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## Contents New Year 2017

Message from the Chair; how to join FECA	4
What's on in the Fen Edge villages	5
Looking Forward	7
FECA in Cottenham	9
Cottenham Community Centre activities	13
Cottenham Directory	15
Fen Edge Parish Councils	17
Self-care and keeping well	19
New boundaries for councils	21
Devolution and confusion	23
Looking Back	25
Adult & Family Classes	27
FECA in Landbeach and Directory	35
Nature (and newts) on your doorstep	37
HOW TO ADVERTISE In the Fen Edge News	40
How green is your garden?	43
Rampton History	45
Drones and our cover	47
Waterbeach news and Directory	49
Barracks development	51
Fen Edge Miscellany	53
FECA in Willingham and Directory	57

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## WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

**A**s Chair of the Fen Edge Community Association, a long established charity whose focus is promoting and supporting local groups, I am delighted that we now have over 40 member organisations. Throughout the year a number of them have successfully applied for funding, including Willingham Action Group and Cottenham Primary School PTCA. If your group has a project in mind then please come to us with a plan – and an estimate of what the costs might be. It could be to support an event, to buy a piece of equipment or an activity involving the community. Our financial assistance, through a grant, could help make it happen. Make a new year resolution: get in touch.

There are other ways FECA can help, from publicising your group's event on our website and popular Facebook page, to reduced rate room hire at Cottenham Village College or even great value marquee hire. We have a brand new marquee (6m x 12m) to hire at a very low rate (a fraction of commercial rates) so if you are

interested in making a booking please get in touch and I can tell you more. It would be great for an event on a Village Green.

The big news is that our plans are well underway for the next Fen Edge Festival (FEF) in Cottenham between 23 and 25 June 2017. This is THE event in the Fen Edge Patch calendar and occurs every two years. If your organisation would like to become a member of FECA (see below for details), your presence at the FEF would be an opportunity to raise both money and your group's profile. Interested? Then please get in touch.

The FEF is a big undertaking: thousands of people drawn to the village green and college over three days, for fun, feasting and entertainment. For local businesses it is a perfect way to get your name known through sponsorship or running an activity. Our committee is eager to welcome people with enthusiasm and a keen interest in community, so if you want to join us please email me – [chairfenedge@gmail.com](mailto:chairfenedge@gmail.com) – or call me on 07919 990299. Come on, get involved and make the 2017 Fen Edge Festival an event to remember! Lastly, do you have ideas for improving FECA or expanding its activities? Get in touch!

### Neil Gough

Chair  
Fen Edge Community Association  
Registered Charity No. 293020



**Neil Gough presents proceeds from the Cottenham Fun Run (sponsored by FECA) to Mrs Sarah Robinson, Cottenham Primary School PE Co-ordinator. The grant was used to buy new books and materials for the school's Learning Resource Centre.**

**FECA is the Community Association for all Clubs, Groups and Societies in the Fen Edge villages: Cottenham, Rampton, Willingham, Landbeach and Waterbeach**

**JOIN from just £15 a year**

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- \* FREE coverage of your group's activities in the Fen Edge News (3 issues as year – New Year, Spring/Summer and Autumn)
- \* FREE use of the FECA website ([www.fenedge.co.uk](http://www.fenedge.co.uk)) to promote your group
- \* GRANTS to fund projects

**VISIT** [www.fenedge.co.uk/membership](http://www.fenedge.co.uk/membership) for a membership form or email [chairfenedge@gmail.com](mailto:chairfenedge@gmail.com)

# FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

## *What's on and when in the villages*

### DECEMBER

3<sup>rd</sup> Brooks Williams in concert, Rampton

Village Hall

4<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Cinema, 'Star Wars: The Force Awakens', 7.30pm

10<sup>th</sup> Ely Consort concert, Cottenham All Saints: seasonal music in aid of Sing to Remember (see p19). Tickets £10 (under 16s free) from [www.elyconsort.org.uk](http://www.elyconsort.org.uk)

13<sup>th</sup> Carol concert, Village Green, Cottenham, 6pm

16<sup>th</sup> Carol concert with Waterbeach Brass, Waterbeach school 7.30pm

21<sup>st</sup> School holidays begin

21<sup>st</sup> Carol concert with Waterbeach Brass, Landbeach village hall, 7.30pm

26<sup>th</sup> Traditional Boxing Day walk (see p53)

27<sup>th</sup> Bank holiday

### JANUARY

4<sup>th</sup> Spring term begins

8<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Cinema. 'Ghostbusters', 7.30pm

11<sup>th</sup> WI meeting, Cottenham (see p9)

13<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Village Society talk (see p11)

18<sup>th</sup> FEAG talk, CVC, 7.30pm (see p54)

18<sup>th</sup> Landbeach Village Society AGM (see p35)

20<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Gardeners' Club party (see p9)

### FEBRUARY

8<sup>th</sup> WI meeting, Cottenham (see p9)

10<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Village Society talk (see p11)

13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Half term

15<sup>th</sup> Landbeach Village Society talk (see p35)

16<sup>th</sup> FEAG talk, CVC, 7.30pm (see p54)

24<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Gardeners' Club AGM (see p9)

### MARCH

10<sup>th</sup> Cottenham Village Society talk (see p9)

15<sup>th</sup> Cambridge Folk Museum, talk, Landbeach Village Society (see p35)

16<sup>th</sup> FEAG talk, Rampton Village Hall, 7.30pm (see p54)

### APRIL

3<sup>rd</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> School holidays

4<sup>th</sup> FEAG talk, CVC, 7.30pm (see p54)

7<sup>th</sup> Cambridgeshire Bird Club meeting, CVC, 8pm (see p54)

14<sup>th</sup> Good Friday

19<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> Vicar of Dibley, Cottenham Theatre Workshop, CVC

19<sup>th</sup> Planning for Armageddon, talk, Landbeach Village Society (see p35)

21<sup>st</sup> Cottenham Village Society talk (see p11)

25<sup>th</sup> "War and Peace", Ely Consort concert at Ely Cathedral

26<sup>th</sup> Clocks spring forward an hour

28<sup>th</sup> FETA visit to France (see p54)

### MAY

1<sup>st</sup> Bank holiday

12<sup>th</sup> Cambridgeshire Bird Club meeting, CVC, 8pm (see p54)

14<sup>th</sup> Public inquiry into Gladman Development, Cottenham

17<sup>th</sup> Lady Margaret Beaufort in Cambridge, talk, Landbeach Village Society (see p35)

18<sup>th</sup> FEAG talk, CVC, 7.30pm (see p54)

24<sup>th</sup> AGM Friends of Worts Meadow, Landbeach (see p37)

## *Knitting for Remembrance*



This story made the *Cambridge News* and is one of the photos they published: see more on page 25. Shown here are: Knitters Rachel Clarke and Cheryl Lever with Brownies' leader Julie Perceval and, in front, Deanna Raven (Joint District Commissioner for Cottenham Guides)

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# LOOKING FORWARD

## Cottenham's development challenges

### The Neighbourhood Plan

The pre-submission draft for the Neighbourhood Development Plan 2017-2031 was available as a pamphlet on the parish council stall for those who attended the Feast Day. Over 250 'ambassadors' – helpful and interested locals – have been involved in getting this draft completed and will be viewable on the Parish Council website in a more complete form. If you prefer it in printed form, contact the clerk (see p17).

Five clear objectives are stated, all of which have emerged through consultation with village residents. Improving amenities and facilities tops the list, with six projects identified as important: a medical centre, multi-purpose village hall, additional land for sport, additional equipped play spaces (Brenda Gautrey Way and Tenison Manor), safe off-road links between key village locations, and accessible waterway walks.

The medical centre is a longer term option because so many aspects are involved (coordinating the medical elements, where it would be sited etc). The other objectives are to make housing more affordable for the next generation, increasing local employment opportunities, improving transport and reducing traffic, and ensuring the rural character of Cottenham is respected.

SCambs District Council is reviewing the draft; by January it should be revised and a full draft completed for final consultation with the village. In March the plan may be examined by an independent Planning Officer and then submitted to SCDC for formal examination. At this point, the District Council and planning inspectors are allowed to take it into account for planning applications.

The final step will be a referendum and if approved by local voters the plan will be part of local planning policy for the next 15 years.

### New village hall and nursery

A new hall ticks the boxes for both improving community facilities for families and for the elderly, but the costs have to be considered. The local survey (see p17) will seek views on the merits of the proposal before the precept is discussed at the Parish Council meeting in January.

The precept (Cottenham's part of the Council Tax) would need to go up by less than £1 a week for a Band D house to pay for this modern building – this was the estimated cost of repaying a loan £2.5million over 25 years. The business case will be developed for the new hall which combines multi-purpose and working space with an all-year-round nursery/crèche (from 7.30am to 6pm for up to 50 children). If it gets approval, the earliest demolition would be either July or August 2017. The minutes of all the meetings related to this project, including residents' views, can be read on the website: [www.cottenhampc.org.uk](http://www.cottenhampc.org.uk)

### Speculative plans for extra housing

There are four applications, adding up to over 500 homes, at various stages of consideration in the Oakington Rd/Rampton Rd area. The Parish Council says that while there may be benefits in terms of affordable housing and financial contributions to some of Cottenham's Neighbourhood Plan projects, all have traffic, flood-risk and visual drawbacks.

Gladman have two applications, the first of which (for 225 houses and 70 residential care places) was turned down by SCDC and will be the subject of a public inquiry in

May. The second (S/1411/16/OL) reduces the number of houses to 200 and will probably come before SCDC's planning committee in December. Also on the agenda then will be Persimmon's application (S/1606/16/OL) for 126 houses in the vicinity of the Gladman proposal. The final application (S/2876/16/OL), from the County Council wanting to build 154 houses on land adjacent to the recreation ground is not likely to reach the committee until February.

### Register to vote

The importance of having a vote was seen in the Referendum when 72.2% made their views known (slightly fewer than the number who brought John Major to power in 1992, but more than the 66.4% who went to the ballot box in the general election of 2015). District councils are responsible for keeping their electoral register up to date and canvass communities to encourage registration, especially those between 16 and 18. University students can be registered at both their home and university addresses though they can only vote once in an election of course! Being registered does not mean you have to vote but it can help your credit rating. Go to [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)

### New £1 coin

It had to be changed as the old one had become easy to forge (1 in 40 is a fake it seems). The new one which will be in circulation in March looks like the old threepenny bit (dodecagon shaped) and lots of everyday mechanisms – such as shopping trolleys, parking meters, public lockers – will have to be altered to accommodate it. The old coins can be exchanged at a bank.



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# FECA IN COTTENHAM

## WI CELEBRATION

Longtime member Margaret Brierley cut the cake baked by Daphne Sparkes at the 90th birthday celebrations of the Cottenham Women's Institute in the Tony Cooper Suite at CVC. Sixty members and guests, including Sally Kingsman, the federation WI chair from Cambridge, enjoyed a cold buffet and entertainment provided by the Bottisham handbell ringers.

The next meeting will be on 11th January with guest speaker Margaret Blanchard talking about her life as a film extra. On 8th February Robert Burridge will give an insight into his time with the Royal Protection service. The annual meeting will be in on 8th March and wildlife conservation will be the topic for the 12th April meeting. The annual subscription is £39 but you can have two free visits before joining. Further information from Jill Ballard on 01954 250605.

## PRIMARY SCHOOL PTCA

We are a very active parent, teacher, community association successfully fund raising for the benefit of the children attending the primary school. Among the events we organise during the year, which are enjoyed by the wider community of Cottenham and the surrounding villages, is the Spring Market and afternoon tea, the Summer and Winter Fair and the spectacular fireworks display in November.

We are always looking for new and fun ways to raise funds and enriched our repertoire this year with a very successful magic show, a family quiz and a performance by a Cottenham band The Fenatics. The funds raised were used to buy books and equipment for various areas of the school as well as the fantastic learning resource centre. We subsidised numerous trips and activities for the children, bought new staging and a wonderful new piano (for which FECA gave us a very generous grant).

Our project at present is to fund some exciting new playground equipment to enhance the children's outside learning and playtime.

As it is the fabulous FEF in 2017 we will be hosting our ever popular summer dance in the marquee on the Friday evening. More details will be on the PTCA and FEF websites nearer the time.

We are a very friendly group and always welcome new members or helpers: you can give as much or as little time as you can manage, but it is a great way of getting involved in enhancing the school environment for our primary children, making new friends and being part of a productive, successful and valued team. Come and join the fun. [www.cottenhamprimary.co.uk](http://www.cottenhamprimary.co.uk) find PTCA under the Community tab, or contact the Chair: [rebecca.norman@ntlworld.com](mailto:rebecca.norman@ntlworld.com)

## BOWLS CLUB

Cottenham Bowls Club is open all the year round and through the winter months we play short mat bowls. We have an internal league which is in full swing. However, if you are interested in finding out more we play on a Thursday evening at 6.30pm at the club house which is on the recreation ground off Lambs Lane.

The outdoor season of 2016 for Cottenham Bowls Club was one of our most successful as you can see below.

- Ely and District Division 1: runners up.
- Ely and District Gordon Bridges Cup: runners up.
- County Triples: runners up.
- C and D Division 2: runners up and promoted to Division 1.
- C and D Division 3: runners up and promoted to Division 2.
- Business House Mixed Pairs: winners.

A number of members were also successful in external competitions.

We are a successful and friendly club so come and give us a try. Contacts: Dave Parrack 01954 230732; Eric Hobbs 01954 251956; Christine Forster 01954 200720.

WEBSITE [www.hugofox.com/community/cottenham-bowls-club-8286/](http://www.hugofox.com/community/cottenham-bowls-club-8286/)

## GARDENERS' CLUB

As the leaves turn to glorious golden yellows and rusty reds before gently falling to the ground, we are reminded that winter is just around the corner and our Club only has three meetings left in the current programme. Do not be concerned! The committee has planning in hand for next year,



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# FECA IN COTTENHAM

starting in March. Though the leaves will have fallen by Friday 25 November, at our meeting then we will recall the glories of trees when wildlife consultant, Barry Kaufman-Wright presents 'In celebration of Trees'. Meetings start at 7.45pm in Franklin Gardens Community Centre and if you arrive a few minutes earlier you might wish to have a free cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. (There might also be mince pies). Our first event after Christmas is the New Year Party on Friday 20th January at 7.30pm at Franklin Gardens. Members bring main course dishes and the committee provides the sweets. The activities are centred round the food (of course) and a rather teasing, good-natured quiz.

The last event in the programme is the AGM on Friday 24th February at 7.45pm at Franklin Gardens. If you are not a member of the garden club you are welcome to attend meetings at a cost of £2 head. We look forward to seeing you.

## VILLAGE SOCIETY

Gerald Gifford's talk and harpsichord recital in October was very successful. He focused on Lord

Fitzwilliam, founder of the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, who was an enthusiastic and informed amateur of music. The range of keyboard music presented illustrated the breadth and quality of the founder's collection. Gerald Gifford (the Honorary Keeper of Music at the Fitzwilliam) performed on a harpsichord he commissioned in 1975 which was built in Kent and was modelled on a 17th century instrument now in the Smithsonian Institute in Washington DC.

Our 2017 programme starts on 13th January, as usual in All Saints Church hall, at 7.45pm, with a talk by Tamsin Wilmhurst: "The David Parr house".

10th February: Sandra Barker, "The Wonderful World of Willow". 10th March: Ralph Carpenter, "Cottenham Then & Now". 21st April: Eleanor Whitehead, "The History of Chivers, 1873-1919".

Anyone wanting a lift to any of these events, contact Glynis Pilbeam cottvillsoc@gmail.com



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# COTTENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE DAY BY DAY

*(all activities in main hall unless marked 'studio' or 'coffee shop')*

## MONDAY

Mucky Pups 9.30-10.30 and 11.15-2.15 hello@muckypupscambridge.co.uk ; Zumba 7-8pm.  
Contact Jo Kinser jo@jjkdancin.com; BarreConcept 6.30-7.30pm and 7.30-8.30pm (studio) contact workout140@outlook.com ; Community Navigators 2-3pm in the Coffee shop every other Monday: www.care-network.org.uk

## TUESDAY

Yoga 10-11.30am denise@sibleymooreyoga.co.uk; Pilates Entry (for beginners) 10.15-11.15 (studio); Pilates Plus (intermediate) 11.30-12.30 (studio); Teen Pilates 3.20-4.05 (studio): all Pilates classes are pay as you go, Miranda de Vries miranda@mi-time.eu; NEW Discussion group 7.30-9pm (coffee shop) text 07918019854.  
Fitsteps for adults 8.15-9.15pm julia@jcf.it.co.uk

## WEDNESDAY

Little Humbugs (singing and music for babies and toddlers) 10.30-11.30am, £2.50 littlehumbugs@gmail.com; BarreConcept 7-8 and 8-9pm (Studio): contact workout140@outlook.com Whirl and Twirl 7-10pm matthew.baldry@googlemail.com;  
CCC Knitting group in coffee shop from 10am – just come along and enjoy helping others. Photography club 1st Wed of month at 7pm in coffee shop Photoclub@virginmedia.com

## THURSDAY

Ready Steady Play (Early Years) 10-11am MLam@hison.cambs.sch.uk; Adult ballet (term time in studio) 10-11am and 11-12; to reserve a place see

community@cvcweb.net; Pilates for strength (studio) 6.30-7.30pm; Mixed Ability Pilates Explore 7.30-8.30pm. All Pilates/Stretchercise queries to miranda@mi-time.eu

**Camb's Hearing Help** 2-4pm every second Thursday of month. www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk  
**NEW Slimming World** (coffee shop) 7-9pm v.mcauleyccles@gmail.com

## FRIDAY

Yoga (studio) short terms only 10-11.30am, wiltrud.jackson@yahoo.co.uk; Mixed Ability Pilates Explore 10-11am; FlexAware (studio) 11.35am-12.35pm; Stretchercise (studio) 5-6pm. All Pilates/Stretchercise queries to miranda@mi-time.eu

## SATURDAY

**NEW** 4th dimension Dance classes 2pm and 3pm info@4d-dance.co.uk

NB This may change to Monday afternoons

## SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

For Colour Awareness workshops, Defibrillator and First Aid training, bookings miranda@mi-time.eu; Dads Play 10.30-11.30 (2nd Saturday of month); Arts Night in coffee shop, 7.30-9.30pm (2nd and 4th Sundays); The Roost (in coffee shop and main hall 3rd Sunday) 3-4.30pm

**Community Cinema** usually First Sunday of the month 7.30pm and sometimes, for families, 2.30pm. Information from website: www.revcoffee.net or https://www.facebook.com/CottenhamCommunityCinema or email simon.oliver@cantab.net

## NEW COMMUNITY ACTIVITY?

Do you have an idea for a community activity that needs access to a room or hall but can't get off the ground because of uncertainty over income to cover room hire? CCC would like to hear from you. We have space available a lot of the time and while we charge for using these facilities, we encourage community activities. To find out more please contact Mike Smith on smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com or 01954 251915

**Room Hire** There are three rooms (main hall, studio, coffee shop) available for hire for new activities or parties. Full food catering and/or a bar can be provided. The hall is also great for businesses to use for training or meetings. Full entertainment licence etc held. See the website www.cottenhamcc.org or email smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

## COFFEE SHOP

Come in and enjoy a fantastic scone, cake or lunch.

**Opening times:** 10am-4.30pm Monday; 10am-2pm Tuesday to Saturday (except bank holidays, Christmas and late August). The coffee shop will close for food and drinks for the Christmas break at 2pm on Thursday 22 Dec 2016 and re-open on Tuesday 3 January 2017.

**Volunteers wanted:** Become part of the team at the coffee shop, meet people and improve your skills. Weekly or less regular volunteers welcomed. Become a member of CCC and help ensure that this popular community centre continues to be a major focus of Fen Edge life or maybe consider becoming a trustee yourself.

For more information about volunteering contact see www.cottenhamcc.org  
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# FEN EDGE PARISH COUNCILS

## COTTENHAM

2017 will be a big year for Cottenham parish with the progression of the Neighbourhood Plan (see p7) and related objectives for the village (including the new village hall), and keeping up with the speculative development applications.

Following an extraordinary parish meeting in October, all households in Cottenham will have received via the *Cottenham Newsletter* a leaflet asking for views on the plans for a new village hall and year-round nursery. The post-free leaflets will be assessed by the end of December. The working party have applied for planning permission though this doesn't mean it has to be built. Full details of the project and minutes of meetings are on our website.

We are moving closer to having the roads of Tenison Manor adopted by the County Council. The aim is for the parish council to take over of the surface water drainage system (included in this are the ditches surrounding the estate and alongside Broad Lane to the Balancing Pond and into Cottenham Lode) in exchange for a fee (paid by the estate developers Persimmon and builders Bovis).

Meeting to discuss the precept is 10th January, 7.15pm.

Annual Parish Meeting is 9th May.

**COUNCIL** meets first Tuesday of month in Village Hall, recreation ground, Lambs Lane, at 7.15pm.

Clerk: Jo Brook. Office: 250A High Street (to right of Community Centre). Open Monday 9.45am to 12 noon or by appointment. Contact details: 07503328401 or [clerk@cottenhampc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@cottenhampc.org.uk) and [www.cottenhampc.org.uk](http://www.cottenhampc.org.uk)

## RAMPTON

The Parish Council is for the second successive year planting the verges and green areas of the village with daffodils and narcissi, and planting English bluebells in the woodlands. It is also undertaking the second tranche of traffic calming measures and is cleaning out the village pond to lessen flood risk in the centre of the village.

**COUNCIL** meets first Monday of month (not August), in village hall, 7.30pm. Clerk: John Garstang. Office (by appointment): 23 Cow Lane. Contact details: 01954 250960;

[ramptonparishclerk@gmail.com](mailto:ramptonparishclerk@gmail.com) and [www.rampton.org](http://www.rampton.org)

## LANDBEACH

**COUNCIL** meets first Monday in month (not August) at the village hall, 7.30pm. On bank holiday months, meetings are on Tuesdays as above. Clerk: Maria Sylvester. Office (by appointment 9am to 1pm, 2-5.30pm): 30 Lee Close, Cottenham. Contact details: 01954 252400, [mariasylvester@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mariasylvester@hotmail.co.uk) and [www.landbeach.org.uk](http://www.landbeach.org.uk)

## WATERBEACH

Our new Neighbourhood Plan logo, designed by a generous resident, is catching people's eyes and interest which is what we need to develop a plan which is timely and relevant to the people of Waterbeach. We hope too to have a website before long plus an online newsletter. In the meantime you can check out the activities via our Facebook page and get involved adding your own views.

**COUNCIL** meets first Tuesday of month at The Old Pavilion, 7.30pm. Clerk: Liz Jones. Office: Tues and Thurs 10am-2pm (or by appointment), The Old Pavilion, Cambridge Rd. Contact details: 01223 441338; [council@waterbeach.org.uk](mailto:council@waterbeach.org.uk) and [www.waterbeach.org.uk](http://www.waterbeach.org.uk)

## WILLINGHAM

The Council has begun the final phase of the QEII Field play equipment which will be installed over the coming months along with some additional landscaping to provide village youngsters with an excellent recreation facility. The new equipment is proving very popular and it is hoped that this phase, aimed at older children, will meet with much approval.

John Harding joined us on 5th October so the council is up to full capacity again.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 17th May at 7.30pm. The Council has a grant system for groups meeting the needs of Willingham residents (the budget for which was £5,000 2016-2017). Applications are considered on their individual merit. Details from the Clerk or the parish council website.

**COUNCIL** meets first Wednesday of month at the Octagon, 7.30pm. Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell. Office (by appointment 10am-1pm): Ploughman Hall, West Fen Rd. Contact details: 01954 261027; [email@willinghampc.org.uk](mailto:email@willinghampc.org.uk) and [www.willingham-pc.org.uk](http://www.willingham-pc.org.uk)



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**IF YOU HAVE A CONDITION** such as high blood pressure or diabetes, during your regular monitoring sessions do speak to the doctor or nurse if you want to know more about self care. If your weight is a worry or you are constantly lethargic or tired, you may wonder how to change the situation. If you can find friends or neighbours who share your desire to improve health and general well being, you can make an action plan with them. Finding those groups is the first step.

**LOTS OF RESEARCH** has been done on the uplifting effects of physical effort in relation to improving health and too often the conclusion is that it can be difficult to do on your own. Being part of a group can work wonders.

**WALKING GROUPS:** the latest findings are that 30 minutes walking five days a week with others can lower blood pressure, reduce cholesterol and improve mood. The commitment to a regular routine allows time for conversation as you walk, and forges friendships – both of which can bring noticeable benefits.

The Fen Edge footpath group is well established and welcomes all to join in: email [fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com](mailto:fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com) for more information. "Wander and ponder" is a walking opportunity for all, and is free. It meets every Tuesday at 11am at

Cottenham Library for a stroll around the village.

**DO YOU LIKE TO CHAT WITH OTHERS** or knit or perhaps do some gentle exercise? You will find all these at Cottenham Community Centre (see page 13 of this issue).

You will find fitness and health classes to suit your ability at Cottenham and Impington Village sports centres. If you feel your stamina or stability could be improved talk to the practice nurse at the surgery about the 12-week Active & Healthy 4 Life programmes run at both these colleges.

**DO YOU LIKE TO SING?** It's a great way to improve breathing, concentration and memory. The Care Network has set up two groups which will welcome you. In Cottenham there's **Singing for Fun** which in term time meets from 1.45 to 3.15pm on Thursdays at the Salvation Army Barn. Then there's **Sing to Remember** in the Baptist Church at Landbeach, set up for friends, relatives and carers of anyone with dementia. Also on Thursdays, from 11am to 12.30pm. Some proceeds from a concert being given by the Ely Consort at All Saints, Cottenham, on 10th December will go towards the costs of running this friendly and cheerful group. More information from [Alix.c@care-network.org.uk](mailto:Alix.c@care-network.org.uk)

**GARDENING THERAPY** is available for patients with mild mental health concerns (discuss with your GP as this requires referral).

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# NEW BOUNDARIES FOR COUNCILLORS

A review of the size of council wards across England has reduced the number of councillors to be elected to Cambridgeshire's county and district councils. The Local Government Boundary Commission aimed to even out ward sizes – altered by housing development or population growth – to ensure that each councillor represents the same number of people and that there are sufficient councillors to represent the population effectively. Parish councils were not part of the review.

## The new arrangements

The number of councillors at **Cambridgeshire County Council** will be 61 (instead of 69) to represent 51 single-member electoral divisions and 5 two-member divisions across the county. The new local divisions, each with one county councillor, will be:

**Cottenham and Willingham:** parishes of Cottenham, Rampton & Willingham.

**Histon & Impington:** parishes of Histon, Impington and the community of Orchard Park.

**Waterbeach:** parishes of Horningsea, Landbeach, Milton and Waterbeach.

The changes are subject to parliamentary approval and will come into effect for the County Council Elections in May 2017. Elected councillors will only be in office for one year as from May 2018 elections will take place every four years, when all councillors, including parish councillors, will be elected at the same time.

**South Cambridgeshire District Council** will have 45 councillors (down from 57), representing 25 wards, made up of 10 with one member, 10 with two members, and 5 with three. The changes in the Fen Edge will be:

**Cottenham:** 2 members (for parishes of Cottenham and Rampton).

**Histon & Impington:** 3 members (for parishes of Histon, Impington and the community of Orchard Park).

**Milton & Waterbeach:** 3 members (parishes of Landbeach, Milton [including the detached southern area of the parish] and Waterbeach).

**Over & Willingham:** 2 members (parishes of Over and Willingham).

The changes have to be passed by parliament, then would come into effect for the District Council Elections in 2018.

Here are reports from some FenEdge councillors:

**PETER JOHNSON, district councillor**

The boundary changes will increase the work load

for councillors and fewer younger people will stand as they will have problems fitting their day jobs in, which is where their priorities will be. Their effectiveness and efficiency as councillors will suffer. Personally I spend about 20 hours a week on Council duties but being retired I fit this in with other things I like to do but if I was still working I couldn't do it. My casework has increased over the last few years and I expect that trend to continue with the level of developments in our villages.

At present Milton, Landbeach, Waterbeach and Chittering have 4 District Councillors but in reducing it to 3 so will the level of service to parishioners go down. The irony is that Waterbeach is expected to grow dramatically over the next few years so that the number of councillors will have to increase. In 2004 the ratio was 2000 electorate /member and in 2018 it will be around 3000 electorate/member and with the expected growth by 2022 it will be even more electorate/member. I think that the figures give an indication of the effect this will have on District Councillor service to the electorate.

**TIM WOTHERSPOON, district councillor**

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England reviewed the number of councillors and partitioned the district into electoral wards. Last October South Cambs District Council agreed to go down from 57 councillors to 45. We will also switch to all-out elections every four years, instead of electing the council by thirds every year. The exception will be 2017's county council elections. Cottenham ward, which I represent, currently has three councillors, covering Rampton, Oakington and Westwick. From 2018 there will be two for Cottenham and Rampton (as there were before 2004). Oakington and Westwick will combine with Longstanton as a two-councillor ward. Willingham and Over are still the same ward, but will be served by two elected representatives instead of three.

**DAVID JENKINS, county councillor**

Today's Cottenham, Histon and Impington ward (which I represent along with Mike Mason) will change: a 2 member division becomes 3 single member divisions. One will be Histon and Impington which makes sense. The other will be Cottenham and Willingham (also including Rampton) – this is less good because Cottenham and Willingham are distinctly different communities. The third will be Longstanton, Northstowe and Over which will include Oakington and Westwick.

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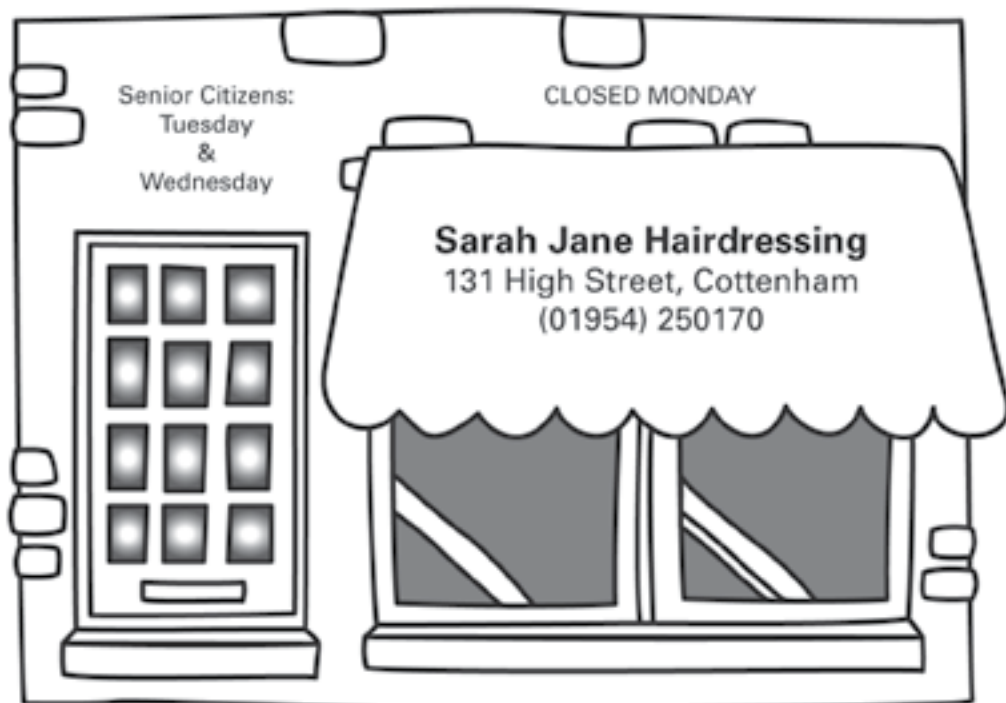
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# DEVOLUTION AND CONFUSION

**W**hat will the proposals for devolution for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough mean to you?

In an apparent reversal of policies of all governments in the last three decades George Osborne when Chancellor decided that devolution would be a good idea – meaning decisions about services would be taken closer to the people they affect. Councils could have been given back powers and responsibilities they used to have. But under the proposals new additional bodies are being set up instead.

Many local people have told me they find the old system confusing. Having parish councils, district councils and the county council leaves ordinary residents unsure who is responsible for what and who they should contact if something needs doing. Even local councillors are sometimes unsure who to go to. The system in recent years has become more complicated. The Police Committee was abolished on the creation of the Police and Crime Commissioners, with a separate election for them. Schools were given the option to leave the Local Education Authority by becoming Academies and are now overseen by the regional School Commissioner (not elected). Councils used to have control of their budgets but now (apart from the parish councils) their budgets are capped by Whitehall.

A fundamental change has been the creation of the Greater Cambridge City Deal. Although this has three councillors on the Board of five members, and a further nine (three from each council – I am one of the county council reps) on the Advisory Assembly of 15 members none is directly elected or directly accountable. As the City Deal has taken on responsibility for most of the big transport schemes in South Cambridgeshire this is of great importance, particularly for Waterbeach.

While the SCambs Local Plan (still being considered by the Planning Inspector, appointed by the Government) will say in broad terms what transport infrastructure projects are required as part of the new developments in the village, it is the City Deal that is expected to draw up the schemes, including plans for improvements to the A10 to deal with the already increasing volume of traffic. Add to this the dissatisfaction with the plans and consultation about Milton Road in Cambridge. But the biggest concern of all is that in addition to those listed above there will be a new combined authority with an elected mayor. It is hard to see how these will make it easier for local people to know who to hold accountable for decisions that affect them.

**Maurice Leeke, councillor for Waterbeach**  
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# LOOKING BACK

## A round-up of events and happenings in 2016

### All change at All Saints'

Rev Kylie Hodgins who had been pastor at the churches in Cottenham and Rampton for eight years was inducted at St Luke's, Bricket Wood, St Albans in November. Once churchgoers agree on the qualities they will be looking for to fit the profile of All Saints' Churches and the area, the position will be advertised. In the meantime, retired clerics will conduct the services. [www.allsaintscottenham.org.uk](http://www.allsaintscottenham.org.uk) and [www.ramptonchurch.org](http://www.ramptonchurch.org)

### Supporting victims of the Syrian war

Cottenham Cares which was formed by people from Cottenham and has attracted others from the Fen Edge villages in 2016 raised over £16,000 to aid the plight of refugees from war-torn Syria. The money was divided equally between two chosen charities. Medecins Sans Frontieres responded: "All of us are truly grateful that you have chosen to support our work...every day we treat people with war wounds and see how vital this service is. The money you give is saving lives."

Save the Children wrote: "Despite the danger inside Syria, we have reached more than 1.1 million children with life-saving food baskets, education, health services, clean water, warm clothes. This would not be possible without supporters like Cottenham Cares."

The group will continue to raise funds and welcomes all who would like to be involved, with ideas or time. Contact [joyce.matheson@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:joyce.matheson@hotmail.co.uk) or [ralphandhilarly@croftholme.freemasonry.co.uk](mailto:ralphandhilarly@croftholme.freemasonry.co.uk)

### Knitted poppies make their mark

The Remembrance Weekend project was designed to get children interested in what 11th November and Remembrance is all about. In Cottenham more than 200 red poppies of various sizes were knitted by a group of dedicated women and the Guides, Rainbows and Brownies then spread them round the village starting from the War Memorial near Chequers pub in the High Street.

### Record low butterfly count

The October Big Butterfly Count recorded the lowest number of common species in Britain since records began. Cold spring, warm summer, mild winter were all thought to have an impact as did intensive farming and pesticides. Perhaps we need to make our gardens more environment friendly – see page 43.

### New Zealand bans zero-hours contracts

A unanimous decision in parliament in March brought the contracts (which demand full-time availability without guaranteed hours) to an end, putting the onus on employers to offer all employees fixed-hours contracts by 1st April 2017. It was the first country in the world to ban these contracts.

New Zealand figured in another story after the Brexit result in June when interest in emigrating to this southern hemisphere country (it was the first to give women the vote, decades before Britain) surged. Sadly, though, NZ hit the headlines again in November when two more earthquakes struck the south island five years after the devastating quakes in Christchurch. This time the effects were felt in Wellington across the strait to the north.

### Banning of microbeads

The government acted after more than 357,000 people signed a petition asking that microbeads, extremely tiny pieces of plastic in some health and beauty products, be banned. These man-made fillers (added to toothpaste, soap, body washes and makeup) can end up in the oceans where they are consumed by marine life. It is hoped products containing microbeads will be banned from sale by the end of 2017.

Read the labels of products and avoid any containing: polyethylene (PE), polypropylene (PP), polyethylene terephthalate (PET), polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) and nylon.

### Unforgettable words (by John Crace, Guardian writer)

**Brexit means Brexit:** a saying originally invented by Remain to frighten people into voting to stay in the EU

**Leavercrats:** civil servants with the necessary expertise to negotiate Britain's exit from the EU

**Neverendum:** term used to describe situation in which you keep on having a referendum on something you've already had a referendum on

**Omnishambles:** a situation in which everything that can possibly go wrong does go wrong (first used in TV satire *The Thick of It*)

**Ultrashambles:** a more extreme version of Omnishambles, as in "Donald Trump is heading for the White House, Boris Johnson is in the Foreign Office, Nigel Farage is on the loose and Jeremy Hunt is dismantling the NHS"

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# ADULT LEARNING & LEISURE

COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

HIGH STREET, COTTENHAM, CAMBRIDGE, CB24 8UA

## ADULT LEARNING OFFICE

**01954 288751**

SCHOOL RECEPTION

01954 288944

SPORTS CENTRE

01954 288760

COTTENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

01954 206227

WATERBEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL

01223 718988

WILLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

01954 283030

**Village College Headteacher**

Stuart Lock

**Centre School Headteacher**

Sue Raven

**Executive Headteacher**

Steve Ellison

**Adult & Family Learning Manager**

Janet Drinkwater

**Adult Learning Administration**

Tracy Thistlethwaite

Debbie Jackman

## ENROL NOW FOR SPRING 2017 COURSES

Tel: 01954 288751 | Email: [community@cvcweb.net](mailto:community@cvcweb.net)

Direct Weblink: <http://community.cvcweb.net>

Facebook Page: Adult Learning at Cottenham Village College

Enrolment Form – See Page 34

## DATES FOR SPRING 2017

Monday 9th January

Classes start

Monday 13th– Friday 17th February

Half-Term Break – no classes

**NOTE: Please check the dates of your class, as some may run outside of the above dates – no classes on Bank Holidays**

The prices quoted are for Adults/Concessionary Rate for those on a means tested Benefit or Pension Credit

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE START OF THE COURSE.**

Payment can be made by cash, cheque, debit or credit card (please note that for credit card payments there is charge of £2.50)



## MONDAY

### **Acoustic Guitar for Improvers – 8 weeks 7.00-8.30pm Fee: £60/£45 starts 16th January**

For those who have already attended a beginners course or have basic knowledge of guitar. Advanced chords such as 7ths, basic techniques and improvisation included. If you're unsure come along with your guitar to the first session to try it.

### **Adult Ballet Mixed Ability - 10 weeks 7.00-8.30pm Fee: £75/£56 starts 9th January**

A great dance class for those who attended ballet classes as children or have some experience. Learn style, co-ordination and have fun.

### **Art History: The Renaissance Period - 8 weeks 7.00-8.30pm Fee: £60/£45 starts 16th January**

Learn about Renaissance Art between approximately 1400 and 1600. A basic introduction to the period. Artists and their work will be studied each week.

### **Ballroom Dancing Intermediate - 10 weeks 7.15-8.15pm Fee: £55/£42 starts 16th January**

For those who have already attended a Beginners' class or have at least 20-30 hours of previous lessons and want to improve their skills and increase their knowledge of dance routines.

### **Ceramics/Pottery – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £100 + £20 materials starts 9th January**

A creative course offering hand building, throwing, decoration and glaze.

### **Dressmaking – 10 weeks 12.30-2.30pm Fee: £98/£75 starts 9th January**

Learn how to make basic pattern alterations, cut out, assemble and fit garments. Be guided through the purchase of fabrics & patterns, basic dressmaking techniques and make samples to practice your new skills. Suitable for all abilities.

### **Fitness for Mature Movers – 5 weeks 10.00-11.00am Fee: £20 TILLAGE HALL, WATERBEACH starts 9th January**

Join us to gently stretch and tone in a friendly class, all movements to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. All welcome - you really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

### **Learn to Love Your Sewing Machine – 5 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 27th February**

For everyone who has a new sewing machine, those returning to sewing or who have upgraded the machine and not sure how it works. Whilst learning all about the machine and stitching techniques you will be able to make a variety of crafted items. Materials extra.

### **Learn to Love Your Overlocker – 4 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 24th April**

Unsure how to use your Overlocker? Find threading a nightmare and can never get the tensions right? All will become clear so you can set your overlocker correctly, give your work a highly professional finish and make simple projects. Materials extra.

### **Pilates for Everyone - PLOUGHMAN'S HALL, WILLINGHAM – 10 weeks Fee: £55/£42 11.30am–12.30pm OR 12.30-1.30pm starts 9th January**

Pilates uses a series of specific, controlled mat-based exercises to condition the whole body to improve your posture, reduce stress, and help with 'bad backs'. All abilities welcome as options are provided to adapt or progress each exercise as needed.

### **Pilates for Everyone – 10 weeks Fee: £55/£42 7.00-8.00pm starts 9th January**

Pilates uses a series of specific, controlled mat-based exercises to condition the whole body to improve your posture, reduce stress, and help with 'bad backs'. All abilities welcome as options are provided to adapt or progress each exercise as needed.

### **Pilates for Runners – 5 weeks Fee: £25 8.15-9.00pm starts 9th January**

Specific to runners looking to improve their form and technique by strengthening core muscles, improving alignment and increasing awareness & focus. No previous experience of Pilates needed.

### **Silver Jewellery for Beginners - 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm £98/£75 (plus materials) starts 9th January**

Learn the basic skills and techniques needed to produce silver earrings, a ring and/or a pendant. A hands on course with plenty of opportunity to develop your skills and create beautiful jewellery.

### **Watercolour Painting - 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £98/£75 starts 9th January**

Create paintings from your own observations applying the 'rules' of design and composition. Plenty of new colour mixes, tips and guidance for you to learn and enjoy. Students to provide own materials.

### **Watercolour Painting for Improvers - 10 weeks 10.00am-12noon Fee: £98/£75 starts 9th January**

There is little to compare with the beauty of transparent colour washes. There is a definite bias towards traditional landscape painting, lots of new colour mixes, tips and 'tricks of the trade' for you to learn and enjoy. Students provide own materials.

### Yoga for Beginners - 10 weeks 6.30-8.00pm

Fee: £73/£55 starts 9th January

For all ages and abilities, learners with some experience who want to 'go back to basics' are welcome. Increase

flexibility whilst learning how to work with your breath and relax. Not suitable for ladies in the first three months of pregnancy.

## WEA Willingham Baptist Church Hall, George Street, Willingham

**Subject:** A Brief History of the English Garden  
**Start date:** 16th January 2017  
**Contact:** Rosemary Mumford for more details  
Secretary 01954 260934

**Tutor:** Andrew Sankey  
**Time:** 10am  
**Fee:** £48 for 9 weeks

## TUESDAY

### Advanced Textiles Workshop – 5 weeks (term 2 of 3) starts 17th January, Tuesdays fortnightly 10.00am-3.30pm Fee: £123/£92 Materials extra

For those who wish to further their skills in creative embroidery. Students to have completed C&G 7822/7922 Embroidery or similar. All applicants to go through a selection process - please ring tutor Pauline Verrinder on 01954 260358 before applying.

### Fitness for Mature Movers SALVATION ARMY HALL, WILLINGHAM - 5 weeks 11.30am-12.30pm Fee: £20 starts 10th January

Join us to gently stretch and tone in a friendly class. All movements to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. All welcome - you really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

### Revive Your French – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £98/£75 starts 10th January

For those with some basic knowledge/experience of French. Acquire a good basic grasp of vocabulary and grammar to gain confidence to go on developing your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills further.

### RYA Day Skipper Theory – 12 weeks 7.30-9.30pm plus 4 Saturdays 10am – 4pm Fee: £330 starts 21st February

To equip students with the theoretical knowledge

required for a Day Skipper practical course Certificate.

Suitable for beginners and those with little or no experience in cruising yachts or motor cruisers. Saturdays 25th Feb, 18th March, 22nd April & 13th May.

### T'ai Chi for Beginners - 10 weeks 6.00-7.00pm Fee: £50/£40 starts 10th January

T'ai Chi Chuan is a meditative form of exercise involving flowing sequences of movement. Regular practice can help to develop calmness and relaxation, physical fitness, mental clarity and a sense of well-being. This course is for those with little or no experience.

### T'ai Chi for Beginners plus - 10 weeks 7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£40 starts 10th January

For those with less than 1 year's experience.

### T'ai Chi for Improvers – 10 weeks 8.00-9.15pm Fee: £61/£46 starts 10th January

For those with at least one year's experience.

### Yoga for Improvers - 10 weeks 7.00–8.30pm Fee: £73/£55 starts 10th January

For those with at least one year's experience (gained over the last few years). Increase your flexibility, improve your asana practice and develop your understanding of the philosophy of yoga. Not suitable for ladies in the first three months of pregnancy.

## WEA Cottenham British Legion Hall, 121 High Street, Cottenham CB24 8SD

**Course:** From Barber Surgeons to the NHS  
**Start:** 10th January 2017 for 9 sessions  
**Fee:** £47.25

**Tutor:** Mike Muncaster  
**Time:** 10.15 - 11.45  
**Contact:** Liz Milway on 01954 250039

## WEDNESDAY

### Adult Tap Dancing Improvers - 10 weeks 7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 11th January

For those who have previously completed a year of Adult

Beginners Tap, or who have previous experience of Tap to Grade 3. This class is designed to teach rhythm, co-ordination and to refine technique.

### **Adult Tap Dancing Intermediate – 10 weeks 8.00-9.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 11th January**

For those who have previously completed a year of Adult Improvers Tap, or who have previous experience of Tap to Grade 6. This class is designed to develop higher levels of rhythm, co-ordination and technique.

### **Carpentry, Learn Design & Make - 9 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £88/£66 starts 18th January**

Using our top quality, extensively equipped workshop you will design & make a woodwork project of your choice. Suitable for the complete beginner or the expert. Bring your own woodwork materials.

### **Ceramics/Pottery – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £100 + £20 materials starts 11th January**

A creative course offering hand building, throwing, decoration and glaze.

### **Crochet for Improvers – 4 weeks 7.00 – 9.00pm Fee: £40/£30 start 18th January**

Aimed at those who have had previous crochet experience and are wishing to learn more advanced stitches and techniques. Materials extra

### **Fitness for Mature Movers – 5 weeks 2.00-3.00pm Fee: £20 COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE starts 11th January**

Join us to gently stretch and tone in a friendly class. All movements to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. All welcome - you really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

### **Fundamentals of Drawing – 5 weeks 7.00 – 9.00pm Fee: £50/£40 starts 18th January**

Designed to lead you through the fundamentals of drawing.

### **Adult Ballet for Beginners - 10 weeks 10.00-11.00am Fee: £60/£45, Cottenham Community Centre, starts 12th January**

New to Ballet or had classes years ago? This class is designed for those with little or no ballet training. A great dance class for having fun & toning the whole body.

### **Adult Ballet for Improvers - 10 weeks 11.00am-12.00pm Fee: £60/£45, Cottenham Community Centre, starts 12th January**

### **Just Jive Beginners - 10 weeks 8.00-9.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 13th January**

Do you dance to your favourite jazz/rock & roll music? Join this energetic dance class and learn iconic jive moves - kicks, jumps and swings with our experienced Tutor. Singles and partners welcome.

Each session will focus on a specific aspect of drawing and you will come away with a still life drawing from each session.

### **Just Talk French (Improvers) – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £98/£75 starts 11th January**

For those who have at least one year's knowledge/experience of French, know the basics and want to develop their skills further. New students welcome.

### **Pilates (Mixed Ability) 10 weeks - 9.15–10.15am Fee: £60/£45 starts 11th January**

A multi-level class for all with a keen interest in improving body mechanics and posture through exploration of the Pilates techniques. Beginners welcome, Check with your Doctor/Physio if you are uncertain that this may affect underlying medical issues.

### **Salsa Dance for Beginners – 10 weeks 7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 11th January**

Cuban style Salsa is energetic and addictive, so come along and you'll be hooked! No partner needed. Learn the Cha Cha Cha, Charanga, La Rueda, Bolero, Merengue and more in a very fun and relaxed atmosphere.

### **Salsa Dance for Beginners Plus – 10 weeks 8.00-9.15pm Fee: £63/£48 starts 11th January**

An energetic and fun class for those who have already attended a 10 week Beginners course with us or elsewhere. Develop your skills and confidence further in Salsa with our experienced Salsa Tutor.

### **Small Scale Screen Printing on Textiles – 5 weeks 10.45am-1.30pm Fee: £70/£53 starts 1st March**

Screen printing is fast, colourful and fun. Aimed at beginners, a magical way to transform textiles using your own unique designs. Materials extra.

## THURSDAY

A good basic knowledge of Ballet is required, students will be able to perform complex steps & dance to a wide variety of music styles.

### **French Conversation - Intermediate -10 weeks 9.30-11.30am Fee: £98/£75 starts 12th January**

Course currently full, please contact us for waiting list.

### **Upholstery - 10 weeks 10.00am-3.30pm Fee: £245/£184 - starts 12th January**

Course currently full, please contact us for waiting list.

## FRIDAY

### **Just Jive Improvers - 10 weeks 7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 13th January**

Develop your iconic jive moves and routines further with more adventurous kicks, jumps and swings. Singles and partners welcome.

### **Upholstery - 10 weeks 10.00am-3.30pm Fee: £245/£184 - starts 13th January**

Course currently full, please contact us for waiting list.



## SATURDAY DAY SCHOOLS

Time: 10am–4pm & Fee: £35/£26 unless otherwise stated

Please bring a packed lunch for whole day courses \* = materials/ingredients extra

### SATURDAY 28TH JANUARY 2017

Curtain Making for Beginners\*  
Dressmaking (3 Saturdays – 28th Jan, 25th Feb & 18th Mar) £105/£79\*  
Luxury Black Forest Gâteau or Roulade 10am–2pm £23\*  
Get to know your iPad 10am–1pm £18  
Social Media Savvy 2pm–4pm £12

Coloured Glass Fusing Workshop 10am–1pm £18\*  
Free Machine Embroidery for Beginners\*  
Upholstery - *currently full, contact us for waiting list\**  
Willow Weaving (Living Plaited Tree)\*  
Patchwork Trapunto Quilting\*

### SATURDAY 25TH FEBRUARY 2017

First Aid for Childcarers (Day 1 of 2) £85  
Get to know your iPad Plus (10am–1pm) £18  
Traditional Indian Dinner for Friends\*  
Learn to Love Your Overlocker\*  
Watercolour, Pen & Wash\*

### SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 2017

First Aid for Childcarers Day 2  
Easter Cake - Luxury Carrot Cake 10am–2pm £23\*  
Make a Sample Roman Blind\*  
T'ai Chi Deepening our Practice 10am–1pm £18  
Willow Weaving Rose Cloches\*  
All about Zips & Piping\*

### SATURDAY 13TH MAY 2017

Lino Printing £45/£36 (materials included)  
Willow Weaving Bird Houses & Feeders\*  
Screen Printing\*

Patchwork Day\*  
Emergency First Aid at Work £65  
Indian Vegetarian Delights\*

## BALLET POINTES

Recent ballet tests were very successful in October with all candidates passing and all achieving a Merit or higher, many of the senior dancers gained Distinction. The students have worked hard over the past year and this was an excellent result.

Did you see some of our young dancers in The Wizard of Oz? Our next "gig" will be Energise which involves our contemporary dancers who attend SCAMBS on Saturday mornings. We now have a Junior and a Senior group who work very hard with their tutors, Danielle Dasher and Jack Stinton, both of whom are experienced and both attended Cottenham Village College before going on to continue their training.

The ballet students are working towards the annual

performance on 6th May at Swavesey Village College, an interesting mix of ballets this time - Checkmate, Masquerade and dances from Horoscope. Look out for details of tickets later!

There is availability in all the classes on Wednesdays at the Village College (see below). Children may come once they are 3+, toilet trained and happy to stay without their parent/carer. A gentle introduction to ballet which can lead to an absorbing hobby and even a career. Many former students have gone on to become professional dancers and teachers.

To find out more about ballet contact April Martin [tutusrus@ntlworld.com](mailto:tutusrus@ntlworld.com) or for contemporary [jackstintondance@gmail.com](mailto:jackstintondance@gmail.com).

## BALLET FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

**Tutor - April Martin (Associate ARBTA & Member BDQT), any enquiries telephone 01954 200533**  
E-mail [a.r.martin@ntlworld.com](mailto:a.r.martin@ntlworld.com) or [tutusrus@ntlworld.com](mailto:tutusrus@ntlworld.com)

	Time	1 Term	2 Terms
Cj51 Reception Age	4.00–4.30pm	£36.00	£68.00
Cj52 School Year 1–2 + older Reception	4.30–5.00pm	£36.00	£68.00
Cj53 School Years 3, 4, 5, 6	5.00–5.45pm	£54.00	£102.00
Cj54 School Year 6 upwards	5.45–6.45pm	£72.00	£136.00

Children need to be confident to stay without their parent/carer – fees not refundable for absence from a class that is continuing to meet. 12 week term – Starts Wednesday 4th January 2017

### ENROLLING IN THE CLASSES

Enrol in any of the adult or junior classes by using the booking form in this brochure or over the phone with a debit/credit card. Credit card payments £2.50 charge, no charge for debit cards. Bring or send your booking form to the College, cheques payable to COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE. You can print a copy of the booking form from our website <http://community.cvcweb.net>

#### ADULT LEARNING CLASSES:

**Enrolling in person:** office open weekdays 9am-2.30pm and Mon-Weds evenings from 6.30-8.30pm.

**Enrolling by phone:** call us on 01954 288751

**Enrolling by email:** [community@cvcweb.net](mailto:community@cvcweb.net) with full details of course, name, address and telephone number.

**Enrolling by post:** enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like your receipt returned.

**SPORTS CENTRE CLASSES:** visit the Sports Centre Reception from 5pm daily and from 9am at weekends or call **01954 288760**.

**COURSE FEES:** must be paid in full at enrolment.

**MATERIALS CHARGES:** such as text books, ingredients for cookery classes, fabrics etc. - are NOT included in the cost.

**CONCESSIONS:** evidence of entitlement is required at enrolment or before (see Booking Form).

#### CLOSURE OF CLASSES - REFUNDS OF FEES

A full refund will be given when a class is closed due to small numbers. Please note, fees are not refundable for absence from a class that is continuing to meet.

#### INSURANCE AND LOSSES

Cottenham Village College cannot accept responsibility for accidents to members of clubs and classes other than those covered by the College's Public Liability Insurance, nor for loss of personal property left on the premises or in a car, nor for damage to cars and bicycles - parking is at your own risk.

#### EQUALITIES STATEMENT

Cambridgeshire County Council operates an Equality of Opportunity Policy. We will ensure that resources and equipment are accessible to all and make reasonable adjustments to ensure that all can access activities. If you have any specific needs which might affect your learning you are entitled to a confidential interview where we can look at the support that you require. We believe that everyone is entitled to learn in an environment that is free from discriminatory behaviour so that we build a community based on mutual trust and respect.

### COMMUNITY FACILITIES AT COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

#### Support for people with special needs

If you would like to attend a class but feel that you may need support to enable your participation, please contact the Adult Learning office on 01954 288751.

#### Transport Difficulties

If you would like to attend a class but have no transport please contact us on 01954 288751. We

may be able to put you in touch with someone who can give you a lift.

#### Learning Partners

If you are interested in being a learning partner in a class of your choice (you do not pay fees) to enable you to offer help to someone requiring support, please get in touch with us – Tel: 01954 288747.



**Cottenham Sports Centre boasts an array of quality sports facilities; open to the public 5pm-10pm Mon – Fri and 9am-5pm at weekends. Tel: 01954 288760 or visit: [cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk](http://cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk)**

Air Conditioned Fitness Suite (Fully re-furnished in September 2011)

- A Dance/Aerobics Studio, with wood sprung floor
- A Floodlit 3G Astro Pitch
- Multiuse Sports Hall (3 Badminton Courts, 8 Basketball Hoops, 5-A-Side Pitch)

- Gymnasium (Smaller Hall suitable for Martial Arts, Badminton, Volleyball, Basketball, Gymnastics)
- Four Floodlit Tennis Courts and 3 Netball Courts
- Outdoor Cricket Nets
- Modern Changing Rooms with Showers and Lockers
- Children's Parties (Bouncy Castles/Sports Equipment)

These excellent facilities are available to clubs, groups and individuals to hire on either a block booking or casual basis.

### SPORTS CENTRE COURSES

We run a number of sports courses for adults and children. These courses must be booked in advance.

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE START OF THE COURSE**

**To book a Sports Centre course please contact 01954 288760 from 5pm**

## Cottenham Tennis Club Membership Fees: June 2016-April 2017

Juniors (Under 18)	£20
Adult	£40
Family	£75
Wednesday Club Evening	7.30pm-9.30pm
Thursday Match Fixtures & Club Courts Available	7pm-9.30pm
Sunday Afternoon Club Courts Available	1.30pm-5pm
50% Discount on Court Fees at other times	

## Professional Coaching (by Over&In) available SUNDAY MORNINGS

Children	4-6 year olds	10am – 10.30am	£21
	7-10 year olds	10am – 11.30am	£42
Juniors	11-15 year olds	11.30am – 12.30pm	£42
Adults		12.30pm – 1.30pm	£48

**TO BOOK A SPORTS CENTRE COURSE/CLASS CALL DIRECT ON 01954 288760  
BETWEEN THE TIMES OF 5pm-10pm MONDAY TO FRIDAY  
OR BETWEEN 9am-5pm WEEKENDS**

## COURSES 2016/17

### MONDAY

**Badminton with Dan Valderas ongoing throughout the year. Contact the Sports Centre to start a Badminton course. New Term Starting 9th January 2017 till 6th February**

Juniors	5:30 - 6:30pm	£25 per 5 week block of lessons
Beginners	6.30 - 7.30pm	£25 per 5 week block of lessons
Intermediate	7.30 - 8.30pm	£25 per 5 week block of lessons
Advanced	8.30 - 9.30pm	£25 per 5 week block of lessons
Pay-As-You-Go Available		£5 per session

### ACTIVITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Roller Skating starting June 2016 onwards throughout the year (Term Time)

Roller Skating 5pm – 7pm £3 per session Skate Hire +£1

**All termly classes have a half term break – w/c 13th February 2017 – all fees must be paid at the start of the course/class**

## GP REFERRAL CLASSES – SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE ACTIVE & HEALTHY 4 LIFE

Patients are referred by a Health Practitioner to improve their health through an individually tailored fitness programme over a 12 week course. Conditions that benefit from exercise include obesity, arthritis, high blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes and depression.

### How do I join?

If you think this scheme is for you please discuss it with your GP or Health Practitioner and they can complete a referral form for you.

### Tuesdays

F4H Class (Y) 4:00pm – 5.00pm £72 (Twice a week, 24 sessions)

### Thursdays

F4H Class (Y) 4:00pm – 5.00pm £72 (Twice a week, 24 sessions)

Plus assessments which cost £8 each and are undertaken at the beginning and end of the scheme.

The Active and Healthy 4 Life scheme prices have been subsidised by

South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire NHS.

**CONTACT: Cottenham Sports Centre**

**Tel. 01954 288760 or cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk**



**ADULT LEARNING  
BOOKING FORM**

TITLE	FORENAME	SURNAME	
ADDRESS			
POSTCODE			
D.O.B:			
TEL:			
MOBILE:			
EMAIL:			
	COURSE NAME	COURSE FEE £	RECEIPT No.
1.			
2.			
3.			

**ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR REDUCED FEES?**

**THE FOLLOWING GROUPS MAY CLAIM THE REDUCED RATE**

- Working Family Tax Credit
- Job Seeker's Allowance
- Income Based Benefit
- If you receive Pension Credit – means tested element of State Pension
- Full Time Students up to age 18

**Please note that proof of above will be required otherwise full fee will be due.**



# FECA IN LANDBEACH

## Insight into history

The Landbeach Society was formed in 1971 welcoming all interested in the history of the village. As Ray Gambell said in his book "Landbeach, then and now" (ISBN 978 902044 170) "it is salutary to realise that we live in a village with a very long history."

The Society has monthly meetings at 7.30pm in the Village Hall between January/June and September/December. Membership costs £3 a year and entrance to the talks is £3.50.

The programme for January to June 2017 starts with the AGM, with cheese and wine, on 18th January. Subject of the talk on 15th February yet to be confirmed. The topic on 15th March will be the Cambridge Folk Museum, speaker Becky Proctor. On 19th April, Andrew Lacey's talk is entitled "Planning for Armegeddon – local nuclear bunkers" and for 17th May Tracy Deakin focuses on Lady Margaret Beaufort.

## Wednesdays are for Busytots!

At our not-for profit baby and toddler group, based in Landbeach Village Hall, volunteers encourage the kids to get hands-on with craft activities or messy play, toys and a singalong at most sessions (10am to noon). Snacks are provided for the children, and there is cake and tea for grown-ups. We're an inclusive group and welcome everyone, says volunteer Gemma. "This year has flown by and there have been so many highlights. Parents and carers loved the calming lavender play dough, but one of the most enjoyable sessions for the toddlers was 'Construction sensory play' with black turtle beans and dried chick peas."

Busytots is currently recruiting additional volunteers. We're looking for two to join our small, friendly team. Can you spare a few hours on a Wednesday morning, once a month?

A small entry fee covers hall rent and refreshments (£1.50 single child families, 50p per additional child). If you'd like to find out more contact Gemma on 07986 717958 or email [busytots1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:busytots1@hotmail.co.uk) – find us at facebook.com/LandbeachBusytots or visit [www.busytots.weebly.com](http://www.busytots.weebly.com)

## The Tithe Barn is a treasure

The Tithe Barn Trust now has a "statement of significance", thanks to Dr Ray Gambell who did the research. The document highlights the rarity of Tithe Barns in the UK, with approximately 90% of them being converted. Landbeach's Tudor

Tithe barn, with thatched roof and historic brick threshing floor, is believed to be unique to Cambridgeshire and possibly of national significance.

The Tithe Barn Trust is a small charity and not-for profit volunteer group aiming to save and sympathetically restore the Tithe Barn for community use. How you can help:

## Give a gift that lasts all year

For a special gift (instead of the usual flowers or chocolates) give a 'Friends of the Tithe Barn Trust' membership which starts from just £20. Email [tithebartrust@gmail.com](mailto:tithebartrust@gmail.com) to find out more or visit <https://tithebartrust.org.uk/become-a-member/> to download a membership form.

**To find the Tithe Barn:** Kissing gate entrance is opposite No 2 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9FA. Walk along the grassed track along the hedge. Free parking or no. 9 stagecoach bus stops near Cockfen Lane

## DIRECTORY

### Busytots Baby and Toddler Group

Gemma O'Shea..... [busytots1@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:busytots1@hotmail.co.uk)

### Coffee Mornings

Margaret Steane..... 01223 860128

### Friends of Worts Meadow

Robert Humphrey..... 01223 863454

### Landbeach Baptist Church

Neil Roberts..... 01223 860410

### Landbeach Helpline

Maria Sylvester..... 01954 252400

### Knit and Natter

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# NATURE ON YOUR DOORSTEP

**N**ext time you drive or cycle through Landbeach on a sunny day, pause for a moment, park in the Village Hall carpark and take time to explore the adjacent Worts Meadow and Bourne Wood. Designated as a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), the site is also a Scheduled Monument where the hidden remains of a mediaeval settlement can be seen. A moat surrounds and protects all that is left of Brays Manor, now a dense patch of spindly trees and brambles. The birds love it and if you walk quietly around the edge, you might hear or see a water vole plop into the water, interrupted in its vegetarian munching.

The moat and the main field pond are home to Great Crested Newts, toads and frogs, best seen on an early spring torchlight walk with Friends of Worts Meadow (FOWM) or join our late summer pond dipping sessions. Half Moon pond, lying hidden between the meadow and the wood, has the clearest water where water beetles can be seen diving for the bottom, though currently the level is very low through lack of rain. A circuit of Bourne Wood is refreshing any time of the year but in spring there are patches of bluebells, primroses, native daffodils and even a few orchids. It won't take you long as the wood is small, but if you emerge as evening approaches, you might see a local

Barn Owl quartering the meadow. Nest boxes in the wood, erected by FOWM, are regularly used by blue tits and many other birds can be heard and seen here. If you like an exciting night life, then join one of our bat walks or moth trapping evenings. Next year we plan to run a 'Bioblitz' event, where, with your help, we will try to record every species of bird, beetle, butterfly, moth, mammal, pond creature, and flower in 24 hours! Find our events here in Fen Edge News, What's On in Landbeach, Facebook and on village noticeboards.

## Friends of Worts Meadow

This is a constituted group of volunteers who help with the practical management of the nature reserve. It is free to join. Our open events provide the chance to learn about, and enjoy, the wildlife of the site and help with recording. Our AGM and slide show will be held on 24th May 2017 in Landbeach Village Hall. For more information Contact Frances Dipper on 01223 861836, frances.dipper@sustenergy.co.uk or see our Facebook page Friends of Worts Meadow.



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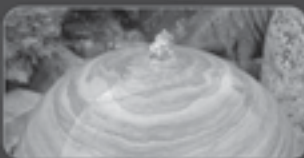


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FEN issues can be viewed online at [www.fenedge.co.uk](http://www.fenedge.co.uk) and the website also carries information about FECA and how to join.

Contributions, including letters and points of view, are welcomed. Please send them to FEN Editor, Community Office, CVC, Cottenham, Cambs CB24 8UA. Or email: [editor@fenedge.co.uk](mailto:editor@fenedge.co.uk)

## ISSUE DEADLINES

**Feb 16 (Spring/Summer), May 16 (Autumn)**

The magazine is distributed to 6750 homes in the Fen Edge Patch which covers the villages of Cottenham, Rampton, Willingham, Landbeach and Waterbeach. There are three issues a year: New Year, Spring/Summer and Autumn, and content, including ads, can be viewed on the FECA website [www.fenedge.co.uk](http://www.fenedge.co.uk).

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# HOW GREEN IS YOUR GARDEN?

Ken Ellis of the Cottenham Gardeners' Club looks at ways to make a garden environment-friendly.

When winter begins to turn into spring and your thoughts return to the garden are you considering changing the fabric of your patch? There has been growing concern about the loss of front gardens to car parking spaces, and back gardens to hard landscaping, such as decking and slabs. Now, I'm not going to preach against such things, sometimes they are the only option. But maybe there could be greener solutions.

With a front garden, a main concern is the run off of rainwater and risk of flooding if the water can't drain away. But you need somewhere to park your car, without the ground turning into quagmire, so what can you do? Most local authorities encourage the use of material that allows the water to soak away. Tough meshes which let grass grow through can actually look quite nice. And you needn't use just grass – there are alternatives that will put up with being rolled over. Or you can lay two dedicated running strips with the mesh and plants around it. You could even put in a few bulbs in the places that rarely see a foot. Just position the mesh and see where the car and foot traffic go, then plant accordingly.

Gravel is often the choice in areas of heavy traffic. It certainly will let water drain away, but I would advise a porous membrane underneath to stop weeds growing through. On the top, you can easily use weedkiller, or hand weed, depending on your preference (and knees!). Don't have too thick a layer; it'll be like walking along Blakeney Point. My preference is 20mm, no more than 30mm, onto a firm under surface. You could incorporate a slab run to avoid ruts.

Or why not produce a dry garden, or one based on a shingle beach. Take a trip to the aforesaid Blakeney Point and see what nature does. We had to deal with a long strip between a pavement and high brick wall, about 1.5metres wide, and grotty soil. We covered it with membrane, laid some stone on it, and planted through it: groups of scabious, armeria (known as thrift to me or sea pink) and dianthus, campion, geranium, with formiums and grasses for height. It looks stunning, and only needs weeding and cutting back at monthly intervals.

Now for the back. Most people enjoy the idea of sitting out in their garden, perhaps with a glass of something nice, and watching the sun go down – though in this country such things can't be planned. The joy is being able to seize them when they occur

and having access to somewhere to sit. When planning consider what you want from it, its size and the age of the users. If you need a hard area, can you balance it with a soft one? If the patch is tiny, do you need grass?

I've gardened a rectangular courtyard in Ely that has flower beds on four sides, one of which was about 2m deep with a small (child safe) water feature. A pergola over the largest bed has a rambling rose. On one wall is a jasmine intertwined with a passion flower. In a corner between the front door and entrance gate is a large and jungly fatsia japonica. The whole effect is cool and tranquil, with room for the children to play in what is really an outside room. There is no grass. And it works.

When thinking about your small piece of earth, remember the workers – insects – that make it all tick. Without them, we'd die so we have a vested interest in looking after them. What plants would benefit them in your patch? Insect houses and small log piles are good but add plants that feed them. These will have a small bee logo, or describe themselves as insect friendly. Generally speaking, plants that have single flowers without many petals will carry the most nectar. When I was young, it was the height of entertainment to watch bees disappear into a snapdragon to get to the nectar.

Use the walls or fences that surround your garden. Berry plants will attract the birds in winter. In spring, the red berried cotoneaster has insignificant flowers – which the bees love. Think about other seasons too. Sweet box will reward you with a heavenly scent in January, whilst attracting such insects as venture out at this time of year. And don't, unless you have to, cut back ivy until the end of February. The flowers are an important food source for insects, which of course will include butterflies.

With a bit of thought, a change in your garden doesn't have to be a disaster for insects. If you choose your plants carefully, you can attract insects virtually all year, and other wildlife too. We're seeing some species in decline, including hedgehogs and several types of butterfly. Even sparrows don't seem as plentiful as they once were. So think about your interaction with nature. It will be mutually beneficial: your reward may be to see a hedgehog, maybe a blue tit on the bird feeder or a red admiral sunning itself on your fence as you drive up and park.



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## RAMPTON – PROUD TO BE SMALL

A recent remark made on the social media site Streetlife highlighted how close the village of Rampton is to Cottenham. The remark, relating to the ongoing applications to build a large number of houses in the fields off Rampton Road, suggested that the two villages might end up being combined in the future.

For those who live in Rampton that would not meet with approval. The small village of around 400 people has always been the smallest in the area along the edge of the Fens. The Domesday Book listed 19 tenants; by 1634 there were 39 households. The first Census, in 1801, showed 162 inhabitants – 100 years later there were 180. After slow growth to 221 in 1951, its growth mirrored that of neighbouring villages reaching 440 in 2001.

The Fen Edge was densely settled in Roman times, but no evidence for post-Roman occupation has been found and the settlement was probably located on its present site early in the Anglo-Saxon period. The earliest focus was presumably the church, which stands a short distance north of High Street at the east end of the village. The Church of All Saints is noted as one of a very few English churches with a thatched roof and one of only two in Cambridgeshire (together with St Michael's Church, Longstanton). The present building apparently

incorporates parts of a previous 12th century building and the majority of the stonework dates from the 13th and 14th century.

The Cottenham boundary was fixed before 1315 along a rivulet, named Westwick brook in 1605, which drains north-east into the river Ouse. Most of the southern and western boundaries run along tracks called mere ways dividing Rampton from Willingham and Longstanton. The sharing of fen pastures with Willingham suggest that Rampton may have once been dependent on Willingham, perhaps as a specialized sheep-rearing settlement, but it was fully separate in 1066. Until the mid 19th century the arable was farmed in four open fields, with common meadow and pasture in the north of the parish.

A village hall was opened in 1955 in a prefabricated hut in Church End, and was replaced by a permanent building in 1959. The village has an annual horse show (first Saturday in September), celebrated locally as an authentic traditional style show, with Gymkhana and all. Other village events include an annual Fayre on the village green in the summer, village revue/pantomime with invitation-only dinner provided free by the Rampton '77 Committee for all villagers over the age of sixty.

*Information from Wikipedia and British History Online*

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## DRONES AND OUR COVER

FECA is grateful to Peter Haigh (Electrocert) for allowing us to use his photo of All Saints' Church Cottenham, taken from above by drone, on this issue's cover. With its remarkable bulbous pinnacles, the old and historic church is a landmark for miles around especially when floodlit at night. The view of it, at ground level, is also protected by heritage building law: applications to build that would interrupt the sight line to the church would not be approved. By showing it from above Peter, an enthusiastic photographer, provides us with an aspect that we would not normally see. It is one of many local sights he has captured using a camera drone which he operates via his mobile phone.

So what are drones? The big ones are known as UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles) which are remotely monitored and controlled to carry out tasks that humans can't perform. They are used in war situations but also have civil uses too – fighting forest fires, for example, or investigating or dealing with toxic fumes. They can help with traffic control in cities or check out the landscape for geological purposes. They cannot be used to break existing privacy laws.

The bigger ones can be a threat to air space if they fly above 400ft altitude. In April 2016 a BA flight encountered a drone as it was about to land at

Heathrow – and investigations into this incident and other more recent ones are continuing. The use of drones is controlled by the Civil Aviation Authority: they are not toys, it says, cannot be flown within 150metres of a congested area or 50 metres of a person, vessel, vehicle or structure.

According to a report in the *Cambridge Independent* the CAA has granted Amazon, which has a research lab in Cambridgeshire, special permission to fly drones beyond the line of sight under specially controlled conditions. This is part of Amazon's plan to have a delivery system for lightweight parcels. The tests could pave the way for drones to be used for medical emergencies or transporting human organs for transplants, the CAA told the paper.

But it is smaller drones, under 20kg, that are safely used by enthusiasts like Peter and these have a range of names as the magazine PC Advisor ([www.pcadvisor.co.uk](http://www.pcadvisor.co.uk)) explained in November: "Drones, quad-copters and multi-rotor helicopters are all the rage but the sheer amount of choice and huge range of prices can make it difficult to know what to buy." Check out the site if you are looking for a drone!

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# WATERBEACH NEWS

## New Military Heritage Museum opened

Urban & Civic provided the space in the old building No 3 and with the help of a start-up grant from the Waterbeach Community Association the new Military Heritage Museum is now set up. Opening days will be the first Wednesday and Sundays between March and October, from 11am to 4pm. Entrance will be free but donations will be gratefully received.

A group of dedicated trustees and volunteers operate the museum and will add to and care for the collection.. Information from [waterbeachmilitarymuseum@waterbeach.org](mailto:waterbeachmilitarymuseum@waterbeach.org)

## Not light enough at night

Elderly people and others are not very happy that, as part of cost cutting measures, the 358 street lights of Waterbeach are dimmed at 10pm and go off at 2am. Peter Johnson, district and parish councillor for Waterbeach, said that this unnerved many people and he'd been asked whether some could be kept on. He wrote in Beach News: "The Parish Council has to pay the cost: £7.70 per light plus a one-off charge of £65." Those who are concerned about the lights in their area should contact him to find out more: [Cllr.Johnson@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Johnson@scambs.gov.uk) or 01223 560918.

## Parking at the station

The continuing problems of finding spaces to park at Waterbeach could be solved. After talks, National Rail which owns the adjoining land is proposing to lease it out. The rental would either be £12,000 or £25,000 if the area were resurfaced and white parking lines installed. Councillor Peter Johnson wrote in Beach News: "The County Council has shown an interest, as has a private individual so something may happen before too long."

## Refurbishing plans

The 235 rooms in blocks 83 and 84 on the Barracks site will provide essential accommodation for nurses and doctors working at Papworth Hospital. As part of the development of the site, Urban & Civic will create one-bed apartments in the blocks, built in the 1990s. Some will have shared facilities. The refurbishment will take 12 months and during this time Papworth will be moved to Addenbrooke's. When complete the new accommodation will be leased to Papworth. The plan was approved by Waterbeach Parish Council in the hope that these changes would bring some revenue into the local economy.

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# TRANSFORMING THE BARRACKS

**T**he public consultation that took place in the Waterbeach Barracks sports hall in September/October was an eye opener for anyone who had never been on the site before. A small bus was provided to take visitors around and, with an Urban & Civic representative to explain, show them where the transformations would be.

It seems huge (it covers 716 acres/290 hectares) and much of it appears wild, with deer running through, and pheasants frisking around what was the runway. The old golf course with its ponds and trees will become a park running north to south. The old causeway route to Denny Abbey (to the right of the runway) will be reinstated as a leisure route from the village. Big woodland blocks of standing trees will be kept, but improved with walkways and a children's play area plus a network of footpaths and cycleways. And there's a vast lake!

It's regarded as an historic site and before any major work can be done Cambridge archaeologists are investigating what's there; to this end trenches have been dug around various parts.

Urban & Civic, appointed by the Ministry of

Defence, have been working on development plans for the Barracks and Airfield for over two years and the changes will certainly take some time to happen. They include the building of 6500 new homes, three primary schools and a secondary school, a health centre, and using 24 hectares for formal open spaces and sports pitches. All of this of course will need approval from the planning authorities and local residents. **Wendy Dear**



**The barracks and airfield site as it looks now**

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# FEN EDGE MISCELLANY

## Come walk with us!

The Fen Edge Footpath group is a friendly, sociable and non competitive walking group which organises a social Saturday walk once a month, either locally or slightly further afield. The distances are between 5 and 10 miles. We normally meet up at the Village College for car sharing. We also have two walking weekends away each year, one in May visiting the Peak District, and one in autumn not too far away, using the College minibus as transport. This year we visited Goring and Streatley, walking part of the Thames Path. We use the Youth Hostels which these days are very comfortable, with no cleaning, peeling potatoes or having to make our own beds!

We would very much like younger people from the Fen Edge Villages to come and join us because over the years the age of most of our members has risen, although they are very fit as they have always walked regularly.

Why not start on Boxing Day with our traditional Holly Walk of about 4miles: meet at 10.30am at the junction of Cottenham High Street and Broad Lane. As for new year resolutions, if the children are off your hands make 2017 the year you get a little fitter in good company on one of our Saturday walks. You will find a list of walks and details on our website [www.fenedgefootpathgroup.co.uk](http://www.fenedgefootpathgroup.co.uk) or contact [fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com](mailto:fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com)

## Park for good causes

The Rotary Club of Cambridge South (plus friends) is again organising car parking in Cambridge for 6 weekends from 26-27 November until 31 Dec 2016 (not 25th December or 1st January!) plus 27-30 December and Monday 2 Jan 2017. The "charge" is £7 for as long as needed within car park opening hours.

The three car parks are at Park Terrace (turn right at the University Arms hotel off Regent Street and it is on the left), Chemistry block on Lensfield Road and the Downing site on Tennis Court Road (the pedestrian exit is onto Downing Street nearly opposite John Lewis).



The last one is open until 7pm so is also good for the Panto matinee. Watch out for the Rotary car park signs (printed by Screens and Graphics in Cottenham) bearing the "Rotary Wheel". Can we beat last year's record £37,000?

More information, including a map, is available at [www.cambridge-southrotary.org.uk](http://www.cambridge-southrotary.org.uk)

To volunteer to help with the car parking contact [smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com](mailto:smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com)

## Lend with care

If you have at least £15 that you wouldn't mind lending (bank interest is, after all, very low) could you consider using it to help people in the third world? "Lend with Care" aims to help people start a new business or expand their existing business by possibly taking on some staff. Often they need only a few hundred pounds, provided by a number of us contributing individually. Budding entrepreneurs are vetted and 98% of loans are repaid in full. Most people then lend their money again to another worthy borrower. It is incredibly easy to do. Rotary clubs and individuals in East Anglia have so far lent £100,000 in this way and to expand this, the Rotary club of Cambridge South has provided Cottenham Village College 6th form with £500 for them to decide who to lend to. The purpose is to improve the students' world understanding and knowledge and their financial acumen. Want to know more? Look at the website [www.lendwithcare.org](http://www.lendwithcare.org)

**Mike Smith**

## Handyperson service

South Cambs District Council (in partnership with Mears) is offering a handyperson service to tenants of the council in sheltered housing. Minor joinery, gardening, plumbing and general DIY are all available (all materials to be paid for by the tenant) at £10 per half hour. Call 0800 0851313.

## Smell something?

The smell from the Amey-Cespa recycling site is more noticeable on some days than others. You can report it to the Environment Agency hotline: 0800 607080. The calls are logged and the Agency will take action when the number of complaints reaches a certain threshold.

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# FECA IN FEN EDGE

## TWINNING'S A SUCCESS

The Fen Edge Twinning Association (FETA) will make a return visit to Avrille between Friday 28th April and Monday 1st May. Next year is the 19th since the French town and the Fen Edge patch were linked, and the group grows stronger with the years. The exchange is not just a chance to speak another language but also to experience the way others live and to enjoy their hospitality. The 20th anniversary will also be held in Avrille.

FETA welcomes anyone interested in joining the group and wanting to take part in the exchange. A coach will be organised so it is best to book early to avoid disappointment. Several fund-raising events are planned in November and March, so for more information please contact Julia Gwilt ([juliagwilt@gmail.com](mailto:juliagwilt@gmail.com)) or see our Facebook page @fenedgetwinning.

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE BIRD CLUB

There will be two meetings at Cottenham Village College, starting at 8pm.

On 7th April, Viola Ross-Smith's talk will be "Feathered fiends? Reasons to love your neighbourhood gulls". On 12th May Tony Martin's talk is entitled "Reclaiming South Georgia".

Further details at [www.cambridgebirdclub.org.uk](http://www.cambridgebirdclub.org.uk)

## FEAG talks in 2017

The Fen Edge Archeological Group has a range of talks planned at Cottenham Village College (except the March one which will be at Rampton Village Hall). Doors open 7.15pm and talks start at 7.30pm.

On 18th January, Jez Davies' topic will be "Nautical archaeology and HMS Colossus". The location and excavation of underwater sites has enabled greater understanding of marine and coastal environments. On 16th February, the intriguing title of Tim Reynolds' talk is: "The archaeology of Neanderthal humanity: the Shanidar Project". The Shanidar Cave in Iraqi Kurdistan is a proto-neolithic cemetery: 10 skeletons were found that date back over 50,000 years.

With the Northstowe development now underway there will be much interest in Alison Dickens's talk at Rampton Village Hall on 16th March which will bring to light what the "Excavations at Northstowe" found. On 4th April John Stanford's subject will be "The Twenty Pence Project" while Jonathon Rogers, on 18th May, will present "The sculptures of the Lady Chapel, Ely Cathedral". Ely Cathedral was used as the setting for the marriage of Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip in the recently released 10-part Netflix drama "The Crown", directed by Stephen Daldry. Details will be posted, as usual, on the website or blog, [www.feag.co.uk](http://www.feag.co.uk); <https://feagblog.wordpress.com>



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# WILLINGHAM NEWS

## How we feasted!

There were some 17 events running during the Feast celebrations in October. As always, Thurstons Funfair occupied the Green, leaving on the Sunday to make room for the traditional Salvation Army concert. The events were wide ranging, catering for all ages and interests – from a Saturday morning market plus car boot sale to treasure and book hunts, music, art, photography and (superb) comedy. OldWillingham (one word!) was remembered with a well attended showing of slides from photographic archives carefully compiled by one of our village heroes. A 'Call My Bluff' Wine Quiz gave wine drinkers the opportunity to test their knowledge, while Willingham Guides gave the younger generation the opportunity to test their Bush Craft skills in the great outdoors. Thanks to everyone involved in the organisation and running of events.

**Graham Mumby**, Willingham Action Group.

## News makes the News

Congratulations to the Willingham News which received the Bronze Award in the High Frequency category in the annual Community Magazine Awards run by the Cambridge Building Society. The editors received a cheque for £50 and the magazine, produced 12 times a year by the community for the community, carries a logo on the cover signifying the win. A team of 40 volunteers publish, print and deliver the magazine each month to every house and business in the village.



## All to play for

It's a Knockout, with 18 teams of young and older people participating, was a great success, raising over £5,000 for the next phase of the QEII playground (see councils, p17) and the Youth Centre. FECA was one of the sponsors and former chair Eileen Wilson was there to present a cheque to organisers WAG (Willingham Action group), a member of the Fen Edge community association which applied for a grant for the popular family event.

## PS Coming in May

A beer festival is being planned. An opportunity to use the FECA marquee which is available for member groups to hire. It's 12m x 6m, costs £100 per 3-day event, plus £100 deposit. More information from Paul Knighton 07787 530394.

# WILLINGHAM DIRECTORY

## Beavers, Cubs and Scouts

Mrs M Dellar .....01954 260045

## Honeypot Pre-School (term-time only)

Mrs Kate Van Dort .....01954 201567

## Tigger Toddlers

Lisa Smith .....01954 201282

Koala Kids .....01954 260046

## Willingham Guides and Rangers

Lynn McGoff .....01954 261296

## Bubbles/Messy Church

Heather Mellows .....01954 270063

## TOPS (Baptist Church Toddlers Group)

Hilary Wyllie .....01954 260051

## Kids' Friday Club (Baptist Church)

Loriane Bald .....01954 261189

## Allotments

Sue Ayling .....01954 260718

## Willingham Action Group (WAG)

Mike Tidball .....01954 260647

## Willingham Combined Charities

Mrs Gail Cook .....01954 231272

## Workers' Educational Association

Rosemary Mumford .....01954 260934

## Willingham Walkers

Mike Tidball .....01954 260647

## Willingham Youth Club

enquiries@willingham youthtrust.org

## Women's Institute

Jacky Sparks .....01954 261831

## Women's Royal British Legion

Mrs M Few .....01954 260124

Cycling Club ..... [www.willinghamwheels.com](http://www.willinghamwheels.com)

## Tennis Club

John Graham .....01954 231968

## Willingham Social Club

John Carey .....01954 202021

## Willingham Sports Pavilion

Parish Council .....01954 261027

## Willingham Wolves (Boys & Girls Football)

..... [willinghamwolvesfc.co.uk](http://willinghamwolvesfc.co.uk)

## Baptist Church

Rev. Paul Joel .....01954 260538

## Methodists (Ministerial Contact)

Rev Hilary Cheng .....01223 700778

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