# COMBERTON CONTACT MAY 2023

#### **COMBERTON OPERA**

At the Village Hall

#### Comedy Double Bill



Gianni Schicchi

By Giacomo Puccini Glyndebourne Opera



**Trial by Jury** 

By Gilbert and Sullivan
Opera Australia

Wednesday May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023 at COMBERTON VILLAGE HALL

Doors open 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start

Interval with refreshments
Tickets £4 on the door

Money back if you don't laugh your socks off!

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#### Regular dates for your diary

Day	Time	What	Where
Monday	Morning	Monday Studio	VH
Monday	9.30am - 11am	Messy Play (term time only)	CP
Monday	9.45am - 11am	Comberton Walkers	ВС
Monday	6pm - 7pm	Tang Soo Do Junior 6-11	MS
Monday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday	7pm - 9pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday	7pm - 9pm	Comberton Winemakers	VH
Tuesday	10.30am - 12 noon	Cafe	VH
Tuesday	1.30pm - 4pm	Fabric and Yarns	BC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday	(Except Aug)	Comberton WI	
4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday	8pm - 9:30pm	Comberton Antiquarian Society	VH
Wednesday	10am - 11:30am	Comberton Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wednesday	2pm - 3:30pm (term time only)	Bumps & Babes	BC
Wednesday	5.30pm-6.30pm	Pilates Class - book via www.faybpilates.co.uk	MS
Wednesday	6.45pm-7.45pm	U15 Football Club	CVC
Wednesday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
Thursday	9.30am - 11am	Messy Play (term time only)	СР
Thursday	5.45pm-6.45pm	U8 Football Club	CVC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday	2.30pm	Comberton Friendship	VH
4 <sup>th</sup> Thursday (not Dec & Aug)	2.30pm - 4pm	Oasis Teas	VH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Friday	7pm (7:30pm start)	Bingo Party	VH

VH = Village Hall C BC = Baptist Church N CP = Comberton Playgroup CVC = Comberton Village College MS = Meridian School

#### **Parish Council**

Meetings are normally held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

We welcome public attendance and the agendas and minutes can be found at <a href="http://parish-council.comberton.org/decisions/meetings/">http://parish-council.comberton.org/decisions/meetings/</a>

#### **Wheelie Bin Collection Dates**

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May Blue/Green
Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> May Black
Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May Blue/Green
Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May Black
Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> June Blue/Green
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> June Black



Advertising Rates				
	Size (w x h)	Annual (10 editions)	Single Edition	
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£475	£60	
3/5 page	122mm x 109mm	£285	£36	
2/5 page	122mm x 72mm	£190	£24	
1/5 page	122mm x 35mm	£95	£12	
1/5 page	60mm x 72mm	£95	£12	
Back page (colour)	122mm x 183mm	One-off only	£90	

#### Comberton Contact Team

Editor and Designer James Gilbert 07768 421049 editor@combertoncontact.org.uk 50 South Street, CB23 7DZ

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Distribution Marian Dymott 01223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg, png or pdf with 300 dpi. Please send any submissions for the June magazine by 15th May 2023. Submissions will only be acknowledged if requested and this may take up to a week.

#### LARGE POTENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN COMBERTON

Public meeting on 24th May, Comberton Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Please come for an update on the proposed development of a large retirement village in Comberton.

Discussion on impact to Comberton and the surrounding areas, including: ecology, medical services, drainage and roads.

Comments and questions to Angela Bridges, Comberton Parish Council Clerk: <a href="mailto:parishclerk@comberton.org">parishclerk@comberton.org</a>

#### From the Editor

Thank you to all our contributors this month - I had no shortage of material for the magazine, please keep those notices and articles coming!

James Gilbert 07768 421049 editor@combertoncontact.org.uk

#### **Comberton Village Website**

Regular updates are available at www.comberton.org

#### **Local Government Contacts**

Parish Council Chair Mr Tim Scott 01223 263434

Moat House, 65 Green End

tscott@comberton.org

Parish Council Clerk Angela Bridges 07735 908030

parishclerk@comberton.org Comberton Parish Council, PO Box 300, Royston SG8 1GA

District Councillors Ariel Cahn 01223 232186

cllr.cahna@scambs.gov.uk

Dr Lisa Redrup 07855 324580

cllr.redrupl@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor Michael Atkins 07968 264637

michael.atkins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

## The Parish Church of St Mary, Comberton



In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry

#### Friends of St Mary's Rogation Walks - 'Beating the Bounds'



Sunday 14th May at 1.00pm



#### **Activities**

Sun 14th May at 1.00pm - Friends of St Mary's Rogation Walks Thurs 18th May at 7.30pm - Ascension Day Communion at Gt Eversden Thurs 25th May at 2.30pm - Oasis Tea in the Village Hall

#### Regular Services in St Mary's Church Building



Sun 7th May at 9.30am - Holy Communion

Sun 14th May at 8.00am - BCP Holy Communion

at 9.30am - Morning Worship

Sun 21st May at 9.30am - Holy Communion

Sun 28th May at 8.00am - BCP Holy Communion

at 9.30am - Holy Communion

#### **On-line Services**



Zoom Church: Sunday at 11am - ID: 8231 1473 640 Tuesday Morning Prayer on Zoom at 9.30am - ID: 495 061 1016 Wednesday Compline on Zoom at 8pm - ID: 899 215 191



#### **Quiet Prayer**

Our church building is open daily for guiet prayer.

#### **On-line Giving**



Find us on Facebook: St Mary's Church, Comberton

www.stmaryscomberton.org

We can now accept on-line donations;



please see our website for more information.

01223 665654 davidnewton@lordsbridge.org

Vicar: The Rev'd David Newton

**Churchwardens:** 

Michael Edwards, 01223 262748, michael@kentings.co.uk Teresa Taylor, 07717 001429, ptc.taylor@btinternet.com

Curate: The Rev'd Chris Westgarth chris.westgarthlebtinternet.com Tel: 01223 263242

# Oakes and Watson Tree Surgery and Consultancy and Peter Oakes and Daughter Tree Surgery



Due to my father semi retiring in October 2017 my husband and I have continued the business that he set up some 25 years ago by combining it with our own.

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# Village Help Scheme Volunteer Drivers Schedule

To book transport please see the dates below and call the appropriate number

#### For the following weeks:

24 April 2023	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
01 May 2023	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
08 May 2023	Gill Redman	01223 262246
15 May 2023	Gill Redman	01223 262246
22 May 2023	Joan Wells	01223 262746
29 May 2023	Joan Wells	01223 262746
05 June 2023	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073

More drivers are **URGENTLY** required for this essential service.

For more information please contact

Mrs Gill Redman on 01223 262246

Mrs Barbara Mitton on 01223 262073

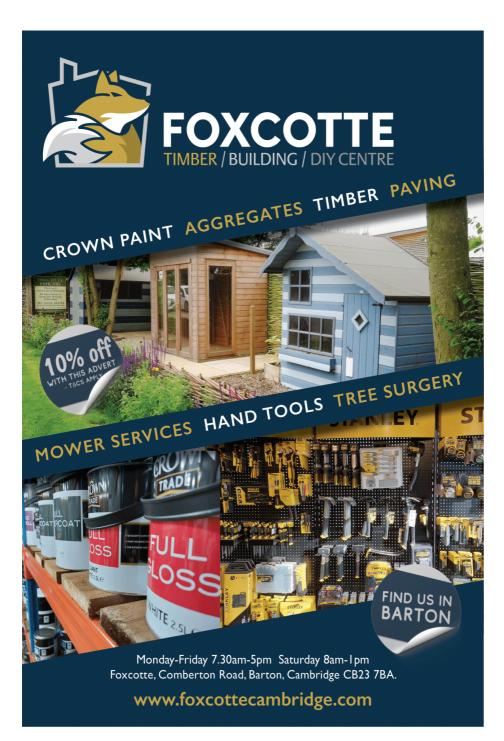


#### **Comberton Luncheon Club**

19 May - Three Horseshoes, Comberton23 June - Duncombe Arms, Waresley28 July - The Teacake, Shepreth

All lunches are at 12:30 pm

All welcome - please telephone Frances (01223 264230) a few days before to join us



#### **April Challenge Solution**

#### **Sponsored by Costcutter of Comberton**

The composers were:

CHARPENTIER PACHELBEL **SCARLATTI** ALBINONI **HANDEL BEETHOVEN PAGANINI SCHUBERT** ROSSINI GLINKA **CHOPIN** MENDELSSOHN **RESPIGHI SCHUMAN OFFENBACH** FRANCK **SMETANA BRUCKNER MASSENET** JANACEK HUMPERDINCK **DEBUSSY NIELSEN BARTOK** 

WALTON KHACHATURIAN SHOSTAKOVICH RACHMANINOV

MONTEVERDI GABRIELI

For the record four of the above composers all had alternatives which were of course accepted:

Massenet or Gassmann Bartok or Carter
Albinoni or Robinson Smetana or Fontana

The winner is **Robert Barnes** of Nursery Way.

#### **Comberton Winemakers Club**

The Comberton Winemakers Club meets in the Village Hall on the third Monday of the month at 7.30 p.m. We are a friendly group with the aim of encouraging the appreciation and enjoyment of winemaking.

Topic: Monday, 15th May – A Wine Making Hints and Tips Session. This replaces the event advertised in April's Contact Magazine.

Do come and join us in the Village Hall and learn more about our activities and social events.



#### Interested in joining the Gym? Sign up for Comberton Sports & Arts 'Great Value Gym Memberships!'

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- Badminton court hire: £10 per court per hour

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#### Comberton Players



# **Audition Notice**

#### The Snow Queen

Written & directed by Rachel Nielsen

Comberton Players will be holding auditions for this years Christmas Pantomime on the dates listed below. If you're interested in being on stage then please come along to one of the auditions (no booking necessary).

There are parts big and small for both young and the young at heart!
In this adaptation of a classic tale we are journeying to Scandinavia where a fearless team
of curious characters set out on a quest full of fun, peril and puns...
All are welcome, whether you have had oodles of experience on the stage or none at all!

#### Performance Dates

8th - 10th December 2023

#### **Audition Dates**

Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	5.00pm-6.00pm	Children aged 9 by the
		date of 1 <sup>st</sup> performance,
Old Village Hall		up to those in year 8
Green End	6.30pm-8.00pm	Adults and children in year
Comberton		9 and above by the date of
		the 1 <sup>st</sup> performance
Wednesday 28th June	6.30pm-7.30pm	Children aged 9 by the
•	·	date of 1 <sup>st</sup> performance,
Old Village Hall		up to those in year 8
Green End	8.00pm-9.30pm	Adults and children in year
Comberton	·	9 and above by the date of
		the 1 <sup>st</sup> performance

Our usual rehearsal nights are Tuesdays and Wednesdays starting in September. You will not be required for every rehearsal, but we ask members to keep those evenings free until we issue a detailed rehearsal schedule in September. We also have occasional Sunday rehearsals which are important to attend.

The Membership Fee is £10 flat rate (includes all rehearsals and performances)

The audition will include some acting using the script and some singing and dancing which will be taught on the night (you do not need to bring anything). Being able to sing and dance is not compulsory as some roles will not need it. If you would like to find out more or have any questions please contact combertonplayers@aol.com

Come and be a part of this great community event!

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# St Mary's Church, the deposed Monarch and the foreigner King

The Friends of St Mary's hope very much that you will come to St Mary's Church at 2 pm on Sunday May 14th, to Beat the Bounds. There will be 'tea and cakes' to follow! Please visit our website for more information. We will be gathering outside the Church, or inside if it's raining! Will you walk the longer or the shorter path? We will be handing out guide booklets. Perhaps you will pass the edge of the Herringland and return, going into church to read the Benefactor board on the west wall of the North aisle. Perhaps you will look up at the Royal Arms inside the church, high up on the West end wall of the Nave and see the Royal Arms of King William III, better known in his marriage as William and Mary.

Here is his Royal Arms on our church wall. The motto is in French - the motto of the Royal House of Orange - once a little Principality in middle France. King William was Prince William of Orange before he came to our throne in 1688 and clearly reckoned that it applied well to his new role!

Our painting of the Royal Arms motto is not correctly spelt! When I contacted the Royal College of Heralds, my Email was answered by 'Portcullis Persuivant of Arms'! He confirmed that it should say 'Je maintiendrai'- which means 'I will maintain it'. You could find a better example, 'freshly conserved,' if you made a trip to London to the Old Royal Navy College at Greenwich and entered the Great Hall. The restoration is spectacular!

But back to our Comberton Parish Church and it's Royal Coat of Arms. Why is it up there? Well, we have to go back all the way to the last year of King Henry VIII's reign. He, or possibly his son, soon to be King Edward VI, decreed that every church in the land must display the Royal Coat of Arms in a prominent place. Let's call it 1547 – Henry died in the January. From then on, as I understand it, the Parish priest made decisions about displaying a Royal Coat of Arms and it was the Church Wardens who had to pay for looking after it!

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Andrina Baldock, Foot Health Practitioner, SAC Dip. FHPP FHPT Register for Foot Health Practitioners Member When the Monarchy was Restored in 1660, a year or so after Oliver Cromwell died, King Charles II re-introduced this Decree. By the time he died in 1686, his brother King James II had already made it quite clear that he was determined to convert the Realm back to being Roman Catholic. Secret plans were already well advanced to prevent that happening. A group of great lords had invited Prince William of Orange and his wife Mary to come over with an army and take the throne! Both William and Mary shared the same grandfather - Charles I. Much more importantly, they were both Protestant, not Catholic. This was another turning point in our history.

King William III and Queen Mary II centre ceiling in the Great Hall in the Old Royal Naval College Greenwich.



If you visit St Andrew's Church Orwell, which has strong connections with Trinity College, you will find on display the Royal Arms of James II. I have read that only 6 churches in the land display a King James II's Royal Coat of Arms. So, why are we still displaying the Royal Arms of William III? A good question! If you look at one of the main pillars in the Nave of St Mary's church you will find a record of the Parish Priests in charge down the years. Did each of them, after 1688, think that continuing to display these Arms of William III was right and proper?

St Mary's Church Comberton has a special connection to Jesus College, as do six other Cambridgeshire churches – but that is another story. The Jesus College Archivist has been most helpful but there is so much more to discover!

David Hughes, Chairman Friends of St Marys Church April 2023



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#### May Challenge

#### Sponsored by Costcutter of Comberton

#### AN ENIGMA BLETCHLEY PARK SPECIAL

A short question has been encyphered by moving each letter by either one or two letters, in either direction in the alphabet. Eg.Using this system 'you' can become 'ant'. An answer is required, uncyphered!

DMLAGSUNL EPPSYDU ZQPGN DJYJKGOED KR SVKRD EHDHJBSMV

ZGQ/MP?

ANSWER	 	
4110011 EK	 	

Entries please to the Challenge Box in Costcutter no later than the 14th May. The prize, liquid and confectionery goodies generously donated by the store, will be awarded to the first correct entry out of the hat.

NAME/ADDRESS	
--------------	--

#### Comberton Allotments & Gardens Association Spring Plant Sale Sunday 14th May - 10.30 am – Village Hall

Our Plant Sale this year is on **Sunday** and in the **Village Hall**.

We should have lots of fine flower and vegetable plants to sell at very reasonable prices. If you carefully cultivate them though the summer they may even win you prizes in the Autumn Show!

This is a 'bring and buy' event so if you have surplus vegetable or flower plants or shrubs please bring along and add to our stock - profits help to support the cost of staging the Village Autumn Show.

FREE ENTRY so come early and bag the best bargains.

**Best kept Allotment Competition** – A reminder that this year's trophy will be awarded to the Best Kept allotment on the Long Road site.

Robin Worship; CAGA Secretary (<a href="mailto:robin.worship7@gmail.com">robin.worship7@gmail.com</a>)

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## Comberton Bowls Club



At last, after months of preparation, on Tuesday 25th April, the 2023 bowls season started and it couldn't have been a tougher start with three games in our first week!

It's still not too late to join. Just call in and have a chat with a club member at one our home matches.

All supporters most welcome.

Team	Venue	Date	Time	League
Sawston	HOME	WED 26.4.23	2.30pm	Foxton
Histon	HOME	THURS 27.4.23	6.30pm	C & D
Newnham	HOME	FRI 5.5.23	6.30pm	C & D
Abington	HOME	THURS 11.5.23	6.30pm	C & D
Needingworth	HOME	TUES 16.5.23	6.30pm	C & D
Coton	HOME	WED 17.5.23	2.30pm	Foxton
Coleridge	HOME	MON 22.5.23	6.30pm	C & D

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#### **Comberton Library**

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Tel: 0345 045 5225

Opening hours (excluding bank holidays) are:

Monday: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Wednesday: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Friday: 2:30 pm – 5:30 pm Saturday: 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Thank you to everyone who attended our lovely cherry blossom **Watercolour & Calligraphy** event recently. I am happy to say that Ariel will be back in Comberton Library for three more sessions in May, and that this time the theme will be flowers – and we have made the sessions a little longer to make sure everyone has enough time to finish. The new sessions will be held on May 3rd, 17th and 31st , and will run from 3.30 pm – 5.00 pm. Please contact us at Comberton Library for further information and to book your place. Everyone welcome!





The **Knit and Natter** dates are Monday 15th May, and 12th & 26th of June from 10.30 am to 11.30 am. These sessions have proven to be really popular, so we will be continuing them throughout the summer months - it would be lovely to see you.

**Rhymetime** is a lovely and lively session for children up to 4 years old – so please do bring along your little ones for some singing and noisy play with musical instruments. The next dates will be: Monday 22nd May and 5th & 19th of June from 10.30 am – 11.00 am.

15th - 21st of May is **Dementia Action Week** so please keep an eye out for what's on in the Library that week. For more information about these and other events due to be held in Comberton and other Cambridgeshire Libraries, please pick up our latest What's On brochure, or check the library website, Cambridgeshire Libraries Facebook page, posters and literature in the library, follow the link below - or simply ask our friendly librarians: we would love to hear from you! <a href="https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries">https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries</a>

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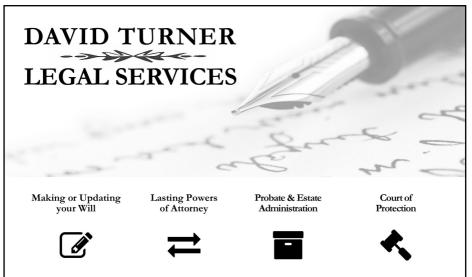
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Finally, did you know that Cambridgeshire Libraries offers a free Library at Home service for readers who find it difficult to get to a library? A local volunteer can visit once a month with library books and audiobooks they have selected based on your preferences, and can even stay to have a friendly chat about books and life in general. For more information about becoming a Library at Home customer or volunteer, please ask at your local library,

email <u>volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</u> or visit our website <u>https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/advice-and-support/library-at-home-service</u>









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#### Wednesday 17th May 2023 Doors open 7.30 Film begins 7.45 Tickets £4 on the door

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#### **COMBERTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

#### www.Parish-Council.Comberton.org

Parish Council meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All are welcome to attend. The agenda and minutes are on the website and noticeboard.

#### **King's Coronation**

The Parish Council will be giving out commemorative coins to all children aged 16 or under living in Comberton to celebrate the King's Coronation. Please come and pick up your coin on the north lawn at St Mary's church on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 10.30. -11.30am. Please also enjoy the floral 'Crown' floral tribute also at the church.

Alternatively, please email <a href="mailto:chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com">chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com</a> if you would like to pick up the coin on another day.



#### Endurance Estates and Inspired Villages – a proposal for a new retirement development

There have been no further updates from Endurance Estates and Inspired Living at the time of writing and the Parish Council are waiting for the application to be submitted to Greater Cambridge Shared Planning.

There will be a further informal public meeting, with the Parish Council, on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. This is a further opportunity for residents to share their thoughts and ask any questions on the prospective development.

All are encouraged to attend to help the Parish Council incorporate the views and wishes of residents when they asked to respond to any future planning application from the property developer.

For further information please contact the Parish Clerk, Angela Bridges - parishclerk@comberton.org

#### **Comberton Antiquarian Society**

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 23rd May at 8pm in the Village Hall when Clare Mulley will be talking about her latest book.

#### THE WOMEN WHO FLEW FOR HITLER

Clare's book, long-listed for the Historical Writers Association prize, tells the extraordinary story of Nazi Germany's only two female test pilots, whose choices and actions put them on opposite sides of history.

Clare Mulley is an award-winning author, broadcaster and popular historian whose books re-examine the history of the First and Second World Wars through the lives of remarkable women.



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#### **Annual Parish meeting**

The Annual Parish meeting was held on April 12<sup>th</sup> and reports were provided by Cllr Tim Scott (Chairman of the Parish Council), who firstly thanked all those who worked hard on the Jubilee celebration, which was greatly enjoyed and a great success in Comberton. Cllr Scott also thanked those who helped plan for the pond renovations, which was agreed to be a great improvement.

Cllr Scott discussed the possibility of East West Rail and the prospective retirement village planning application from Endurance Estates and how this may impact Comberton.

Cllr Scott also spoke about the newly planted Oak tree, which was hoped to be as successful and long lived as the recently felled Oak in the recreation ground, which was sadly cut down due to disease.

Lastly, Cllr Scott spoke of the increase of vandalism and antisocial behaviour in the village which had been reported to the Police. These had been especially prevalent on the recreation ground and in Jubilee Wood and residents are encouraged to report antisocial behaviour to the Police.

Penny Cook, Chairman of the Village Hall Institute Trust discussed the increased number of bookings after Covid restrictions were lifted, with two longstanding groups no longer using the hall leaving a couple of vacant sessions. Children's party bookings continued to be very popular, along with crafting and dance groups, who like the light and space of the hall.

Mrs Cook spoke of the large increase in the running costs of the Village Hall, and subsequent measures to save money, for example, the newly fitted proximity switches to the toilet lights, to prevent them being left on for long periods. Although hire fees were increased in September, the hall continues to offer good value compared to neighbouring halls.

Activities at the Village Hall include a weekly café, monthly bingo, cinema, and opera evenings and the Easter and Christmas Fairs raise important funds for the village groups and the hall.

Lastly, the team of dedicated trustees who work hard to manage and maintain the hall for the village, were thanked for all their hard work.

Robert Cook spoke of the Wildlife Trusts' Churchyard Conservation scheme, which introduced different mowing regimes, to enhance biodiversity by creating a patchwork of habitats. The Church was delighted that in May 2022, the project was given a Silver Award.

Mr Cook stated that although the church is about ½ mile south of the village, it resembles the hub of a wheel, with paths and hedgerows radiating into the surrounding farmland and towards the village. These have the potential to act as corridors which are vital to allow wildlife to move from one area to another in a fragmented environment. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre provided baseline data which show that 84 species of national biodiversity importance have been reported within 1 km of the churchyard, so the biodiversity work has already been a great success.

Reverend Keith Tarring sent his apologies, and a written report was shared. He thanked the Parish Council for its donation to the EDGE Project. Rev. Tarring confirmed that the average number of young people in each session was now almost 30.

Rev. Tarring also wrote about Comberton Baptist Church hosting the Comberton Warm Hub until March 2023. This was supported by the local authority through ACRE and was two, three hour sessions each week. For many, it was the social aspect rather than heating and warm drinks that was the main attraction, and the Warm Hub has now transitioned into a Community Hub – open once a week, on Mondays from 3-5pm.

The speakers were all thanked for their contributions to the meeting and Comberton before a short question and answer session was held.

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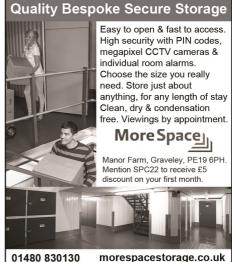
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#### **Comberton Women's Institute**

The speaker at our March meeting was Pat King who got us all doing Chair Based Exercises. It was great fun and we all joined in with much enthusiasm.

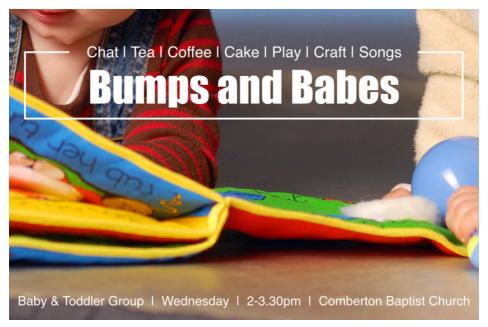
At our April meeting Jacqui Fuller came along to talk about Spinning and Weaving. Jacqui provided a very interesting insight into her hobby, since retiring, of spinning and weaving. She explained how she sources the wool she uses and provided examples of the many items she has made.

On May 9th it will be our Resolution meeting. We will be discussing the Resolution 'Cleaner Rivers for People and Wildlife' in more detail at this meeting. This is the Resolution going forward to the National Federation of Women's Institutes Annual Meeting and put to the vote. Also at this meeting we will be proposing a toast to King Charles III and the Queen Consort following the Coronation. If you have any items from previous Coronations, please bring with you.

Our meetings start at 8pm and are held in Comberton Village Hall on the second Tuesday of every month, except August when we have an outing.

Everyone is very welcome.

Sue Lewis Comberton WI



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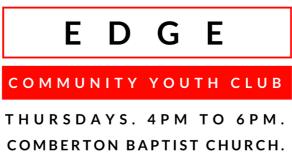
#### **Recollections of Beating the Bounds 2022**

Did you know that there's a stretch of footpath between Comberton and Toft where the field has been ploughed away from the path uphill on the north side, downhill on the other, creating a change in level, called a lynchet, which indicates the path has been continuously in use for over 1000 years? That the main routes, running east-west, include Mere way, Port way and Lot way, named after the allotment of parcels of land? That a hedgerow line, which if extended would end up somewhere near the kebab van, marks the Anglo-Saxon hundred boundary between parishes, dividing up the catchment areas for the church courts? Or that a local parishioner buried in the churchyard has been marked out for ever more by the feat - recorded, alas, upon his tombstone - of attempting to jump a toll-gate on horseback?

This information, and much else, was vigorously described by Paul Hardy during one of the two boundary walks offered on Rogation Sunday in May 2022, and to be repeated this year (details in advert...). The walk's scope and terrain was a mixture of field-paths, sections of road, an arc of the recreation ground and the lately-examined church car-park. Traditionally the entire village boundary would have been traversed, but the current layout of paths permits only sections, giving glimpses of our Comberton ancestors' experiences. I have since explored further, as suggested by Paul, and taken two friends on a semicircular loop from opposite the Arbory Trust burial ground in Barton to - you've guessed it - the kebab van.

A second, more local and pushchair-friendly second route was offered, together with maps and illustrated walk guides for both. Despite the lack of a suitable trajectory to the north of the village, this year's course may include the new housing estate opposite CVC. Much information was informally provided by our leader, plus the tantalising prospect of siting possible new paths...(see Paul Hardy's article in September 2021). For the longer walk you need to be comfortable crossing fields and passing through livestock-proof gates. I recommend the event to anyone with an interest in history, geography, natural history or maps. It is perfect for Guides, Scouts and students studying GCSE Geography.

Kerry Maunder



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Unless otherwise stated, charges are per session. Sessions are 9am to 1pm, 2pm to 5:30pm and 6pm to 10:30pm (midnight on Fri/Sat/Sun).

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\*Additional information for groups:

- Affiliated Community groups holding evening group social or fundraising events will be charged the residents evening rates.
   Non-affiliated groups holding similar events will be charged the non-residents evening rates.
- Groups working with children and/or vulnerable adults will need to have child protection and vulnerable adult policies & procedures in place.
- Annual affiliation fee of £10 is due on 1st January.

More information, including hall availability, can be found at www.combertonvillagehall.org

To make a booking contact the Village Hall Administrator, Janice Sutton at <a href="mailto:combertonvillagehall@gmail.com">combertonvillagehall@gmail.com</a> or on 07435 324408 (9am to 9pm).

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