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Regular Dates for Your Diary

Mon	9:30-11:30am	Fun for 1s & 2s	Playgroup
Mon	9:45am	Comberton Walkers	Baptist Church
1 st 3 rd 4 th Mon	7:00pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
3 rd Mon	7:30pm	Wine Makers	VH
Tues	9:30-11:30am	Little Bundles (u1)	Playgroup
Tues	10:30-12noon	Village Cafe & Crafts	VH
Tues	6:30-8pm	Keep Fit	Sports Hall, CVC
2 nd Tues	7:45pm	Women's Institute	VH
4 th Tues	8pm	Antiquarian Society	VH
Wed	10-11:30am	Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wed	12:25-1:10pm	Lunchtime Badminton	CVC
Wed	2pm	Bridge Club	VH
Wed	After School	Tang Soo Do	Meridian School
Wed	6:30-9pm	Tennis Mix-In Session	Tennis Club
Wed (term)	2-3:30pm	Bumps and Babes	Baptist Church
2 nd Wed	7:30pm	Parish Council	VH
Thurs	9:30-11:30pm	Fun for 1s & 2s	Playgroup
Thurs (term)	4-6pm	EDGE Youth Club	Baptist Church
2 nd Thurs	2:30pm	Friendship Club	VH
4 th Thurs	2:30pm	Oasis Teas (55+)	VH
Fri	6-7pm	Tae Kwon Do	Meridian School
Fri	7-8pm	Tae Kwon Do	Meridian School
2 nd Fri	8pm	Custard Comedy	CVC
3 rd Fri	7pm	Bingo Party	VH
Sat	10-11am	Park Tennis	Park
VH = Village Hall		CVC = Comberton Village College	

Advertising Rates

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Two fifths	122 x 72	£160	£18
One fifth	122 x 35	£80	£9
	60 x 72	£80	£9
One tenth	60 x 35	£50	£6

Upcoming Events

March

28	Village Hall AGM	VH
31	Cricket Nets	Sports Centre

April

1	Easter	
8	Cricket Nets	Sports Centre
	Gliding Open Day	Gransdale Lodge Airfield
12	Gardeners Question Time	Scotsdales
	Friendship Club	VH
15	Cricket Nets	Sports Centre
	Bowls	Bowls Club
22	Cricket Nets	Sports Centre
	Bowls	Bowls Club
23	Rhymetime	Library
25	Bowls	Bowls Club
26	Oasis Tea	VH
28	SongCycle	St Mary's
27	Lunch Club	Arrington Garden Centre
29	Cricket Nets	Sports Centre

Important People for the Village

<i>Parish Council Chair</i>	Mr Hywel Griffiths	263390
	18 Barrons Way, CB23 7EQ	
<i>Parish Council Clerk</i>	Mrs Gail Stoehr	01954 210241
	30 West Drive, CB23 7NY	
<i>District Councillor</i>	Tim Scott	07721 884676
	South Cambridgeshire District	
<i>County Councillor</i>	Lina Joseph	07402 351821
	Cambridge County Council	

From the Editor

Dear Comberton,

Despite the beginning of the month and the arrival of the Beast from the East, it seems that spring really has begun to arrive. The tulips in my garden have begun to sprout, and I've given the grass its first cut of the year. If you are a fan of gardens then do have a look at the Open Gardens adver (p13). In the theme of spring, I am going to do a spring clean of the first few pages of the magazine. Please could you have a look at the useful numbers and regular dates sections, and if you know there are errors, or omissions do let me know on the email below.

One of my favourite parts of the magazine is the inclusion of local politics. There is the Parish Council Report, District Councillor Report and a newsletter from our MP. Democracy and local democracy are such gifts in a world that doesn't enjoy the freedom of elections universally. Do make sure you read and engage with our local politicians.

There is also the opportunity to go gliding! Check out the little article on p19.

Yours,

Chris

Comberton Contact Team

<i>Editor and Designer</i>	Chris Balding	07746 668140
	editor@combertoncontact.org.uk	
	43 St Thomas Close	
<i>Treasurer and Advertising</i>	Terry Coad	01223 263264
	treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk	
	38 Westlands	
<i>Distribution</i>	Marian Dymott	01223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg. Please send any submissions through to the editor by April 14th 2018 for the May edition.

The Parish Church of St Mary, Comberton

In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry www.combertonchurch.co.uk

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

Vicar: Rev. David Newton, 92 Swaynes Lane, CB23 7EF,
davidnewton@lordsbridge.org

Churchwardens:

Chris Westgarth	263242	chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com
Mary Jenkins	263751	maryjenkins18@gmail.com

Services and Events at St Mary's in March

1st April	9.30am	Easter Celebration
8th April	9.30am	Holy Communion
15th April	9.30am	Holy Communion Followed by the church AGM
22nd April	9.30am	Morning Worship
29th April	10.30am	United Team Services*

*The Lordsbridge Team has united services every 5th Sunday. This time there is 'Messy Church with Holy Communion' in Haslingfield and a service of Holy Communion at Dry Drayton.

Morning Prayer happens every Tuesday morning at 9.30am

Children are always very welcome at the services; there is a carpeted area with toys for younger children.

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The Fool's Easter

The secular and the sacred seem to be intent on crossing their boundary lines this year. Ash Wednesday fell on St Valentine's Day and now Easter Day coincides with April Fools' Day. I'm not very good at pulling off practical jokes. The only one I remember trying as a kid was swapping the salt for the sugar one breakfast, and my mum pouring salt all over her Weetabix. It felt pretty lame, even at the time.

Practical jokes don't often seem to end with much gusto. The person tricked just feels embarrassed and the joker more often than not just feels awkward. Apparently back in the 50s the BBC did a Panorama episode about the spaghetti harvest, and a vast number of people wrote in asking to buy a spaghetti plant. The next day they had to admit the hoax - an awkward moment for a newsreader and serious embarrassment for the letter writers.

Still, I'm sure many hoaxes and practical jokes will happen again this year. Hopefully some will be more successful than my attempt or the BBC's.

There have been some, of course, who have suggested Jesus' resurrection was nothing more than a hoax or a practical joke. The bible itself reports a cover up story which tried to suggest the disciples had just nicked the body; but that story was hard to square with the hundreds claiming to have seen Jesus in the days after his crucifixion.

For me, naturally, the resurrection is no joke, but it does make me laugh. You could even say there is something deeply 'foolish' about the resurrection. For at its heart is the idea that there is always a space for hope - hope for life and love and peace and joy, even when all we can see are the dark opposites of those things. The resurrection says that in the end violence is not ultimate power and that, despite how it sometimes seems, love is the strongest force in the universe.

If thinking that is foolish then I'll happily be called a fool. So I wish you all a very foolish Easter.

Rev. David Newton

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Let us lighten your load



Comberton Walkers

Comberton Walkers walks are supported by Walking for Health and the Ramblers. Our weekly walks aim to encourage people to stay healthy or to improve their health. We have three walks; a longer brisker walk usually lasting an hour, a medium walk at a more moderate pace for around 45 minutes and a short 20 minute walk for those who are less mobile, maybe even in wheelchairs. All the walks are around Comberton and the recreation ground, the longer ones being mainly off road, and are lead by a team of trained walk leaders who make sure no-one is left behind and are able to give one-to-one support.

We meet every Monday - except for Bank Holidays - at the Baptist Church, Green End, Comberton, at 9.45am for a 10am start. We are there whatever the weather!

The walks are free and we have refreshments at the end for which there is a small donation. We do not wear lycra or power walk - comfortable boots or shoes and weather appropriate clothing is all that is required!

As well as the fitness side of the walk, walkers enjoy chatting on the way, making new friends and a social time over refreshments. We have both men and women walkers from Comberton and the surrounding villages and the scheme has been promoted by the local GPs.

Whatever your fitness, do join us for one of our walks - you will be most welcome.

Sylvia Divall Walk Leader
01223 263193

Volunteer Car Scheme

To book transport please see the dates below and call the appropriate number for the two weeks commencing:

26 March 2018	Gill Redman	01223 262246
09 April 2018	Joan Wells	01223 262746
23 April 2018	Margaret Storey	01223 262748
07 May 2018	Barbara Mitten	01223 262073

More drivers required for this essential service.

For more information please contact Mrs Gill Redman as above

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Green End, Comberton
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Sundays at CBC
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Minister - Revd Keith Tarring - (01223) 264 707
Youth Worker - Nick Slater - nick@c-b-c.org.uk



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Comberton WI

This last month has been a very mixed month for Comberton WI. Mandy one of our keenest, youngest and most supportive members who had been President a number of times died after a more than two year struggle with a cancerous brain tumour. Throughout her illness she remained her usual cheerful and optimistic self. We will all miss her greatly.

Our present President broke her ankle in three places and has been out of action.

Despite these unhappy happenings we managed to enjoy an interesting evening with our speaker who gave us an insight into the world of TV and film studios. She had worked in a number of TV dramas and even had a walk on part in the Calendar Girls film. Our April speaker will be quite different telling us "All About Alpacas"

We are delighted to have a new member on our committee who only joined us fairly recently and is already a valuable asset. Don't forget we meet the second Tuesday of the month and all are welcome.

Friends of St Mary's Church Comberton

It is planned to hold an Open Gardens event in the village to raise funds towards the cost of repairs and restoration of the Church. The last time such an event was held in the village was in 2006 to raise funds towards the building of the new Village Hall. This was very successful.

This event will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 7th and 8th from 2pm to 5pm each day.

If you would like to participate by opening your garden please telephone Malcolm on the number below. Gardens of all types are welcome: small, medium, large, cottage, wild etc

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Malcolm Wright 262960

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Opening Hours: Monday: 10am – 1pm
 Wednesday: 10am – 1pm 2pm - 5pm
 Friday: 2pm - 5pm
 Saturday: 10am – 1pm

More details can be found on the Library Service website at:
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library

During the school Easter holidays we will be running a hunt the Easter Bunny game in the library for children. Each bunny will be holding an egg with a book title on it and we hope that the children will have fun finding all the bunnies and book titles. There will be a prize at the end of the holidays for two lucky young customers, drawn at random from the completed entries. Full details are available from library staff.

Are you aware that we have a set of books at Comberton Library under the heading of Reading Well, part of the Books on Prescription offer? The titles cover a range of different illnesses and conditions and are a useful source of information and advice. If we don't have anything on the condition you wish to know more about, you will be pleased to know that all titles under the Books on Prescription banner can be reserved free of charge from any library.

The Library Service has just launched a new Cambridgeshire Autism Collection. The collection of 30 titles is intended to provide support for those with autism, their families, carers and friends. The nearest library holding the collection is Cambourne, but again these books can all be reserved free of charge. Do ask library staff if you would like to know more.

Upcoming Rhymetime sessions: 23rd April and 14th May (10.30 -11.00 am). Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too! If you haven't been to a session before, please do come along with your baby, toddler, or pre-schooler and give it a try. We have a lovely volunteer running the sessions and it is great fun for both children and adults.

John Gresham Remembered

Many of you by now will have heard the sad news of my father's death in February. As he was such a large part of village life for so many years, I wanted to write something for Contact summing up his life and in particular his life in Comberton.

Dad grew up in Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, where his parents farmed. On finishing school, he moved to Manchester, training to be a building surveyor, although he never left the countryside behind him. This career took him around the country to Bristol, Nottingham and Stamford, where he met Mum. After several more moves and the birth of two children, Alice and David, the family came to Comberton in 1991, where Catherine was born.

Over the years, Dad took part in many village activities. As a leader of the Comberton Cubs, Dad was frequently to be found barbequing sausages on Bonfire night. A member of the Allotments and Gardens committee with an allotment on South Street, Dad regularly helped and exhibited at the Village Show, although he never did manage to win the Gerry Hall Memorial Cup for

men's baking, coming second to David one year in a close fought family competition.

The allotment also gave him many hours of pleasure; growing, harvesting, distributing the glut of vegetables around the village, or just chatting to those who shared a common interest. He was always ready to stop and give advice to new gardeners or pass the time with other regulars.

Other activities included playing for the cricket team (where he and David once opened the batting), badminton, and eventually taking up bowls, winning a trophy in his first season. When he moved away from the village, he continued playing bowls for a local team in Herefordshire. He became the chief set builder for Comberton Players, wooden prop maker and set painter and even appeared on stage a couple of times although he remained happiest behind the stage.

After retiring he would happily help anyone around the village who had an odd job that needed doing - fence panels to put up or something shifting. As my brother put it in his eulogy, the tools were never out of the back of the car.

John Gresham Remembered Cont.

He also took up wood turning, learning how to create wooden bowls and candlesticks, and he helped run a Diabetes support group, having lived with Diabetes for many years.

Later on, when Mum retired, they moved across the country to Herefordshire, where they spent time doing up the house, creating a garden and getting to know the neighbours.

He died in February, in the garden, doing something he loved.

As a family we would like to thank everyone who sent cards and notes. One of the cards described Dad as 'a warm gust of friendly wind when he entered the room' and this describes him perfectly.

He will be greatly missed.

Gardeners Question Time

The Rotary Club of Cambridge Sawston is holding Gardeners Question Time at Scotsdales Garden Centre, Great Shelford on Thursday 12th April, in the David Rayner building.

Peter Jackson, who is well known in Cambridgeshire for his excellent gardening advice, and has recently retired as Horticultural Adviser at Scotsdales, will be chairing the panel of experts.

Tickets are £12 and includes a 10% discount for shopping throughout the day.

The evening starts at 6.00pm with a Finger Buffet and a free glass of wine and Quiz Sheets. Question Time will be held between 7 and 8.30 pm.

Tickets are available from Scotsdales information desk or Rotary Club members:
Rev Simon Talbot 01223 847068, simon@thetalbotts.co.uk
Brian Seeley 01223 890024, bjseeley@btinternet.com.

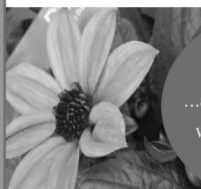
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4th Bi-Annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition

Monday Studio, Comberton's resident art group, will be holding their bi-annual Arts and Crafts Exhibition on 14th -15th July 2016 in the Village Hall and we are looking for contributors.

The ethos of the exhibition is to give artists and crafters the opportunity to display and show off their wares, and if you desire, to sell them. The only participating criteria are that you live in or are associated with a group active in the village of Comberton. Don't be shy...

We know that every village has a wealth of talented artists and crafters and now is a wonderful opportunity for you to showcase your talents. Previously we have accommodated artists working in every medium; wood turners; quilters; knitters; jewellery makers; card makers; candle makers; an iconographer; gift makers and much much more.

Please help us to make this a very special village event and contact: *Angela Donnelly 01223 263283 or 07731875664*

Cambridge Gliding Centre Open Day

Sunday 8th April, 10am - 5pm.

Come and visit Gransden Lodge Airfield to find out about the sport of gliding. All welcome. Trial flights with our qualified instructors available on a first-come, first-fly basis (subject to weather). Refreshments. Free admission, aircraft displays and talks about gliding. To fly in a glider you must be 13+ and weigh no more than 103Kg.

Airfield entrance on B1046 between Little Gransden & Longstowe, opposite Gransden Lodge Farm (enter SG19 3EB into your SatNav). More information: www.camgliding.uk



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District Councillor Report - Tim Scott

My report relates to village issues and questions I have been asked about.

The most common moan relates to cars, whether there be too many or them travelling too fast. I think I have mentioned before that the volume clearly comes down to our village being used as a rat run. Hopefully when the A14 upgrades have been completed this issue may relent? Regarding speeding, the Comberton Transport Group still has the speed reduction scheme active and provided you all have an appetite for this, it should come in time.

Fly tipping continues to happen in the village and fortunately SCDC reacts very quickly when these events occur. There was quite a major incident in Branch Road recently and a likely one along the Drift, fortunately the potential perpetrators got stuck before unloading their hoard.

Around the time of the snowy and frosty weather there was a spate of vandalism in the village. This was most apparent around the duck pond.

Once again the issue of parking around the Dr's Surgery has been on many people's lips. The Parish Council is looking in to this.

Bennell Farm development - the definitive plans are now in the public domain awaiting either refusal or approval at South Cambs. In general the plans disappoint me.

I have been asked about the likelihood of an Oxford to Cambridge railway line and its potential proximity to us? I can only direct people to the East West Rail link web site. I leave you to draw your own conclusions.

Inconsiderate dog owners. Please pick these little packages up and put in the bins provided. There have been moans of dog mess near the Dr's, on the Rec and by the shop. Also about these bags are turning up hanging on branches in hedges!!!

Finally the local elections in May. The elections will mean each of us vote for 3 candidates and the successful ones will represent 8 villages rather than just our village. Potentially this could be my last report, so if it is, thank you all for putting up with me for the last 5 years, but hopefully I will retain my seat.

Thank you, Tim



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Easter Fayre

Saturday 31st March
10.30 to 12 noon
Comberton Village Hall

Don't forget to come -all the usual fun and games. - Chocolate tombola, Eggs from the Easter Bunny, Gift stall, Craft stall, Bric-a-brac, Raffle, Easter bonnet competition, adults included and welcomed.

Admission includes refreshments:
Adults - £1
Children - 50pence

Comberton Friendship Club

Elizabeth Brown was our speaker on Thursday 8th March. A very interesting talk on "The History of Dolls". The display she brought along was amazing and certainly caused a lot of discussion between the female members, as to what their favourites were as children. She then went on to discuss what materials over the years these dolls had been made of and how they had been made. A very fun afternoon with the latest up to date dolls causing a stir as to how realistic they were.

Next meeting April 12th at 2.30pm, "The History of the Pathfinder Force" 1942-1945. There will be a raffle. New members welcome.

Friends of the Rosie

We had a good talk "A History of Maternity Services in Cambridge" from Hilary Ritchie, the Archivist at our AGM today. More details can be found on our website.

The Friends of the Rosie Hospital are raising money to help make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies.

In 2017 we spent £10,783.75 on cool bags for the district midwives. reclining chairs for tired dads, a sophisticated teaching mannequin, money for re-equipping the delivery rooms, dolls of every ethnicity for the midwives to use for breastfeeding training plus knitted breasts from Rosie in Stitches. These dolls and breasts will be crucial for The Rosie's application for "UNICEF level 3"

The St Ivo Young Entrepreneurs chose The Rosie Hospital as their charity to support. They came third in a school competition and donated £386.16. The Tea Bar raised £2,500 and Rosie in Stitches raised £2,000.

Ann Laskey appealed for more regular volunteers to help in the Tea Bar.

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Parish Council Report from the Clerk

New Parish Council member

The Parish Council is pleased to report that it has co-opted Jennifer Martin of St Thomas Close to fill the remaining vacancy on the Parish Council.

Parish Council Elections

Parish Council elections will take place on 3 May. Anyone interested in standing for election should see the notice board for information.

Parking in Green End

Problems relating to parking in Green End are being referred to the County Council.

Overgrown hedges and vegetation

The Parish Council has gratefully accepted a resident's kind offer to trim back bushes in St Thomas Close. Residents are encouraged to assist in maintaining areas of the village, subject to seeking the Parish Council's approval beforehand.

Community Pride Awards and Village of the Year

A resident's suggestion that the village enter for the above awards will be discussed at a future meeting when further information is available.

Comberton Flooding.

Many of us will remember the flooding that occurred in 2001 after a day of heavy rainfall. This could happen again at any time, so we have to be prepared. We have heard of drought in South Africa, heavier snowfall than usual in Moscow, severe flooding in northern France where the Seine overflowed dramatically and other unusual climatic behavior. Although the climate in East Anglia is fairly moderate, there are occasions when it is not so moderate.

The severe winter weather we had at the beginning of March is a case in point.

The Cambridge area is between two weather fronts so it may be raining in Comberton, but dry in Histon. Comberton lies on a north south slope, so heavy and prolonged rainfall results in surface water flowing through our village. The main reason why there was so much flooding in 2001 was that surface water could not flow away fast enough.

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Comberton Flooding Cont

This was because of blocked road drains, ditches that had not been cleared and channels that were not deep and wide enough to cope with the sudden volume of rain water.

Since then it must be said that our highways authority has made efforts to help clear road drains, South Cambs has cleared only the awarded ditches and waterways with the best of their limited manpower and resources. They try and clear waterways once a year, but blockages may occur at any time. They do their best.

That leaves riparian ditches and waterways not covered by the authorities. These are ditches and waterways belonging to farmers, land owners and householder with a ditch or waterway through or at the bottom of their garden who are responsible to keep them clear. The idea is to drain water away and not to block it with debris that blocks or slow its flow.

Three members of our Parish Council have put together a Flood Plan in case bad flooding occurring again, but their main aim is to prevent this happening.

Yellow jackets , rods and spades are going to be made available to those who can carry out their riparian responsibilities, but it is also hoped that those who cannot or need help can call on the small group from the village to help clear those ditches and waterways not covered by South Cambs. Those who wish to be involved would be giving a satisfying service to the community.

If you are interested, want to know more or need help with ditch clearing, please contact Andrew Hollick, Jill Feldman or Nick Taylor.

We also have access to met. office notification of heavy rain and flood warnings. For those people who feel they are likely to be flooded and would like to be warned, please supply your contact details. These details would only be used to inform you of a Flood warning.

<i>Andrew Hollick</i>	<i>263089</i>
<i>Nick Taylor</i>	<i>263419</i>



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From Meridian School

This is a very brief update from our school in this edition.

We are very glad and proud to share that with our recent Ofsted report (Jan 2018), the school has been given a good rating in all categories; Effectiveness of leadership and management; Quality of teaching, Learning and assessment, Personal development behaviour and welfare; Outcomes for pupils; Early years provision.

We strongly believe we are a good school and this recent inspection has been welcomed by the school community. The report is now published and on our website.

If you are keen and able to offer your time to volunteer with us, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Ann Webb in the office and register your interest. All volunteers are subject to the necessary DBS checks before they start with us.

Mrs C. Etchie
Headteacher



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Arthur Rank Hospices

How much do you know about your local Hospice's services, who can access them and how?

Arthur Rank Hospice cares for more than 3000 people each year who are living with a non-curable illness. This could include someone who has lung disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis, certain forms of cancer and heart failure, or many other life-limiting conditions.

Whilst we are best known for our Inpatient Unit, day therapy and Hospice at Home services, holistic care and support are also provided by the Specialist Palliative Care Home Team (which includes triage, central referrals and clinical nurse specialists who deliver their care within the community); patient and family support (counselling, social workers, chaplaincy); complementary therapy, physio and occupational therapy and outpatient clinics for lymphoedema and pain management.

Referrals are commonly made by an individual's GP but can also be made through District Nurses, Arthur Rank Community Team Specialist Nurses and other health professionals. Very occasionally the referrals team receives enquiries directly from individuals and in these instances information is gathered before the individual is required to ask the aforementioned professionals to agree a referral is necessary.

When a person has already received the Hospice's care they can self-refer by contacting our Referrals Office on 01223 675800 (9-3pm, Monday to Friday),

If you know someone who'd like to learn more about Arthur Rank Hospice's services please tell them that they can ask their GP for more information, call us 01223 675800 or visit our website: www.arhc.org.uk/arhc-services

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Heidi Allen MP for South Cambs Newsletter

Well, the Beast from the East certainly visited us in South Cambs at the end of February. I'm ashamed to say I couldn't actually get my car off the drive one particularly icy day....no lady driver comments please!

Back to work and the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is consulting on another important transport initiative. They are seeking your views on a number of options for improvements along the A11 and A1307. One option would potentially include a "Mass Rapid Transport" route from the A11 via Sawston to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. This could include the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro which you may have read about.

Another option being considered is a new dedicated public transport link between the existing Babraham Road Park and Ride and the Biomedical Campus and an inbound bus lane from Babraham Research Campus to the Park and Ride site. All options under consideration would involve a new Park and Ride near the A11/A505 junction. Please do have a look and feed in your views before 9th April at www.greatercambridge.org.uk/

I am aware that any transport project will generate questions from residents so I am keen for the GCP to hear from as many local residents as possible. Part of the challenge with these sorts of initiatives is to ensure infrastructure improvements are made whilst also retaining the uniqueness of South Cambridgeshire as such a special place to live.

I continue to focus on promoting all the infrastructure improvements we need. This includes the new railway station at Addenbrooke's, the A428 expressway (Highways England must include the Girton interchange as part of this project) and the East West Rail link. I am determined to ensure these improvements are brought about as quickly as possible so I talk regularly to both local stakeholders and those National bodies and Ministers ultimately responsible for delivery.

As we know from the A14 improvements now underway, these major projects take time to deliver but they are vital to ensure South Cambridgeshire continues to thrive and cope with our growth. I am aware for example that residents may be wondering

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Heidi Allen MP for South Cambs Newsletter Cont

what is happening with the A428 upgrade. Please be assured this project is still very alive and well, just delayed by a few months due to engineering design complexities at the A1 Black Cat end. Please keep an eye on my website for updates as I know more -
www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk/a428-black-cat-caxton-gibbet

In other news, I was pleased to be able to present a petition to the House of Commons which had been signed by 610 residents who are concerned about the removal of the post box from Cottenham High Street.

I would like to pay tribute to Audrey Brownlow and Councillor Frank Morris for their campaign to bring back the post box. I hope the Department for Housing, Communities and Local Government and Royal Mail will show they are listening.

Also in Parliament, I have recently introduced a Bill which aims to improve the way in which the Child Maintenance Service (CMS) works, so on 20th February, I met the responsible Minister Kit Malthouse MP. The CMS took over from the Child Support Agency a few years ago and

following meetings with constituents, it became clear that improvements needed to be made to the new CMS. At my request, the Work and Pensions Select Committee, of which I am a member, conducted an investigation into the way the CMS was working for children and their parents.

My Bill seeks to close the legislative loopholes that allow a minority of parents to avoid paying their child maintenance and to provide the CMS with stronger enforcement powers. If you'd like to read more, please see the headline page on my website. The Bill will have its Second Reading on the 27th April and I am encouraged by the Minister's willingness to work with me.

Sadly, the bad weather meant my last surgery in Caldecote was cancelled. The next one will take place at my Sawston constituency office on 29th March between 3 and 5pm. In a different format to my usual drop in surgeries, this one will be an "appointment only" surgery to allow for more sensitive, private matters to be discussed. If you would like an appointment, please give my office a call on 01223 830087.

Heidi Allen MP for South Cambs Newsletter Cont

I will also be holding a normal “drop in” surgery at Caldecote Primary School, Highfields Rd, Highfields Caldecote, CB23 7NX on the 21st April between 10am and 12pm where no appointment will be necessary.

Details of all upcoming surgeries can be found on my website - www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk.

To contact me, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk You can also phone my Westminster office on 020 7219 5091 about national issues or my constituency office on 01223 830037 for local concerns. See you next month!

The Challenge November Solution and Winner

Sponsored by Budgens of Comberton

CREE	Bottomless fish basket.
CHEROKEE	Here Coke is the answer.
CROW	The Royston Newspaper.
SIoux	Sounds like tennis' Miss barker.
SHAWNEE	We and Shane combined to fight them.
ARAPAHO	Harpo joined the AA.
CHEYENNE	He replaces a in a type of red pepper.
COMANCHE	Me a conche !!!!!
BLACKFOOT	7 point ball and .3048 of a metre.
CHIPPEWA	Chew a pip to produce this.
MOHAWK	Ham in a wok.
OSAGE	Zero Herb.
PAWNEE	Sounds like a destitute leg joint.
SEMINOLE	Lose mine.
SHOSHONE	Hush ! Nothing. Hush! A single.
UTE	Part of any kitchen item.

March Winner: Carola Grimal. Fox's Way

The Challenge - Sponsored by Budgens of Comberton

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Ryder Cup

The Superbowl Trophy

The Claret Jug

The Schneider Trophy

Copa Liberta Dores Trophy

Lonsdale Belt

Borg- Warner Trophy

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Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£30
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Meeting Room or Community Room	£10
Committee meetings in Meeting/Community Room	£5

Non-Village and Non-Affiliated Community Group Use

Main Hall

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Affiliated Group (except evening social events)	£20
Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£40
Weekend evening social events (F/S/S)	£90
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Booking should be made with the Lettings Secretary, Mrs Stephanie Young on 01223 971006 or 07773 085479 between 9am-9pm.

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