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.

Ö	Size (w x h)	Annual	Single edition
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£400	£44
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One tenth page	60mm x 35mm	£ 50	£6
Coloured back cover (c	one-off)	Whole pag	ge £66

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

REGULAR DATES

	1(1001	STATE DIALES
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
1st 2nd and 4th Mond	ay Evenings at 7.00pm	n Carpet Bowls at Village Hall.
4th Tuesday of each	n month 8.00pm	Comberton Antiquarian Society at V. H.
4th Thursday of each	ch month2.30pm	Service & Social at Village Hall
Tuesdays	10.00-11.00am	Sign and Cuddles at Comberton Baptist
		Church

JANUARY 2013

		JANUAKI 2015
9th Jan 9.	.00-11.30	ComberTEA at the Comberton Playgroup
9th Jan 7.	.30pm	Parish Council Meeting In Village Hall
10th Jan	-	Comberton Friendship Club meeting in Village Hall
12th Jan 7.	.00pm	Quiz Night at Meridian School
I6th Jan 7.	.30pm	Film in Village Hall
18th Jan 7.	.00pm	Bingo in Village Hall
25th Jan 9.	.00-11.30	ComberTEA at the Comberton Playgroup
25th Jan 12	2.00pm	Luncheon Club at The Plough Coton
	-	· ·
		FEBRUARY 2013
6th Feb 10	0.30am	Comberton Reading Group at Library
15th Feb 7.	.00pm	Bingo in Village Hall
20th Feb 7.	.30pm	Film in Village Hall
22nd Feb 12	2.00pm	Luncheon Club at The Eltisley Arms Eltisley
		MARCH 2013
		Film in Village Hall
22nd Mar 12	2.00pm	Luncheon Club at Bourn Golf Club

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL.

The Contact team had a very pleasant evening recently when we all managed to get together for a glass or two of wins and some eats. It was a very good opportunity to get to know each other, which we have not had before and to show our appreciation for all the voluntary hard work which the team put in over the year. Bearing in mind that all our distributors are volunteers, it was unpleasant to hear of an incident last month when a dog was aggressive towards the person delivering the Contact. Sadly the dog's owner was also aggressive and that volunteer is not willing to deliver to that house. I am sure that this is a rare occurrence but as a dog owner, myself, I do hope that we can look forward to a happy dog and owner 2013.

VILLAGE CAFÉ at the VILLAGE HALL

Open every Tuesday 10.30 - 12 noon Coffee/Tea/Squash Meet up with friends or make new ones

COMBERTON CINEMA At the Village Hall

Welcome in the New Year!

Wednesday 16th January

Midnight in Paris



Fantasy romantic comedy written and directed by Woody Allen Starring Owen Wilson and Rachel McAdams

Wednesday 20th February

Anna Karenina



The Epic love story adapted from Leo Tolstoy's timeless novel Starring Keira Knightley and Jude Law

Wednesday 20th March

Hope Springs



The hilarious comedy starring Meryl Streep and Tommy Lee Jones

Tickets £3.50 on the door
Doors open 7.30, Film starts 7.45
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For further information contact Andrew on 263089 or Michael on 262748 This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees

VILLAGE HALL

Help wanted in the Tuesday Café

Can you spare 2 hours a month (morning) to serve coffee/tea in the Village Hall Café.

It is fun - you meet and chat to people.

Interested? Please ring Nerys Wright 262960



COMBERTON LUNCHEON CLUB

Dates

Jan 25th at The Plough, Coton

Feb 22nd at The Eltisley Arms, Eltisley

March 22nd at Bourn Golf Club

If you are a regular member please telephone Frances (C264230) if you are unable to come. If you wish to join as a new member please telephone Frances at least four days beforehand in order that a booking can be made in advance with numbers.



Gobbiedycake cupcakes at ComberTEAI

Next January dates to chet with a cuppe and a cake:

WED 9th JAN & FRI 25th JAN

Everybody welcome!
9 to 11.30 a.m. @ Comberton Playgroup

ComberTEAI - Bring a friend, a child or just yourself!



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Post of: Adult Education Assistant

Salary range: scale 2, range £15,039-£15,725 pro rata

Hours of work: 12 hours per week, Mon 12.00-3.00pm, Weds 6.50-9.50pm, Thurs 9.00-3.00pm.

This post is term time only, plus two weeks in the Summer holidays.

Brief Description of duties

The aim of the post is to provide administrative support for the Adult Education Department of the college, including one evening per week. Duties will include dealing with queries from the general public, processing enrolments and payments, keeping registers up to date and downloading course details onto the County Council website. Candidates must have basic I.T. skills, particularly in relation to using email and word processing and a good level of literacy and numeracy.

Closing date for applications is 18th January 2013

The Governing Body is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. An Enhanced CRB check will be carried out for the successful candidate.

For further details, an application form and to apply, please visit our website:

www.combertonvc.org Please note, we do not accept CVs.

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

from the Clerk

The Parish Council met on 12th December 2012

Co-option to fill casual vacancy

Nick Taylor of 41 West Street was co-opted. There is still one vacancy on the Parish Council so if you are interested in joining the Council please contact the Clerk for more information.

Recreation ground sand pit

The Parish Council has closed the sand pit and it should not be used.

Recreation ground land extension

The Parish Council considered the draft specification and drawings for the recreation ground and its working group have begun preparing expressions of interest to grant funding bodies for submission in the New Year. The Football Association's support and assistance has been sought.

Local Minor Highway Improvements 2013/14

The Parish Council agreed that a bid should be submitted for raised speed reducing platforms near the Meridian School. The Parish Council's Transport Working Group will submit the bid tot eh County Council and the Parish Council agreed to contribute 10% of the cost up to a maximum of £1,000.



Aquasol Water Softener Tablets £8.50 per 25Kg or 3 bags for £23.00 Dry dog food from £10.00 per 15kg

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St. Neots Road, Hardwick

Tel: 01954-210355

Assets review

Annually the Vice-Chairman and some members walk the village and inspect all the Council's assets. A list of work required has been drawn up and any necessary works will be arranged.

Other

Comberton Parish Council wishes all Comberton residents a Happy New Year. At its January meeting the Parish Council will consider its budget for the financial year 1 April 2013 to 31st March 2014 and set its precept, that is the amount of money that each home contributes from its Council Tax towards the Comberton Parish Council.

Parish Council contact details

Mrs Gail Stoehr, Clerk to Comberton Parish Council, Clerk to Comberton Parish Council

30 West Drive, Highfields Caldecote, Cambridge, CB23 7NY

Email parishclerk@comberton.org.uk	Tel: 01954 210241 Fax: 0870	705 2759
Miss Amanda Bacon (Chairman)	Arial View, 92B Swaynes Lane	e 264711
Mr Peter Crossley	59 Barons Way	262517
Mr Richard Elleray	30 Green End	262433
Mr Hywel Griffiths (Vice-Chairman)	18 Barrons Way	263390
Mr Andrew Hollick	73 Swaynes Lane	263089
Dr Janet McCabe	3 Westcroft	263387
Mr Simon Moffat	86 Swaynes Lane	
Mr Ben Pemberton	35 West Street	262445
Mrs Jill Preston	45 Long Road	263077
Mr Tim Scott	Moat House, 65 Green End	263434
Mr Nick Taylor	41 West Street	263419
Miss Chris Westgarth	85 Barton Road	263242

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 9th January 2013 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.

Planning applications

The Parish Council has a Planning Committee which meets once or twice a month depending on the timing of the planning applications received. The Committee is delegated to consider and respond on all planning applications on the Parish Council's behalf. Large applications or applications for multiple dwellings are still considered by the Parish Council. All Planning Committee

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meetings are open to the public in the same way as Council meetings are. The agenda for the meetings are posted on the village notice board in South Street. For information on any application or to make a representation please contact Cllr Janet McCabe.

ANOTHER SITE PROPOSED FOR DEVELOPMENT IN COMBERTON BUT THE BENEFITS GO TO TOFT

In response to SCDC's request for other sites capable of development the area of land to the north of West Street opposite CVC has been put forward by its owner as a proposed development and is now an option for the SCDC Local Plan. It could provide between 90 and 141 houses depending on housing density. The site has been evaluated by SCDC for viability just like the other four options in the earlier LDF consultation.



You will see the proposed site area labelled H10 in the map above. This is referred to under Site Option Question 1A in the phase 2 consultation as H10 - Land at Bennell Farm, West Street, Comberton, Site Size 6.27 (ha): Representation number: 39503 SHLAA Reference:326, Dwelling capacity midpoint: 115

SCDC has rated this site one in the most viable category in the SCDC options and notes the following:-

Pros:- Limited impact on landscape setting if existing soft green edge retained.

Submission proposes development at a low density to match local character.

Good accessibility to a range of employment opportunities.

Cons:- Loss of Green Belt.

Limited range of local services and facilities.

The MAJOR ISSUE with this site is that, currently, it is in Toft; so all parish precepts would go to Toft rather than Comberton (would otherwise benefit by over £7200). Comberton would be providing all the 'facilities' and incurring the extra traffic/sewage/drainage etc. It would be logical if our Parish Boundary were extended to cover this area.

In addition to this new site, the 'Village Framework' is to be extended to cover the recent CVC building additions (VF3) and Comberton Parish Council (CPC) has asked to include the small unused plot (PC1) above. These are consulted



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under questions 6A and 7 in the phase 2 consultation.

There are other issues being consulted upon, of a more generic and serious nature to SCDC - such as the location of any new stadium, and major new development areas. The new consultation runs from Mon 7 January to Mon 18 February. A Comberton focused SCDC exhibition is arranged in the Village Hallon Wednesday 23rd January between 2.30pm and 7.30pm. YOU SHOULD ATTEND!! (by the way Comberton had a SIGNIFICANT number of submissions with the vast majority in support of the Parish Council's viewpoints on Phase 1 - thank you).

CPC would like to encourage residents to respond DIRECTLY TO SCDC, copied to the parish council if at all possible. We would like to hear from any residents by letter to the clerk or preferably email to ldf2012 @ comberton.org. uk as to whether they support these changes, or object and/or wish to comment. Ideally these should be sent in by 11th February since CPC will agrits response to the Phase 2 consultation at its regular meeting on 13th February.

In addition there is a meeting at 7:30pm on 23rd January in the Village Hall on Transport Issues to meet and exchange ideas about how you would like any future Bus service to look, before the County Councillor meets with County Officers to feedback on local priorities. The latest documents are available on the SCDC website (under LDF), some of which are large. You might like to look at the sections specific to Comberton which are available on the Comberton website at www.comberton. org.uk/ldf2012 and a copy for reference in the Village Hall and Library. *richard elleray (Cllr)*

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, COMBERTON

In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry Revd Michael Booker- team rector 01223 260095 Revd Corin Redsell- curate 01954 212970

 $mike booker@lordsbridge.org-corin redsell@lordsbridge.org\\www.combertonchurch.co.uk$

Churchwardens

Mrs Debbie Spencer, Tel 264287

Mrs Mary Jenkins, 80 West Street, Tel 263751

Please contact Mike Booker about arrangements for Baptisms, Funerals, Weddings and the reading of Banns of marriage.

	Services at	St Mary's in January and Februar
Sunday 6th Jan	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
•	9.30am	Holy Communion
	4.00pm	Meditations for Epiphany at Childerley Chapel
Sunday 13th Jan	9.30am	Holy Communion
Sunday 20th Jan	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
•	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Sunday27th Jan	9.30am	All Age Worship
Sunday 3rd Feb	8.00am	Holy Communion (Prayer Book)
•	9.30am	Holy Communion

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Sunday 10th Feb 9.30am Holy Communion

Wed.13th Feb 8.00pm Ash Wednesday Holy Communion Sunday 17th Feb 8.00am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)

9.30am Morning Prayer

Sunday 24th Feb 9.30am All Age Holy Communion

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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) 5.00 pm (Folk) 6.15 pm (Latin)

The Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord is celebrated on Sunday 6th January. Ash Wednesday is on 13th February

Further details of these and all other services for January and February for the entire parish may be found on the parish website which also has the weekly newssheet and other parish information. www.olem.org.uk

$\label{eq:interpolation} IN\ THE\ BEGINNING.\ .\ .$ I find the recent scientific understanding of the origins of the world we live in

fascinating. Let me try and summarise these discoveries in less than a page. In the time it takes to say "In the beginning" the universe was essentially a rapidly expanding space filled within tense high energy light. This happened 13,750 million years ago, give or take 110 million years. Let's call that the start of Phase 1. Step forward about half that time span to 6,800 million years ago - the start of Phase 2. The disk of gas around the galaxy we call the Milky Way was starting to form stars and around many of these planets. During 4,540 million years ago Earth formed, orbiting around our own sun. Step forward half the time span again to 3,400 million years ago. Within a short time photosynthesis (single cell plants) began, a process that ever so slowly started to alter the composition of the atmosphere. Let's call this Phase 3. Step forward half the time span to 1,700 million years ago, and the atmosphere is still slowly being altered. Colonies of the single cell plants are continuing to grow, responding to the light they receive from sun, moon and



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starts, of all of which were, of course, formed long before. Let's call this Phase 4. As the atmosphere changes composition, single cell animal life begins. Step forward again half this time span to around 850 million years ago - the start of Phase 5. The oxygen level in the atmosphere is now rising rapidly due to the action of the single cell plants. Then single cell animals start to form multi-cellular organisms - animals to you and me. There seems to be a sudden explosion of a huge array of life forms that continue to develop. Step forward half the time span to 425 million years ago, and plants finally colonise land - the start of Phase 6. Not so long afterwards, animals with backbones start to acquire the capability to live on land and so the array of land animals develops, culminating in one particular animal who comes to have more effect on the ecology of the planet than any other, a creature that could speak, draw, make and then read and write. The curious thing is, I have read this story somewhere before. It is to be found in the first page of the Hebrew Scriptures we call the Old Testament, written at least 3,400 years ago. How did that author know? Now, that is a question.

God bless you all, and Happy New Year, Graham

Comberton Baptist Church is a community of people exploring the implications of what the Creator has spoken to his Creation. You are all most welcome to join with us: 10:30 am every Sunday.



NEWS FROM THE MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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When you read this, Christmas will be over and we will all be facing those long hard months of January and February. However, just before you take the Christmas tree for recycling and pack the decorations away in the loft, I would like to resurrect a little Christmas sparkle.

You may remember that last month I mentioned our two Christmas productions which, at that point, were still at the planning stage. As I write, The Seven Little Penguins (performed by the infants) and Jack and The Beanstalk (the juniors) have just had their Comberton premieres.

I am always really happy to introduce the plays and give a little vote of thanks at the end, but this year I was positively bursting with pride – so much so that, at one performance, I tripped up the steps in my eagerness to thank both children and staff!

The Seven Little Penguins was simply delightful. Our very youngest children (aged only 4 or 5) were all fish (apart from a few who represented a whale) and they did a lovely little dance around the audience, led by their teacher (who does not know the meaning of the word embarrassment) wearing a decorated fish on his head! The slightly older children were icicles and sang



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Also at 68-70 Castle Street, Cambridge CB3 0AJ Cambridge (01223) 713300 www.irenaspence.co.uk and danced beautifully, describing themselves as 'nicicles'. The oldest children in Key Stage 1 (still only 6 or 7 years old) took the major parts – they were penguins, naughty polar bears, echoing icicles and walrus policemen. Those at the back heard every word as the children acted out the story of some penguins who teach the polar bears the error of their ways. There is always an 'ah factor' when young children perform but it was more than that. The audience was truly very impressed by the confidence and characterisation.

So to Jack and the Beanstalk. As I popped in to early practices for the pantomime I became more and more mystified. The stage was split into two bits, the audience were apparently sitting on the diagonal, and there were huge backdrops, painted by our oldest children. Finally, we saw the finished product — and it was absolutely fantastic! The children sang and danced, slotted in topical jokes, and moved seamlessly from one scene to the next. There was a pantomime cow, a dame, a very accomplished 'principal boy', and a whole class wearing Big Friendly Giant Ears. Children sang in the central aisle, made unexpected entrances from the back, and moved from one stage to the next by pulling themselves along a rope 'beanstalk'. There is no space to tell you all the wonderful details but, most important of all, the children were clearly enjoying themselves hugely.

I cannot begin to tell you how hard the staff have worked on these productions. At the end of a very long term, they all look ready to drop. I feel very privileged to be the headteacher of a school where such determination to give the children a challenging, yet enjoyable, experience spurs people to go much further than the extra mile. Glennis Virgo Headteacher

ADULT EDUCATION AT COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE JANUARY 2013

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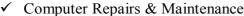
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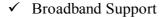
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Silver Jewellery Making for Beginners (Weds 7.30-9.30pm) £80

Stained Glass Day School Beginners (Sat. 23rd Feb.2013) **Improvers** (2nd March 2013) £26

Watercolours Absolute Beginners (Weds 11.30-1.00am) £58. **Improvers** (Weds 9.15-11.15am) £78

Watercolours Intermediate (Thurs 9.30-11.30am) £78

DANCE and FITNESS

Ballroom & Latin Dance Beginners (Mon 7.00-8.00pm), **Improvers:** (Mon 8.05-9.35pm) pay weekly £4/£6

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Keep Fit to Music Over 70's (Thurs 9.40-10.55 a.m.) weekly, in Toft People's Hall, coffee at end. £42

Pilates Intermediate (Mon 5.45-6.45pm), Pilates Advanced (Weds. 8.00-9.00pm) £45

Zumba (Weds 7.15-8.15pm) £45

GENERAL INTEREST

Computers for Absolute Beginners (Tuesday 3.15-5.15pm) 6 weeks, starts 19th February. £46

Cook4Life – a new 6 week basic skills cookery course, preparing delicious, healthy meals (Monday 7.00-9.00pm) £46. Free to anyone receiving benefits. Digital Technologies for Primary School Teachers (Saturday 9.30-11.30am) 10 weeks. £78

Excel Spreadsheets Day School (Saturday 2nd February 10.00-3.30pm) £26 Food Safety in Catering Certificate level 2 (Saturday 23rd February, 10.00-4.00pm) £55

First Aid for Child Minders (2 day course, Saturday 23rd Feb & 2nd March 2013, 10.00-4.00pm) £55

French Bistro Style Cookery Day School (Saturday, January 26th 2013, 10.00-4.00pm) £27

Genealogy Beginners (Weds 7.15-9.15pm 16th January 2013) 5 weeks. £39 Indian Cookery (Weds 7.00-9.00pm) 6 weeks, starts 16th January 2013. £47 Italian Cookery Day School (Saturday 2nd March 10.00-4.00pm) £27 Indian Traditional Cookery Day School (2nd February 2013 10.00-4.00pm) £27

Wine and Wine Tasting (Saturday 2nd February 10.00-4.00pm 2013) £32, including wines.

LANGUAGES (Please contact us if you are interested in English for Speakers of Other Languages)

Italian Term 2: Beginners (Mon 6.30-8.00pm), Improvers (Mon 8.00-9.30pm) 10 weeks, £59

Spanish Term 2: Beginners (Weds 7.30-9.30pm) Intermediate (Fri. 9.30-11.30a.m.) 10 wks. £78

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COMBERTON FRIENDSHIP CLUB

The Friendship Club met on Thursday 6^{th} December. We held once again our biggest event of the year "The Christmas Lunch", Fifty six people sat and enjoyed a very tasty Christmas meal complete with wine. Abig thank you to the caterers of Toft for a splendid effort. Every member received a nicely wrapped Christmas gift and card. Well done to the committee members who purchased and wrapped the gifts and wrote all the Christmas cards. A quiz was held relating to horses, dogs and cats. (It was hard). Thank you to Sue, our chairlady for organising it. A Christmas themed baffle was held which was well supported. Forty three prizes were donated and this raised £110 in ticket sales. Many thanks to the committee members and helpers for setting out the tables, Christmas gifts and raffle prizes. The hall looked very attractive and inviting. Merry Christmas to all members and we look forward to our next meeting in 2013 on Thursday 10^{th} January.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS - THANK YOU.

A big thank you to everyone who made the Annual lights event a success. Thank you to Hilary and the playgroup staff and to HIM maintenance for the electricity for the lights. The Salvation Army band from Waterbeach played our favourite carols and shared short bible verses that told the Christmas story. Thank you for the very generous donations to the work of the Salvation Army. Hot festive punch, mince pies and roasted chestnuts were served by members of the Parish Council.

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CAMTAD?

CAMTAD stands for the Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness. Not many people realise that hearing loss can be seriously disabling and, as the population ages, more people are finding their lives limited by not being able to hear and communicate. People can seem older or more confused than they really are, if they can't hear.

CAMTAD is a charity that was started in the Cambridge area in 1978 to help people with hearing problems. We have a monthly hearing help session in the Sheltered Housing Community Room, Nursery Way (off Barrons Way) Comberton every $3^{\rm rd}$ Tuesday of the month from 2-3.30 pm, staffed by local volunteers. People can come and have a chat about hearing loss. Volunteers service NHS hearing aids and provide batteries. New volunteers are needed for Comberton and the surrounding area. There is a training course starting in Cambridge on $28^{\rm th}$ February. It is a half day a week for 6 weeks and gives a thorough understanding of deafness and hearing aids. You will also have the chance to meet other volunteers and become part of a friendly team. Call 01223 416141 for more information or e-mail

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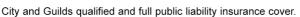
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LETTINGS SECRETARY

Lettings Secretary for the village hall and Ι am this Friday and therefore my details moving contact house the inside of the back cover of Contact need amending please. TalkTalk are unable to confirm before the magazine deadline what my new home phone number will be, so would you please remove my existing telephone number of 01223 262365 from the back page and insert my mobile number 07773 085479.

By the time the next issue is printed TalkTalk will hopefully have sorted out a home phone number and I can let you have that for the March magazine! Thank you. Stephanie Young

JUBILEE WALK... A WORD OF THANKS



Thanks to the MEARS group, the jubilee marker have been installed free of charge as part of their community action and support. The photo shows MEARS group employees; Antony Bateman and his colleague, Andrew Hollick, Chris Westgarth and Emma Hatherly, designer of the Jubilee logo. As previously mentioned thanks also to Comberton Contact for funding the production of the Jubilee walk booklet and St Mary's Church, Meridian School, Jeffreys Houghton and Co, Costcutter and the Twinning Association for funding the posts and the disks.

FRIENDS OF COMBERTON LIBRARY

December Report

There will be no meeting of the Comberton Reading Group in January but the group will meet at 10.30 on 6th February to discuss Fingersmith by Sarah Walters.

From the December Cambridgeshire Libraries Newsletter

"We welcome your donated books in good condition at any time of the year, but please consider giving a new book to the library this Christmas.

It may be a favourite paperback or children's book or something you see when shopping for books as presents.

Books for early years such as board books, picture books and nursery rhyme collections are especially welcome.

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Your gift will be appreciated long after Christmas is over - some of our books are borrowed over 40 times before they become too worn for the library shelves."

Date for your diary: National Libraries Day 2013, a culmination of a week's worth of celebrations in school, college, university, workplace and public libraries across the UK, will take place on Saturday 9 February. Why not introduce a friend to the library or try out one of the on-line resources? Did you know...?

You can borrow magazines for one week from the library but also search many more titles online by logging onto InfoTrac UK Journals with your library card. Some magazines, such as Which? may only be viewed on library computers but most can be searched at home. Find the link on the library website http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/online-db.htm Suzan Griffiths Chair FOCAL



COMBERTEA!

Isn'tthatagreatnameforsomething that was missing in the village?! Chrissie and I thought it would be nice to actually sit in a café with some others, from the village, for a change. But where? We actually enjoyed the fund raising MacMillan

coffee morning at the Primary school end of September were Chrissie was involved. And then we dreamt we'd like to open a little café in the village because the café in Barton or the Abantu café in Bourn are a bit too far away... So we checked the property that was on sale just beside Apple Tree at the time... but in reality that was not an option! Then we checked the village hall to set up something on any available day... but every morning was fully booked for different occasions. Tuesday wasn't suitable for us to join the Coffee Morning in the village hall which has been running for a long while. We also knew there weren't any toys around so we had to come up with something else.

Then there was a pause. Nothing happened. We had given up somehow. We were actually thinking of a play café where we could sell hot drinks and cakes on the side. Chrissie is very much into cupcakes and she has just started her own business. I am into crochet and I am thinking of selling a few things whenever I have time to make more. Actually I have showed some of my crocheted fruits & veg (strawberries, apples, mushrooms and carrots) at the Comberton village arts & crafts exhibition this summer. The Pink Coffee Morning a fund raising event at the Comberton Playgroup changed things! I met Zoe and we thought we knew each other from somewhere. Yes, actually we drop off our little girls every Friday morning and never had time to talk to each other. We liked the Pink Coffee Morning instantly: we actually had time to talk and also meet some other mums from the

HOLIDAY BUNGALOW

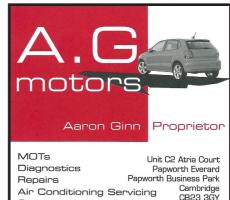
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nursery. I told Zoe about the 'play café' idea and of missing something like that in the village. Hilary, the playgroup leader, said to us: why not have it here?! And that's what we are doing now! Our initial ComberTEA was a fundraiser for ChildrenInNeed.Agoodstartwethink! Everyone in the roomen joyed the new event. Bella with Chrissie and Zoe

BACK UP

I wanted your readers, some of which have supported my fundraising, to be the first to know that I have a place on the ski course with Back Up in January 2013. I still have more money I need to raise, so put on your thinking caps and get in touch with some ideas for making me some more money

COMBERTON - VILLAGE LIFE...

Another new Facebook site (born 15th Nov 2012). But this time about what's going on in our village... just for Comberton. The advantages of a Facebook page are its interactivity, and the fact that one can put a face to a name (most of the time), and from a 'cyber community' we can become a real community by getting to know about and becoming involved in events in the village, as well as finding out about and supporting the businesses on our doorstep, and generally keeping up with the news about our village. It's an open site for everyone to view who is on Facebook already. You are welcome to comment and tell 'Comberton - village life' something old or new about the village - maybe with a picture. You may have a quick question about something. You may also make your own advertisement or recommend something around Cambridgeshire but the focus is on Comberton. Facebook is good for many things: you can send private messages to each other... not everyone needs to know everything! Only appropriate posts/comments are posted for everyone to read. I have been posting general things about the Meridian primary school, the Christmas Favre, AVON, Goobbledycake and ComberTEA a new event at the Playgroup;) I like new ideas... maybe we can have a little photo competition soon!? At the moment I am moderating this page alone but would welcome another person's input.

I was asked the other day: <u>What's</u> your <u>point</u> in doing <u>that</u>? My reply was: Quick networking with people around us and to get things online differently to <u>www.comberton.org.uk/</u> Let's see what we make of it. Enjoy! and make the best of it 'Combertonians',

-Bella

PS: Like the page - if you like 'Comberton - village life'



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RAG RUG CROCHET

My late grandmother was an expert at crochet and knitting, being able to devise patterns in her head and carry on a conversation, watch TV and crochet/knit at the same time. My attempts are sadly not up to her standards, but I am enjoying rag rug crochet, in which I do not have to maintain the same level of reproducibility in tension! Three single duvet covers is enough material to produce a reasonably sized rug, and there lies the issue. Thanks to an admirable level of recycling by my friends and myself to Bags to School collections in the past, my access to "out grown" children's duvet covers (these tend to make the best rugs, being brightly coloured) is very restricted. So if there is anyone out there with some old covers they no longer want (there is only so long they will sleep under Fireman Sam, Batman or Barbie!) please let me know. If you were going to put them in a Bags to School collection, I am more than happy to give a comparable monetary donation to the school instead. They do not have to be children's designs - just anything which has a high level of colour, and I am happy to take sheets and pillow cases too. Rips, tears or stains are unimportant as once crocheted these with not show. Please get in touch and let me know when it is convenient for me to come to collect or I am happy to meet at the Comberton Cafe on a Tuesday if you would prefer. Thank you for your time

PRESS RELEASE



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Heating oil thefts

HUNDREDS of litres of heating oil have been stolen from tanks outside properties in South Cambridgeshire. There were three incidents last weekend where oil worth several hundred pounds was siphoned from tanks. Thieves stole fuel from a tank in Fen Drayton, between 6pm on Friday November 30 and 6pm the following day, in Caxton between 2pm on Friday and 7.30am on Monday and in Odsey, Baldock, between 2.30pm on Saturday and 9.30am on Sunday. Detective Inspector Ian Simmons said: "With the cold weather now upon us people will be stocking up on their heating oil ready for the winter months. It's not cheap to buy so I would urge anyone who uses heating oil to ensure it is stored safely and securely. This type of crime is not victimless and we treat it very seriously because it costs victims in rural areas a lot of money and can cause severe disruption. We are determined to catch

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those responsible and bring them to justice but we need the help and support of the public."

Anyone with information should contact police on 101, or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555 111.

Issued by Sarah Silk on 05/12/2012 15:09:31

THE CHALLENGE

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Before launching you into this months puzzle please be aware that there is still time to enter the November as December puzzles, both of which have the same closure date as this puzzle ie 14 th Jan. This month we enter the new year with a very simple challenge. There are a number of words which in the singular form end with an F(or FE) but in the plural with VES. Eg ELF/ELVES Simply list a further 15 examples.
Ps. I must confess that I am being kind this month because the March puzzle is not for the faint hearted. Do I hear "Bring it on"? Wonderful A tipEnsure that the battery in your calculator is fully charged. A Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous Year to you all. Entries to Costcutter, Doctor's Surgery or Library by 14 th January please.
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We don't charge or ask for any donation for the help. It is part of us putting our faith into action.

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