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JULY 2009

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## SOME USEFUL WEBSITES

Wysing Arts Centre	<a href="http://www.wysingartcentre.org">www.wysingartcentre.org</a>
PEM Charity News	<a href="http://www.pem.co.uk">www.pem.co.uk</a>
Moving Tone	<a href="http://www.movingtone.com">www.movingtone.com</a>
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Recycling & Swap and Sell	<a href="http://www.recap.co.uk">www.recap.co.uk</a>

## ADVERTISING RATES FOR COMBERTON CONTACT

from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008

Changes will be effective at the time of booking or rebooking advertisements.

	Size (w x h)	Annual	Single Edition
Whole Page	122mm x 183mm	£400	£44
Three-fifths Page	122mm x 109mm	£240	£27
Two-fifths Page	122mm x 72mm	£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		Whole page	£88
		Half page	£44
		Quarter page	£22

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Every Tuesday	Comberton Café at the Village Hall
Every Wednesday 10.00 to 11.30	Comberton Toddler Group at Village Hall
Every Wednesday evening	Tang Soo Do at Meridian School
1st and 3rd Sunday of each month	S.E.F at Comberton Baptist Church
Every Tuesday	Young Enterprise after school at Meridian School

### JULY 2009

3rd July	from 2pm The Meridian 40th Anniversary Open Afternoon.
4th July	Cricket match vs Cherry Hinton II
4th July	The Marmotte
7th July	Comberton Brownies Caribbean Cafe
8th July	7.30pm in the Village Hall. Parish Council Meeting
8th July	Cricket match vs Ridgeons
11th July	Cricket match vs Fen Ditton
11-12 and 18-19 July	11.00am till 6.00pm Open Studio 18 Harbour Avenue
13th July	Cricket match vs BAS
14th July	7.45p.m. WI Meeting
18th July	Allotments & Gardens Association BBQ
25th July	Cricket match vs Waterbeach
26 July	CCSC Members Fun Swim 4-5 pm * Free Swim Vouchers accepted

### AUGUST 2009

30 Aug	CCSC Members Fun Swim 4-5 pm * Free Swim Vouchers accepted
31st Aug	2.00 to 4.30 St Mary's Church Annual Fete

### SEPTEMBER 2009

13 Sept	CCSC Members Fun Swim 4-5 pm
13th Sept	Bourn to Run
19th Sept	Allotments & Gardens Association Autumn Show

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you so much for all your comments of appreciation of the new colour covers. I would like to make this a permanent fixture so if your group has an event you would like featured on the front cover let me know in good time. September is spoken for but beyond that - first come, first served. We are also looking for advertisers to take all or part of the back cover in full colour from October onwards. Do let me know if you would like to take this opportunity for a one-off boost to your promotional activity. I am also very pleased to be able to feature more Comberton groups and activities this month. Don't forget, if you are doing something special, need new members, or just want to tell us what you do please tell me and I will put it in the Contact. Comberton is a very active village and we would like the Contact to truly reflect that. So keep it coming!

## THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY, COMBERTON

Priest-in-Charge of St Mary's, Comberton and St Andrew's, Toft:

Revd. Michael Booker tel: 01223 260095

email: [contact@combertonchurch.co.uk](mailto:contact@combertonchurch.co.uk)

Curate: Revd. Matt Watts tel: 01223 264089

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

Mrs M Jenkins 80 West Street Tel 263751

### Services and Events at St Mary's in July

<b>Sunday 5th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Mary's</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
	<b>6.00pm</b>	<b>Illumin8 Youth Service, St Mary's, Hardwick</b>
<b>Sunday 12th</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Andrew's Toft</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion</b>
<b>Sunday 19th</b>	<b>8.00am</b>	<b>Holy Communion (Prayer Book) at St Mary's</b>
	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Morning Prayer</b>
<b>Sunday 26th</b>	<b>9.30am</b>	<b>Holy Communion and Baptism</b>
<b>(No Last Sunday Special this month)</b>		

St Mary's Church building is open all day every weekend, not only when there are services. Please feel free to come in at any time, to sit, pray, think or simply enjoy the quiet.

Tuesday morning prayers. As well as our main Sunday services, there is a short and quiet service of Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 9.15am. Everybody is welcome to come and join in any Tuesday. We take time especially to pray for needs round the village. If you would like somebody or something mentioned in the prayers, please ring Mike Booker or Matt Watts. There is also a box inside the door of the church in which requests for prayer can be left when the church is open.

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01223 350787

The Catholic Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs (OLEM) serves much of the south and west of Cambridge.

Detailed below are the normal times of masses at weekends. The Feast of the the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August.

Sunday Vigil Mass on Saturday evening:-

5.00 pm Cambourne (In Vine School)

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)

Further details of these and all other services for July and August for the entire parish including Sawston may be found on the parish website which also has the weekly newssheet and other parish information. [www.olem.org.uk](http://www.olem.org.uk)

COMBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH

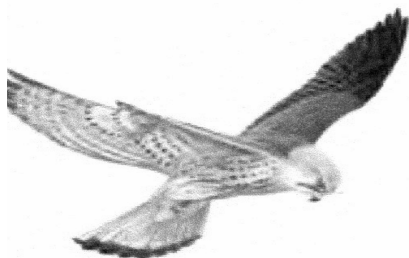
Green End

*You are Welcome at Comberton Baptist Church*

**SUNDAY SERVICES:** Our morning services begin at 10.30 am - 12 noon and feature a mixture of traditional and contemporary music, engaging topics and a variety of speakers. Refreshments are served after the service. This season our theme is: "The Book of Acts – Mission United". Children stay for the first part of this service and then have the opportunity to go to their groups in the 'The Mix'!

**PARENTS WITH INFANTS:** At CBC we want to make everyone feel welcome, this includes our youngest guests. We have a crèche available during the service where parents with young babies can go if their children become restless – there is also a monitor so you can see and hear and still feeling part of the service.

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE:** The Mix @ CBC are groups for children and young



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people aged 2-17 years. For the under 2's there is also a crèche available. S.E.F is a group for teenagers aged 14-17 which meets every Sunday evening. Here young people can make friends and explore their faith together.

**JUNIOR CHURCH** Junior Church is an exciting new programme for children and young people aged 2-13 years, with a newly formed group for 11-13yrs. Packed with great activities, craft, bible stories, singing, games and lots more...

Where: Comberton Baptist Church (in the centre behind the church)

When: Every fourth Sunday of each month

Time: Doors open at 10.15am with activities starting at 10.30-11.45am

For more information please call Donna on 01223 264707 or 01954 211259

**ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY:** of every month running alongside Junior Church we will be having special short services between 10:30 - 11:45 am followed by refreshments in the church center. We'll be looking at a range of issues – our theme this season is Vintage Jesus: *What did Jesus look like?*

**PRAYER & COUNSELLING:** After each morning service members of CBC's Prayer Team will be available at the front of the church to pray with you regarding any needs you may have. CBC also offers confidential counselling on an ongoing basis, please contact the church office for more information.

For further information on any of the above please contact the church office on 01223 264707 or [admin@c-b-c.org.uk](mailto:admin@c-b-c.org.uk)

Our minister the Rev Stephen Henderson can also be contacted on 01223 264707 or [minister@c-b-c.org.uk](mailto:minister@c-b-c.org.uk). The Comberton Baptist Church website is: [www.c-b-c.org.uk](http://www.c-b-c.org.uk)

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FROM THE CLERK

The Parish Council met on Wednesday 10 June 2009

### *Casual vacancy*

At its meeting the Parish Council co-opted Simon Moffat of 86 Swaynes Lane and was pleased to welcome him to the Parish Council.

Notice is hereby given that another casual vacancy has now arisen on the Parish Council following the resignation of Robert Rintoul. If no ten electors call for an election the Parish Council will be able to co-opt someone on to the Council.

If you are interested in joining the Parish Council please write to or email the Clerk.

### *Parish Plan Working Group*

The Parish Council warmly invites residents to join its Parish Plan steering group to help identify the appropriate questions to include in the consultation and later following analysis of the responses assist with drawing up an action plan. If you would like to join please contact the Clerk or Chris Westgarth.

### *Textiles recycling*

The District Council has asked if it may install a textile recycling bank in the recreation ground car park. The Parish Council refused this request but has suggested instead that



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### **Club "60" Holidays**

Yarmouth Hippodrome Show 17th August £26  
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London Eye 6th,7th, 15th Oct. £39

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Torquay £209 – Weymouth £199 – Llandudno  
£225 Scarborough £219 – Eastbourne £209  
TWIXMAS 2 Days Cromer Norwich £72  
Cromer Seaside Christmas Show 28th to 29th Dec.  
2010 Holiday On Ice – Brighton January dates tba  
Bournemouth Valentines + Murder Mystery 5 Days  
12th to 15th February £175  
5 Days Isle Of Wight 8th to 12th March £179  
5 Days Weymouth 22nd to 26th March £219  
5 Days Torquay 19th to 23rd April £235  
5 Days Southport 3rd -7th & 24th-28th May £249

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as it would be welcome facility for the village it should be installed with the other recycling facilities in the lay-by near Toft.

### *Parking on pavements*



For parents with buggies, people using wheelchairs, elderly people, the visually impaired or children, having pavements blocked by parked cars can mean there is no way through without being forced to risk walking in the road.

We all see cars and vans parked on pavements every day. Half the time drivers probably don't think about the problems they're causing for others but in some areas in Comberton they're making life very hard for people simply trying to get about their daily business, and it's the most vulnerable that get affected the most. Not only that, but pavements aren't built to withstand the weight of vehicles – by driving onto them pavements get damaged, creating trip hazards and damage to the services underneath them. Please think before parking on the pavements.

### *Parish Council members contact details:*

Miss Chris Westgarth (Chairman)	85 Barton Road	263242
Dr. Janet McCabe (Vice-Chairman)	3 Westcroft	263387
Mrs. Amanda Bacon	Arial View, 92B Swaynes Lane	264711
Dr. Charles Chambers	16 Green End	264638
Mr. Ted Halford	69 Swaynes Lane	262531
Mr. Andrew Hollick	73 Swaynes Lane	263089
Mrs. Sandra Hyde	57 Long Road	262075
Mr Simon Moffat	86 Swaynes Lane	
Mrs. Dorothy Morison	5 The Valley	263027
Dr. Robert Rintoul	Kentings Cottage, 57 West St	262601
Mr. Richard Rowlands	43 West Street	264508
Mr. Tom Serby	Home Farm, 250 Barton Road	262303
Mr. Jock Walsh	38 Fox's Way	263225

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Wednesday 8 July 2009 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so is open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on Comberton matters.

## NEWS FROM THE MERIDIAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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I can hardly believe this is the last contribution of the school year from Meridian! This time last year I was looking forward with anticipation, but not a little trepidation, to becoming the new Headteacher, and the year has gone faster than any I can remember. However, I can honestly say that I have enjoyed it enormously.

Soon we will be saying goodbye to our Year 6 children as they move on to

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Junior School: No 2 Brookside Cambridge CB2 1JE Tel: 01223 311666 Email: [juniorschool@stmaryscambridge.co.uk](mailto:juniorschool@stmaryscambridge.co.uk)

secondary school (the vast majority to Comberton Village College). We have had 54 children in Year 6 this year so they have had a real influence on the school – most of it good! They have been excellent leaders of the School Council and the Eco-Action Team, great Playtime Assistants (or PAs, as they prefer to be known), brilliant sportsmen and sportswomen, fine ambassadors for the school, hard workers and great role models. We will miss them all.

As one set of children leave, another arrive and we have recently had our introductory evening for parents whose children are entering Reception next year. Many of the parents are familiar faces but we welcome especially parents who are entrusting their children to us for the first time. I often think that parents find starting school a more anxious time than the children.

Our PTA Committee organised a fantastic 40th anniversary school fete recently and it was lovely to see so many people from the community there. We were so very lucky with the weather (that band of rain decided to keep itself for Sunday) and I think that people of all ages had lots of fun. The takings have yet to be finalised, but I have no doubt that they will be substantial and will contribute greatly to the children's school experience.

If you were at the fete, you would certainly have seen the beautiful murals and panel paintings on the outside of school. The murals were painted by the aforementioned Year 6, in the afternoons during the week of their SATs tests (great way to unwind!). The panels were created by a group of year 9 pupils from Comberton Village College under the direction of their teacher, Helen Lanzrein. We are very grateful to them all for making our school look so bright and cheerful.

I hope you all enjoy the summer...more news from Meridian when we return for the new school year.

Glennis Virgo, Headteacher

## COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE: A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

There are certain key moments for looking both backwards and forwards at the same time (although probably not while driving a vehicle or playing any form of sport!). One such occasion comes with the official leavers' day for Year 11 at the college. It is clearly one of those notable days in life when it is right both to remember and to reminisce and also to look forward to the next stage of life. It is really a great day for all. To see the genuine good feeling between students, staff and parents is a proper reminder of what makes for educational success and happy school days.

The college itself is absolutely in a position of both looking forwards and backwards at the moment. We are beginning to look in earnest at the appropriate way to celebrate the 50 years of the college's existence (the official opening was early in 1960). A long weekend of various events early in March 2010 is lining up to be the centrepiece of the celebrations. More details will follow and we hope that local people with a strong association with the college will be able to join the events. There is much to celebrate in the 50 years of our village college's life. One thing to remember is certainly the service of many dedicated staff over the years. One particular memory is of Barbara Dennis,



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long-standing Deputy Headteacher of the college, who finished working with us 15 years' ago and died in June this year. We send our very best wishes to Barbara's family and recognise the very great contribution that she made here over many years.

Our fiftieth anniversary is also certainly a time for us to look forward. The next 50 years look set to be as significant with as much development as the first 50 years. In particular, we are obviously thinking through carefully now the plans for the new Sixth Form at the college due to open in 2011. Certainly, this will mark a new and exciting chapter in the college's history. We will seek to keep everyone up-to-date and involved in the plans. There is perhaps one particular note of continuity throughout all of this. One of the new facilities planned for the sixth-form facilities is a major new Lecture Room. This will not replace the original Lecture Room but be an additional facility. It will be available for use for school students, but we also hope very much that it will be well used by the local community. As such, it seems only right and proper that it is called 'The Henry Morris Lecture Room'. All might seem to change, but certain principles are enduring. Morris' vision of the locally based village community college providing useful and excellent education and services for school students and the local community alike is as enduring as we can get.

Stephen Munday

## COMBERTON VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall Committee thank Brenda Brown and Comberton Cantabile for the generous donation of £350.00, which was raised at their concert on 8<sup>th</sup> May. This money will go towards replacing the chairs in the upstairs meeting room.

I am pleased to be able to report the air circulation system, with a heat exchange unit, has now been installed. Hirers please note the controller is behind the screen on the left.

Brian Cook Chairman

## COMBERTON WI

Our June speaker was Mrs Margaret Johnson who gave us a talk on 'Antique Quilts and their History' Mrs Johnson was posted to the U.S. in 1978 and fell in love with American quilts and continued to collect them back in Britain. She showed us many examples of different tyoes of quilting patterns from the past 150 years. It was fascinating to see the use of different fabrics and the resourcefulness of the makers. Mrs Johnson is a member of Buckden Quilters and showed us personalised quilts she had made for her ten grandchildren who receive them when they are eighteen and leaving home. She has also embarked on a project to make quilts for each grandchild's first baby. It was a privilege to these heirlooms of the future as well as experience the more historical quilts of the past.

Date for your diary:

July 14th at 7.45p.m. in the Village Hall 'Snap out of it!' - a travel talk with Janet and Christopher South. Visitors are always welcome.



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## COMBERTON ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

The next season starts in September and new members are always welcome. Meetings are held in Comberton Village Hall on the fourth Tuesday in the month at 8 pm. Annual subscription is £7 and anybody who is interested should contact the Secretary on Cambridge 262708.

## COMBERTON FRIENDSHIP CUB

Comberton Friendship Club held its Annual Strawberry Tea on Thursday June 11th. We were amply supplied with strawberries and cream, plus various sandwiches and many delicious home-made cakes. All this was supplied and served by the committee members of the club. With the usual raffle we had a very pleasant afternoon.

## COMBERTON CRUSADERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Comberton Crusaders Football Club was established in 1988 and currently has over 200 boys and girls aged between 7 and 17 playing in 15 teams, making us one of the largest clubs in Cambridgeshire. We also run a Soccer Centre for training the under 7's in preparation for joining the first Mini League team when they are old enough. We train on the wonderful Astroturf facility at the Comberton Village College on Wednesday and Thursday evenings.

The Club is entirely run by volunteers, mainly parents, who perform a wide variety of jobs including coaching the children, keeping the paperwork up to date, purchasing new kit and making the teas on match days! At a recent audit by the FA they declared our club to be the 'nearest to perfect' they had seen in a long time, which is a testament to all the hard work put in by our dedicated team of helpers.

As an FA Charter Standard Club we adhere to the rules set out by the Football Association, including having all adults CRB checked and trained in child protection and first aid, as well as all of our team managers being FA qualified coaches, and this year we will be introducing the Respect Programme in age-appropriate formats across all of our teams – you may have seen this in the Premier League this season, and we are pleased to be doing our part to improve the standards in football from its grass roots level.

Whilst we place the emphasis firmly on having fun, learning new skills and keeping fit, many of our teams enjoyed considerable success last season. The Under 11 Boys A team were unbeaten all season in the league, finishing top of their division, and making it to the League Cup final without conceding a goal. They played the cup final at Cambridge City football ground, where they were unlucky to lose 5-3. The girls Under 14 team also won their league undefeated, and got to the final of the Tesco Cup competition and the semi-final of the League Cup. The girls Under 11 team had a good year as well, reaching the final of the Cup Plate.

Some of our teams are looking for new players, so if you are a boy or girl currently in school year 2, a boy currently in school year 5, or a girl currently in school year 4 or 5, and would like to be part of a thriving and successful football club, please contact Stephanie Young on 01223 262365 or [vinceyoung@talktalk.net](mailto:vinceyoung@talktalk.net). Some other teams are looking for one or two players, so please do get in touch. Willing parents are always

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welcome too so don't be shy in offering to get involved – we are a friendly bunch and it is very rewarding to help the children develop their skills and have so much fun!

## COMBERTON CRICKET CLUB

The cricket club has had a good start to the 2009 season. The Saturday side is currently 3rd in their league, having won 4 and lost 2 so far. The midweek side has also had some enjoyable evening fixtures. Our home July fixtures are listed below; please come along to the Rec. and watch a game! Weekend games start at 1.30pm, weekday games start at 6pm. If you have enjoyed watching the Twenty20 World Cup and fancy a go at wielding the willow or turning your arm over please phone 01223 264515 or email o.swift@ucl.ac.uk for more information.

Home Fixtures in July

Sat 4 July vs Cherry Hinton II

Wed 8 July vs Ridgeons

Sat 11 July vs Fen Ditton

Mon 13 July vs BAS

Sat 25 July vs Waterbeach

## 1ST COMBERTON CUBS AND SCOUTS AND BOURN SCOUTS

1st Comberton Cubs and Scouts and Bourn Scouts would like to thank everyone, who visited the Jumble sale for their support. We hope that they were happy with their purchases. It was also very much a village social occasion with many friends and neighbours having a cup of tea and a chat. Thanks also to the Meridian School for the use of their premises and to the many parents and helpers, who put in so much effort. Again many thanks - hope to see you again next year.

From all the boys and girls of Comberton and Bourn Scouts.

## A BIG THANK YOU TO THE LOVELY PEOPLE OF COMBERTON

As many of you may be aware Anthony McEvoy (Mac) died on the 4<sup>th</sup> June. He was the most amazing husband, brother, father and grandfather and we all really miss him. Our loss has been eased by all of our friends in the village who given us great comfort and support at this very sad time. According to Dad's wishes we arranged an informal ceremony at the Village Hall to see him off with jazz, friends, wine and food. Thanks to all who attended and helped us to remember him as he wished. Many 40-somethings in Comberton will remember Mac as a P.E and English teacher at the Village College between 1971 and 1979. We then moved to Meldreth where he became Head of Meldreth Manor School. Others may remember his next 'career move' to Comberton Antiques where he ably assisted Margaret with her business, chiefly as delivery boy and general gofer! Smiling and courageous always, we are proud of him.

The McEvoy Family – Margaret, Peter, Clare & Denise

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## MEMORIES OF BARBARA DENNIS

### Deputy Head at CVC 1968 - 1992

It is with great sadness that Comberton Village College has learned of the recent passing of Barbara Dennis, known affectionately to staff as BD. Barbara had an outstanding career at Comberton and she is someone whose dedication, talent and professionalism helped lay the foundations which have enabled the school to evolve. There are staff still here who owe their perceptions of the standards and values in education to her example, and we feel that Barbara's inspirational guidance and support influenced us all personally.

Barbara's kindness and pastoral care for pupils was legendary. Before expectations became formulated in statutory documents, she led the way in demonstrating how a school's ethos should be represented by every individual member of staff and she taught us how to model the behaviours we want to encourage in young people. She made it a priority to protect the needs of the most vulnerable children and her vision of a genuinely inclusive education for every single child was borne out by her insistence in focusing on their entitlement and ensuring that each received the best education that CVC could offer. Barbara was a formidable presence with immense experience in detecting errors both administrative and human. Stories abound about her Miss Marple-like capacity for solving school 'crimes'

She was at the heart of Henry Morris's ideal of a Community School. To this day she is fondly remembered by ex-pupils who work at CVC, and also by those living locally, as someone who understood how school and community should relate to each other. In a way of life where there never seems to be enough time and one is never up to date, Barbara fulfilled her obligations to the letter. Her beautiful handwriting reflected the meticulousness of someone who was never too busy to help those who asked, nor too preoccupied to notice those who were in need. She was extraordinary and it was a privilege to have known and worked with her. Just how much she cared about each individual, bothered about people and touched the lives of all of those around her, may be gathered from the typical responses of her colleagues' children: 'Oh, yes, Mrs Dennis, she was lovely!'

Mary Martin, CVC, June 2009

### EDDIE AMBROSE

My son and family join me in thanking everyone who attended Eddie's funeral recently and for donations to Addenbrookes Ward R2. Also for the beautiful cards, letters and offers of help during this very sad time. Many thanks again. Doreen Ambrose.

## SUMMARY OF 'AFFORDABLE' HOUSING PROJECT IN COMBERTON

The Parish Council is working through the "Affordable Housing Working Group" to attempt to meet the needs of those requiring and meeting the criteria of a demonstrable

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local connection and would like to live in Comberton. This includes rental housing as well as buy/rent homes, with a mix of 2 & 3 bed homes, and if possible 1 bed as a proportion stated a requirement for them.

The most recent South Cambs District Council survey showed 65 applicants with a local connection to Comberton This has increased over the past year from our own and previous SCDC surveys.

- A local connection is defined as
  - A family member resident or
  - Working in the Village or
  - Having lived in Comberton for 5 years.
- According to my recent information applicants must list 25 other villages where they would “wish” to live or their application is invalid or SCDC will make their list up to the required number. This stipulation is on the current application form that I saw but SCDC officers are checking this. This does mean that those 65 applicants would have to accept either first or second offer or they would go back in the allocation process.
- For an exception site priority is given to those with a local connection for 4 weeks before being opened to neighbouring areas. An exception site is outside the normal Village envelope and although our Group has looked at sites that were thought to have potential, other than the site at the end of the Valley, no application has been made or granted for exception site planning permission. Sites within the normal framework do not have a condition of being offered to those with a local connection so are not a solution.

20 affordable homes have been completed in Hardwick, 18 of those homes have gone to those with a Hardwick connection, 1 to someone with a Toft connection and 1 to someone with special needs. This encourages the Comberton Affordable Homes Working Group, as our approach has always been to ensure that any development met needs and that before further development took place, take up was as near as 100% as practicable. We are starting to liaise with neighbouring village Parish Councils to see if we can assist each other to advance the provision of affordable Housing.

Those people who need this housing tend to show up on lists and not at meetings for a variety of reasons. They are currently forced to live away, they have little spare cash to afford to attend or they feel wary or even frightened of attending. They do exist and I hope we are able to do something to assist, integrate them into our marvellous village whilst causing minimum disruption to our present residents lives.

A copy of the results of the SCDC survey will be placed on the Notice Board opposite the Duck Pond.

Dorothy Morison.

## SUMMER LAWN CARE

### Mowing

Mow regularly at the summer height this month. Water if dry spells are prolonged. Raise the height of the cutter bar and don't use the grass collection box. The clippings





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### Feed

It is important that the lawn is given a summer feed to give it the nutrients it needs through until the autumn.

### Actions required in July

- Raise cutting height and consider removing collection box.
- Weed control in lawns
- Patio/Driveway Weed Control
- Treat disease in lawns
- Ant Control
- Irrigation requirement to prevent lawns dying (before lawns go brown)

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## THE BORDERS

July is a great time for large borders. I am always impressed when I go round country house gardens how deep the borders are; most have a 10ft minimum depth. This requires very careful planning in planting for height and contrast as the eye is drawn from the front to the back. Few of us can have a big protective wall at the back of the border and have to make do with hedging. In this case, a good evergreen hedge is ideal.

*Thuya plicata* makes a nice tight dark evergreen hedge that only needs a single trim each year. This backdrop provides a great foil for big silver or golden leaved plants or shrubs. My favourite silver leaved giants are: *Macleaya cordata*, with silver leaves that have the shape of large fig leaves, and the cardoon *Cynara cardunculus* which has saw toothed spear-like leaves that can be an attractive shade of silver and grey. I am trying a new *cotinus* shrub – *C. coggygia* ‘Golden Spirit’ which is the only golden leaved *cotinus*. These leaves are a refreshing golden yellow in spring; they colour up in autumn to generate coral and red colours to give a very fiery performance. The shrub can reach 8 ft in height.

Grasses can do well in a border if planted in moderation. *Stipa gigantea* is a large grass with fine tall oat-like seed heads and looks good if the evening light shines on to it to enhance the golden colour. Towards the edge of the border, I like a block of *Festuca glauca* grasses; they form a round hummock, about 1 ft across, of blue-grey stems and look good in contrast with the purple-leaved *Heuchera micrantha*. Perennial flowering plants provide a huge choice of colour and in July the *monardas* produce a great show

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of ragged pink or red flowers and attract bees with their nectar. Old standbys are phlox. Phlox plants can be bought with white, pink, red or purple flowers. For phlox to do well, the soil should be rich in compost to retain moisture and the plants need full sun. The key point to bear in mind with borders is to have a succession of flowering plants from spring through to autumn.

Garden visits recommended for July and August: Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> July 11.30-3.30pm: Wychfield (Storeys Way, Cambridge) is a marvellous value garden with a mixture of classic old styles alongside contemporary gardens and an eclectic mix of architecture. A mid-week garden open Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2-5pm: Lucy Cavendish College (Lady Margaret Road, Cambridge) is open for the first time and covers 3 acres. Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 10.30 – 4.30pm: Wimpole Hall (Wimpole); big walled garden and 100m herbaceous borders. Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> August 11.30-3.30pm: Trinity Hall (Trinity Lane, Cambridge); this college garden is open for the first time and should be good value. R.T. Choke

## “THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND” AND “LAST TANGO IN COMBERTON”

Where to begin a review of Comberton Players recent production? The first play is about two critics reviewing a play. The second is a drama group putting on a play about a drama group putting on a play. I would find it easier crossing a minefield.

Alan Lodge directed both plays with a sureness of touch. The thrust stage worked particularly well. Francine Adams had produced a great set which John Gresham and his assistants had built strongly.

The Real Inspector Hound is a witty parody of Agatha Christie’s ‘The Mousetrap’. It is set in an isolated country house where murders abound and the herrings are always very red. This play is being performed and reviewed by two critics.

As the two critics, Rupert Wood as the pretentious aesthete Moon and Paul Thorpe as the lecherous Birdboot played off each other with aplomb. Rupert especially captured the sort of review too often read in the ‘quality’ papers. He is more interested in showing off his intellect than telling us anything about the play. As the housekeeper Mrs Drudge, Glynis Ellis gave us a character heavily influenced by Julie Walters’ Mrs Overall, and Robert Newton’s Long John Silver. The upper class characters Lady Cynthia, Felicity, Simon and Magnus (who drove his wheelchair like an F1 car) played by Gytha Lodge, Cindy O’Connell, Oliver Crabb and Glen Richardson, moved the action along at great pace and were especially amusing when playing the crazy game of cards, ‘pontoon bridge’ as Mrs. Drudge named it. Paul Eastham was a suitably confused and confusing Inspector. Michael Thompson as the radio announcer gave the play its period feel with his impression of the great wartime newsreader Alvar Liddell. I had thought that the body on view throughout the play was a dummy until Paul Malpas took his bow. Those years at RADA were not wasted Paul.

The second play was a delight and had the audience laughing and applauding throughout. It is set in a village hall where a village drama group finds membership and audience dwindling. Can Gordon, the chairman persuade Margaret and Joyce the only two remaining actors and Bernard the set builder that a daring new production can save them? Does sex sell tickets in a village like Comberton?

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As Bernard, Rick Nelms was bolshie, rude and portrayed someone useless as an actor but totally endearing. Sue Nelms as the Prima Donna Margaret saved the show 'at great personal sacrifice' (off-stage I hasten to add). Roger Few expressed the emotions shared by many directors faced by a cast who do not learn lines, cannot speak lines, will not take direction and are constantly at the mercy of set-builders and lighting technicians. I felt Gordon's pain very deeply.

But the show was stolen by Gillian Gresham as the timid Joyce who wanted only to do 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers' and seemed bemused when it was pointed out that with a cast of four the best they could hope for was, in Gordon's words 'Two brides for two brothers'. Immune to sarcasm, unable to grasp the plot, unwilling to be in a bath scene, even wearing a duffle coat, totally unable to comprehend a part that meant that 'you Joyce are playing you, Joyce, in a play about a drama group putting on a play'. Her time of triumph came when she was allowed at last to sing her solo from Seven Brides and steadfastly refused to be interrupted so that the play could continue. Her 'How dare you' brought the best laugh of the evening.

The near capacity house went away with a smile and thanks are due to all who helped to make the show such a success.

Terry Wall

## AN EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

The new style Contact is brilliant, thank you. I really look forward to the issues arriving and love to learn what is happening in the village.

I would like to say a word about the Comberton Players. They have gone from strength to strength in just a few shows. On the 5th and 6th June their two short comedies The Last Tango in Comberton and The Real Inspector Hound were SO funny. It was lovely that in Last Tango the fun was aimed generally at The Players and also had reference to Comberton. The Real Inspector Hound was also superbly presented and I'm amazed that none of The Players slipped up as the plot was very convoluted and complicated. I and my friends had a thoroughly good evening so, well done Comberton Players and hurry up with the next show.

Many thanks

Eileen

## OPEN STUDIO

Professional artist, Tina Bone, is opening her studio under the Cambridge Open Studios banner on the weekends of 11-12 and 18-19 July 2009, between 11.00 am and 6.00 p.m. and cordially invites all Comberton residents to visit her studio at 18 Harbour Avenue during those times. Tina is an Associate Member of the Society of Botanical Artists and Member of the Marwell International Wildlife Art Society, offering original artwork in botanical drawing, and natural history, usually drawn life-size, and from live specimens, using water colour, oil, and pen and ink. After a recent course at Homerton College, Cambridge, in the art of illuminated lettering, Tina now offers raised gold leaf lettering with traditional or modern motifs, as well as flat leaf and metallic powder-based gilding – for that extra special occasion to be remembered in a frame. Tina produces only 10 limited edition prints of each of her works, as well as designing, printing and handcrafting her own calendars, cards, notebooks and bookmarks. Commissions accepted, any subject. Work can be viewed at [www.tinabone.co.uk](http://www.tinabone.co.uk)



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## TANG SOO DO IN COMBERTON

People attending the Meridian 40th Anniversary Fete at the beginning of June may have been part of the crowd that enjoyed the demonstration put on by Cambourne Tang Soo Do. The group, which meets at the Meridian School every Wednesday evening from 7 to 9pm, was originally established by Mrs Sparkes in Cambourne but has since moved, offering a session in Bourne on a Monday as well as the Comberton one. Although Mrs Sparkes is no longer involved with the group, her son Kyle assists current instructor Mr Paul Ireson and the group decided to keep the name as a mark of respect to her.

For those of you who do not know what it is, Tang Soo Do is a classical martial art and its purpose is to develop every aspect of the 'self' in order to produce a mature person who can totally integrate his/her intellect, emotions, body and spirit. The purpose of Tang Soo Do training is not for fighting, but to perfect techniques which will enhance your total self. If the occasion arises when you must defend yourself, the development of the proper spirit to supplement the physical skills which are attained is of equal importance.

Despite the fact that the group is very young, it is vibrant and exciting. It already boasts several national champions and at the last grading session in June came away with two 'best in grading' awards. The group is looking forward to the European Championships, which will take place in Cambridge at the beginning of September, and which will be a wonderful opportunity for everyone to gain experience of competing at the highest level.

Beginners are not overlooked in all the excitement of recent competitions, however. A steady stream of new people of all ages wishing to join in has continued since the move to Comberton and the supportive structure of the Tang Soo Do movement ensures that there are always plenty of more experienced members available to support and train them.

The first lesson is free so please come along and see what Tang Soo Do has to offer. For more information, contact Mr Paul Ireson on 01223 237633 or email paulireson1310@yahoo.co.uk

## SPARE A THOUGHT...

Have you any conception as to how it might feel to be looked upon as the lowest of the low? To be addressed as 'Slug', condemned as the gardener's enemy and despatched without the slightest compunction? Not simply despatched but by methods which, if we 'land molluscs' had the equivalent of human rights, would be denigrated by every court in the land.

You might consider that to be crushed by a boot or chopped with a spade would be a speedy kindness to such a loathsome creature. If, however, you had evidence that some of your close relations had been thrown alive on to bonfires you might think differently. Even worse, had you been the victim of a salt 'shower' or seen the agonies associated with what from a human standpoint would be the equivalent of an horrific acid attack then some, I say some, of your consciences might have been pricked, a little!

Regardless dear reader of whether you are an evolutionist or a creationist there is no

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hope for the common or garden slug. What did we evolve from? How base that creature must have been. To what end was our creation? To a form and life reviled by all humans. If we were created, to what purpose? Gastropoda word of mouth history makes no mention of a short boat trip ending on Mount Ararat, but who knows?

To be the dominant life form must be wonderful. To have choice in so many areas of life must be wonderful. Not to be afraid every minute of the day must also be truly wonderful.

Whilst we are both aware that the Gastropoda lot will not change one jot as a consequence of just one article would it be asking too much to call for a trace of regret as you despatch one of us (without using salt.. PLEASE). Believe me when I say that is difficult if not impossible to feel any responsibility when we hear 'Look at that Hosta, it cost £8.99'. It's in the genes.

The Land Mollusc Elders tell us that Gastropoda heaven is a sea of cabbages, and Hostas, loamy soil and no humans, or salt. I can't wait. You won't be sorry I guess...

**COMBERTON VILLAGE COLLEGE**  
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**Salary:** Scale 2, point 14, £5,681.83 per annum  
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**The two roles could be a combined post of 31 hours per week.**

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July 2009.

*"Comberton Village College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment"*

For further details and an application form, please visit our website [www.combertonvc.org](http://www.combertonvc.org)

or contact the Personnel Administrator on 01223 262503 ext 204  
or e-mail: [thecollege@comberton.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:thecollege@comberton.cambs.sch.uk)

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For full details see [www.bournschool.co.uk/bourntorun](http://www.bournschool.co.uk/bourntorun).

Entries for the 10km and 3km are being taken from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009 by **pre-registration** at [www.fabian4.co.uk](http://www.fabian4.co.uk).

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Tel: 0845 045 5225	Thursday Closed
<a href="http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library">www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library</a>	Friday 2.00pm - 7.00pm
	Saturday 10.00am - 1.00pm
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-help-share-bring-give-

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*Isaiah58 is a project run by WCCYM  
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## THE CHALLENGE

### June Answer and Winner

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R O O P A L I  
I A M E N D E  
N R E I A S R  
D E R E G M I

Winner: Pauline Collison, .Swaynes Lane

## THE CHALLENGE

Sponsored by Costcutter Stores

A number of biblical characters have hidden in the following diary notes. The only small clue as to how many is that the number is between 19 and 21! Please highlight.

Recently I led a team planning an expedition across Africa, a monumental task. To please major sponsors who we were told were having second thoughts we had to guarantee that every effort would be made to avoid both Madagascar and Tanzania. Chiefly to avoid the equatorial swamps but also to avert potential political 'incidents', it was clear that in order to change a wheel I shall need to carry not only a full set of tyre levers but four spares(per vehicle) and several rush mats, necessary to get out of sand traps. Changing a wheel on loose sand can be nigh impossible but my ramp (about to be patented), together with the rush mats should see us through. By a stroke of good fortune we were offered specially treated buckram roof covers which virtually remove the possibility of equatorial rot. The levers could have a secondary use however in that we might be able to scrape termites etc off the bodywork, before they invade the cabs. To seek ultimate participator comfort I insisted on both inflatable mattresses and mosquito nets but decided against CD/DVD players. My navigator thinks that I'm on a bonus for keeping the costs down but he couldn't be further from the truth, I'm getting commission from the equipment suppliers! All non-lockable baggage will be fitted with numbered security tags to eliminate petty theft by any of the many local guides we will employ during the trip. They say that they are happy with the \$1 a day pay but before you know where you are your underwear has gone missing. (M & S underwear is highly prized on the Dark Continent). One particular sponsor is insisting that we format the web site in such a way that anyone can monitor our progress mile by mile. This might prove invaluable should we get lost! By day 9 for example we should be in Mombassa, bar a blow out, or two. The roads are practically non-existent in parts and very hard on the tyres. Personally I will be staggered if we keep anywhere near the schedule. So much for the web site! To tell the truth I am beginning to tire of the planning stage, I can't wait to get under way. This could be the adventure of my life. All of the vehicles are ready except for a dreadful rattle in a Daihatsu which I hope will be fixed by the mechanics tomorrow. One good piece of news is that we have persuaded the great Diva, Dame Svetlana Gorblineyov to sing a special arrangement of 'I'm the king of the jungle' as a send-off (must remember to wear earplugs). My final problem is that I must lose some weight before we set off, at 37 stone I will need a cab to myself. Tally Ho! Sea trips are not my favourite but we land in Morocco in three days. Will report further in the near future. In the meantime please track our progress on [www.lamawalnutshell.co.uk](http://www.lamawalnutshell.co.uk) ( Q. What is a walnut shell?)

Entries please to Costcutter ,Library or Doctors by July 14<sup>th</sup>. The prize of £5, generously donated by Nayna & Vijay, is to be spent in store.

Name.....

Address.....

## CONTACT'S USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

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Alms Hill, Bourn.....	Surgery appointments ..... (local call) 01954 719469
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Chair, Parish Council: Miss Chris Westgarth, 85 Barton Road .....	263242
Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs Gail Stoehr	
Comberton Parish Council, PO Box 857, Comberton .....	01954 210241
(for planning applications see South Street notice board)	
Village Hall Lettings Secretary, Mrs Stephanie Young .....	262365
Nursery Way Sheltered Housing.....	264434
Comberton Playgroup .....	262373
Meridian County Primary School .....	262423
Comberton Village College .....	262503
CVC Community Education Office .....	264721
Comberton Library.....	08450 455225
Baptist Church - Rev. Stephen Henderson, Church Office .....	264707
Community Team - Hazel Charge.....	262827
Comberton Catholics - Rev. Robert Joyce.....	350787
St Mary's Church - Revd Mike Booker .....	260095
The Village Help Scheme	
Chairman: Janet McCabe .....	263387
Transport: Gill Redman.....	262246
If unavailable, try: Joan Wells.....	262746
or Barbara Urquhart.....	263364
Emergency Home Help: Rachel Thompson .....	262422
Gardening: Margaret Storey.....	262748
Village Warden Scheme - Information .....	262746
Cambridge Water (water) .....	01223 706050
Anglian Water (sewerage) emergency .....	0845 7145145
Water Emergency .....	01223 403000
Environmental Health Services .....	08450 450 063
Street Light Failure reporting telephone hotline .....	0800 253 529
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Cambridge County Council (D Baldwin, County Councillor).....	717111 (01954 211154)
Social Services, Comberton (Emergency out of hours).....	264466 (01733 561370)
Benefits Agency, Chesterton Road, Cambridge.....	545200
Wood Green Animal Shelter (stray/lost dogs at SCDC on 443000).....	01480 830014
Age Concern (Cambridge Information and advice line).....	01354 696677
Samaritans .....	364455
Parkside Police Station.....	08454 564564
Comberton Ramblers .....	01223 262940

Village Web site: [www.comberton.org.uk](http://www.comberton.org.uk)



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Private (except evening social events) £25

Non-Affiliated Group (except evening social events) £20

Weekday evening social events (Mon–Thurs) £60

Weekend evening social events (Fri/Sat/Sun) £90

Wedding reception (all day to midnight) £300

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Main Hall (excluding Fri/Sat/Sun evenings) £30

Meeting Room or Community Room £20

Commercial Use (per hour) On application  
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“Community Group Use” – local groups operating on a non-commercial basis.

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Weekend Emergencies contact CAMDOC,  
tel: 01223 464242

(Phone goes to night service at 6.00pm - if you

need to be seen after 6.00pm, please call

CAMDOC, tel: 01223 464242)

Dispensary reception 8.45am - 12.30pm

1.30pm - 6.30pm

Saturday \* 8.30am - 10.30am

(\*collection of pre-ordered drugs only)

Dispensary phone calls only

(Tel: 262399) Mon-Frid 10.30am - 12.30pm

3.30pm - 6.00pm

Repeat Slips preferred.

### BOURN SURGERY OPENING TIMES:

Surgery

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 11.00am

4.00pm - 6.00pm

For out of hours emergencies call:

CAMDOC on 01954 719313

Pharmacy

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

4.00pm - 6.00pm

There is a branch of the surgery in Great  
Gransden at midday on Tuesdays, held  
at the Reading Room, Fox Street. No  
appointment is needed.

Village Hall Lettings Secretary  
Mrs Stephanie Young  
Tel: 01223 262365 (before 9pm)

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Bar Hill, CB3 8SQ



Bank Holiday Weekend at the  
Three Horseshoes Comberton  
29<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> August 2009

Bouncy Castles all Weekend

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup>  
starting approximately 8.30pm

**Sarah-Jayne**

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup>  
starting approximately 12.15pm

**Facepainting // BBQ at 4.30pm**

**Bojangles**

**Dave Doughnut** \*\*\*

With songs spanning the musical genres from the  
Rat Pack to the West End, plus Rock and Pop classics.  
From approximately 6.00pm on Sunday onwards.

Dave has entertained with his Comedy Magic Shows  
at many events, and his fun-filled traditional Punch &  
Judy show is enjoyed by children and adults alike.

The Three Horseshoes, 22 South Street, Comberton, Cambridgeshire, CB23 7DZ  
Tel: 01223 262252 // web: [www.the-3-horseshoes.co.uk](http://www.the-3-horseshoes.co.uk) // E-mail: [colin@the-3-horseshoes.co.uk](mailto:colin@the-3-horseshoes.co.uk)