-ordinator**
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CONSULTATION ON REVIEW OF THE DECISION TO REMOVE ALL SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICE FUNDING

Further to our correspondence detailing the above, sent on 14 September 2011. We are grateful to everyone who has responded thus far, their views have been duly recorded.

We would respectfully draw your attention to the consultation period end date of 16:00 on Friday 9 December. Any comments you may have, or indeed wish to add to, should be received by that date. Thank you. The questionnaire that has been compiled to gather your views, can be accessed at www.cambridshire.gov.uk/busreview.

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Passenger Transport Team

Telephone 0345 045

WHY PAY WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE TO

Each month at Trading Standards we receive enquiries about things people have paid for that they could have got for free. In this article, we give advice on where you may be able to save unnecessary expense.

Warranties and Guarantees

When you buy goods, whether on their own (like a washing machine) or as part of a larger piece of work (such as a new bathroom installation), by law those goods must be of “satisfactory quality” and be “fit for their purpose”. They must be of a standard that a person would expect, bearing in mind the price paid, and be free from minor defects, be as described, and last a reasonable length of time for a product of that type. So if, for instance, the normal life of a washing machine is 5 years and yours stops working after two years due to a defect, you may be able to claim for a repair or replacement from the business you bought it from. This is the case regardless of whether you bought a warranty or guarantee. So consider carefully whether a warranty gives you anything extra.

Claiming from your debit card or credit card

If you are in dispute with a trader, instead of taking them to court, find out whether your bank may be able to help you. If you paid for something on a **debit card** and there turns out to be problems with the purchase, many banks offer a ‘charge back’ scheme where they refund you. Furthermore, if you pay for something worth over £100 and pay for at least some of it on your **credit card**, the credit card company is equally as responsible as the business that breaks its contract with you. So, if your holiday isn’t as it was described, if your new dining table arrives damaged, or if your new TV breaks down soon after purchase, you can insist that your credit card provider helps you if the shop won’t. This is even the case if you have paid off the amount you put on your credit card.

Personal Protection Insurance

We have received a number of reports about companies offering to claim compensation for the mis-selling of personal protection insurance on residents’ behalf, whether in relation to a loan, mortgage or credit card. This is actually something you can do yourself. The Financial Ombudsman has produced a leaflet which is available on www.financial-ombudsman.org.uk on how to make the complaint yourself. If you don’t have access to the internet, you can contact the Financial Ombudsman for advice over the telephone on 0800 0234567.

European Health Insurance cards

Even though some companies sell them, you can actually obtain a European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) free of charge which entitles you to medical treatment that becomes necessary, at a reduced cost or sometimes free, when

visiting a country in the European Union, Norway, Switzerland, Iceland and Liechtenstein. This is limited to treatment provided under the state scheme and you will need to produce your EHIC card. Visit www.ehic.org.uk to find out more and apply.

Legal advice

There are many sources of free legal advice available to residents. Trading Standards, in partnership with Consumer Direct, offers advice to residents on issues with businesses.

Visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/consumer to see how we can help you or call us on 0845 4040506. The Citizens Advice Bureaux offer advice on a wide range of issues including debt, benefits, employment, housing and family issues. Visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk or call 08444 111 444. Also, many people can get free legal advice under their home insurance policies; check yours to see if you can get assistance.

GIFTS OF GOLD, FRANKINCENSE, AND MYRRH

In Matthew's gospel, these were the first Christmas gifts offered to Jesus by strangers - the Magi from the East. The magnificent altarpiece by Rubens in King's College Chapel tries to imagine the event. Of the three gifts, two were from plants. Frankincense is a resin derived from *Boswellia sacra*, a woody shrub with feather-like leaves and small white flowers; it grows in Arabia. The resin exudes from cut stems; it is heavily perfumed with a clean aromatic scent but it is bitter to taste. This material is the common incense used in some churches where it is burned to create an aromatic smoke. Myrrh is another resin, this time derived from the small tree *Commiphora abyssinica* found in north Africa and Arabia. Myrrh had a wide range of uses in the ancient world; it was used to make perfumed ointments for anointing, particularly the dead. After the crucifixion, Jesus' body was wrapped in linen with a mixture of aloes and myrrh; these spices were provided by Nicodemus as the final gift to Christ.

Plants for Christmas

We are spoilt for choice for plants that flower indoors. Cyclamen are very good value as Christmas gifts. There are many superb examples of the larger flowering varieties; especially interesting are specimens with fine silver patterns on their leaves. Small flowering types look good when clustered in a shallow bowl. The big advantage of cyclamen is their long flowering period and they can be kept in flower continuously for 3 months. They do well in a cool position and with light watering. Feed once per week with a very small amount of liquid feed. Carefully remove flower stalks that have finished in order to keep the flowering constant. Very occasionally the plants might be infested with scale insect; an appropriate insecticide will get rid of the pests.

Orchids always sound as though they are an exotic luxury. However there are some like the *Phalaenopsis* varieties that are easy and long lived. These plants flourish under a regime of benign neglect, but read the instructions on the label to get the maximum flowering from your plants (<http://www.plant-care.com/>

phalaenopsis-orchid-care.html). Very little watering and feeding is required. I like to group 3 or 5 pots into the same container to give a more flamboyant show. Sometimes the plants look better if the stick to which they are tied is cut back a little. Flower colour is within the range white to deep pink but there is a large number of variations. Be careful on making your choice of plants, some have many more flower buds on their stems, so make a point of checking for this potential growth.

Have a good Christmas and if the weather is agreeable, try to get out and about and keep your eye on the garden.

R.T. Choke

THE CHALLENGE
NOVEMBER RESULT & WINNER
The missing persons were:- RUDOLPH VALENTINO, CHARLES AUGUSTUS LINDBERGH & JULIUS CAESAR SCALIGER
WINNER. PENNY COE. WESTLANDS (One of eleven entries. Thank you)

- THE CHALLENGE
Sponsored By Costcutter Stores
LOLOLO What's goin' on 'ere then ?
Everyone at the Policeman's Ball appears to be drunk and to have lost their partners. Please reunite the sleuthing pairs.(AA, BB etc)
- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (A) James "Sonny" Crocket | () DS. Peter Pascoe |
| (B) Comm. Jules Maigret | () Cpt Arthur Hastings |
| (C) Lord Peter Wimsey | () Number One Son |
| (D)DCI. Tom Barnaby | () Tinker |
| (E) Insp. Jacques Clouseau | () DS. Dan Scott |
| (F) Insp. Endeavour Morse | () Sgt. Mervyn Bunter |
| (G) Det.Super. Andrew Daziel | () Mike Burden |
| (H) Sexton Blake | () Marty Hopkirk |
| (I) Thompson | () Ricardo "Rico" Tubbs |
| (J) Paul Temple | () DS. Ben Jones |
| (K) Hercule Poirot | () SGT. Lucas |
| (L) Sherlock Holmes | () Robert Lewis |
| (M) Jeff Randal | () Cato |
| (N) Charlie Chan | () Steve |
| (O) DCI John Barnaby | () Thompson |
| (P) Insp.Wexford | () Dr. Watson |

Entries please to The Library, Doctor's Surgery or to Costcutter by the **30th Jan.**
The prize, £5, generously donated by Nayna & Vijay is to be spent in store.

Name.....
Address.....



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 GATE ROTA DECEMBER 2011 TO APRIL 2012

Open 8-30am, Close 1/2hr after lighting up time, Monday to Sunday inclusive

2011	November 28th	to	December 11th	Raymond Sewell
	December 12th	to	December 25th	Mick & Barbara Waters
	December 26th	to	January 8th	Alan & Mary Clarke
2012	January 9th	to	January 22nd	Jon & Jo Callan
	January 23rd	to	February 5th	Raymond Sewell
	February 6th	to	February 19th	Mick & Barbara Waters
	February 20th	to	March 4th	Alan & Mary Clarke
	March 5th	to	March 18th	Jon & Jo Callan
	March 19th	to	April 1st	Raymond Sewell
	April 2nd	to	April 15th	Mick & Barbara Waters
	April 16th	to	April 29th	Alan & Mary Clarke
	April 30th	to	May 13th	Jon & Jo Callan

Access on foot is not affected