

COMBERTON CONTACT TEAM

Editor & Designer	Anne Horler	20 Green End	01223 264683
	email: editor@combertoncontact.org.uk		
Treasurer	Terry Coad	38 Westlands	01223 263264
Advertising	email to: treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk		
Distribution	Marion Dymott	26 Barrons Way	01223 263292
assisted by	Mary Richards	38 Barrons Way	01223 262180

Please send all articles to Anne at the above address, or by email in plain or rich text..

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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
Two fifth page	122mm x 72 mm	£160	£18
One fifth page	122mm x 35mm	£ 80	£ 9
	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
1st 2nd and 4th 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
Tuesdays	10.00-11.00am	Sign and Cuddles at Comberton Baptist Church

MAY 2012

8th May	7.45pm	WI meeting in the Village Hall
9th May	7.30pm	Parish Council Meeting at Village Hall
10th May	2.30pm	Friendship Group Meeting at the Village Hall
16th May	7.30pm	Film 'My Week with Marilyn' at Village Hall
17th May	7.00pm	Evening Bingo Party at Village Hall
17th May	7.00pm	NSPCC Celebration Dinner at Hotel Felix
19th May	2.30pm	St Mary's Spring Sale at Village Hall
19th May	10.00am	CGAA Plant Sale at Meridian School
20th May	10 - 2.00pm	Comberton Market at Meridian School
20th May	11.00-5.00pm	Festival of Farming, Food and Wildlife at Bird's Farm, Haslingfield
25th May	7.30pm	Annual Parish Meeting at Village Hall
25th May	12.30pm	Luncheon Club Meeting at La Pergola
26th May	7.30pm	Comberton Cantabile at St Mary's Church
27th May	2.30 - 4.00pm	Queen's Diamond Jubilee Cream Tea at St Mary's
28th May	11.00am	NSPCC AGM and Luncheon at Hotel Felix

JUNE 2012

4th June		Jubilee Beacon & Picnic at St Mary's Church
8th & 9th June		Comberton Players
14th June	6.30 - 8.30pm	Party in aid of Bourn Mill at Mill Cottage, Bourn
20th June	7.30pm	Film 'The Help' at Village Hall

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Firstly, let me apologise profusely to Comberton Cantabile for placing in April's Contact something which made no sense at all. I hope that all will become clear this month. Secondly, may I say that I do try to include all that you send me but sometimes, space does not always allow for the prominence which you hope for your article. I have to use my editorial discretion and I can only hope that you trust my judgement. Terry and I have developed a good working relationship and I am glad that he volunteered to be on the team. There are cover spaces available for July (back only), front and back for September, October and December onwards. If your group would like to take up these spaces, please let me know quickly. They are very popular.

COMBERTON CINEMA

At the Village Hall

Wednesday 16th May

My week with Marilyn

Wednesday 20th June

The Help

Wednesday 18th July

War Horse

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

2012

EVENING BINGO PARTY

2012

Comberton Village Hall

Friday 18th May 7pm for 7.30

£1 Admission

Tea/coffee and Biscuits available

Bring a bottle if you wish.

Bring your friends from this and other villages!

6 games/chances to win cash prizes

£2.50 for a book of 6 game cards.

10 Raffle prizes every time

For further information contact Andrew on 263089 or Michael on 262748

This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees

South Cambridgeshire Branch

AGM & Luncheon

11am Monday May 28th 2012

**HOTEL FELIX, Whitehouse Lane, Huntingdon Road,
Cambridge CB3 0LX www.hotelfelix.co.uk 01223 277977**

**Guest Speaker Nick Edwards NSPCC Service Centre Peterborough
Guest of Honour Ann Morrison NSPCC Board of Trustees**

A welcome drink will be served at 11am followed by a brief Branch AGM. Nick Edwards will then outline some of the vital work being undertaken at the service centre he manages in Peterborough. This will be followed by a two course lunch including coffee & truffles, provided by Chef Tom Stewart. Free off road parking is available at Hotel Felix.

Tickets at £20 are available from Bill Armstrong, Branch Chair, warmstrong@hotmail.co.uk
01954 719745 Mill Cottage, Caxton Road, Bourn, Cambridge CB23 2SU



Find us on Facebook –search ‘NSPCC South Cambridgeshire Branch’ for further information about local fundraising projects

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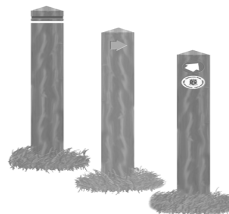
Families welcome!

Hope to see you there soon.

Comberton Jubilee Walk



To commemorate the Queen's diamond jubilee the Parish Council is creating a walk round the village. The walk will include Watts Wood, the church, the pond and village sign, the sensory garden, the pond, the rec. and many other village features. The walk will be marked by a series of 'waymarker' posts and discs.



A competition for under 11s...

Can you....

- Design a picture for the waymarker disc (ideas might include something to make people think of the Queen and the 60 years she has reigned)

Important information - The winning image will need to be scanned and copied, so please keep the design simple and please do not use pencils.

Please

- submit your designs on **A4 paper**
- use most of the paper for your design
- don't use pencil
- make sure your name, age and address is attached to your design (not written on your design)

Entries may be left at Meridian School or Comberton Library.

Closing date for entries April 20th

Jubilee Beacon and Evening Picnic

4th June 2012

Plans are taking shape for the Jubilee beacon (on the church) and an evening picnic in the grounds of St Mary's. The logistics of how to get the beacon to the top of the tower still need finalising but we are keen to be a part of the national beacon celebrations – culminating with the beacons being lit up, down and across the country. To add to the celebrations we are planning a 'Picnic Around the Tower' event – bring your own jubilee food and drink and enjoy a balmy summer evening with music and jubilee festivities... More details next month...

St Mary's Church and Comberton Parish Council



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If anyone would like to have a one-off stall to recycle anything that is surplus to their requirements they can ring 01223 208529 to book a table for £5.00 (limited number of stalls each month).

Queen's Diamond Jubilee

CREAM TEA

**at St Mary's Church
on Sunday 27th May
2:30pm to 4:00 pm**

Adults £2 pp

(Children juice and Biscuits free)

Tickets from :- Margaret 262748 or Barbara 262051

Bowling in Comberton

Have you ever thought that you might like to have a go at bowling – well now is your chance. We are having two taster sessions this year the first on Wednesday 25th April from 6.00 pm and the second on the following Sunday from 2.00 pm. You don't need to have bowled before, we have bowls you can borrow and people who can give you a general idea of what the game is all about. You will need a pair of flat shoes such as trainers.

Whatever your age, come along and give it a go.

If you want any more information you can contact
either Gillian (263734) or Irene (262084).

We look forward to meeting you

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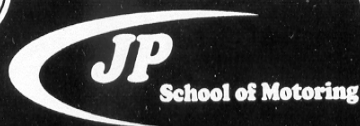
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FESTIVAL OF FARMING, FOOD AND WILDLIFE

Sunday 20th May, 11am - 5pm

The Countryside Restoration Trust's Festival of Farming, Food and Wildlife will include food demonstrations and talks, various local food stalls, a bread making competition, as well as tractor and trailer rides, guided farm walks, sheep dog demos, farm animals and children's activities. FREE entry.

Bird's Farm, Haslingfield Rd, Barton.

For more information, please contact the office on

[01223 262999](tel:01223262999) or info@countrysiderestorationtrust.com

IN THE FRAME

An exhibition looking at Museums collections of pictures - prints, paintings, posters, needlework, crafts and photographs.

Come and see what the museum has chosen. Discover the range of different things; learn to tell what these pictures are and how to care for them.

You may have similar things on your walls at home.



2nd May - 15 July, The Farmland Museum, Denny Abbey.

Opening times: Monday - Friday 12.00 - 5pm.

Weekends and Bank Holiday Mondays: 10.30 - 5pm. Normal admission charge.



For further information please contact 01223 860988
info@farmlandmuseum.org.uk

www.dennyfarmlandmuseum.org.uk

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Spring Sale

Saturday 19th May

2:30 pm

In The Village Hall

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Tombola, Raffle, Nearly New Clothes.**

In the autumn I intend to apply for a place as a
GENERAL COURSE VOLUNTEER
on the Ski Course in January 2013 with



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The volunteer places cost £1,000 each and with spending money I need to raise £1,500 to be able to afford to apply for a place. The places are limited, so if I am not selected this round, I'll apply again next year. The money I raise will be used for Back Up.

- To raise the money I have been selling items on eBay at <http://shop.ebay.co.uk/nikkwilliams/m.html> Please take a look and make a bid.
- Is there a chore I could help you with in exchange for a donation to my fundraising?
- Would you like to order a rich fruit cake or a large madeira cake for an upcoming celebration?

Please get in touch to discuss how you would like to help me in my fundraising efforts.

Avril Williams 01954 782431 avril.williams1@btinternet.com

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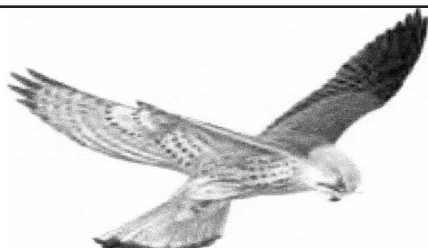
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PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

from the Clerk

The Parish Council met on 11 April 2012.

S137 Donations

The Parish Council agreed the following donations St Mary's Church £750 (churchyard upkeep) and Comberton Scouts £600 (to support their work with the youth of the village) and Cambs. County Council Summer Reading Challenge £40.

Friday night late night bus service

Cllr. Haranzgo was unable to attend the meeting so his report was carried forward to a future meeting when more information will be available.

Bus Subsidies - What You May Like to Know

The County Council subsidise 20% of public transport in Cambridgeshire at a cost of around £2.7 million per year. Work is already underway with operators to see if changes to routes and timetables could make some marginal subsidised journeys commercially viable and therefore reduce this financial commitment. Before any subsidy is removed it is planned to carry out consultation to find out people's public transport needs. For more information contact Dan Clarke on 01223 729079.

Comberton Playground Project

A group of residents are setting up a charity in the village with the aim to fund raise for new children's play equipment. At its meeting the Parish Council agreed it was willing in principle to recognise, and accept donations from this charity, when formed and it identified £4656.30 that the CPP could use as seed funding towards any grant applications that it makes for children's play equipment in Comberton. Simon Moffat was appointed the Parish Council's Trustee on the new Charity.

Recreation ground

The Parish Council received a report from its Recreation Ground Working Group (RWG). The RWG had received confirmation that works to the car park would not prejudice an application to the Football Foundation in the future.

Tim Lodge of Agrostis is to be appointed at the next meeting to assist with the land extension project

The following sequence of events were agreed

- Meet the football clubs and Cambridgeshire FA to agree the pitch layout
- Obtain quotes to carry out the proposed work on the recreation ground extension and extension and refurbishment of the pavilion.
- Invite quotes from architects to draw up plans for the refurbishment and extension of the pavilion
- Submit applications for grant funding.

A letter has been sent to Messrs Topham and Banks who sold the land extension to the Parish Council regarding the covenants on the land. A reply is awaited.

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Parish Council Annual Audit

The external audit of the Council's accounts will start on 6th June 2012 and will be undertaken by Moore Stephens at Peterborough. Comberton residents have the opportunity to inspect and make copies of the Annual Return and supporting papers. For the year ending 31st March 2011 these documents will be available on reasonable notice at mutually convenient dates and times on application to the Clerk between 3rd to 31st May.

Parish Council contact details

Mrs Gail Stoehr, 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	264711
Mr Antony Bateman	19 Bush Close	262243
Mr Peter Crossley	59 Barons Way	262517
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 Ben Pemberton	35 West Street	262445
Mrs Jill Preston	45 Long Road	263077
Mr Tim Scott	Moat House, 65 Green End	263434
Dame Veronica Sutherland	12 Hines Lane	362050
Miss Chris Westgarth	85 Barton Road	263242

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 9th May 2012 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.

Annual Parish Meeting

The meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Weds 25th May in the Village Hall. Come to the meeting and join in the discussions. Everyone welcome.

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

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dwelling are still considered by the Parish Council. All Planning Committee 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.

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Nominations have opened for young people interested in becoming councillors and sitting on South Cambridgeshire's all new youth council.

- There are 20 places available for young people aged 13 to 18 years old who want to have a say about the things that matter to them in their local area, and across the district as a whole.
- The role of a youth councillor is to represent the views and opinions of all young people in South Cambridgeshire, and to become involved in, and contribute to, the well-being of local young people and the wider community.
- There are a lot of things that youth councillors may want to work with South Cambridgeshire District Council on, including new housing developments, sports and arts activities, jobs and businesses, climate change and energy, and communication with residents.
- Youth councillors will develop leadership skills, gain confidence, get involved in decision-making and help organise youth and community events.

Officers from South Cambridgeshire District Council will be visiting the district's nine village colleges, and the Connections Youth Bus that tours the area, throughout April to talk to young people about what is involved in becoming a youth councillor, answer any questions, and help them sign up and stand for election.

Tracy Mann, South Cambridgeshire District Council's Development Officer, said: "Young people really care about all sorts of things that affect them, and the youth council will help them get involved in democracy at an early age. If you live in South Cambridgeshire and believe you should have a say in the decisions that are made on your behalf, then please volunteer to become a youth councillor and really help us to help you make a difference."

Young people can nominate themselves until the closing date on 1 August 2012.

If there are enough candidates who want to stand on the new youth council an election will be held in September.

For further information, or if you, or someone you know, would like to become a youth councillor, please contact Tracy Mann on (01954) 713342 or email tracy.mann@scambs.gov.uk.

Residents of all ages can also follow the youth council by 'liking' its Facebook

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page. Log in to Facebook and search for South Cambridgeshire Youth Council. For further information please contact Anna Efford in South Cambridgeshire District Council's communications team on 01954 713289 or

anna.efford@scambs.gov.uk

The South Cambridgeshire website can be found at <http://www.scambs.gov.uk>

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, COMBERTON

In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry

Revd. Michael Booker tel: 01223 260095

Rev Corin Redsell - curate tel: 01954 212970

mikebooker@lordsbridge.org and corinredsell@lordsbridge.org

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** and the readings of Banns at the Parish Church should be made with Rev Mike Booker.

Services and Events at St Mary's in May

Saturday 5th	9.30-1.00	Churchyard tidy up - all helpers welcome
Sunday 6th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Holy Communion
Saturday 12th	10.30-5.00	St Mary's Day away at St Mark's College, Audley End
Sunday 13th	9.30am	Holy Communion
Saturday 19th	2.30pm	Spring Sale, in the Village Hall
Sunday 20th	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Thursday 24th	2.30pm	Thursday Service and Social, Village Hall
Sunday 27th	9.30am	All-Age Communion for Pentecost
	Afternoon	Jubilee Cream Tea at St Mary's

Children of all ages are very welcome at all our 9.30am services - when the service is not all-age, there are always children's activities in the Barn.

After an excellent time last year, once again this May we have St Mary's Day Away at St Mark's College, Audley End. There's still time for last-minute bookings if you are quick.

As always the church building is open every weekend. It's a lovely Spring walk up the causeway or across the fields. Everybody is very welcome to find peace and to explore our ancient parish church building.

ONCE UPON A TIME. . .

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birthday, he was too old to go out in public and the rumour in the market towns beyond the walls of his estate was that the king was no longer alive. Indeed, many wondered if he had ever been.

The law of the monarch's lands had long been entrusted to the mayors and sheriffs in the towns and over time had been so rewritten that most of the Old Law had long been forgotten. Every so often adventurers and curious treasure seekers would attempt to gain entry of the King's estate. Many thought they had to climb the high walls, but the walls were too high and they could not get over, even with their longest ladders. The estate was so vast and the walls for such a distance that no-one seemed to know where the gates were, and many a powerful and proud knight would try to find the gates but after a long time searching in forests and pressing through deep undergrowth would return discouraged and confidently pronounce to all who would listen that there was no estate, for no gate could be found.

On the other hand, many knew folk who confidently told of their entering through the gate, explaining that the gate was small, a mere wicket gate, easily missed and which for certain no grand knight would be able to ride through. The gate could admit only those on foot, taking nothing but what they stood up in. The gate, they said, had an old sign which said, in the ancient tongue, 'Trespassers Will Not Be Prosecuted.'

Many said that was a misprint, for surely it meant, 'Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted', but those who claimed to come and go in and out through the gate insisted that the sign meant what it said. Far from being prosecuted themselves, they claimed they had discovered all their criminal records erased, outstanding county court judgements discharged or unpaid fines paid in full. (The Gate Folk, as they were known, had generally once had quite a lot of these for they were, if the truth be known, rather a disreputable bunch, although they were by and large quite well-behaved now, most of the time.)

Many of the townsfolk shook their heads at such silliness, but the Gate Folk exchanged knowing smiles with each other and quietly enjoyed their freedom to enter the King's Estate, and share their story with any poor enough to be willing to listen to their tales.

(Certain of these Gate Folk have been spotted milling about Comberton Baptist Church on Sunday mornings around 10:30 onwards.)

Graham

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Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening:-

5.00 pm	Cambourne (In the new church)
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 Ascension of the Lord is celebrated on Sunday 20th May. Further details of these and all other services for May 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



NEWS FROM THE MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

Opportunity - Creativity - Challenge
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At the same time as writing this (well, not simultaneously, obviously!) I am planning the Professional Development Day with which we start the Summer Term. I often think that these Professional Development Days are probably a bit of a mystery to those who do not work in schools. We are required to have five of them each year – and the Headteacher decides their content together with the staff and governors. They cover a wide range of activities.

For example, the one I am currently thinking about will start with a 'business meeting' where we plan the events of the term in some detail, making sure that things don't clash and that staff have notice of what is happening. The Summer Term is always astonishingly busy with national tests taking place, lots of sporting events, trips and visits, and transition arrangements for those leaving us to go to secondary school and, at the other end, the very young children joining us. Once we have sorted all that, we will be reviewing an important school policy, which the governors have asked us to look at. Then, in the afternoon, a group of staff (including some Teaching Assistants) will be undertaking some training delivered by an outside provider on writing Risk Assessments, while others will be meeting, planning, setting up their classrooms for the new term etc.

Sometimes, we have to undertake some very specific training – in Child Protection, for example, which all staff must renew every three years. Or we may join up with other schools to share expertise. In January this year

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Network 11 (the ten feeder primary schools and Comberton Village College) had a very rewarding and useful day taking part in a range of workshops which we provided for each other. These joint training days are one of the many positive results of our close partnership as a group of schools.

One of our Professional Development Days each year is given to writing the end-of-year reports for each individual child. One day is by no means enough – staff have to devote many evenings and weekends to this important job, but at least I can give them a day to get started, to liaise with each other where necessary, and to concentrate without distraction.

So, that is what we get up to on our Professional Development Days! More informally, they provide a very good opportunity for staff to meet together, consolidate relationships and talk to each other without having to rush off and do something else.

On a slightly sadder note, the school was subject to some vandalism over the Easter break. Fortunately, not too serious but it wasted a lot of our Site Manager's time putting things back to rights. I don't know if you remember, but a few years ago there was a television campaign which had the theme 'Do you know what your child is doing tonight?' I always thought it was a thought-provoking and compelling question...

Glennis Virgo

Headteacher

COMBERTON WI

Our April speaker was Louisa Milbourne, who gave a fascinating talk about 'A Very Different War'. Louisa had been brought up in Portsmouth and her parents had been actively involved in welcoming refugees from Nazi Europe. In August 1940, fearing invasion, Louisa, aged 8 and her 10 year old sister, were sent to the US for safety. They travelled in a convoy from Liverpool and arrived safely although ten of the ships were sunk. Fortunately they formed a very good relationship with their foster parents and spent a very happy five years in New Jersey. They quickly became americanised and enjoyed the relative peace. They returned to England after the war and found some difficulty assimilating into life in Britain but soon settled back into school and family life.

Date for diary: 8th May 7.45pm in the Village Hall – Resolutions.

COMBERTON FRIENDSHIP GROUP

It as nice to see once again so many members seated in the village hall. Our guest speaker was Mr Jason Middleton from Cellini (specialist jewellers based in Rose Crescent Cambridge). The informative and interesting talk supported by pictures on a screen, was about how natural and cultured pearls around the world were farmed and processed and then onto craftsmen to manufacture wonderful pieces of pearl jewellery. A competition was held amongst the members to guess the selling price of two pearl necklaces (which

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were passed around the room). The person closest to the values would win a pearl necklace as a prize. The lucky winner was Mary Lilley. Well done. The table top sale and raffle was well supported and helped to boost the club funds. Our next meeting will be held on May 10th 2012 at 2.30pm in the village hall. Guest speakers: Janet and Christopher South.

COMBERTON LUNCHEON CLUB

We have a successful launch of our new luncheon club on Friday 30th March at the White Horse, Barton. We have decided to hold this luncheon on the last Friday of each month, meeting at 12.30pm. For your information the May lunch will be Friday 25th May at La Pergola, Harlton, situated on the A603. Tel: C 260005. The date and venue for future lunches will be in Contact so keep looking. Transport can be arranged so do please telephone for help and to let Frances know for bookings, approximately three days beforehand. Tel: C 264230. We look forward to you joining us.

FRIENDS OF COMBERTON AREA LIBRARY

Update April 2012

Please note that the Library opening hours have changed (see back page). Sandra and Chris are now working at Papworth and Histon and our community librarians are Terri and Hilary. Please pop in and say hello. The Comberton Reading Group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.30am and new members are welcome. In May the group is reading Molly Fox's Birthday by Deirdre Madden and in June David Golder (Irene Némirovsky's first novel.)

The library service is looking for volunteers in the coming months to help in libraries across the county including

- shelving books and tidying shelves
- helping customers to use the self service machines and other equipment
- providing support for author events and children's activities.

Recruiting is initially for Bar Hill, Buckden, Rock Road and Whittlesey Libraries. If you would like to register an interest, ahead of future recruitment, please send your contact details to Dawn.Coleman@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. Volunteers receive interviews, training and CRB checks when appropriate. More information on the FOCAL webpage <http://friendsofcombertonlibrary.wordpress.com/volunteer-role-descriptions/>.

If you cannot get to a library why not download an eBook? New e-books recently added include a range of titles by Charles Dickens such as Bleak House, David Copperfield and Nicholas Nickleby as well as the biography of Dickens by Claire Tomalin to mark his bicentenary. You can also find many titles by Dick Francis, John Grisham, Frederick

Forsyth, John Le Carre, Lee Child and Nicci French on the eBook shelves (<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/leisure/libraries/online/ebooks/>) to choose from. Suzan Griffiths Chair FOCAL



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The total amount of money collected in Comberton, Toft and Kingston to date is £2695.24. This total does not include any donations which may have been sent direct to the Appeal Head Office. We wish to thank all the retail outlets, schools and the Doctors' surgery for allowing us to leave boxes on their premises. Thanks also to everyone who took part in the Remembrance Day Service at St Mary's Church, Comberton and also to the Church for donating the collection £417.86 to the Poppy Appeal. We are also grateful to the house-to-house collectors who gave up their time to collect money for the appeal and to you, the residents of the villages for donating so generously. I am sorry to have to tell you that I am no longer able to continue organising the Poppy Appeal. Therefore if anyone would like to take over this position (you do not have to be an RBL member) then please contact any of the following people as soon as possible:

Branch secretary Mrs Sylvia Diplock 01954 210662

County Fundraising Officer Miss Adele Richmond

County Office

01480 478522 Or 01480 478523

BUS SUBSIDIES – WHAT YOU MAY LIKE TO KNOW

Around 80 per cent of public transport in Cambridgeshire is run commercially with the remaining 20 per cent being subsidised by the County Council, at a cost of around £2.7 million per year. Work is already underway with operators to see if changes to routes and timetables could make some marginal subsidised journeys commercially viable and therefore reduce this financial commitment. The Council has also reviewed the way subsidies are currently paid and has started a phased three year change programme. Over the next three years the Council will be transforming how these subsidised services are delivered, resulting in an annual investment of £1.5 million. Before any subsidy is removed it is planned to carry out consultation to find out people's public transport needs. Everyone will be invited to contribute and work together to find the best and most cost effective way of meeting that need. The results will vary across the County and one size will not fit all. Solutions may include local operators, smaller vehicles, links to commercial hubs, such as the Busway or Park and Ride as well as direct routes to certain destinations and flexible dial a ride type services. If there is enough demand it could lead to more travel opportunities, not less. If the best solution to deliver an essential service is to retain the current form of subsidy, then that will still be an option. The new initiatives will be rolled out under the banner of Cambridgeshire Future Transport starting from April 2012. Subsidised services have been grouped into 13 geographical areas which have transport links within them and these areas will be reviewed in three tranches over the next three years. This is so that the services can be looked at as a whole and alternatives explored. More information will be released and public engagement will be carried out as each phase of reducing the subsidy starts.

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COMBERTON CANTABILE'S 'JUBILEE CELEBRATION'

Saturday 26th May At St. Mary's Church At 7.30pm.

The Choir will start their programme with Mozart's 'Coronation Mass'. For this we will be joined by Sarah Maxwell and David Steed, two soloists who have performed with us on previous occasions, and they will be joined by Katy Edgcombe, alto, and Ian Priest, tenor, both very experienced singers and members of Cambridge Voices and New Cambridge Singers. The rest of the programme will be of music by English composers plus Handel, who lived many years here. For his 'Zadok the Priest' we invite any experienced singers who have performed this before to join us. If interested, please ring Brenda Brown on 01223 262407. There are copies available. The concert will end with 'Jerusalem' when we invite all the audience to join us in a stirring finale. Women Institute members we need you! The charity we are supporting is the Prince's Trust, not only for its royal connections but because it helps young people (46,00 last year and hopefully 50,00 this year) who wish to set up their own business, or need help and encouragement to achieve their aims. What better cause in this time of mass unemployment when so many are left without purpose in their lives. We do hope you will be able to join us and add to the occasion.



CAMBRIDGE PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

**invite you to their Midsummer Party In aid of Bourn Windmill
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Come and help support one of Britain's oldest surviving windmills by enjoying the summery delights of our Midsummer Party - starting with optional guided walks from Cambourne and Bourn village. The party will be held in the tranquil surroundings of the Mill Cottage Garden by kind invitation of Kate and Bill Armstrong, next to Bourn Windmill. During the evening the Cambridge PPF volunteer guides will show you the inside of this 'open trestle post mill'. Home-made tasty treats, Pimms and Fruit Punch will be provided in the Cottage Garden or undercover if needed. There will also be a chance to win prizes at our raffle - all proceeds raised from the evening will go towards the upkeep of the Mill. *To book tickets please contact Claire Enderby on 01223 243830 ext 205 (devassist@cambridgeppf.org) Cambridge Past, Present and Future, Wandlebury Ring, Gog Magog Hills, Babraham, Cambridge, CB22 3AE.*

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Please book early as places and car parking are limited! There is limited parking at the Mill, so, if you can, please join the guided walk leaving from either Cambourne or Bourn at 6pm (details will be emailed or sent in advance) or cycle if possible. The mill is located off Caxton Road, Bourn CB23 2SU.

ASKSARA

AskSARA

AskSara is a self-help guide that enables people to identify items of equipment that might help them in their daily lives. It provides information on a wide range of equipment options, plus information on manufacturers and local suppliers. AskSARA is hosted by the Disabled Living Foundation and is now available with information localised for people in Cambridgeshire. Cambridgeshire's version of AskSARA can be found at:

<http://www.asksara.org.uk/?auth=cambridgeshire>

STAYING INDEPENDENT, SAFE AND WELL

Adult social care roadshow to visit Cambourne Library

Library visitors have the chance to find out about local services to help them stay independent, safe and well at a series of roadshows taking place throughout 2012. The roadshow has been visiting libraries across the county since the end of January and will be visiting Cambourne Library from 14th May to 9th June. The event will feature a display of information leaflets, presentations about assistive technology resources to help you remain independent, and details of Trading Standards approved trader scheme Buy With Confidence. Demonstrations of Your Life, Your Choice Cambridgeshire's adult social care website and AskSARA, an online guide to equipment to make staying independent easier, will be taking place on the last Saturday of the roadshow (10am-12.30pm). Trading Standards staff will also be on hand to tell library visitors more about the Buy With Confidence scheme. If you are interested in assistive technology resources please check with the library for the date(s) of these presentations.

For more information about the roadshows and to see the full schedule visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/social telephone 0345 045 5225 or email: yourlifeyourchoice@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

If you are unable to visit the roadshow but require information about staying independent, safe and well phone Cambridgeshire Direct on 0345 045 5202 or see the Your Life, Your Choice website at www.yourlifeyourchoice.org.uk

COMBERTON ALLOTMENTS & GARDENS ASSOCIATION DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2012

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hope to have courgettes, beans, tomatoes, brassicas, lettuces, garden flowers, herbs, shrubs and more for sale. Come along and bring your own surplus for sale – proceeds help to support the Autumn Show.

FREE ENTRY (come early to bag the best bargains)

Summer Barbecue - 14th July 6.00pm 'till late

Our famous annual chance to eat and drink too much on a summer's evening. Full details to follow (Date depends on the availability of our specialist chef and the weather!).

Autumn Show - 15th September - Meridian School

Our flagship event and all you keen photographers need to know the subjects for this year's competition. We announced the 'Winter Scene' subject at the end of last year, so hopefully you captured some great photos over the season.

The three subjects for this show are:	'A Winter Scene'
	<u>'A Celebration of Colour'</u>
	<u>'On the Move'</u>
and the Children's subject is	'Our Celebration'

We look forward in this year of celebrations to a wide interpretation of the subjects.

Autumn Garden Visit 22nd or 23rd September

Our first 'Autumn' outing proved popular last year so we are currently looking into gardens that have an Autumn appeal for a visit this year. Details to follow.

Annual General Meeting - 7th November 7.30pm – Village Hall

A chance to get away from the TV and lift those long winter evenings!

ARE YOU INTERESTED?

Hello, my name is Sarah Redman, I work in the press office at Cambridgeshire police. I'm looking to find community groups/newsletters who would be interested in running our press releases. We can send you information when it is relevant to local residents in your community. Please could you let me know if you'd like to receive this sort of information from us?
Sarah Redman, Communications Officer, Press Office Cambridgeshire Constabulary, Tel: 01480 42 2498



PRESS RELEASE

Police HQ, Hinchbrook Park, Huntingdon, Cambs, PE29 6NP,
Tel: 01480 422393, Fax: 01480 422674, E-Mail: press.office@cambs.pnn.police.uk,
Web: www.cambs.police.uk
Issue Date: 27/02/2012 Client Reference: Client UID: 12-9-4
Note on new 101 number

BRETTS



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Dear all,

We would be grateful if you could help us promote our new 101 number for all non-emergency calls. The number was introduced on September 21 and at the end of March the old 0345 number will fall out of use. The number change is part of a national scheme to make 101 the single non-emergency number in England and Wales. The system has been designed to recognise where the caller is dialling from and connect them with the local police service. If a caller does not want to speak to their local force they will be given the option to be connected to a different one. People should continue to call 999 when an immediate response is needed because a crime is happening, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, or someone is in danger. Thanks for your help,

**GET CLOSER
AND SUPPORT THE FORCE!**

Issued by Sarah Redman on 27/02/2012 11:35:53

DEAR CONTACT/COMBERTON RESIDENTS

I have been reading, with some interest, the comments made about the purchase of the land to the North of the existing Recreation Ground (Rec). As a resident of Comberton for nearly 30 years I am fully aware of the saga of this acquisition. I thought the original argument was that more sports pitches were required for the ever expanding village community! I also believe the purchase was a "sweetener" for the fact that Messes Banks and Topham wanted to sell the field, to the east of Olde Farm, Green End, for housing. Going back to 1987 they wanted to build at least 240 houses on this site. Something that will now happen in the future, due to the fact that the original (now bankrupt) developers managed to "panic" the Parish Council (PC) into giving permission for 11 "affordable" homes (as opposed to the original, rejected, application for 24, then 19). Soon Comberton will become another Cambourne. Having obtained, what has, in effect, become a "wasteland", arguments now appear to be breaking out in various parts of the community as to what exactly the land was purchased for!! I fully sympathise with parents needing football pitches closer to home and can see why Comberton Crusaders would want to work with the PC on this project. That is now a non starter, due to the amount of tree planting! It would make more sense now for the Community College (CVC) to offer their facilities to the younger children, when the original football pitches (on the Rec) are unavailable. I'm sure they are not in use full time and arrangements could be made, instead of the expense of using surrounding villages' pitches! I can also appreciate, as someone who walks dogs (and cleans up after them!!), why the tree planting would be beneficial to our environment. BUT, as has been pointed out, this won't be in our lifetime and we do have Watts Wood, (which the PC purchased for the princely sum of £1 and appears to do little to manage, apart from employing the odd contractor to go and hack a way through the paths). It would be nice to see it (Watts Wood) a bit more tidy, with wood piles for the wildlife, rather than just left where it fell, and trees

given some attention, which would prolong their lives. I strongly suspect, in time, the trees on the new Rec. will receive the same fate, if they last that long, as I see some have already been knocked down! We now appear to have some new blood on the PC. Let's see some action by them getting their act together and working for and with the community they are suppose to represent. I suggest they start by clearing all the Ragwort and other weeds from the Rec. extension and burning them. At least it would look a bit more tidy.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF CONTACT

Comberton Recreation Ground Extension

I would like to preface my comments about the above project having been a resident of Comberton for almost 48 years. In 1967 I was co-opted onto the Parish Council and subsequently served on the Council for 32 years having been "elected" on several occasions. Throughout my membership of the Council, and since, there has been an almost continuous dialogue with the sports clubs about how the Recreation Ground should be managed but without any agreement. To be fair the Bowls Club has always expressed a wish to remain an independent club being responsible for their area of the Rec. The Tennis Club also expressed the same wish until they decided to abandon their facilities on the Rec. in favour of those offered by Comberton Village College. This resulted in the Cricket and Football clubs not being prepared to accept responsibility for the management of the remainder of the Rec. I am also concerned with some of the proposals made by the Comberton Crusaders Football Club which, in the present economic climate, seem too ambitious and committed to the total use of the Recreation Ground extension for football to the exclusion of other interests. I must say that I was never in favour of the Parish Council purchasing so much land in order to extend the Rec. which cost in the region of £60,000 for the land and an excessive amount in legal costs of around £20,000. The cost per acre of this poorly drained and low grade arable land was quite excessive. However, the Parish Council in their wisdom acquired the land and frankly since then they have had little or no idea what to do with it. To be planting a wood on a substantial area of this expensive extension is unacceptable. This brings me to the reason for my letter which is about the information given in the April edition of Contact by a "Comberton Resident". I am very surprised to read that the Recreation Ground Extension conveyance document may include a Restrictive Covenant which prohibits the planting of trees on this land and that a substantial tree planting project is being carried out by the Parish Council possibly in breach of the covenant. If the facts quoted in the Contact letter are correct or otherwise it is essential that the Parish Council publicly clarifies the position without delay. During the negotiations for the purchase of this land, which continued for at least 2 years, members of the public were frequently excluded from the monthly Parish Council meetings when the Council discussed the purchase. I attended almost all of the monthly Parish Council meetings during the purchase

negotiations, as I have done for many years, and yet it was never possible for local residents to know how the negotiations were proceeding on their behalf. I was never happy with the exclusion of the public from these discussions. It would seem that the Parish Council were continually advised by their legal representatives to maintain confidentiality regarding the negotiations which I feel should have been challenged. The public have a right to know how their Council Tax is being spent and that transparency in all levels of Government is essential whenever possible. In view of the possible existence of a Restrictive Covenant regarding tree planting, it seems to me that failure to keep the local residents informed during the protracted purchase negotiations is the reason why the matter has only just come to light. The residents of the village should be informed of what is or is not permitted in the Purchase Conveyance as far as the development of the Rec. Extension is concerned without further delay. In fact there can be no reason why this document should not be made available in the public domain immediately.

Keith Banyard
Comberton April 2012



You are cordially invited to a

Celebration Dinner for 25th Anniversary of ChildLine

To be held at

Hotel Felix, Whitehouse Lane, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge CB3 0LX

On Thursday, 17th May 2012 at 7.00 p.m. prompt

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Ticket includes: Welcome Drink

3 Course Meal and Wines Coffee & Truffles

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Hotel Felix – 17th May 2012 – 7.00 p.m. prompt

Number of tickets required _____ @ £55.00* each £____.00

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Send to: Mrs Kate Armstrong, Mill Cottage, Caxton Road, Bourn, CB23 2SU
If you are unable to come, but wish to make a donation to ChildLine, please
visit: www.nspcc.org.uk/childline
Follow us on Facebook: nspcc south cambridgeshire branch

MAGNIFICENT MAY

This transition month between spring and summer provides a little stability in temperature. The cyclonic weather of April should have dissipated and we are not yet into the heat of summer. May is a superb time for blossom trees and shrubs. I particularly like the special hawthorns in the hedgerow and the brilliant crimson weeping garden varieties; *Crataegus laevigata* 'Punicea' is well worth having and has an informal habit, consequently it is good at the edge of the garden. For a spectacular leafed tree, try *Acer pseudoplatanus* 'Brilliantissimum'; this is a maple with salmon pink leaves when they first unfurl which later turn to pale green in summer. They are very good against a dark background foliage, for example a yew tree. Towards the end of the month, the mock orange shrub, *Philadelphus cononaria*, does well in our village; their white flowers have a lovely orange scent. Don't forget the lilacs; there are many varieties to choose from with fine flower spikes ranging from white, through many shades of pink to purple and on to blue. Most lilacs also have a great scent. There is a wonderful specimen on the road between Comberton and Toft at the turn to Toft Church.

May bulbs I recently saw that Prince Charles' home at Highgrove has a semi-wild meadow planted with exquisite blue camassias and purple-flowered drum-stick alliums. This is a lovely plant combination. The last flowering narcissus of the season is the lovely white Pheasant's eye, *N. poeticus*; it does well when naturalised in clusters under a tree on the lawn. Tulips are versatile plants with varieties flowering in March with others coming into flower in May. I like 'Inferno' which is a multi-headed variety with deep pink flowers. A fine yellow tulip is 'Georgette' with an orange edge to each petal. Take time out to visit a bluebell wood; Waresley Wood usually has a superb show.

To do When the frosts appear to have finished in late May, think about planting out your tomato plants and runner beans. There are many local gardens to visit: on 6th May many gardens are open in Chaucer Road, Cambridge; on 20th May visit the Barton gardens; the Ely gardens are open on 27th May. R.T. Choke

THE CHALLENGE

April result & winner

Winning entry (first out of the hat).....

THEIR THERE,	NIGHT KNIGHT,	SAW SORE,	BAIT BATE,
BORE BOAR,	TEE TEA,	RAW ROAR,	RIGHT RITE,
HEAR HERE,	SCENE SEEN,	SEE SEA,	
ROTE WROTE,	BE BEE,	READ REED,	
STEAK STAKE,	BOARD BORED,	MIGHT MITE,	WAR WORE,
SIGHT SITE CITE,	POOR PORE PAW		

Winner...Matt Wilkes. Westlands

1 of 31 entries (many thanks)

THE CHALLENGE

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A puzzle in three stages.

Stage 1- Simply fill in the missing numbers.

Stage 2- Carry out the maths as indicated.

Stage 3- Taking your answer as a year (AD)
name the significant battle of that year.

A.....Number of faces on a dodecahedron.

B.....Deadly Sins.

C.....Horsemen of the Apocalypse.

D.....Hundredweights in a ton.

E.....Baker's dozen.

F.....Squares on a chessboard.

G.....Square root of 729.

H.....Degrees on a compass.

I.....Yards in a mile.

J.....Wonders of the world.

K.....Number of Muses (Daughters of Zeus & Mnemosyne).

L.....Motorway Number -London to Dover.

M.....Cube root of 1331.

N.....Hours in a week.

O.....Tentacles on an octopus.

P.....Arms on a starfish.

Q.....'Magnificent' group led by Yul Brynner.

R..... Feet in a yard.

S..... Rods in a furlong.

T.....Fathoms in a cable (UK)

J x N = Plus I + C divided by S+L=

Plus F-G Plus O x P =

Plus Q + K + B Plus H divided by D =

Plus E x M =

Minus T = Plus A x R = _____

Battle.....

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We don't charge or ask for any donation for the help.

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May 14th to May 27th	Raymond Sewell
May 28th to June 10th	Mick & Barbara Waters
June 11th to June 24th	Alan & Mary Clarke
July 23rd to Aug 5th	Mick & Barbara Waters
Aug 6th to Aug 19th	Alan & Mary Clarke
Aug 20th to Sept 2nd	Jon & Jo Callan

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