

COMBERTON CONTACT

APRIL 2024



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

COMBERTON SURGERY

58 Green End, Comberton, CB23 7DY

01223 262500

Opening times Monday to Friday

Surgery 8:00 - 12:30 & 13:30 - 18:00

Dispensary 8:00 -12:30 & 14:00 - 18:00

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www.combertonandeversdensurgery.nhs.uk

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33 Harlton Road, Little Eversden, CB23 1HB

01223 262579

Opening times Monday to Friday

Surgery 8:00 - 12:30 & 13:30 - 18:00

Dispensary 8:00 -12:30 & 14:00 - 18:00

Phones at both surgeries go to night service at 18:00

Repeat prescription requests will only be taken over the phone for housebound patients.

BOURN SURGERY 01954 719313

bourn.surgery@nhs.net

Age Concern Cambridge Information & Advice Line	01354 696677
Apple Tree Dentist 1-3 West Street, Comberton	262838
Ash Croft Veterinary Surgery 169 St Neots Rd, Hardwick	01954 210250
Baptist Church Church Office	264707
Benefits Agency Chesterton Road, Cambridge	545200
Comberton Catholics (Fr John Minh)	832397
Comberton Library	0345 045 5225
Comberton Playgroup	262373
Comberton Village College	262503
Adult Education	264721
Cambridge Water Emergencies	01223 706050
Anglia Water Sewerage Emergencies	03457 145 145
Environmental Health Services (South Cambs)	03450 450500
Meridian Primary School	262423
Nursery Way Sheltered Housing	264434
Parkside Police Station	01480 456111
Samaritans	364455
Social Services	264466
(emergency out-of-hours)	01733 561370
St Mary's Church (Curate Chris Westgarth)	07710 661003
Street Light Failure reporting helpline	01954 233330
Village Help Scheme (Chairman Barbara Mitton), See panel on page 7 for transport bookings	262073
Wood Green Animal Shelter	01480 830014
Stray dogs (South Cambs DC)	443000

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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	BC
Monday	6pm - 7pm	Tang Soo Do Junior 6-11	MS
Monday	7pm - 9pm	Tang Soo Do	MS
1 st , 2 nd , 4 th Monday	7pm - 9pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
3 rd Monday	7pm - 9pm	Comberton Winemakers	VH
Tuesday	10.30am - 12 noon	Cafe	VH
Tuesday	1.30pm - 4pm	Fabric and Yarns	BC
2 nd Tuesday	8pm (Except Aug)	Comberton WI	VH
4 th 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)	CP
Thursday	5.45pm-6.45pm	U8 Football Club	CVC
2 nd Thursday	2.30pm	Comberton Friendship	VH
4 th Thursday (not Dec & Aug)	2.30pm - 4pm	Oasis Teas	VH
3 rd Friday	7pm (7:30pm start)	Bingo Party	VH

VH = Village Hall

CVC = Comberton Village College

BC = Baptist Church

MS = Meridian School

CP = Comberton Playgroup

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 <http://parish-council.comberton.org/decisions/meetings/>

Wheelie Bin Collection Dates

Thursday 28 th March	Blue/Green
Thursday 4 th April	Black
Thursday 11 th April	Blue/Green
Thursday 18 th April	Black
Thursday 25 th April	Blue/Green
Thursday 2 nd May	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	

Treasurer and Advertising	Terry Coad	01223 263264
treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk	38 Westlands	

Distribution	Marian Dymott	01223 263292
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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 May magazine by 15th April 2024. Submissions will only be acknowledged if requested and this may take up to a week.

From the Editor

Spring is definitely here with warmer days and daffodils in bloom, but the rain continues to turn parts of our garden into a swampy bog.

I was delighted to read that the road from Barton to Comberton will be resurfaced in June - navigating the recurring potholes is most challenging, especially at night.

Please keep the articles coming, otherwise we will only have advertisements....

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	Jennifer Martin jen.martin@comberton-pc.gov.uk
Parish Council Clerk	Angela Bridges 07735 908030 clerk@comberton-pc.gov.uk 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.redrup@scambs.gov.uk
County Councillor	Michael Atkins 07968 264637 michael.atkins@cambridgeshire.gov.uk



Village Help Scheme

Volunteer Drivers Schedule

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

For the following weeks:

25 March 2024	Gill Redman	01223 262246
01 April 2024	Joan Wells	01223 262746
08 April 2024	Joan Wells	01223 262746
15 April 2024	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
22 April 2024	Angela Donnelly	01223 263283
29 April 2024	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
06 May 2024	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073

Please Note

With the closure of the Butchers payments should now be made at the pub.

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

3 May 2024 - Black Horse, Dry Drayton

7 June 2024 - Three Horseshoes, Madingley

28 June 2024 - Toft Golf Course

All lunches are at 12:30 pm

Please feel free to join us—just call Frances on 01223 264230



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The Parish Church of St Mary, Comberton



In the Benefice of The Lordsbridge Team

**Sunday
28th April
at 11.45am**



**Bring & Share
Lunch in the
Village Hall**



Activities

Every Wednesday at 11am - **Men's Shed** at Madingley Hall
Sun 21st April at 10.30am - **Annual Parochial Church Meeting**
Thursday at 2.30pm - **Oasis Teas** in the Village Hall



Regular Services in St Mary's Church Building

Sun 7th April at 9.30am - **Holy Communion**
Sun 14th April at 8.00am - **BCP Holy Communion**
9.30am - **Holy Communion**
Sun 21st April at 9.30am - **Morning Worship**
Sun 28th April at 8.00am - **BCP Holy Communion**
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 usually open from
7.30am-4pm for visits & individual prayer.

On-line Giving

We can now accept on-line donations;
more information on our website.



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

For information about Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals,
please contact The Rev'd Chris Westgarth

Curates: The Rev'd Chris Westgarth

chris.westgarth@btinternet.com

Tel: 07710 661003

The Rev'd Barnabas Leeke

barnabas.leeke@lordsbridge.org

Tel: 07787 800888

Churchwardens:

Michael Edwards, 01223 262748, michael@kentings.co.uk

Teresa Taylor, 07717 001429, ptc.taylor@btinternet.com

<http://www.stmaryscomberton.org>

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Meridian Primary School

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Greetings Neighbours,

Meridian Primary School has had an enjoyable few weeks leading up to the Easter holiday. Some great learning experiences have been off school site.

Lunar New Year Assembly on Monday 12th February

On Monday 12th February, our Headteacher Mrs Etchie led a special Lunar New Year Assembly. She engaged children in cultural festivities, emphasising the significance of the occasion for different communities around the world.

Meridian Ancient Egyptian Museum on Wednesday 14th February

This term, Year 3 children studied Ancient Egyptians. On Wednesday 13th February, they created a Meridian Ancient Egyptian Museum after visiting the Fitzwilliam Museum. They acted as tour guides, sharing with different year groups and parents. Their colorful wax resist images, clay canopic jars, and carefully crafted Ancient Egyptian artifacts created a wonderful display.

Year 4 Wandlebury Country Park on Friday 16th February

Year 4 children had an enriching experience at Wandlebury Country Park on Friday 16th February. They immersed themselves in nature, learning about local wildlife and conservation efforts. Thank you to all parent volunteers who made this memorable excursion possible!

Year 6 Ely Museum Trip on Monday 4th March

Year 6 children had a great trip to Ely Museum on Monday 4th March. The children enjoyed learning all about the Anglo Saxons. They took part in workshops about trading, home life and artefacts. They had the opportunity to handle the objects and also dress up!

World Book Day on Thursday 7th March

Meridian celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 7th March with various engaging activities. The highlight was the Child Book Character Dress-up and Catwalk, featuring an impressive display of costumes. Children exchanged preloved books during the Book Swap and participated in Flash-Mob Reading and Guess Who. Staff anonymously shared favourite books, adding to the excitement. Book Buddies saw older children reading with younger ones, fostering a love for reading. The day aimed to inspire lifelong learning and a passion for reading, leaving a memorable impact on both children and staff alike.

PTA Surprise Someone Special on Friday 8th March

The PTA hosted a 'Surprise Someone Special' gift shop at Meridian on Friday 8th March, giving children a chance to appreciate a special adult by purchasing a gift. Thanks to PTA volunteers for helping children select and wrap gifts, keeping the surprise secret until presentation. We hope it was a fun experience for Meridian children, making the special adult feel appreciated and loved.

Wishing you a joyful Easter holiday!

Kind regards

Mrs Carole Etchie and Everyone
Headteacher at Meridian



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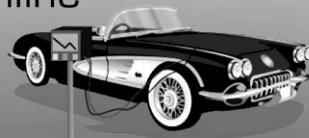


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AIP Approved 12/02/2024



April Challenge

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Oh dear! “SIGHS” seems to be a problem.....

LITTLE, LARGE, BIG, SMALL , not forgetting TINY.

Each of the entries below have had at least one of the above deleted.
Your task is simply to fill in the gaps.

Single letter guides: (F) Film; (N) Novel; (M) Music; (W) Wrestling;
(TP) Theme Park; (E) Entertainers; (B) World of Business.

DARBY O'GILL AND THE PEOPLE (F)

..... DADDY (W) DIPPER (TP)

..... WOMEN (N/F) HORN (F)

..... HAND FOR THE LADY (F)

..... FACES (M) THE SLEEP (F)

..... BY (M) NELL (N)

DOCTOR AT (F) MAN (F)

..... AND (E) STUART (F)

..... BILL CAMPBELL AND HIS ROCKY MOUNTAIN RHYTHM (M) ***

THE KNIFE (F) THE LEBOWSKI (F)

THE SHOP OF HORRORS (F)

THE COUNTRY(F) LORD FAUNTLEROY (F)

..... DORRITT (N/F) ROWLAND (B)

..... TIM (N) CAESAR (F)

*** Very debatable ! Trade Descriptions Act ?

Entries to store please no later than 14th APRIL .First all correct entry
out of the hat wins a prize generously donated by Costcutter.

NAME/ADDRESS.....

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Comberton Nature Recovery

Comberton faces many environmental pressures, including climate change and biodiversity loss. We enjoy nature, but we are in the heartland of UK agriculture, which is so important for our food security. We are also close to Cambridge, a city that is an engine for economic and urban expansion.

Natural habitats and biodiversity are losing ground on all fronts, but we can build resilience and help nature recover, if we restore and connect our wild spaces. This is why the Parish Council has set up a *Nature Recovery Group*. The initiative follows from changes in the management of St Mary's churchyard to improve biodiversity. The church is at the centre of a network of paths, hedges, woods, and meadows that are of great importance to wildlife. There is also a legal imperative under the Environment Act 2021, through which the Natural Cambridgeshire Local Nature Partnership has been established.

A meeting in February sought views from residents as to how we can develop a *Comberton Nature Recovery Network* to improve our own natural environment, bring more wildlife and sustainable habitats into the village, and support national targets for nature recovery. The next stages of the project are now being mapped out and will be reported in Contact as soon as plans have consolidated.

What can individual householders do?

There is much we can do as individuals to help nature in the village. For example:

- Adopt 'No Mow May' as encouraged by the UK charity called 'Plantlife' whose website can be found at <https://www.plantlife.org.uk/> and avoid cutting areas of grass until the end of May to allow spring flowers to develop and set seed.
- Likewise, avoid cutting hedges between March and August. Many people do not appreciate that it is illegal to disturb nesting birds whilst trimming hedges. Avoiding hedge trimming during the summer months also allows production of berries as a bird food source.

We will produce more suggestions and updates from time to time as the project evolves.

Robert Cook
Parish Council Nature Recovery Group
combertonnaturenet@outlook.com



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Comberton Playgroup

Hello!

Comberton Playgroup needs you! Have you ever thought about becoming a Playgroup trustee?

As you may know, Comberton Playgroup is a Charity which relies on the work of its volunteer trustees to keep going. We don't mean to be dramatic but WITHOUT TRUSTEES PLAYGROUP CANNOT CONTINUE IN ITS CURRENT FORM. We're looking for some more enthusiastic and imaginative people to join us!

Our trustees offer many crucial supportive roles to Rachel and team:

- We help Playgroups' senior leadership team and other trustees deal with immediate challenges and plan for the future.
- We review and provide feedback on policies and procedures via email on an ad-hoc basis.
- We help Playgroups' senior leadership team with interviewing potential staff on an ad-hoc basis.

Being a trustee is a really rewarding experience and it's not very time consuming. You don't need to have any experience working with children, we need people with all kinds of experience including (but definitely not limited to) finance, business development, people management, education, services, community development, local government etc. etc. It's really important that we have a strong group of trustees with different skills, backgrounds and experience so this is a call for your help. Could you spare some time to work with us to ensure that the unique offer that Comberton playgroup provides continues to thrive and develop for future generations?

In order to be a trustee:

- You need to fill out an application form and have a DBS check
- You need to attend one in person meeting per term (that's only 3 per year!)

Please drop us an email or give us a call 01223 262373 if you're interested in becoming a trustee.

You can speak to:

Playgroup leader: Rachel Lowing comberton.playgroup@btconnect.com

Chair of the Trustees: Gareth Lane* gareth.lane@gmail.com

Current Trustees:

Miranda Horvath (a long-standing trustee whose children are now at Primary School)

miranda.horvath@gmail.com

Ruby Davies (a relatively new trustee whose child currently attends Playgroup)

rubydavies@hotmail.com

Lynn Pettit (a relatively new trustee who use to work at Playgroup)

lynnfpettit@yahoo.com

*Trustees who are stepping down very soon.

We really hope to hear from you soon!

Warm wishes

The Playgroup team and trustees

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Comberton Village Hall

Scrapper

12

Starring Harris Dickinson and Lola Campbell



It's said that it takes a village to raise a child but 12-year-old Georgie (Lola Campbell) has other ideas. Living alone since her beloved mum died, Georgie fills the flat they shared with her own special magic. When her absent father Jason (Harris Dickinson) turns up out of the blue, she's forced to confront reality.

A dreamy, witty and unmissable tale of family and fresh starts, SCRAPER is a film that believes life's not so much about chasing rainbows but snatching fistfuls in both hands.

Wednesday 17th April 2024

Doors open 7.30 Film begins 7.45

Tickets £5 on the door

For further information or if you would like a lift please
contact Sandra Hyde Tel: 262075

This event is sponsored by Comberton Village Hall Trustees

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Comberton Parish Council

Bulletin - April 2024



This is the third edition of the Parish Council Bulletin, aimed at improving our communications towards residents.

The Parish Council new website is up and running. Please visit **<https://comberton-pc.gov.uk/>** regularly for agendas and minutes of our meetings and updates on our work, as well as contact details.



Want to become a Parish Councillor? We have four vacancies! Contact the clerk if you have any questions.

We have been informed that the section of road from the Barton pond to the Comberton entrance will be resurfaced at the beginning of June. The works will take place over 3 to 4 days, so there may be disruptions but we are delighted that these works have now been planned.



Following vandalism on the Recreation Ground, the Parish Council has installed CCTV cameras on the Pavillion.

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Parish Council Bulletin (continued)



A large number of filled dog waste bags have been found in the hedge between Green End and the recreation Ground.

These are not only unsightly, they are also detrimental to the environment. The Parish Council has decided against installing new dog waste bins: These come at a cost both for installation and emptying, and there are plenty already in the village. Dog owners must take their responsibilities, pick up dog waste and dispose of the bags in the existing bins or at home.



The Parish Council has applied to extend the 20 mph zone proposed by the Greenways so that it covers all streets currently at 30 mph. Already, Barton Road and West Street are limited to 20 mph. In addition, the Parish Council will be contacting relevant authorities to review the speed limit on Royston Lane and decrease it to 40 mph.

Some of our residents are keen to set up a food pantry in the village, to reduce food waste and support those in need. We are looking for a discreet location, a storage system, and a group of people keen to look after it. If you are interested, please contact our clerk.



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on 01223 208529 (Wimpole)

E-mail bg@moncraft.co.uk

Parish Council Bulletin (continued)

We are still collecting data regarding flooding in Comberton. An online form is available on the Parish Council website. This data is crucial for us to build a case and attempt to solve this crucial matter. Please report any event that affected your property or the highway near your property.



If you have had any correspondence with the water company, the County Council, the Environment Agency or any other institution, please contact our clerk and share any response you have been given. Please remember to also report flooding via the County Council website (search “report flooding Cambridgeshire”)



The District Council is keen to encourage the creation of traders markets in villages. If you would be interested in organising such events, please visit <https://www.scambsgov.uk/business/south-cambridgeshire-markets> for information, and contact the Parish Council clerk to register your interest.

Cllr Claire Michel, Vice-chair

The Parish Council meets on the 2nd Wed of each month at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall. Residents can attend the full meeting and the first 15 min are reserved for their comments

Parish Council clerk: clerk@comberton-pc.gov.uk

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Chat | Tea | Coffee | Cake | Play | Craft | Songs

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For more information please contact the Secretary

Stella. Email Stella.hardwicke2274@hotmail.com

Comberton Antiquarian Society

There will be no lecture this month as it is the Comberton Antiquarian Society AGM.

After the business of the AGM has been completed, there will be a social get together.

The meeting will be on 23rd April 2024 at 8pm in Comberton Village Hall.

Comberton Village Hall Lettings Charges

	Private Individuals		Community Groups *		Community Commercial	
	Comberton Residents	Non-Residents	Affiliated	Non-Affiliated	Local/Non-Franchised	Non-Local/Franchised
SESSION	Main Hall		Main Hall		Main Hall	
Daytime	£25	£35	£20	£30	£40	£45
Weekday eve.	£40	£50	£20 *	£30 *	£40	£50
Weekend eve.	£70	£85	£20 *	£30 *	£145	£165
	Meeting Room		Meeting Room		Meeting Room	
All sessions	£17.50	£22.50	£17.50	£22.50	£30	£32.50
	Community Room		Community Room		Community Room	
All sessions	£15	£20	£15	£20	£25	£27.50

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).

A refundable deposit of £50 is required at the time of booking.

Prices for commercial lettings and weddings are available on request.

*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 combertonvillagehall@gmail.com or on 07435 324408 (9am to 9pm).

Please note that this is a part-time role carried out around my job. If I am unable to answer your call please leave a message and I will phone you back, or send me an email.

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2024 SEASON

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