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Regular dates for your diary

Mon	9:30-13:30	Fun for 1's & 2's	Playgroup
Mon	9:45	Comberton walkers	Baptist Church
1 st , 2 nd & 4 th Mon	19:00	Carpet bowls	VH
3 rd Mon	19:30	Wine Makers	VH
Tues	10:30-12:00	Village Café & Crafts	VH
Tues	13.30– 16.00	Fabric & Yarns	Baptist Church
Tues	18:30-20:00	Keep Fit	CVC
2 nd Tues	19:45	Women's Institute	VH
4 th Tues	20:00	Antiquarian Society	VH
Wed	10:00-11:30	Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wed	12:25-13:10	Lunchtime Badminton	CVC
Wed	14:00	Bridge Club	VH
Wed	18:30-21:00	Tennis Mix in Session	Tennis Club
Wed	20:00-22:00	Shuttles Badminton	CVC
Wed (term)	14:00-15:30	Bumps & Babies	Baptist Church
2 nd Wed	19:30	Parish Council	VH
Thurs	9:30-11:30	Fun for 1's & 2's	Playgroup
Thurs	9:30-1:15	Tumble Tots	VH
Thurs (term)	16:00-18:00	EDGE Youth Club	Baptist Church
2 nd Thurs	14:30	Friendship Club	VH
4 th Thurs	14:30	Oasis Teas (55+)	VH
Fri	18:00-21:00	TaeKwon Do	Meridian Sch.
2 nd Fri	20:00	Comedy Club	CVC
3 rd Fri	19:00	Bingo Party	VH
Sat	10:00-11:00	Park Tennis	Park
Sat	9:00-12:30	Junior Squash	CVC
4 th Sat	9:00	Selah	VH
Sun	15:00-18:40	Adult Squash	CVC
VH = Village Hall		CVC = Comberton Village College	

Upcoming events

November

2	Selah	Village Hall
6	Comberton Opera—Albert Herring	Village Hall
11	Rhymetime	Comberton Library
11	Village Help Scheme AGM	Village Hall
20	Comberton Cinema - Red Joan	Village Hall
20	Mahajanaka Dance Drama	Cambourne Library
20-23	Barton Drama-A Woman of No Importance	Village Hall, Barton
22-24	Art & Craft Exhibition	St Mary's Church
25	Rhymetime	Comberton Library
27	CAGA Cheese and Wine (or Juice) AGM	Village Hall
29	Oasis Tea	Village Hall
30	Comberton Playgroup Christmas Fayre	Comberton Playgroup

December

6	Christmas Lights at the Crossroads	Village Pond
7	Christmas Storytime and Craft Session	Comberton Library
9	Rhymetime	Comberton Library

Advertising rates for Comberton Contact

	Size (w x h)	Annual	Single edition
Whole page	122mm x 183mm	£400.00	£44.00
Three fifth page	122mm x 109mm	£240.00	£27.00
Two fifth page	122mm x 72mm	£160.00	£18.00
One fifth page	122mm x 35mm	£ 80.00	£ 9.00
	60mm x 72mm	£ 80.00	£ 9.00
One tenth page	60mm x 35mm	£ 50.00	£ 6.00

Comberton Contact Team

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38 Westlands

Distribution Marian Dymott 01 223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg, png or pdf with 300dpi. Please send any submissions for the December 2019/January 2020 magazine by 15th November 2019

From the Editor

We are delighted to announce that we are in discussions with one of Comberton's newest residents with a view to them becoming our new editor. We are currently trying to get the various processes and procedures set up to enable them to become fully involved in compiling the December 2019 / January 2020 edition.

It has been drawn to our attention that the Carpet Bowls dates in the Regular dates for your diary section on page 2 was incorrect, this has now been corrected but has been incorrect for nearly two years which made us think whether anyone actually reads or pays any attention to this information. Would you therefore please let us know if you think that this page, or any other section of the magazine, is necessary and/or relevant or could be better used by other content. We would also like to know of any other matters or topics you would like to see in Contact. This will be particularly useful for our prospective new editor as they consider future publications.

Just a reminder that our next edition will be a combined December 2019/January 2020 issue so please let us have your contributions for this extended period by 15 November 2019

Best Wishes
The Contact Team

Important People for the Village

Parish Council Chair	Mr Hywel Griffiths	01223 263390
	18 Barrons Way, CB23 7EQ	
Parish Council Clerk	Mrs Gail Stoehr	01 954 21 0241
	30 West Drive, CB23 7NY	
District Councillors	Ian Sollom	07722 065475
	Cllr.Sollom@scambs.gov.uk	
	Philip Allen	07963 5261 37
	Cllr.Allen@scambs.gov.uk	
	Tony Mason	07432 779551
	Cllr.Mason@scambs.gov.uk	
County Councillor	Lina Nieto	07402 351 821
	Lina.Nieto@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	

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 Revd 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 in October (at St Mary's Church, Comberton unless otherwise noted)

<i>Saturday 2 November</i>	<i>9.00 am</i>	<i>Selah in the Village Hall</i>
Sunday 3 November	9.30 am	All Saints Holy Communion
	5.30 pm	All Souls Service
Sunday 10 November	8.00 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	10.45 am	Remembrance with uniformed groups
Sunday 17 November	9.30 am	Holy Communion
<i>Fri 22—Sun 24th Nov</i>	<i>10am—4pm</i>	<i>Art & Craft Exhibition 2019</i>
Sunday 24 November	8.30 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Andrew's Church, Toft
	10.30 am	West of Cambridge Joint Service at Comberton Leisure
<i>Thursday 28 November</i>	<i>2.30 pm</i>	<i>Oasis Tea in the Village Hall</i>

We say a short service of Morning Prayer every Tuesday
at 9.30 am

All welcome

Comberton Baptist Church

Green End, Comberton
www.c-b-c.org.uk

Sundays at CBC
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Art & Craft Exhibition 2019

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22nd,
Saturday
23rd
& Sunday
24th
November

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Alan Opie

Felicity Palmer

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Elizabeth Gale

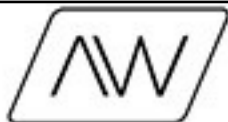
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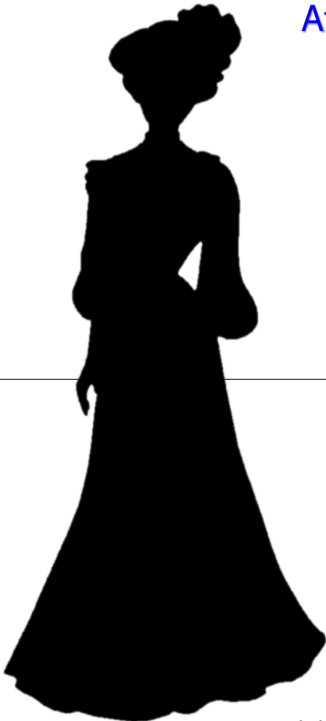


Presents

Oscar Wilde's A Woman of No Importance

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At 7:45pm in The Village Hall, Barton.



Tickets: £9.00 (£7.00 concessions)

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Greetings Neighbours,

The children have had a super first half term. We have had two classes out on museum visits which have related to their class topics. Our new reception children have been doing some fantastic art work with recycled materials. And what better end to a wonderful half term than for the PTA to organise a children's disco!

We are still looking forward to an anti-bullying performance and workshop for our KS2 children as part of our Personal, Social, Health Education (PSHE) curriculum.

During an afternoon in October, we invited parents to come in to see some of their children's work and learn about what their child is seeking to improve this term.

Our School will be open to all prospective parents who have children who will start school in September 2020. This will be on Wednesday 20th November 2019. Do save the date. Please visit us between 9.30 and 11.30am. We will have two tours (9.30am and 10.30am). This will be a chance for you to see our school in action and view our Early Years provision. Our Special Educational Needs and Children's Mental Health Co-coordinator (SENDCo) will also be available on this morning.

Please note that last year we held an evening Remembrance Service to mark 100 years of the ending of the First World War. This was open to the school and local village communities. We will be holding this again on Friday 8th November at 6pm. If you would like to join us, please do. The short service will last for approximately 40 minutes, with refreshments afterwards.

If you are interested in volunteering at our school on a regular basis or becoming a school governor, we would love to hear from you. All regular volunteers and school governors are subject to the necessary DBS checks. Please do get in touch with the office staff on office@meridian.cambs.sch.uk or our chair of governors on chair@meridian.cambs.sch.uk.

Kind Regards,
Mrs C. Etchie
Headteacher

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Friends of St Mary's Church Comberton

FOSM is the acronym for the body which was set up to raise funds for the Church. In the first place we aimed to cover the debt arising from repairing for the second time the theft of lead from the roof. FOSM is a trust and as is often the way with such things our official reason to exist is expressed somewhat pompously. It says in our Trust Deed that we will be responsible for "Activities among the general public assisting in the education and appreciation of ecclesiastical architecture to support the fabric and surroundings of St Mary's Church Comberton". So be it. We rather interpret this in action as helping to fund repairs and improvements in the building and bringing to the village a greater appreciation of its use and the ways in which it contributes to the community.

Our aim has been to co-operate with the church administration to help in any way we can to further these aims. To this end we run diverse activities to raise funds and use these funds not only to clear the outstanding costs of the lead theft, but for other specific needs in holding the building together and furthering village interest in it. Current projects include supporting the proper construction of a disabled parking bay near the entrance to the North door. This is under costing at the moment. One of perhaps the biggest undertakings for the not so distant future will be helping to fund the enormous job of effectively reroofing the nave, which is likely from first estimates to be many tens of thousands of pounds. Then again there is repair and rebuilding of some of the church surrounds – for example, the churchyard walls need serious attention in places.

All this requires big money and while a certain amount can be raised with concerts and other similar activities and from regular donations together with Gift Aid, we are continually seeking larger sums. Perhaps some of this may come from companies which are active in the village, or from village members who are themselves in a position to guide our approach to their companies, wherever they are, for funds. There are also many charities which exist to help the sort of funding we require. Each needs a separate and individual approach. One such from which we have recently received a grant is the Herring Land Charity a historic fund which featured in the September Contact. Again, how many of us would be willing to leave an appropriate legacy?

Continued on page 21

HAYTER

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Friends of St Mary's Church Comberton continued

All this to say we have a fine group with a really important purpose. Inevitably there is much to do and the reason for the above is to interest new people to come forward and help. We have few meetings but they raise as much or as little work for everyone to feel comfortable with. How about joining us? If you are interested please contact me or another of the Trustees.

_

There had been talk of running The Last Night of the Proms live from the Village Hall. Sadly the level of complication not to say expense of dealing with the BBC over this outweighed our certainty of getting enough returns to make it worth while. We are however looking into this sort of thing – perhaps using archive material or even videos of a more general nature. We have made a submission to be affiliated to the Village Hall with this in mind. Our dealings with the Jesus College Choir, which David and Jane Hughes began so well, are now deferred until 2021, giving us time to raise funds to support the choirs expenses and their share of the profit. Currently other concerts of a similar nature are being considered as well. Why not join us?

Godfrey J Curtis, Chairman

Comberton Friendship Club

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 10th October. The usual minutes were read and different discussions on next years calendar took place. Sue Alin was re-elected chairman, Rex Web, Vice Chairman and committee members were elected En-Bloc. Geoff Heathcote from The R.N.L.I. made his annual visit to us with his array of Christmas cards/calendars/diaries etc. As usual our members were very generous in purchasing to support this very worthy charity. Comberton College sixth form have invited us for lunch on Wednesday 4th December at 1.30pm.

Next meeting Thursday 14th November at 2.30pm.
Our speaker, David Oates "Wildlife Photography".

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Thank You! NSPCC Raises £1,000!

We had such a super day at the Gransden Show on 28th September and raised £1,000 for the charity. This means that over these past 5 years we have raised a staggering £4,679.71 for the charity through this Pre-Loved Stand at Gransden. This is all due to the generosity of those who have so kindly donated items for us to sell on the stand.


We would like to sincerely thank the organisers of the Gransdens Agricultural Show who so generously donated the space for the charity to display its many items. This represents a great support and enables the charity to have no costs for this fundraising event. All funds raised will go towards projects to assist and support children and young people at risk of abuse and neglect in this area.

Thank you from all at The NSPCC Cambridgeshire Branch.

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Comberton Village Help Scheme

Our AGM will be held on Monday 11th November at 3 pm in the Community Room at the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Volunteer Drivers Scheme

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

28 October 2019	Joan Wells	01223 262746
4 November 2019	Margaret Storey	01223 262748
11 November 2019	Margaret Storey	01223 262748
18 November 2019	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
25 November 2019	Barbara Mitton	01223 262073
2 December 2019	Gill Redman	01223 262246

More drivers are **URGENTLY** required for this essential service
For more information please contact Mrs Gill Redman as above



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Comberton Library

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

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

We have copies of the current 'What's On in Cambridgeshire Libraries' available in Comberton Library, so do pick up a copy when you are next in the library. The booklet details the various activities happening in our libraries until the end of December. There are a variety of different events for all ages. At Comberton we will be holding a family Christmas Storytime and Craft session on Saturday 7th December from 10.30 am – 12 noon, so do put the date in your diary. There will be a small charge for each participating child.

There is one more event in the current season of The Library Presents at Cambourne Library on Wednesday 20th November, at 7.30 pm (doors open at 7.00 pm) when the library will be

hosting a Mahajanaka Dance Drama, blending ancient and modern styles and eastern and western dance, music and animation. It promises to be an enthralling evening. Tickets cost £7 standard and £4/£5 for concessions, and are available online at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/arts, or from Cambourne Library. The production is suitable for ages 10+.

Our upcoming Rhymetime sessions are on 11th and 25th November and 9th December, from 10.30 – 11.00 am. Although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too! It is lots of fun for both children and adults, so, if you have not been before, do come along and give it a try.

Comberton Playgroup Christmas Fayre

Saturday 30th November 11am – 1pm at playgroup

Food, drinks, gifts and fun for all!

Mulled wine	Cake stall	Face-painting	Reindeer food bar
Hot chocolate	Craft room	Raffle	sELFie station
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All funds raised go to keep playgroup running and improving our provision, thank you!

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- Weekly sessions on Saturday 9–10am at Comberton Village College astro pitches
- £35 per term (10 sessions) payable at start of each term (3 terms per year)
- Or £90 all year (30 sessions)
- **Contact:** SC secretary Emma Buckland, emma_de_giacometti@hotmail.com

Under 8 team

- **WANTED: Boys & girls in School Year 3**
- Weekly training on Wednesday 5.45-6.45pm at Comberton Village College astro pitches
- Matches on Saturday morning (usually around 10am) at home (Comberton Rec) or away
- Matches are played 5-a-side
- Full team kit for each player
- £130 annual subscription fee
- **Contact:** mini-league secretary StephenPenston@Hotmail.com / 07748020606

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Comberton Twinning Association

The Comberton Twinning Association has just returned from the 20th Anniversary visit to Le Vaudreuil, our twin village near Rouen in northern France. Le Vaudreuil is a large traditional French village with much history, a lovely village square and even the “Chemin de Comberton” (Comberton Way – a footpath along the riverside).

Our group, made up of families, couples and individuals – both young and older, left Comberton late in the afternoon of the 20th September and travelled by coach to Le Vaudreuil. The journey passed quickly, aided by a little wine (for the adults!) on the Eurotunnel and we were met on arrival by our host families.

We enjoyed fantastic weather over the weekend. Saturday morning was spent doing different activities with our host families (we went for a walk in the area, some visited nearby sites and others went to markets) and we met up in the

afternoon in Rouen for a boat trip along the Seine. In the evening we had a karaoke party and a superb buffet put together by our hosts. Some were keener than others to show their singing prowess in French and/or English, but we all had great fun.

On Sunday we met for a farewell lunch at the golf club, with speeches and cake to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the twinning. It was a fun and relaxed weekend with a great atmosphere; old friends reunited, and new friendships made. We were well looked after by our hosts and we look forward to welcoming the French group in Comberton next year.

The Mulderij Family

If you would like to join us please contact Glynis Ellis: tel: 262214, email secretary@combertontwinning.org.uk. Or for more information about the twinning see <http://CombertonTwinning.org.uk>.

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Heidi Allen MP Newsletter

Politics at a national level has dominated our headlines over the past few months but locally, I want to ensure that the important issues of education, healthcare and big infrastructure changes don't get drowned out. I benefit greatly from hearing your views at my continuing pop-up surgeries. Since my tour started, I've visited 20 parishes and this month more venues are planned for Bassingbourn, Whittlesford and Hinxton. Please do come along to share your thoughts or concerns with me. It's a great opportunity to support the many wonderful local pubs and cafes who allow me to host.

At one of my most recent surgeries, a brilliant young constituent approached me to raise the issue of plastic pollution both at a local and national level. During the summer holidays, I also received some articulate, thoughtful and beautiful letters from pupils at Hardwick Primary School on the same topic. The environment and how we care for it has rightly gained traction recently and I'm determined to support local and national initiatives that legislate for more change, more quickly. We can all do our bit, with even minor changes having big impacts as I learnt when I visited an Eco Home in Coton as part of the Open Eco Homes awareness

day. The two constituents living here had retrofitted their house with ecological improvements, thus reducing their carbon footprint by over 60%. If you'd like to find out how your house might benefit, please visit www.cambridgecarbonfootprint.org. The quality of the Hardwick pupils' letters reminded me of how fortunate we are to have some brilliant teachers and leaders in South Cambs. I saw this in action at a recent visit to Queen Edith Primary School where staff highlighted the difficulties that funding pressures are causing. The school regularly outperforms on national measures and has a thriving nursery and after school provision but there can be no doubt that teachers and support staff are going the extra mile to secure these wonderful results, in spite of cost pressures. To highlight my schools' concerns, I recently met with the County Council's Director for Education, Jonathan Lewis to understand how the new funding formula might affect South Cambs. Schools will see an uplift but the sector as a whole needs more funding. I'll continue to push government for this whilst the funding formula is rolled out. Whilst promises of extra cash are welcome, some parts of our education sector need action now and I was delighted to work with

Continued on page 33

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Heidi Allen MP Newsletter Cont'd

Homerton Maintained Nursery school to demand an interim package from the Education Secretary whilst funding makes its way through the system. At the other end of the education spectrum, I also counter signed a letter from 93 MPs to Chancellor Sajid Javid urging him to boost education funding for 16 to 18 year olds. Young people get one chance at education – we need to ensure that within Cambridgeshire, it is properly funded.

South Cambs is blessed not only with inspirational educationalists but with exceptional healthcare workers and I spent a brilliant day with the Women and Children's Services Unit at CUH learning about plans for the new children's hospital. This superb new facility is proposed to open in 2023 and will house many of the outstanding staff at CUH currently treating very poorly children with outstanding skill and care. Staff remain the backbone of our NHS and I was delighted to share in the vision of future GP services at the inaugural Primary Care Innovation Academy weekend organised by Cambridge University and Granta Medical Practice. This platform allows GPs to become leaders of the future, delivering services that are truly innovative and beneficial for our local communities. We need

to ensure that we retain experienced GPs as our primary care evolves and I recently wrote to the Chancellor and Health Secretary demanding they look at ways to retain this talent within our NHS.

We have a thriving healthcare community and volunteers play an enormous part in this. A constituent recently visited me at one of my surgeries to ask for my help in raising awareness of a potentially serious late onset genetic health condition. Genetic haemochromatosis (GH) is a genetic disorder that results in your body experiencing iron overload. Arthritis found only in the first two finger joints, chronic fatigue, abdominal pain and many more symptoms can be suggestive of GH. It's vital that suffers get a diagnosis and treatment so if you have any concerns please visit <https://haemochromatosis.org.uk/haemochromatosis/symptoms/> and discuss your symptoms with your GP.

In the meantime, please contact me via email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk or call my office on 01223 830037.

My team and I are always available to help constituents with any concerns. I look forward to sharing more news with you next month.



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Comberton Allotments & Gardens Association

Cheese and Wine (or Juice) at the AGM.

Our next event is the AGM on Wednesday 27th November 2019 - 7.30 for 8 pm in Comberton Village Hall. Come along and enjoy the refreshments; hear about our work and events during 2019; see the newly engraved trophies re-presented to the Autumn Show winners; pay annual allotment rent if you are a 'Long Road' plot holder and/or renew your membership of the association.

Our two main events in the year are the Village Autumn Show and the Spring Plant Sale and they do require considerable effort from the committee to arrange and stage so we welcome new members to join us, learn the ropes and bring in new ideas to ensure that these successful village events continue.

As always we welcome new ideas for classes in the Show, particularly in the Handicraft, Cookery and Photography sections and certainly in the Children's section as we need to keep them relevant to current trends.

Comberton Autumn Show Trophy Winners

A review of the Autumn Show was published in the October edition of Contact; the full list of trophy winners is as follows:-

Gentlemen's Challenge Cup (<i>Highest points in Show</i>)	Peter Gladders
Gentlemen's Silver Cup (<i>2nd Highest points in Show</i>)	David Warboys
Ladies' Challenge Bowl (<i>Highest points in Show</i>)	Kate Pennock
Ladies' Silver Cup (<i>2nd Highest points in Show</i>)	Mavis Symonds
Storey Cup (<i>Highest Points for Juniors</i>)	Freya Nielsen
Silver Cup & Certificate (<i>Best Vegetable Exhibit</i>)	David Warboys
Certificate (<i>Best Fruit exhibit</i>)	Ralph Bloomfield
Certificate (<i>Best Flower exhibit</i>)	Peter Gladders
Master Gardener Trophy (<i>Collection of Flowers & Vegetables</i>)	Peter Gladders
Harry Sewell Trophy (<i>Collection of Vegetables</i>)	Duncan Scott
WI Handicraft Cup (<i>Highest points in Handicraft</i>)	Mavis Symonds
Evelyn Watts trophy (<i>Highest points in Cookery</i>)	Richard Kingshott
Gerry Hall Trophy (<i>Ginger & Chocolate Cake - Men only</i>)	Robin Worship
Comberton Wine Club Cup (<i>Best Wine in show</i>)	Sue Breeze
Mike Winney Trophy (<i>Best Photograph in Show</i>)	Quin Hollick
Frank Hollick Book Prize (<i>Best in Childrens' Art Classes</i>)	Amber Brading
Watts Salver (<i>Best Kept Allotment- Long Road Site</i>)	David Burman

Robin Worship – Secretary (email: robin.worship7@gmail.com)

Parish Council Report from the Clerk

The Parish Council met on 9 October 2019.

Community Defibrillator

Further to the article last month, the WI have come forward and have expressed an interest, as have the Village Hall. The Parish Council is hopeful of submitting a bid to the Lottery Fund to cover the cost. The Council would still like community support for the project, so if you think this is a good idea, please email or write to the Clerk at the address below.

Recreation Ground and Pavilion rules

The Parish Council has adopted rules for the use of its Recreation Ground and Pavilion. The Sports Clubs have been contacted to inform them of the new rules. If anyone would like further information on these, please contact the Recreation Ground Co-ordinator (details below).

Trees behind the Bowls Club green

The Parish Council will be carrying out some tree works near the northern boundary of the Bowls Club.

Anti-social Behaviour

There has been an increase in Anti-social Behaviour and incidents of arson on the Recreation Ground. This has

been reported to the Police. The Police presence is to be increased and if any residents see anything untoward occurring, the Council asks that they please report it to the Police.

Dog fouling in the village

At the request of a resident, and following concerns expressed at the last meeting about the level of dog fouling around the village, the Parish Council is arranging for more signage and notices to be erected in the village.

Cambridge Climate Emergency

The Parish Council considered correspondence from Cambridge Climate Emergency.

Anyone who is interested should please contact Stefan Haselwimmer, Coordinator, Cambridgeshire Climate Emergency by email at: stefan@camemergency.org or by telephone on 07719 437803.

Website: <http://camemergency.org>

New Parish Council member

The Parish Council has been pleased to co-opt Caroline Abraham to the Council. There are still three vacancies on the Parish Council and if any members of the public are interested in undertaking this role, please contact the Clerk at the

Continued opposite

Parish Council Report from the Clerk continued

address below.

Parish Council meetings

The Parish Council would like to make everyone aware that all its meetings are open to the public to attend, all agendas are available on the website (www.comberton.org.uk) and on the notice board at the cross roads.

Highways and other issues

Please remember if you see a problem with a street light, road signs, pot holes, flooding, hedges and trees or another highway problem you should report it on the County Council's website Please do not assume someone has already reported it.

[http://
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/
info/20081/
roads_and_pathways/10/
roadworks_and_faults](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20081/roads_and_pathways/10/roadworks_and_faults)

If you have any issues with missed or lost bins, council tax or benefit issues, or environmental issues such as dog fouling, littering or abandoned vehicles they can be reported on the following link:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/form-type/report-it>

Parish Council contact details

Mrs Gail Stoehr, Clerk to
Comberton Parish Council, 30

West Drive, Highfields Caldecote,
Cambridge, CB23 7NY

Email

parishclerk@comberton.org.uk

Tel: 01954 210241

Jeremy Graham (Recreation
Ground Co-ordinator) can be
contacted on:

rec-coord@comberton.org.uk
(Tel: 07778 363619)

for Recreation Ground and
Handyman issues.

The Parish Council meets on the second Wednesday in the month (except August) at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. If an extra-ordinary meeting is needed this will be advertised on the notice board in South Street. The Planning Committee meets once or twice a month depending on applications received and its meetings are also advertised on the notice board.

All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so are open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on Comberton matters or on items on the agenda. If the matter is on the agenda or has already been under discussion a response may be given at the meeting otherwise the matter might be tabled for fuller discussion at the next or a future meeting.

Comberton Playgroup: Autumn Term News

Hello neighbours, parents and friends! Comberton Playgroup has had a great start to the school year, welcoming back familiar faces and enjoying meeting new starters. You may have seen us out and about joining Rhymetime at the library, or on our Autumn walks, where the children collected leaves and acorns to create artwork. This term we are also welcoming Rachel in her new role as Playgroup Manager, and thank Hilary for her many years of hard work in this role and for continuing to support Rachel during this transition.

We have been busy with building improvements. In spring, Cambridge design and fit out company COEL helped insulate and install new heating in the washroom facilities through their community outreach programme, creating a much warmer comfortable space. The summer holidays gave us time to freshen up the Green Room with an even brighter shade of green, and we're looking forward to getting a new outside play structure installed before Christmas. Thank you to COEL and everyone who has supported our fundraising efforts over the past few years, allowing us to undertake these improvements.

We have a few remaining spaces for our morning and afternoon sessions, which qualify for the 30-

hours free funding for those who are eligible. We also offer early risers and lunchtime clubs, and work with local childminders to provide after school care. If you have a child aged 2 to 5, please come and visit to find out more! For younger children, from age 1, we run the Fun for Ones and Twos group where parents and children can stay and play, getting to know the playgroup environment and enjoying our activities.

Did you know? Comberton Playgroup first opened in the old school building in 1968, when the school relocated to the current Meridian Primary site. We have now been running for over 50 years! At our last inspection in March 2019 we were rated "Good" by Ofsted, who praised the care and consideration our staff show the children. In 2018, Playgroup changed to a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. Our management committee includes 3 staff members and 5 volunteers, who meet one evening a term to make decisions on finances, building maintenance and fundraising. We would love to welcome new volunteers, of any age or background, to support us!

Please email Rachel at combertonplaygroup@btconnect.com to find out more.

Friends of the Rosie Hospital

"We hope all our supporters are looking forward to Christmas. We are helping to get you all ready for winter with our selection of hand knitted clothes for all ages.



We are continuing to make the Rosie a more comfortable environment for mothers and babies. For up-to-the minute information follow Rosie in Stitches facebook page
See below for where you can shop with us again.

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Saturday 2nd November

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We always need help in the Tea Bar in Clinic 21 for a few hours a week or on an occasional basis. At present we do not have a regular volunteer for either Monday afternoon or Thursday morning. We also require occasional volunteers to help when a regular volunteer is unable to help due to holidays/illness etc. Please email annlaskey@icloud.com if you would like to volunteer.

New members are always welcome, whether to contribute financially, to join our team of knitters, provide transport for our volunteers, display a small selection of our wares or to help on the Rosie tea bar. Contact Mary Sanders on 01223 356615 further details are given on our website www.rosieinstitches.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support"

The Village Pond: an Update

The pond is a much loved feature of Comberton, but has been causing concern for a number of years now due to the diminishing water levels! The Parish Council has been undertaking investigations into the cause of the loss of water, however the overriding fact is that we have now had three very dry seasons consecutively and as the pond is a natural water table pond it responds to the ground water levels declining. Residents neighbouring the pond have been extremely helpful with the investigations and we are very grateful for their ongoing help and support. There are two other large ponds in private gardens in West Street and they are also dry. There are a number of culverts that flow into the pond from buried drainage pipe systems that are (or I should say were dry, as whilst I write it has been reported to me that one of the culverts has just started to flow as it's finally raining!!). We are concerned some of the pipework further up the line from at least one of the culverts may have been accidentally damaged due to building work in the past, resulting in water seeping away and not being directed down into the pond. We will never know the full extent of this, so now need a new plan going forward.

Pond maintenance

We have taken the opportunity whilst the pond is dry to undertake some essential maintenance. This has included taking out a number of small willow saplings, which if left to mature would become too large for the area and contribute further to the draining of the water. We are very grateful to the work of the community payback scheme (and our local friendly farmer!) who have kindly started to clear the bulrushes, as if left they would have marched their way across the whole pond in no time at all! We will be leaving a proportion of these as they are. Two dead fruit trees were removed over the summer and will be replaced in time with suitable species for this habitat.

Are you passionate about the pond?

We have received many statements of concern from village residents about the state of the pond and it's now time to turn this situation into a positive opportunity for the local community to get involved with getting the pond into a state that pleases people again. This will not be a quick fix, but will require a project plan to either restore the pond as we currently have it, or to take a radical new plan with

Continued opposite

The Village Pond: an Update continued

collated ideas if funding could be obtained. Would you be willing to help as part of a village pond group (led by the Parish council tree group)? Any relevant skills, ideas, fund raising experience welcome or just buckets of enthusiasm! If you would like to get involved or to find out more please contact Lynn Tatnell ltatnell@comberton.org.uk

And finally.....the ducks!

It has been sad to see the ducks leave the pond in the dry period, but they are perfectly fine and will come back once the water returns. The two ducks that have moved into a front garden in Barrons Way have had a great summer! One final plea – please do not feed the ducks bread as this is not only bad for the ducks (grains are better) but causes the algae to grow. Thank you.



Natural Disasters - is God to blame?

Prof. Bob White - The Faraday Institute

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Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service

Yes, it's that time of year – again – when CFRS is coiled ready for the calls on 5th November – or anywhen else for that matter – and so we reiterate the annual words of wisdom to all concerned.

FIREWORKS and bonfire night can be plenty of fun for all of the family to enjoy - attending an organised display instead of holding one at home can be a great way of supporting your local community.

However If you do plan to use fireworks or light a bonfire at your own home, please ensure that you follow the following safety advice:

Fireworks:

- Buy only fireworks marked BS 7114
- Light fireworks at arm's length using a taper, stand well back and **never** go back to a lit firework
- Never throw fireworks or put them in your pockets or clothing
- Light sparklers one at a time wearing gloves, and place used sparklers in a bucket of water
- Never give sparklers to children under five
- It is illegal to sell fireworks to someone under the age of 18 or to light fireworks in a public place
- For more information on Firework Safety visit:
www.hse.gov.uk

Bonfires:

- Do not light bonfires in unsuitable weather conditions, particularly when windy
- Do not leave bonfires unattended
- Keep a bucket of water or a hosepipe handy just in case
- Build bonfires well clear of buildings, garden sheds, fences and hedges
- Never use flammable liquids to start the fire
- Never burn dangerous rubbish such as aerosols, paint, foam furniture, rubber tyres, batteries, etc
- Before you light the bonfire, check that children and animals are not hiding inside and are a safe distance away
- Always consider the location of a bonfire or firework display as smoke drifting near or on to roads can have devastating consequences. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

To find out if you are eligible for a free home fire safety check call 0800 917 9994, and please keep testing those Smoke Alarms – they could save your life !

Michael White

The Challenge Sponsored by Budgens of Comberton

Each of the listed groups of words below can be prefixed by one of the following animals : HORSE DOG CAT PIG ELEPHANT SHEEP WOLF COW TIGER and RABBIT. An example would be MOUSE which can be followed by TRAP. DEER HOLE HARE POTATO EAR BIRD and PAD.

Your task is simply to place the right animal against the correct group.

.....? CATCHER COLLEGE PARSLEY HAND HEEL HERB LICK PAT

.....? IRON NUT SICK LATIN IGNORANT MAN SWILL SKIN

.....? BERRY HOUND PACK SPIDER WHISTLE TOOTH FISH. CUB

.....? BRASS BOX CHESTNUT FLY LAUGH PLAY. POWER. RADISH

.....? BADGE BEETLE FISH FLOWER LILY MOTH PRAWN SHARK

.....? CORD GRASS FOLIO GUN SHREW SEAL EAR FOOT

.....? BISCUIT CART COLLAR EARED END FIGHT PADDLE WHISTLE

.....? FEVER HOLE PUNCH SQUIRREL SUCKER HOLE HUTCH WARREN

.....? BITER COTE DIP DOG LOUSE SHANK LICE HOOK

.....? BIRD BURGLAR FISH FLAP MINT WALK GUT CALL

Entries please to Budgens, The Library or Green End Surgery no later than the 14 th November. The prize of £10 generously donated by Budgens is to be spent in store.

Name.....Address.....

September Challenge Solution

The two quotations were:-

Our England is a garden that is full of stately views, Of boarders, beds and shrubberies and lawns and avenues, With statues on the terraces and peacocks strutting by; But the Glory of the Garden lies in more than meets the eye.

And

Oh Adam was a gardener, and God who made him sees , That half a proper gardener's work is done upon his knees, So when your work is finished , you can wash your hands and pray, For the Glory of the Garden, that it may not pass away, And the Glory of the Garden it shall never pass away.

The clue " 3 and 4 down at 10 across" should have led you to RK ie Rudyard Kipling

The quotations were from The Glory of the Garden

September Winner

April Pennick, Harbour Avenue

Comberton Village Hall Lettings Charges

Village and Affiliated Community Group Use

Main Hall

Private (except evening social events)	£15
Affiliated Group (except evening social events)	£12.50
Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£30
Weekend evening social events (F/S/S)	£60
Wedding reception (all day - midnight)	£200
Meeting Room or Community Room	£10
Committee meetings in Meeting or Committee Room	£5

Non-Village and Non-Affiliated Community Group Use

Main Hall

Private (except evening social events)	£25
Non-Affiliated Group (exc evening social events)	£20
Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£40
Weekend evening social events (F/S/S)	£90
Wedding reception (all day - midnight)	£300
Meeting Room or Community Room	£15

Community Commercial and Commercial Letting charge on application to the Lettings Secretary

Sessions run from 9am-1 pm, 2pm-5:30pm and 6pm-1 0:30pm.
Midnight for Friday/Saturday/Sunday. Premises to be vacated by end of session

Annual affiliation fee of £10 is due on 1st January

Community Group Use means local groups operating on a non-commercial basis

Groups working with children or vulnerable adults will need to have Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult policies in place

Booking should be made with the Lettings Secretary Esther Chambers at combertonvillagehall@gmail.com or 07879 818080 between 9:00am and 9:00pm