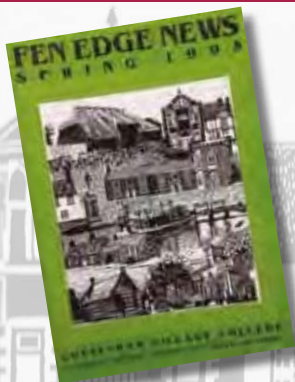


Fen Edge news

community association

NEW YEAR 2018



100TH EDITION

*News from your
local Clubs, Groups
and Councils*

Plus Adult & Family Classes



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The **Fen Edge Community Association** is a charity promoting and supporting Clubs, Groups and Societies in Cottenham, Landbeach, Rampton, Waterbeach and Willingham.

Contact Us

Neil Gough – Chair

✉ chair@fenedge.co.uk

✉ advertising@fenedge.co.uk

🌐 www.fenedge.co.uk

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New Year 2018

- 4 Fen Edge Festival report
- 5 Fen Edge News 100th edition
- 7 What's on in the Fen Edge Villages
- 11 FECA in Cottenham
- 21 Cottenham Community Centre Day by Day
- 23 A plant survival guide to Christmas
- 27 Christmas Services in Cottenham
- 29 Adult & Family classes
- 37 FECA in Landbeach
- 43 Fen Edge Parish Councils
- 47 FECA in Rampton
- 49 Patient Participation Group
- 51 Waterbeach Parish Council
- 53 Guiding in Cottenham & Willingham
- 55 Fen Edge miscellany
- 57 FECA in Willingham

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FEN EDGE FESTIVAL REPORT

Once again, we enjoyed a memorable weekend of music, food and activities and the weather was kind to us. I believe that the Festival represents all that is good about village life – a very spirited and dedicated group of people come together to deliver this very special event. Consequently, there are a lot of people who were involved who need to be thanked.

The Festival Organising Committee was a great team. These are the people that really make the event happen. The Committee comprised Lucy Dumbrell, Bob Turner, Tom Wykes, Paul Knighton, Linda Cockburn, Peter Haigh, Simon Bye, Paul Mappledoram, Will Stockford, Eileen Wilson and Alex Wilson.

In addition, we also had over 100 volunteers. It is easy to miss the role they play in making the event run smoothly and safely. Thank you to all of you who volunteered.

The roll of honour is Graham and Sue Arnold, Louise Augarde, Kathryn Aybak, Richard Blakesley, Tricia Bradley, Marielle and Andy Burgess, Tim and Sara Bustin, Rex Collinson, Louise Cooke, Julian Cooper, Martin and Annabel Croxon, Wendy Dear, Tim Fowler, Liz Gander, Lorraine Goodridge, Alice Gough, Richard Gymer, Frances Halls, Jane Hill, Marie-Claire Hiscock, Charles and Charlotte Hobley, Gaynor Hollander, Noel Hughes, Helen Hurworth, Rebecca Izzard, Sonia Jaczyk, Lin Joyner, Mike Kaloo, Alison and Phil Jones, Sue Kidby, Caroline Knighton, Caroline Lee, Trudy Lee, Harry Lee, Andrew Lee, Alan Leeks, Martyn Leeks, Deborah Loveluck, Linda Lloyd, Pam and Mick Lumsden, Richard May, Justin McCann, Rebecca Molloy, Emma Morel, Eddie and Karin Murphy, Monica and Damyn Musgrave, Mark Nolan, Matthew and Caroline Palmer, Nick Parker, Pri Pinnaduwa, Hannah Piran, Diane, Andy and Nicola Pledger, Cilla Reid, Carol Robinson, Irene and Bruce Robjont, Doug Robson, Andrea and Oliver Sabbatini, Melanie and Rob Sanders, Ben Shimmens, Rachel and Phil Shore, Mike and Sue Smith, Andrew and Catherine Snelson, Leon Stone, Beth Stevens, Shirley and Ian Stuchbury, Jenny Swindell, Bruce and Jane Hutchison, Andrea Cramp, Simon Thomas, Danielle Tompkins. Cecilia Tredgett, Yvonne Walsh, Dani Wykes and the numerous ATC Cadets. My sincere apologies if you helped but your name was not included - thank you all the same.

We received invaluable financial support from sponsors. Particular thanks go to Cottenham Parish Council and the team there who not only sponsored the event but also enabled us to use the Village Green and ensured it was perfectly prepared. Thanks also to the Village College who also allowed us to use its grounds and facilities. Our sponsors were Malary, Durman Stearn, Giuseppe Piran, Voland Roofing, Cambridge Glassblowing, BV Services, Lynx Autocare, S.H. Harradine, The Curry Palace, Amey Cespa, Aviva, Steve Davies Creative, Travis Perkins, Haart, Tesco, Dentons Carpets, Fellows Brewery, B&C Motors, Screens & Graphics, Cambridge Building Society and Polarglaze. We use the financial support to ensure that the main events are free (like the evening concerts, junior disco and children's entertainment) or subsidised (like the mini golf and the helter-skelter).

The final accounts for the event are as follows:

Income (£)

Sponsorship	11,827
Stalls	6,805
Profit from Food & Drink	2,964
Fundraising and Misc. Activities	2,141
Total Income	23,737

Expenditure (£)

Facilities	9,751
Free/Subsidised activities	3,422
Entertainment	1,946
Marketing and Sundries	2,665
Total Expenditure	17,784
Total Surplus	5,953

Of this surplus, £3,794 was passed on immediately to FECA member organisations and the balance retained by FECA for future grants to other organisations. The main beneficiaries from the Festival were Ladybird Pre-school, Firs House and Telegraph Street Patient Participation Group, Willingham Youth Trust and the Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust. Including the additional amounts raised directly by FECA member organisations over the weekend, that means nearly £10,000 was raised for charities and community organisations in the Fen Edge.

So finally, thanks to all of you who attended. I hope you enjoyed it and see you in 2019!

Neil Gough

Chair@fenedge.co.uk

100 AND STILL GOING STRONG

It was the creation of 'the patch' that brought about the **Fen Edge News** – now celebrating the 100th issue. Over the years those termly magazines (New Year, Spring/Summer and Autumn) have covered the happenings and history of the five villages.

There had always been a newsletter of sorts issued by Cottenham Village College since it opened on 7 November 1963 to promote community education and life-long learning. These information sheets were usually 'roneoed' (quite a useful Scrabble word) and run off by hand before being stapled and delivered.

Things started to change in the early 1980s with cover designs and printed issues then, in 1985, a Cottenham and District Community Association was formed after a meeting at the college attended by many organisations from the villages.

The purpose was to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas concerning education, recreation and information, and to increase the involvement of members of the public in community activities in the College and elsewhere, wrote W P Kirkman, chair of the education group. And it succeeded. In issue no 6, 1986, Bruce Kent, secretary of the Community Association, announced that the finances were in a healthy state after a Ceilidh, Fun Run, inter-village walks, Playschemes, local history fayre, Saturday morning markets and New Year's Eve party.

Members were invited to hire the new school minibus and to get reduced rates for room hire at CVC and could apply for grants. Early recipients of the funds generated included the College (£1,000 towards a new litho printing machine), Cottenham Theatre Workshop (£400 for new lights in the College hall, where plays, pantos and concerts are staged) and the Volleyball Club (£40 for new balls).

Jenny Kay, the instigator of so much in Cottenham (Summer School, CareCar, mobile warden scheme, the Toy Library), was quick to spot anyone who could use a computer. When she was chair of the Community Association in 1985/6 she found Barbara Graves. This led to Barbara editing the Fen Edge News for some years.

The Fen Edge Patch was given its name by Martin Doubleday who ran Community Education in the 1980s.

Geoff Redhead – still a FECA trustee today – succeeded Martin and became the life-long learning coordinator, taking on the role of editing the Newsletter which in 1994 became the Fen Edge News, six months after the Association changed its name to the Fen Edge Community Association.

Mike Smith came to live in Cottenham in 1986 and was associated with community activities from the start. He was on the committee when the Association changed its

name to the Fen Edge Community Association and, with Emma Green and Wane Borg, was one of those behind the establishment of the Fen Edge Festival which began in 2005 and has run every two years since on Cottenham Village Green. In 2007 one of the members of the Festival committee was Neil Gough, now chair of FECA.

Far too many people have been connected to the 100 issues to name - from all those who had the role of chair, or served on the committee, to those who compiled and submitted articles to keep villagers aware of what goes on in their world and to the volunteers (including the Scouts) who did the distribution. Among the names who will have been involved (and not mentioned above) are John Auckland, Roger and Marilyn Daw, Beryl Hayward, Mike Herbert, Steve Howie, Alan Leeks, Deborah Loveluck, Christine Munns, Eric Smith, Brenda Ward, Benji Warwick and Willie Whybray.

Despite changing fortunes in budget allocations the community education programme thrives under Janet Drinkwater and team, providing free as well as paid-for courses. The Summer School is successfully self-funded, and continues to attract hundreds each year. And the role of the Community Association should be given due recognition. Ruth Rogers, chair in 1993, wrote in issue 23: *at a time when economic difficulties touch virtually all our lives, it is refreshing to encounter the attitude of CA members who are prepared to commit considerable time and effort in running popular and successful local events.* Yes volunteers. Without them there would never have been 100 issues keeping villagers in touch with each other. That's worth celebrating.

Wendy Dear – (Editor Fen Edge News 2014-2017)



Geraint Brown, Acting Deputy Head at Cottenham Village College, featured on a Fen Edge News cover in 2001 not long after he joined the teaching staff.

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FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

What's on and when in the villages

NOVEMBER

25th Cottenham Toy Library Toy Sale at Cottenham Primary School 9.30-11.00am (see p19)

25th Cottenham Primary School PTCA Second hand bike and scooter sale at Cottenham Primary School (see p17)

29th-2nd December ALADDIN, Cottenham Theatre Workshop CVC (see p11)

Rotary Christmas Car Parking in Cambridge

The Rotary Good Causes Christmas shopper car parking will start on Saturday 25 November for 6 weekends until 31 December, plus 27- 29 December. Parking will cost just £7 for as long as needed within car park opening hours.

The 3 car parks are *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 from this car park is onto Downing Street nearly opposite John Lewis). This last one is open until 7pm so is good for the Panto matinee. Last year we raised over £40,000 for charities and Rotary good causes. More information www.cambridge-southrotary.org.uk

DECEMBER

1st Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

8th Karaoke Night (Free entry) Willingham Social Club (see p60)

13th Cottenham WI – Christmas Party CVC 7.30pm

13th Landbeach Busytots Christmas Party Landbeach Village Hall 10am – 12noon (see p39)

15th Cottenham Toy Library 'Christmas Fun' and Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

JANUARY

10th Cottenham WI – *Life in the Army* by Lucy Lewis-The first female bomb disposal expert CVC 7.30pm

12th Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

12th Cottenham Village Society *RSPB Wetland Project*:

Progress so far on Britain's (soon to be) largest reedbed with Richard Taylor Hanson All Saints Church Hall 7.45pm (see p19)

12th Cambridgeshire Bird Club *Albania, Egyptian vulture and wolves* by Kevin Hand at St John's Church Hall, Hills Road, Cambridge 8pm

13th Cottenham Village Litter Pick 2pm (see p11)

15th Family History drop in session – Cottenham Library 7-9pm

17th Coffee and Chat in the Library - Cottenham Library 10.30-12.30 (see p17)

17th Landbeach Society AGM with wine and cheese Landbeach Village Hall 7.30pm

18th Fen Edge Archaeology Group *The Bedford Roman Villa Project* by Mike Luke CVC 7.30pm

19th Cottenham Gardeners' Club – New Year Party at Franklin Gardens Community Room 7.30pm (see p25)

20th BEAR CLUB live music Willingham Social Club (see p60)

26th Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

26th – 28th Free Thermal Imaging Surveys courtesy of Sustainable Cottenham (see p11)

FEBRUARY

9th Cottenham Village Society *The Pye Story* with Roger Crabtree All Saints Church Hall 7.45pm (see p19)

9th Cambridgeshire Bird Club *Bird conservation and birding in Bangladesh* by Rob Sheldon at St John's Church Hall, Hills Road, Cambridge 8pm

9th Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

10th Films for our Future Festival – *Demain* 7.30pm St. Andrews Centre Histon (see p11)

13th Fen Edge Archaeology Group *Roman glass: abundant, bright and beautiful* by Denise Allen Willingham Baptist Church 7.30pm

14th Cottenham WI – *The life of a race horse* by Geoffrey Evans CVC 7.30pm

17th ETON RIVALS live music Willingham Social Club (see p60)

19th Family History drop in session – Cottenham Library 7-9pm

21st Coffee and Chat in the Library - Cottenham Library 10.30-12.30 (see p17)

21st Landbeach Society *The work of a County Councillor* with Anna Bradnam Landbeach Village Hall 7.30pm

FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

What's on and when in the villages

23rd Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

23rd Custard Comedy Night at Willingham Social Club (see p60)

23rd Cottenham Gardeners' Club AGM at Franklin Gardens Community Room 7.30pm (see p25)

MARCH

9th Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

9th Cottenham Village Society *The Corpus Christi* Clock with Stewart Huxley All Saints Church Hall 7.45pm (see p19)

9th Cambridgeshire Bird Club *Birds in the ancient world* by Jeremy Mynott at St John's Church Hall, Hills Road, Cambridge 8pm

14th Cottenham WI AGM and social evening – CVC 7pm

15th Fen Edge Archaeology Group *A bone to pick: (zoo)archaeology of the Cambridge region* by Vida Rajkova CVC 7.30pm

17th Grand Jumble Sale Rampton Village Hall 10am – 12noon (see p47)

19th Family History drop in session – Cottenham Library 7-9pm

21st Coffee and Chat in the Library - Cottenham Library 10.30-12.30 (see p17)

21st Landbeach Society *Being a Blue Badge Guide in Cambridge* with Steve Robertson Landbeach Village Hall 7.30pm

23rd Cottenham Toy Library Pre-School Soft Play Session at Cottenham Community Centre, 11.15am - 12.30pm (see p19)

23rd Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Speaker tbc-Franklin Gardens Community Room 7.30pm (see p25)

24th JESSIES GHOST live music Willingham Social Club (see p60)

APRIL

10th Fen Edge Archaeology Group *Before the flood: the late upper Palaeolithic and Mesolithic of the Fenland* by Lawrence Billington CVC 7.30pm

11th Cottenham WI *You cannot be serious* by Alan Grey – A Wimbledon Umpire CVC 7.30pm

13th Cottenham Village Society *The Trains of Oakington and Cottenham* with Roy Stoner All Saints Church Hall 7.45pm (see p19)

13th Cambridgeshire Bird Club *How our individual decisions collectively affect urban birds* by Mark Fellowes at Cottenham Village College 8pm

16th Family History drop in session – Cottenham Library 7-9pm

18th Coffee and Chat in the Library - Cottenham Library 10.30-12.30 (see p17)

18th Landbeach Society *Worts Meadow and Local Nature Reserves*. A joint meeting with the Friends of Worts Meadow. Speaker: Phil Clark. Community Green Spaces Manager. Cambridgeshire County Council. Landbeach Village Hall 7.30pm

27th Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Speaker tbc-Franklin Gardens Community Room 7.30pm (see p25)

29th Rampton Relay - Giant's Hill Meadow Rampton (see p47)

Due to space limitations, it has not been possible to include the Village Directories in this issue but you will find contact details for the Clubs, Groups and Societies on our website www.fenedge.co.uk

Fen Edge News – Editor required

The Fen Edge News is published three times a year and contains information, news and reports from the clubs, groups and societies that are members of the Fen Edge Community Association in the villages of Cottenham, Landbeach, Rampton, Waterbeach and Willingham.

It is a highly rewarding voluntary role and would provide an opportunity for a community minded individual interested in ensuring that everyone in the villages is aware of the activities and events that are happening locally.

The existing editors are more than happy to help and support you through an edition.

If you are interested please contact Neil Gough, Chair Fen Edge Community Association on 07919 990299 or email chair@fenedge.co.uk

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- We build children's confidence in themselves alongside academic achievement
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- We foster a culture of care and respect for ourselves and each other



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

A FANTASTIC YEAR FOR CTW!

Cottenham Theatre Workshop celebrated its 40th Anniversary in 2017.

We started the year with our hilarious rendition of *The Vicar of Dibley*, which was well received by packed audiences. Directed by the incredibly talented Gloria Milne, the show received many outstanding reviews such as this from Julie Petrucci,

"An excellent cast expertly directed by Gloria Milne made a wonderful job of bringing the well-known Dibley characters to life", which resulted in "an excellent evening, full of talent, laughter and bonhomie".

We followed this showstopper with our performance of well-known songs at the Fen Edge Festival in June. Compiled by our wonderful musical director, Barbara Duckworth, we performed songs from shows (old and new) to a great crowd in the Main Marquee.

At the time of writing, rehearsals are well underway for our panto, which this year is *Aladdin* (with a twist!)

Directed by our long-standing cast member Kerry O'Connell, this promises to be a show packed with surprises and humour and is also his directing debut! What a fitting way to conclude such a memorable and successful 40th anniversary year.

That's not all! Following on from the pantomime, read-throughs and auditions will take place in January for our 2018 Spring Play. If you are interested in being involved keep an eye on our website www.cottenhamtheatre.com or email cottenhamtheatre@gmail.com for more information. We're not only keen to hear from budding thespians who want to tread the boards, but we also need help backstage and with front of house duties. CTW doesn't run without our dedicated band of volunteers, both on stage and off.

For all the latest updates, be sure to keep an eye on the website and on our Facebook and Twitter pages. Thanks to everyone for contributing to a great 40th anniversary year! See you in 2018.

SUSTAINABLE COTTENHAM

Sustainable Cottenham is a volunteer group working with South Cambridgeshire District Council's Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership to reduce energy consumption and waste. If you are interested in joining us contact Christine Ward on 01954 251813 or chris.ward@increment.co.uk

VILLAGE LITTER PICK

Our winter litter pick will take place on Saturday 13 January 2018, assembling at the Village Hall (at

the Recreation Ground on Lambs Lane) at 2pm.

Refreshments will be served from 4pm.

NB for all our litter pick events, children may take part provided they are under the close supervision of a responsible adult. Equipment will be provided but wear suitable clothing for the weather – we will still go ahead even if it rains (but not if snow lying). It's a great help to know in advance how many people might be taking part, so please let me know, preferably by emailing Peter Pilbeam on pgp1@hermes.cam.ac.uk or phoning the Parish Clerk on 07503 328401.

FREE THERMAL IMAGING SURVEYS JANUARY 2018

Sustainable Cottenham offers free thermal imaging surveys, run by volunteers, to help you see how well your home is insulated (or isn't). By using a special camera, areas of poor insulation, draughts etc (where heat is leaking out of a property) are identified. Surveys are best done on cold winter nights and once you see where the heat losses are you might want to find out how to improve matters. The camera has been booked for the weekend of 26 – 28 January 2018 so if you live in Cottenham and are interested in having a survey, which lasts about half an hour, please contact Justin Hiscock on: justin_hiscock@hotmail.co.uk or text him on 07808 645970.

FILMS FOR OUR FUTURE FESTIVAL

Films for Our Future is a new festival of documentary films looking at more sustainable ways of living.

Coordinated by Transition Cambridge, the festival spans two weeks in February when different films will be screened at a range of venues in Cambridge and surrounding villages, many with discussions, talks etc.

Sustainable Cottenham has linked up with our neighbours in Histon & Impington to support their showing of an inspiring and thought-provoking film *Demain* ('Tomorrow'). A French film with English sub-titles, *Demain* takes us around the world - from Iceland to India, Denmark to Detroit - to discover innovative and radical approaches, both grass-roots and government-led, confronting some of the big environmental, social and economic challenges of our time. *Demain* gives us a message of hope - and a host of hard questions too!

Demain will be shown on Saturday 10th February at 7.30 at St Andrews Centre, Histon. For more information, or if you'd like a lift to get to Histon, contact Jane Heath (SusCott Group member) 01954 250106.

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM CARECAR

Since our last article, the team at **Carecar** has continued to keep up the good work of helping other villagers in Cottenham and Oakington, who have difficulty in using public transport, to get to medical appointments and to make other essential journeys. The problem of recruiting new volunteer drivers persists, despite the fact that we successfully recruited two new lady drivers, one for Cottenham and the other who became Oakington's first ever driver. We wish them both the best of luck! However, we also lost two drivers. So, for the benefit of anyone who may have ever considered volunteering, and who has a car please note- Drivers are never committed to any particular time or day and can choose, on a weekly basis, which jobs they would like to do. ALL expenses are fully reimbursed and training and support is available.

We have been fortunate to be able to recruit a new Deputy Coordinator, Wendy, who will, no doubt be able to relieve Gerry of some of the increasing burden! Lastly, we are very short of volunteer escorts who

accompany people with the longer appointments for treatment etc. and who have no one else to help them. In all cases, please call 01954 251929 to get more information from Gerry or Wendy.

Gerry Brett - Coordinator

Cottenham Carecar is a Social Car Scheme run in association with Cambridgeshire County Council

COTTENHAM DAY CENTRE

Every Tuesday our members enjoy a hot, home cooked meal, prepared and cooked by our happy band of volunteers and enjoy arranging their own social activities.

Cottenham Day Centre is very grateful to have received large donations from the Cambridge Gun Club Fundraising Day and the Cottenham Coop Community Fund. These donations have been put towards our minibus appeal. We have been actively looking for a minibus to suit our needs at a price we can afford. We have heard of one which might suit and are keeping our fingers crossed.

In August this year we moved from the Village Hall to

Continued on page 15

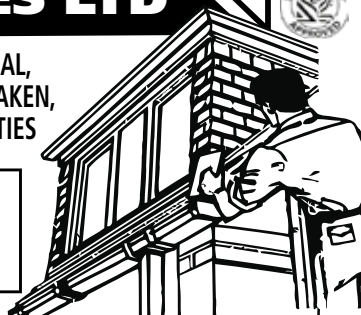
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FECA IN COTTENHAM

the Community Room at Coolidge Gardens. I think it fair to say that it has been a huge learning curve as we have changed our working practices several times since the move. Trying to find a suitable way to set out our tables and chairs, and getting our heads around the new cooker has been difficult but we are settled now. We have had six new members since the move and three more people will be joining us soon, so after a year of upheaval we are now feeling more settled and are looking forward to the future.

Maire Collins - Chair: Cottenham Day Centre YOUR LOCAL RUGBY TEAM NEEDS YOU

Did you know that Cottenham has a very successful Rugby Club? Founded more than 10 years ago, **Cottenham Renegades** have carved out a respected place for themselves in the Eastern Counties. The club began as a rugby-for-pleasure club arranging only friendly fixtures. More recently it has joined structured leagues and competes with clubs from all over Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex. Renegades train on Cottenham Rec every Wednesday evening (7pm start) and play home games at Cottenham Village College. Home games are followed by socialising at the Cottenham Club which feeds and refreshes both teams and supporters.

In recent years, the club has benefited from an influx of good young players and as a result, Renegades came top of their league (Eastern Counties Division Two West) in March 2017. They now compete in Eastern Counties Division One West where they meet teams like Bury St Edmunds 3s, Saffron Walden 2s, Cambridge 3s, Haverhill, Thurston, Cantabrigians 2s, Thurston and Shelford 3s. The Renegades are always on the lookout for new players. If you would like to get involved, please visit our website (renegadesrugby.net) or call/text 07966 404813 or come along to our training sessions on Wednesday evenings. You are guaranteed a friendly welcome and you will enjoy yourself.

ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE SHOP COTTENHAM – 6 MONTHS IN!

We are delighted to have spent the last six months trading in the lovely village of Cottenham! You have made us feel so welcome by donating such quality items as well as buying lots from us. Your support in working in the shop has been incredible and it's so lovely to hear all your stories about why you want to volunteer and how you are enjoying it so much.

We still have some gaps across the week so if you fancy trying out your skills of display, sorting or great customer service please call the shop on 01954 716233 or email vipra.jain@arhc.org.uk

We look forward to meeting you and appreciate your continued support in helping us raise much needed funds, for the only adult Hospice in Cambridgeshire.

COTTENHAM BOWLS CLUB

The 2017 outdoor season is over and for **Cottenham Bowls Club** it has been a successful season considering that both C and D teams were promoted to a higher league at the start of the season.

The results are as follows:

- Ely and District Division 1 - Cottenham A Winners.
- Ely and District Division 2 - Cottenham B 10th out of 13.
- Ely and District Turner Cup - Cottenham B Runners up.
- County Triples - 5th out of 11.
- C and D Division 1 - 7th out of 9.
- C and D Division 2 - 9th out of 11.
- Business House Mixed - 4th out of 11.
- Business House Men's - 7th out of 18.

The indoor short mat season is now in full swing. If you are interested in playing short mat you can contact Eric Hobbs on 01954 251956. There is a membership fee of £15, no rink fee and just 50p for tea and biscuits. It is a great way to spend the winter months.

We are pleased to announce that the Fen Edge Community Association have awarded us a grant of £500 to help us fit 3 electric radiators which will make the indoor season even better. Thank you FECA for your continued generosity and support.

We also held a number of social events in the season:

- A very successful open triples competition which involved 60 competitors.
- 2 BBQs.
- A fish'n'chip and race night.
- A quiz night.

Cottenham Bowls Club is a very friendly club with members from Cottenham and surrounding villages so come and give us a try. Everyone is welcome.:

Dave Parrack 01954 230732

Eric Hobbs 01954 251956

Christine Forster 01954 200720

www.hugofox.com/community/cottenham-bowls-club-8286

IT'S NOT ALL CAKES IN COTTENHAM WI

You don't have to make cakes to be part of the many groups that make up **Cottenham WI**. Apart from our monthly meetings, held at the Village College, where we have speakers, craft evenings and socials we also have

Continued on page 17



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

a walking group, craft group, bridge group, poetry group and we hold coffee mornings and afternoon teas. We are a very friendly group and will assure you of a warm welcome, so please come along. For more information about our meetings (see p7 & 8) contact Margaret on 01954 250870 or Jill on 01954 250605.

PRIMARY SCHOOL PTCA

We have now set up a 'MyDonate' page to make donating to the PTCA easy. Why not choose us as your Christmas charity this year.

Lots more events for the new year are in the planning stage like our family favourite spring market and afternoon tea.

Full details of all our events and 'MyDonate' page are on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/CPSPTCA. Thank you so much for all your support and have a wonderful Christmas and new year.

COFFEE & CHAT IN THE LIBRARY

We invite those of you over 50 to our new coffee and chat sessions starting in January. They will run on the third Wednesday in the month at Cottenham Library in Margett Street from 10.30am to 12.30pm. Come and chat over a cup of coffee (or tea) or you can read the local paper, Cambridge News, or try a jigsaw or undertake all three if you wish! There will be a charge of 50p per cup.

Would you like to come and make the drinks? Help is needed. Please contact the library for more information. Telephone and ask for Cottenham Library 0345 045 5225

WELCOME REVD LYNDA DAVIES!

The evening of October 16th saw the licensing service for Revd Lynda Davies, the new rector of **All Saints' Cottenham** and **All Saints' Rampton**. It was a lovely and memorable occasion with a full church and some rousing hymns. The organist said delightedly, "That was the best congregational singing I've ever played for: I got to pull out all the stops." The Rt Rev David Thomson, Bishop of Huntingdon, led the service with his characteristic blend of grace and gentle good humour, and Iain Campbell from her former parish commended her to us warmly. Members of the community welcomed Lynda, asked her to make sure the church tower doesn't fall down like it did 400 years ago, and invited her to do crafts with the Brownies. The service was followed by a fantastic spread of refreshments from the All Saints' Cottenham team. We are all very much looking forward to Lynda's ministry with us.

Lynda is joined in Cottenham by her husband Martyn,



and their two cats. They join us from the neighbouring FiveFolds benefice which includes the villages of Willingham, Longstanton, Over, Swavesey and Lolworth. Lynda has led everything from Messy Church to Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion and loves the variety that parish ministry brings. Martyn currently works part-time at Peterborough District Land Registry, and he and Lynda have two children and very recently became grandparents! They are both looking forward to getting to know Cottenham and Rampton.

Lynda joins us in a season of building work. The much-needed roof repair project continues now that bat nesting season is over, and our beautiful new altar rail will be in place in time for Christmas.

In the new year, the work on the refurbishment process begins in earnest. The church building will not be usable during this time, so our regular services will be held in the hall. We hope the church building itself will be open again for Easter, at which point we will hold an open event to celebrate the completion of the works.

In amongst all this, the regular life of the church in the community goes on. Our fundraising work has continued with the Come and Sing and regular quiz. We also filled many hundreds of shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child! There are also weekly Sunday services at 8:30am and 10:30 am, of course, but also a fortnightly after-school service on Tuesdays for families with primary age children, baptisms, small house groups that meet in the week for study, funerals, services in care homes, weddings, fellowship teas in Franklin Gardens, personal visits from Lynda and the lay ministers and more.

We are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Jesus this Christmas with the Christingle service, Nativity service, Christmas Eve carols, Midnight Communion and more - see the list of upcoming services on page 27.

SUMMIT



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM VILLAGE SOCIETY

The **Village Society** welcomes people who are interested in local history in particular. Our series of lectures continues on the second Friday of the month at All Saints Church Hall, Cottenham at 7.45pm. Everyone is welcome to our meetings, there is a charge of £2 if you are not a member. Dates and topics for our meetings are shown on pages 7 & 8.

Secretary: cottvillsoc@gmail.com

www.cottenhamvillagesociety.ukfamilies.com

VILLAGE SOFT-PLAY HAS A NEW HOME!

We're very excited about the new venue for **Cottenham Toy Library's** soft play sessions!

Our Friday morning sessions are now at Cottenham Community Centre! We also have a new time of 11.15am to 12.30pm.

The hall at the Centre is bright and spacious, and has more room for all our fantastic equipment. Plus, while your under 5's are exploring and enjoying themselves, you are welcome to bring in a tea or coffee from the cafe next door... perhaps head there for lunch after your kids have let off steam and had a good play!!

We run two sessions every month for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers. Sessions are £2 per child, £1 per child under 1 year (babies in arms with siblings are free) or £3 per family. There is a £5 annual membership fee for the academic year.

Whether you're a regular at our sessions, or you just pop in occasionally - please, please, pretty please (with a cherry on top) could you spare just 10 minutes to help with either 'setting up' at 11am, or 'packing away' at 12.30pm. We just need help moving the equipment, perhaps your children will like to help too!! Please let us know, either via our Facebook page or by using our volunteer 'sign-up sheet' at the sessions.

Dates of our autumn/winter sessions are shown on

pages 7 & 8, but it's best to check our Facebook page for any updates.

Did you know - we also have a great selection of toys that can be hired for parties and events - including ride-ons, walkers, scooters, see-saws, slides and two small bouncy castles! To book, get in touch via Facebook or our new-look website www.cottenhamtoylibrary.co.uk

COTTENHAM CRICKET CLUB

We are now very much turning our thoughts towards the 2018 season. Last summer was a rather disappointing one for us on the pitch and we are keenly looking to strengthen our young and up-coming squad in order to make a really determined push for promotion this summer. The facilities for cricket at the Rec. are now the best they've ever been with a superb pavilion, an enlarged 'square' - recently doubled in size - which played excellently last season, mobile covers and, for next year, renovated sight screens, the latter thanks to a generous FECA grant for which we are very grateful. Next season, we will be running our usual two adult sides in the CCA Leagues as well as junior teams, for which both boys and girls can play, at u-11, u-12 and u-14 levels. We are also planning to continue the ECB All Stars cricket programme for 5-8 year olds which we ran for the first time so successfully last summer. Pre-season adult nets at Fenners Indoor School will commence February 1st with junior training starting at the Village College early in March. Please keep an eye on the club website - www.cottenham.play-cricket.com - for details.

We're definitely on the lookout for new players for all our teams so do please get in touch if you're interested in playing for us, or know someone who might be. Contact either Club Secretary, David Chaplin (01954 250075) or, for the junior teams, Alan Raven (01954 250388) or email the Club at cottenhamcc@yahoo.co.uk

Dave Partridge - Vice Chair



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COTTENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE DAY BY DAY

MONDAY

Mucky Pups 10-11am hello@muckypupscambridge.co.uk ; **Adult Ballet** (term time in studio) 10-11am for beginners (if sufficient demand) and 11-12am (Times may change) reserve a place community@cvcweb.net; **NEW Beginners Pilates** 12.15-1.15pm miranda@mi-time.eu; **Children's Dance** 4-6pm (NEW on 8 Jan taster, for drama only, for 8-13 year olds at 5-5.45pm) info@4d-dance.co.uk ; **Zumba** 7-8pm Contact Jo Kinser jo@jjkdancin.com; **NEW BarreConcept** 6.30-7.30pm and 7.30-8.30pm (studio) from February 2018 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 Explore** (mixed ability) 10.15-11.15am and 11.30am-12.30pm (studio) All Pilates classes are pay as you go, Miranda de Vries miranda@mi-time.eu; **Fitsteps for Adults** 8.15-9.15pm julia@jcfit.co.uk

WEDNESDAY

Little Humbugs (singing and music for babies and toddlers) 10.30-11.30am, £2.50 littlehumbugs@gmail.com; **Whirl and Twirl** 7-10pm suzanne.baldry@hotmail.co.uk; **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 11am-12pm (Times may change) reserve a place community@cvcweb.net ; **NEW**

Tatty Bumpkin Yoga (for age 1-4) 11.15am-12.15pm (block book or drop in) cambridge@tattybumpkin.com; **Craft Community Group** (not 2nd Thursday of month) 1-2.30pm cottenhamcraft@gmail.com and www.facebook.com/cottenhamcraft; **Cambs Hearing Help** 2-4pm every second Thursday of month www.cambridgeshirehearinghelp.org.uk; **Zumba** 6-7pm Contact Jo Kinser jo@jjkdancin.com; **NEW Pilates Stand to Strength** (studio) 6.15-7pm; **Pilates Explore** (mixed ability) 7-8pm (studio) All Pilates/Stretchercise queries to mitimewellbeing@gmail.com; **NEW Pregnancy Yoga** 7.30-9pm www.lisasyoga.co.uk

FRIDAY

Yoga (studio) short terms only 10-11.30am wiltrud.jackson@yahoo.co.uk **Pilates Explore** (mixed ability) 9.45-10.45am; **FlexAware** (studio) 11.35am-12.35pm All Pilates/Stretchercise/Yin Yoga queries to miranda@mi-time.eu; **NEW** alternate Fridays term time **Toy Library** 11.15am-12.30pm http://cottenhamtoylibrary.co.uk

SATURDAY

NEW time 4th **dimension Dance** classes 10-11 am and **NEW** class on 13 Jan a taster for drama and music for 4-6 year olds at 11.45am-12.30pm info@4d-dance.co.uk

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY

For **Colour Awareness workshops, Defibrillator and First Aid training**, bookings miranda@mi-time.eu; **Dads Play** 10.30-11.30am (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 www.revcofee.net or 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? CCC have space available a lot of the time and while we charge for using these facilities, we encourage community activities. Find out more - Mike Smith on smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com or 01954 251915 **Room Hire** Three rooms (main hall, studio, coffee shop) for new activities or parties. Full food catering and/or a bar can be provided. The hall is also great to use for training or meetings. Full entertainment licence etc held. See www.cottenhamcc.org or email smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

COFFEE SHOP

Come in and enjoy a fantastic scone, cake or lunch. The coffee shop has celebrated a very successful first 5 years.

Opening times: 10am-4.30pm Monday; 10am-2pm Tuesday to Saturday. The coffee shop will close for food and drinks for **the Christmas break at 2pm on Friday 22 December and Re-open on Wednesday 3 January.**

Volunteers wanted. Become part of the team at the coffee shop, weekly or less regular volunteers welcomed. For more information contact manager@cottenhamcc.org or phone 01954 202109. Become a member of CCC and help ensure that this popular community centre continues to be a major focus of Fen Edge life or consider becoming a trustee. www.cottenhamcc.org Charity Number 1128604



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A PLANT SURVIVAL GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS

Since decorating homes with plants and foliage goes way back into the depths of time, I thought it might be an idea to look at the whole thing from the plant's perspective. Helping things to survive indoors means that you have to have an idea of what the plant would usually like. If it comes from cool, dry conditions, standing it in a dark corner in a plant saucer full of water may be a bad idea. On the other hand, if plants like humid, dappled light, a bright windowsill over a nice warm radiator is an equally bad idea. I know. I've done both.

Generally, the rules are the same for all indoor plants. The trick is to keep plants where they can enjoy their own micro climate, surrounded by moist air that won't dry them out, with enough light to make them feel happy.

Whatever the geographic origin of the plant, it will be aware of the low light levels at this time of year. It will be growing very slowly, or not growing at all, in which case it will require just enough moisture to not dry out. Have a small sprayer handy to mist the leaves, using water at room temperature. (How do you like a cold shower?) The trick is put the plant into a sympathetic position (remember the radiator) and try, if you can, to mimic the natural conditions that a plant would have.

Having mentioned safety, it may be worth highlighting one or two things.

It is worth assuming that all plants are, to a certain extent, toxic unless you know otherwise. Ivy is an irritant. Ask anybody who has had to prune the stuff. Berries can be toxic, and likely to drop from plants to where little fingers may pick them up. Use your common sense and judgement, and all should be well. Remember, these plants have all been approved for sale, and the risks, though present, are low.

So, what will we find being bought at this time of year? We'll look at just a few...

Christmas Trees. Choose your tree well. I'll assume that you know about shape, type and size. When you get it home, it will be thirsty. If it has a sawn base, stand it somewhere in a bucket of water until you're ready to put it up. Make sure that you have either a bucket of soil or sand that will take water, or get a tree stand that has a reservoir. It's amazing how much water a tree will use. Check it daily, and top up if it needs it. If you've got electricians around the tree, it would be wise to pull out the plug and move

the important bits out of the way. Water is a great conductor of electricity. If it is a rooted tree, keep the roots damp; heel it into a spot in your garden until you're ready for it. Stand it in a bucket, and the above watering rules apply.

Cut greenery such as holly and ivy is nice to decorate with, and will last a fair while without much attention, provided that it's not too near a heat source. Foliage can add a great deal of ambience to a room, particularly in the form of garlands, where it can be combined with dried fruit, seed pods and whatever else you fancy. However, be cautious about mixing any sort of decoration around other fire sources such as candles. If you want cut flowers, either use oasis (foam available from florists) to keep them hydrated, or keep the vase topped up. Cheap lemonade makes a good plant food. Yes, really. I haven't tried cola. Yet.

Poinsettias tend to put in an appearance about now. In my early days, they were big bushy things that came home, dropped their leaves and raced each other to see who could be deadest by Christmas. Nowadays, they come in varying sizes, with bracts of varying colours, and still race each other to see who can be deadest by Christmas. Give them a moderate temperature, around low sixties to mid seventies centigrade, plenty of light but no cold draughts and they'll be happy. Mist their leaves now and then with tepid water and the leaves should stay where the plant intended. You can make them stay alive, there's no mystique, and they make nice tender perennial shrubs in the garden in summer. You almost certainly won't get red bracts next year, so buy a new plant next year. Being basically a euphorbia, the sap is irritant, so dispose of any broken bits and dropped leaves.

The **Winter Cherry** is covered in red berries, we'd like it to stay that way, wouldn't we? Don't be put off having this little plant around. It enjoys the same conditions as its friend the poinsettia, and the two together make a nice arrangement. Keep it just damp, and don't feed it. Another survivor, it will tolerate being planted in the garden. Pick up any dropped berries as they are mildly poisonous.

Orchids Once considered a challenge to grow, they've been bred to be able to survive the great British public, i.e. you and me. They will live quite happily with central heating, asking only to be kept moist with tepid rainwater, and left in a nice bright place, out of direct sunlight. Enjoy having a plant that

Continued on P25

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A PLANT SURVIVAL GUIDE TO CHRISTMAS continued

will bloom for ages, and will do it again if you look after it. In common with all plants living indoors, they hate draughts.

Bulbs are popular at this time of the year; they hold the promise of spring. If you're potting them up, use bulb fibre. Try paperwhite narcissi as well as hyacinths. They can bloom by Christmas. Keep bulbs in a cool, light place and moist, not wet. When they're done, put them in the garden if you wish. They may not do much the following year, but they will recover.

Now, something else for you to do. Join a gardening club. Why? Because information about the above, and all sorts of other things, is always freely available from the other members of the group. I know that there are online chatrooms and forums, but you can't beat the pleasure of being with a group of other people who will be more than happy to share their knowledge with you. Now is the time to join. Make it a new year's resolution. I belong to Cottenham Gardeners' club, and I hope that maybe I'll see you there. Happy Christmas!

Ken Ellis - Cottenham Gardeners' Club

COTTENHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

The club usually meets on the last Friday of the month, at Franklin Gardens Community Room. Refreshments are served from 7.30pm, followed by a talk at 7.45. The evening closes with a raffle, for which prizes are gratefully received.

There is no meeting in December, but in January, on Friday 19th, we have our popular New Year Party, with a quiz loosely related to gardening, and supper provided jointly by the committee and members. Guests are very welcome at a cost of £4 for this particular meeting. On February 23rd at the AGM, the new 2018/19 programme will be unveiled and members can renew their subscriptions. In addition to the monthly meetings, membership includes a lunch party and evening drinks party in the summer, and usually at least one garden visit. The cost is likely to remain at £14 for the year. Guests at regular meetings pay £2.

For any further information please contact Sarah Dumont on 01954 260482

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CHRISTMAS SERVICES IN COTTENHAM

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

Sunday 17th December

8:30 am: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30 am: Parish Communion (with Sunday School and Samuel Group)

4:00 pm: Christingle Service in aid of the Children's Society

Wednesday 20th December

3:00 pm: Nativity service. Children under 6 are invited to come dressed as a character from the Christmas story for this short family service.

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

8:30 am: Holy Communion (Common Worship)

5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Carol Service. Come early to this traditional carol service as the church is always packed.

11.30 pm: Midnight Communion to welcome in Christmas Day

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

8:30 am: Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)

10:30 am: Family Communion – a child friendly service. Bring along a favourite Christmas present.

For more information find us on Facebook, look at our website www.allsaintscottenham.org.uk or contact Revd Lynda Davies on rector@allsaintscottenham.org.uk

COTTENHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday 17th December

10.30 am: Christmas Communion & Carol Service (with groups for children and young people)

Thursday 21st December

8-10 pm: Quiet Space. The Church will be open for those who wish to have space to reflect, remember those not here this Christmas, and pray.

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve

10.30 am: Pop Up Nativity Service. Come along and join us as we create the nativity from scratch, dress as a character if you would like and join in the fun on Christmas Eve

Monday 25th December Christmas Day

10.30 am: Family Service

For more information see www.cottenhambaptist.org.uk, find us on Facebook, or contact Kate Lees on 01954 252378, minster@cottenhambaptist.org.uk

REVCOFFEE

The 'revcoffee' community events at the Community Centre Coffee Shop will be:

Sunday 3rd December

2 pm: Christmas Cinema - Home Alone

7:30 pm: Christmas Cinema - Baby Driver

Sunday 10th December

7:30-9:30 pm: Arts Night Xmas Special with Music, Poetry, Art, Mulled wine and more.

Sunday 17th December

10:30 am-12:00 noon: The Roost's Legendary Shadow Puppet Nativity Xmas Brunch! An amazing opportunity for families and people of all shapes and sizes to get involved in arts, crafts and our epic retelling of the Nativity Story. Plus a fantastic brunch. **BOOKING ESSENTIAL AS WE ARE ALWAYS FULL.**

For more info or to book for any of the above, contact Rev Simon Oliver on

simon.oliver@cantab.net, www.revcoffee.net

Facebook: [revcoffeecottenham](https://www.facebook.com/revcoffeecottenham)

Twitter: [@revcoffeeccc](https://twitter.com/revcoffeeccc)

THE SALVATION ARMY

Throughout December we will be holding Advent Worship Services every Sunday at 10.30am. - Please come and share with us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

Sunday, 17th December - 10.30 am - Carol Service (Come dressed as characters from the Nativity (Optional))

Sunday 24th December Christmas Eve -

5.00 pm - Christingle Service & Favourite Carols



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ADULT LEARNING & LEISURE

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ADULT LEARNING OFFICE

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01954 288944

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COTTENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

WATERBEACH PRIMARY SCHOOL

WILLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

01954 206227

01223 718988

01954 283030

Village College Principal

Centre School Principal

Helen Cassady

Sue Raven

Adult & Family Learning Manager

Janet Drinkwater

Adult Learning Administration

COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

Tracy Thistlethwaite

Jenny Baines

ENROL NOW FOR SPRING 2018 COURSES

Tel: 01954 288751 Email: community@cvcweb.net

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

Facebook Page: Adult Learning at Cottenham Village College

Booking Form – See Page 36

Half-term: Monday 12th – Friday 16th February

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



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



Cambridgeshire
County Council



MONDAY

Acoustic Guitar for Beginners – 8 weeks 7.00-8.30pm Fee: £60/£45 starts 15th January

An introduction to provide you with basic theory and technical knowledge to continue playing independently after the course. So bring your guitar along to start playing! Ideal for complete beginners.

Adult Ballet Improvers (Cott Comm Centre) - 9 weeks 11am-12.00noon Fee: £60/£45 starts 8th January

A good basic knowledge of Ballet is required, students will learn complex steps to a wide variety of music styles.

Ballroom Dancing for Beginners – 8 weeks 6.15-7.15pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 15th January

For total beginners who want to explore ballroom dancing with a very experienced tutor who will guide you through a series of steps and dances.

Ballroom Dancing for Intermediates - 8 weeks 6.45-7.45pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 15th January

For those with a little experience who want to explore ballroom dancing further with a very experienced tutor - a mixed ability class for the first half hour.

Creative with Clay – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £120/£90 includes clay & firing starts 8th January

Explore, create and express your ideas in the versatile medium of clay. Practise techniques including hand building, throwing, decoration and glaze effects using a variety of stoneware clays, slips and glazes. *Course currently full contact us for waiting list.*

Dichroic Glass Jewellery – 5 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee £50/£38 starts 26th February

Create some unique & stunning jewellery. You will be taught how to develop your designs, cut glass & assemble your pieces using tools safely. Materials extra £20-£25 payable to tutor.

Dressmaking – 10 weeks 12.30-2.30pm Fee: £100/£75 starts 8th 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 8th January

Gently stretch and tone in a friendly class, all movements

to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. You really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

Get to Know your Laptop – 4 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee £40/£30 starts 5th March

Bring along your laptop and be guided through the basics and gain confidence in using your laptop and the Internet.

Italian for Beginners Term 2 of 3 – 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £75/£56 starts 8th January

For those wishing to improve their Italian, some basic knowledge required. A lively class to learn this beautiful language – bellissimo!

Pilates for Everyone - PLOUGHMAN'S HALL, WILLINGHAM – 9 weeks Fee: £50/£38

11.30am-12.30pm starts 8th January

Use controlled mat-based exercises to condition the whole body, improve your posture, reduce stress, and help with 'bad backs'. All abilities welcome.

Pilates for Everyone (Cottenham VC) – 9 weeks Fee: £50/£38 7.00-8.00pm starts 8th January

Use controlled mat-based exercises to condition the whole body, improve your posture, reduce stress, and help with 'bad backs'. All abilities welcome.

Sewing with Stretchy Fabric – 4 weeks

7.00-9.00pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 26th February

Learn how to make clothes successfully using stretch/ knitted fabric using your sewing machine or overlocker. Materials extra.

Swing Dances: Jive, Lindyhop & Charleston for Beginners - 8 weeks 7.45-8.45pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 15th January

Learn a range of swing dances, from Charleston to Jive and put together simple routines in each of the dances. You will become familiar with a range of swing styles and music genres. Partners welcome.

Swing Dances: Jive, Lindyhop & Charleston Intermediate Level - 8 weeks 8.15-9.15pm Fee: £40/£30 starts 15th January

For those with some experience – a variety of swing dances, from Charleston to Jive. Learn routines in each of the dances. Partners welcome – a mixed ability class for the first half hour.

Watercolour Painting for Improvers - 10 weeks 10.00am-12noon Fee: £100/£75 starts 8th January
Develop your traditional landscape painting with lots of new colour mixes, tips and 'tricks of the trade'. Materials extra. Course currently full contact us for waiting list.

Yoga for Beginners - 9 weeks 6.30-8.00pm Fee: £68/£51 starts 15th January

Suitable for all ages and abilities including those who want to go back to basics. Increase your flexibility and work with your breath to relax. *Not suitable for ladies in the first three months of pregnancy.*

WEA Willingham Baptist Church Hall, George Street, Willingham

Course: Post-War World 1945-c1973: Shaping of the modern world – Cold War, Middle Eastern conflict and Imperial Dissolution
9 week course starts Monday 15th January 2018
Fee: £48 for 9 weeks
Contact: Rosemary Mumford, Secretary 01954 260934

TUESDAY

Fitness for Mature Movers SALVATION ARMY HALL, WILLINGHAM - 5 weeks

11.30am-12.30pm Fee: £20 starts 9th January

Gently stretch and tone in a friendly class, all movements to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. You really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

Revive Your Latin – 8 weeks 7.00-8.30pm

Fee: £60/£45 starts 16th January

For those who have some basic knowledge and want to refresh basic grammar and vocabulary. Develop your knowledge of the language, culture and history of Ancient Rome.

Revive Your French Term 2 of 3 – 10 weeks

7.00-9.00pm Fee: £100/£75 starts 9th January

Already have some basic knowledge/experience of French? Acquire a greater knowledge of vocabulary and grammar to gain confidence to develop your speaking, listening, reading and writing skills further.

RYA Coastal Skipper – 13 weeks 7.30-9.30pm + 3 Saturdays (27 Jan, 24 Feb, 24 Mar) Fee: £330 starts 9th January

The aims of the course are to equip students with the theoretical knowledge to put to practice on a seaborne course leading to either the Coastal Skipper or the more advanced Yachtmaster Offshore Certificate. The course is suitable for students who have successfully completed Day Skipper shore based and practical courses.

Silver Jewellery for Improvers – 9 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £90/£68 starts 16th January

A hands on course is ideal for those who have some experience in designing and making silver Jewellery (at least 10 week class). The aim is to enable you to build on your basic skills and techniques to produce more complex pieces of silver jewellery. Plenty of opportunity to develop.

T'ai Chi for Beginners - 10 weeks 6.00-7.00pm

Fee: £50/£38 starts 9th January

T'ai Chi Chuan is a meditative form of exercise involving flowing sequences of movement. Can help to develop calmness and relaxation. This course is for those with little or no experience.

T'ai Chi for Beginners plus - 10 weeks 7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 9th January

For those with a good basic knowledge.

T'ai Chi for Improvers – 10 weeks 8.00-9.15pm

Fee: £63/£47 starts 9th January

For those with at least one year's experience.

Yoga for Improvers - 9 weeks 7.00-8.30pm Fee: £68/£51 starts 16th January

For those with at least one year's experience. Increase your flexibility, improve your asana practice and develop your understanding 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: The Self Portrait

Tutor: Fiona Lucraft

Fee: £54 - 10 sessions

Native Peoples of the Americas. A distinct chapter of World history from the Ice Age to today, from Greenland to Patagonia, including the Aztec, Maya, Inca, Cherokee, Sioux, and the forest peoples of Brazil.

Start: Tuesday 9th January 2018

Time: 10.00am – 11.30am

Contact: Liz Milway on 01954 250039

WEDNESDAY

Adult Tap Dancing Beginners - 6 weeks **7.00-8.00pm Fee: £30/£23 starts 10th January**

For those who have some basic experience of Tap. This class is designed to teach rhythm, co-ordination and to refine technique.

Adult Tap Dancing Improvers - 6 weeks 8.00-9.00pm Fee: £30/£23 starts 10th 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.

British Sign Language Introduction - 5 weeks **7.00-9.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 21st February** **(FREE TASTER 27 Jan 10am-12pm)**

This will include the BSL finger spelling alphabet, greeting signs and vocabulary. Our Tutor will teach you basic signing to be able to hold a simple conversation. There'll be activities including games and quizzes to practise the signing.

Calligraphy Workshop - 5 weeks 9.30am-1.00pm **Fee: £90/£68 starts 28th February**

Immerse yourself in the calming art of hand lettering, a wonderful combination of Ancient and Modern. Choose to create decorated greetings cards, bookmarks, gift boxes, or perhaps a beautifully lettered poem or quotation. Suitable for complete beginners and those with a little experience. Materials extra

Carpentry, Learn Design & Make - 9 weeks **7.00-9.00pm Fee: £90/£68 starts 17th 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.

Copperfoil Stained Glass - 4 weeks **9.45am-12noon Fee: £50/£38 starts 17th January**

Copperfoil is a technique invented by Louis Comfort Tiffany. You'll create your own design to make a unique stained glass item using textured glass. Materials extra.

Creative with Clay - 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £120/£90 includes clay & firing starts 10th January

Explore, create and express your ideas in the versatile medium of clay. Practise techniques including hand building, throwing, decoration and glaze effects using a variety of stoneware clays, slips and glazes. *Course currently full contact us for waiting list.*

Indian Cooking Made Simple - 5 weeks **7.00-9.00pm Fee: £55/£42 starts 10th January**

For all Indian food lovers who want to make 'real' home cooked food. Ingredients extra.

Fitness for Mature Movers - 5 weeks 2.00-3.00pm **Fee: £20 COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE** **starts 10th January**

Gently stretch and tone in a friendly class, all movements to your own ability which will improve your balance and agility. You really are never too old to start toning those muscles!

Just Talk French (Improvers) Term 2 of 3 - 10 weeks 7.00-9.00pm Fee: £100/£75 starts 10th January

For learners with at least one year's knowledge/experience of French who know the basics and want to develop their skills.

Salsa Dance for Beginners - 10 weeks **7.00-8.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 10th January** Cuban style Salsa is energetic and addictive, so come along and you'll be hooked! No partner needed.

Salsa Dance for Improvers - 10 weeks **8.00-9.00pm Fee: £50/£38 starts 10th January** Develop your skills and confidence further in Salsa with our experienced Salsa Tutor.

The Grandest Tour - A Journey from Earth to the Edge of the Universe - 8 weeks 7.00-9.00pm **Fee £80/£60 starts 17th January**

A step-by-step overview of our Universe through modern astronomy with a grand tour of the solar system, galaxy and beyond.

THURSDAY

Adult Ballet Beginners (Cott Comm Centre) **9 weeks 10.00-11.00am Fee: £60/£45 starts 11th January**

Designed for those with little or no ballet training, this is a great class for having fun and toning the whole body.

Adult Ballet Improvers (Cott Comm Centre) **9 weeks 11am-12noon Fee: £60/£45 starts 11th January**

A good basic knowledge of Ballet is required, students will learn complex steps to a wide variety of music styles.

French Conversation Intermediate - 10 weeks **9.30-11.30am Fee: £100/£75 starts 11th January** *Course currently full, please contact us for waiting list.*

Upholstery - 10 weeks 10.00am-3.30pm Fee: £250/£187 - starts 11th January

Whether you're new to Upholstery and want to refurbish a simple dining chair or a more adventurous arm chair, this course is for you. The correct techniques of upholstery are covered for traditional and modern furniture. Students bring their own piece of furniture. Materials extra. *Course currently full, contact us for waiting list.*

THURSDAY

**Upholstery at Rampton Village Hall - 8 weeks
10.00am-3pm Fee: £248/£186 - starts 18th January**

Suitable for beginners to learn techniques and skills in traditional or modern upholstery. Intermediates may continue to upholster an existing project. Students provide own furniture. Materials extra.

FRIDAY

**Upholstery - 10 weeks 10.00am-3.30pm Fee:
£250/£187 - starts 12th January**

See Thursday for description. *Course currently full, please contact us for waiting list.*

SATURDAY DAY SCHOOLS

Time: 10am-4pm (unless otherwise stated). Fee: £35/£26 unless otherwise stated

Please note all students will need to bring a packed lunch for whole day courses. * = Materials/ingredients extra

SATURDAY 27TH JANUARY

Dressmaking (3 Saturdays - 27th Jan, 24th Feb & 24th March) £105/£79*

Upholstery (3 Saturdays - 27th Jan, 24th Feb & 24th March) £105/£79*

Get to know your iPad 10am-1pm £18
FREE TO OVER 60's

Rush Weaving for Beginners*

10am-4.30pm £38/£28

Watercolour, Pen & Wash*

Battenberg Cake* 10am - 2pm £23/£17

Mad Hatters (Felt a Hat)*

British Sign Language Free Taster

10am-12 noon

SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY

Learn to Love your Overlocker*

Baking for Afternoon Tea*

Lino Printing £45/£36 (includes materials)

Patchwork Day - Fabric Bowls*

Willow Weaving Platters*

Glass Fusing Metals & Inclusions*

9.30am-1.30pm £20/£15

Mosaics Workshop*

SATURDAY 24TH MARCH

Advanced Overlocker Techniques*

Stitch & Embroider a Book Cover*

T'ai Chi Celebrating Spring

10am-1pm £18

Balti Banquet - All things Spice &

Indian* £38/£28

Roman Blind - make a sample*

Frame Baskets in Willow & Rush*

10am-4.30pm £38/£28

Dichroic Glass Jewellery*

10am-3pm £30/£23

BALLET POINTES**BALLET POINTES with our classically (Vaganova) trained Ballet Teacher April Martin**

Recent ballet exams saw a 100% success rate and many of the senior dancers gained Distinction and above. A well-deserved result as they work hard in their classes. The younger dancers also achieved high grades all gaining Merit +. Our dancers are going to be busy in the next few months: first the two contemporary groups SCAMBS Junior and SCAMBS Senior will be taking part in the 10th Energise dance showcase at the end of January at Swavesey Village College. This event, started by April Martin now attracts dancers from Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk. One of the young ballet students was accepted by Dance East for their Advanced Training Scheme and started in September. May 12th 2018 sees the annual ballet performance and this will be Prokofiev's "The Stone Flower". It will be at Swavesey Village College, watch out for more details nearer the time. We welcome new

members at any time for both ballet and SCAMBS so get in touch if you want to know more. Ballet forms the "building blocks" for many kinds of dance and the benefits gained from good tuition last into adulthood. April Martin has links to the Cambridge Ballet Academy run by Mark Swann BA an ex student and graduate from Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance. He runs classes in Cambridge and Cottenham for Adults and also for teenagers who wish to progress into a dance career. There is also a link to SCAMBS run by Jack Stinton BA again an ex student and graduate of Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

For any further information please contact April on tutusrus@ntworld.com, Mark on markswann24@gmail.com, Jack on jack@jackstintondancecompany.com.

BALLET FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Tutor - April Martin (Associate ARBTA & Member BDQT), any enquiries telephone 01954 200533

E-mail a.r.martin@ntworld.com or tutusrus@ntworld.com

Children need to be confident to stay without their parent/carer – fees not refundable for absence from a class that is continuing to meet. 11 week term – Starts Wednesday 10th January

	Time	1 Term
Cj51 & 52 Reception & Years 1 & 2	4.15-4.45pm	£33.00
Cj53 School Years 3, 4, 5, 6	5.00-5.45pm	£50.00
Cj54 School Year 6 upwards	5.45-6.45pm	£66.00

ENROLLING IN THE CLASSES

You may 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. Bring or send your booking form to the College, cheques payable to **ASTREA ACADEMY TRUST**. You can also print off 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 Monday–Wednesday evenings from 6.30-8.30pm.

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

Enrolling by email: 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: are available, but evidence of entitlement is required at enrolment or before (see Booking Form).

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.

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.** If a class closes due to circumstances beyond our control such as adverse weather or Tutor illness, then extra classes will be added and no refund will be given.

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.

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

- A dance/aerobics studio, with wood sprung floor
- A floodlit artificial turf pitch
- Multi use sports hall (3 badminton courts)
- Gymnasium (smaller hall suitable for martial arts, etc.)

- Four floodlit tennis/netball courts
- Outdoor cricket nets
- Modern changing rooms, with showers and lockers

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

FITNESS CLASSES

Monday:	Boxercise	7-8pm	Gymnasium
Wednesday:	Weight Circuits	6-7pm	Dance Studio
Saturday:	Circuits	8-9am	Sports Hall
Members Cost:		FREE	
Non Members Per Class:		£5	

Cottenham Tennis Club Membership Fees: April 2017 – April 2018

Juniors (Under 18)	£20
Adult	£40
Family (based on two parents & two Children)	£75
Plus 1 on Family	£10
Wednesday Club Evening	7.30-9.30pm
Thursday Match Fixtures & Club Courts Available	7.00-9.30pm
Sunday Afternoon Club Courts Available	1.30-5pm

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

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



**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**

ADULT LEARNING BOOKING FORM

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

CHEQUES PAYABLE TO: ASTREA ACADEMY TRUST

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR CONCESSION FEES?

THE FOLLOWING GROUPS MAY BE ABLE TO CLAIM THE CONCESSION 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

THE LANDBEACH SOCIETY

Landbeach in the early 1970s could almost be described as a village in turmoil. So much was changing – many surrounding villages were suffering from haphazard development, the structure of local government was being reorganised, a number of the medieval and thatched properties in the village were in disrepair, the village school had just closed, there were only two small shops and a post office, and a limited bus service.

As a consequence a number of villagers came together to form **The Landbeach Society** in 1972. This had the express purpose, amongst other things, of promoting high standards of planning and architecture; and securing the preservation, protection, development and improvement of features of historic or public interest in Landbeach. The practical implementation of these aims has included making significant representations to the local authorities on housing developments and roads, and opposing proposals in unsuitable locations. Members of the Society have played an important role in planning extensions to the Village Hall over the years. They were also involved in the establishment and creation of the Recreation Ground, organising the children's play equipment, and tree planting in the verges. In part because of this atmosphere of care and concern for the conservation and appearance of the village, a number of historic cottages, farm buildings and former pubs have been restored by their owners and made into comfortable homes with modern amenities. This has been achieved while retaining much of the original appearance and charm of the buildings.

A major activity began in 1975 when a lease was given to the Society for the medieval Tithe Barn, which was in a poor state of repair. Much fundraising by way of Open Garden events, concerts and other activities, together with grants, allowed thatching and repairs to be carried out; but not without major problems in finding the right straw and thatcher at the right time. Eventually the Barn was put in reasonable order, and was used to host a variety of social events. However, by 2014 the Society could no longer support the maintenance then required and had to surrender the lease. Fortunately a charity, Tithe Barn Trust, has now been established to restore and develop the use of this historic building.

More generally, the Landbeach Society continues to hold regular monthly meetings to hear talks and make visits to places of interest. It continues to monitor local building plans, and now particularly the New Town development



on the former Waterbeach Airfield, that could have a significant impact on this village particularly because of the transport implications.

The Landbeach Society is for anyone interested in the history of the village, its place within the region and in protecting the environment of the village. We hold a series of monthly meetings to which all are welcome.

The cost of membership is £3.00 per annum and entrance to the talks in the Village Hall is £3.50. You do not need to be a member to attend the talks. Dates and topics of our meetings are shown on pages 7 & 8.

www.landbeach.org.uk/history/99-landbeach-society

BUSYTOTS – YOUR LOCAL BABY & TODDLER GROUP

Busytots is a not-for-profit baby and toddler group, based in Landbeach Village Hall, entirely run by volunteers.

Every Wednesday kids can get hands-on with craft activities or messy play, toys and a sing along at most sessions. Snacks are included for kids, but perhaps more importantly cake and tea for grown-ups.

Volunteer Gemma says "It has been another brilliant year with lots of hands-on sessions with favourites like calming lavender play dough and messy play nature soup. I think the grown-ups enjoyed the animal leaf pictures and there were some quite detailed creations, but one of the activities the children loved the most was sensory play with cornflakes and toy dinosaurs."

Busytots is open every Wednesday from 10am till 12 noon (Closed for Christmas 20th and 27th December. Re-opens 3rd January) and everyone is welcome. It's a great way for parents and carers to meet new people, and relax with a cuppa, in a place with lots to keep their little ones entertained.

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FECA IN LANDBEACH

BUSYTOTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Wednesday 13th December – Includes a visit from Santa. Festive outfits encouraged. Normal admission charges apply.

How you can support Busytots

Whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Landbeach Busytots. There are over 3,000 shops and sites ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, the trainline and Sainsbury's - it doesn't cost you a penny extra!

Head to www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/landbeachbusytots and join for free.

There are no catches or hidden charges and Landbeach Busytots will be really grateful for your donations. Thank you for your support.

Admission

We're a not-for-profit group, but ask for a small entry fee to help cover our hall rent and cost of snacks etc. £1.50 Single child families, plus 50p per additional child.

Find us at facebook.com/LandbeachBusytots, visit www.busytots.weebly.com

or email busytots1@hotmail.co.uk

HAVE YOU SPOTTED THE SHEAF YET?

As part of the launch of their 'Sponsor a Sheaf' campaign, the Tithe Barn Trust, a small charity and volunteer not-for profit group, are sending a sheaf of longstraw to different locations around Cambridgeshire until they raise enough to rethatch the Tithe Barn.

Melanie Hale, Tithe Barn Trust Trustee and volunteer photographer, says "The Tithe Barn is unique and is in serious need of rethatching. So, every week until we raise the funds, the Tithe Barn Trust will be sending a sheaf of longstraw to various locations to highlight our fundraising quest. To make suggestions of where we might find the sheaf next week, people can tweet @TBarnT." You can help this sheaf find the way back to its new home on the Tithe Barn's roof by sponsoring a sheaf for as little as £5 at www.totalgiving.co.uk/mypage/TitheBarnTrust

**Tithe
Barn
Trust**

Continued on page 41



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FECA IN LANDBEACH

The Tithe Barn Trust aims to save and sympathetically restore the Grade II Listed Tithe Barn for community use, but we need you to help us. We estimate we'll need 5 tonnes of locally sourced hand drawn Longstraw to rethatch the roof.

The Tithe Barn Trust believes the medieval Tithe barn, with thatched roof, brick threshing floor and timber granary, to be unique to Cambridgeshire and even of national significance. It is one of the few Tithe Barns in the country still standing next to its medieval rectory. Over 90% of Tithe Barns in the UK have been converted and their historic features are being lost forever. Sadly, the Landbeach Tithe Barn is in a poor condition and deteriorating. Follow the Tithe Barn Trust on Twitter @TBarnT like us on Facebook FriendsOfLandbeachTitheBarn or visit www.tithebarntrust.org.uk to find out more about the Tithe Barn Trust.

Thank you!

The Tithe Barn Trust would like to say a huge thank you to all the volunteers and community groups who have helped over the last year, from the Cambridge Film Trust who ran our first community cinema event at the Tithe Barn, to the Fen Edge Archaeology Group who carried out a geophysical survey of the land surrounding the Tithe Barn for free. A special thank you goes to the Fen Edge Community Association for giving us a grant, which will make a big difference to a small charity.

How to find the Tithe Barn

Kissing gate entrance is opposite No 2 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9FA.

Walk along the grassed track by the hedge.

Free road parking or no.9 Stagecoach bus stops near Cockfen Lane.

RECORDING WILDLIFE

Whenever you are out and about, especially on foot or bicycle, there is always a good chance of spotting an interesting animal or plant if you keep your eyes and ears open. Recent surveys suggest that our children are becoming less aware of the wildlife around them but in my experience (and age) I find that they are by far the best 'spotters'. Set them (and you) the task of spotting and identifying a bird, insect, mammal, amphibian, reptile or wild flower each day or week. Records can be shared through 'i-record' (www.brc.ac.uk/iirecord/) or send them to **Friends of Worts Meadow (FOWM)**.

More difficult to see is the myriad of wildlife that lurks underwater in every pond and lake. One of

the best ways to find out about this fascinating variety of animals, is to join a pond dipping session. Just on your doorstep, you can join Friends of Worts Meadow in Landbeach where we run a pond dipping event each year in late August (open to all). This year 15 adults and 10 children had great fun squelching about in wellies, dipping our nets in to see what we could catch. It was too late in the year for tadpoles and baby newts, but we found many different sorts of water beetles, tiny clam-like pea mussels (Pisidium), water snails, nymphs (young) of damselflies and mayflies and even small leeches! Before starting to dip in and muddy the water, we stood quietly to 'watch and see'. There in front of our eyes were water boatmen busily 'rowing' to and fro with their extra-long rear legs. Just dipping a jam jar of water from near the edge scooped up hundreds of tiny (planktonic) animals. Later, a closer look under a low power microscope in our temporary gazebo base camp, revealed these were semi-transparent water fleas and copepods – tiny crustaceans (shrimps and crabs are also crustaceans).

Birds are also sometimes quite difficult to spot especially amongst woodland foliage but they give themselves away with their varied and beautiful songs. With our expert bird-listener (Phil Clark) on hand, we recorded 23 species during our bird walk in May and managed to see most of them – with a lot of guidance.

If you do visit Worts Meadow and Bourne Wood (and I hope you will) then look out for our waterproof recording book tied onto the gate at the wood entrance, past the main meadow entrance along Cockfen Lane. Tell us there what you saw. In January we will be planning our 2018 events. Look for them here in Fen Edge News, What's on in Landbeach, our Facebook page and on village noticeboards.

FRIENDS OF WORTS MEADOW

This is a constituted group of volunteers who help with the practical management of Worts Meadow Local 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. Look out for our planned 'Bioblitz' in summer 2018. 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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FEN EDGE PARISH COUNCILS

COTTENHAM

Major developments

Some of the major speculative developments have been given outline planning permission subject to satisfactory submission of "reserved matters" applications detailing the layouts, materials, and house designs. Part of each application is a commitment to pay substantial amounts towards additional or improved education, recreation and transport facilities. The County Council, despite refusal of its application, continues to want to develop its land near the Recreation Ground.

Neighbourhood Plan

Your responses to the "7 questions" survey were very helpful in refining the policies in the plan ready for the next stages of the process. Thank you to all those who took the time to participate; look out now for the improved version of the plan and a series of consultation events in the new year.

Village Hall & Nursery

We are currently working with SCDC and County Highways on three pre-application reports. Initial indications are that some improvements to the access road and simplification of the Village Hall design by separating out the nursery could facilitate planning permission for at least some of the project.

Traffic & Transport

The group continues to meet and generate ideas to improve these – do join in if you can. Please contact asstcottenhampc@gmail.com if you're interested.

2018/19 budget/precept setting

Our first meeting of 2018 will be on Tuesday 9th January at 7.15pm in the Village Hall. At this meeting we will be setting the budget and precept for the following financial year. Please do come along.

Community Speedwatch

A working group of residents has got together to explore ways of tackling the concerns about traffic and public transport provision that were raised during the Parish Council's Neighbourhood Plan consultation. The main themes that came out of the consultation were the need to:

1. Change the character and speed of traffic throughout the village (HGVs causing noise at all times and shaking houses, general speeding and aggressive driving);
2. Improve pedestrian safety (narrow pavements and proximity to passing vehicles, lack of pedestrian crossings, general pollution);

3. Improve public transport links especially with Cambridge (faster; covering all the village, links to other transport e.g. guided busway and rail);
4. Improve cycle links (with Oakington and Waterbeach as well as the crossing on Histon Rd).

One way to tackle speeding (we are investigating others) is to gather factual evidence through Speedwatch. You might recall that there was an active Speedwatch group. Unfortunately, the volunteers in that group were not able to carry on. It would be great if Speedwatch could be reactivated. It is not an onerous commitment, you can choose whether or not to join a particular Speedwatch event, it is always during daylight and you would receive training on how to use the equipment. The more people who join Speedwatch the more events can take place. The more evidence that can be gathered the sooner we can achieve our goal of making Cottenham a more pleasant place for pedestrians and cyclists.

Whether you are interested in joining Speedwatch or would like to get involved in other ways, for example, joining the Working Group or just letting us have your thoughts on any of this, please contact us: cottenhamtraffic@gmail.com. We look forward to hearing from you.

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

Clerk: Jo Brook. Office: 250A High Street (right of Community Centre). Open Monday 9.45am to 12noon or by appointment. Contact: 07503 328401 or clerk@cottenhampc.org.uk

LANDBEACH

Landbeach Parish Council are in collaboration with Waterbeach Parish Council to set up a Mobile Warden scheme. If any resident in Landbeach needs help, they can contact Melanie Hale melsarhal@gmail.com in total confidence.

Also if anyone in Landbeach is interested in social housing they can contact the Clerk at landbeachparishcouncil@gmail.com or on 07724 047656. Party in the Park is taking place on 30 June 2018. The Parish Council are purchasing Mobile Vehicle Activated signs in collaboration with Milton and Waterbeach Parish Councils.

Landbeach Parish Council are looking for a new Councillor. Anyone interested please contact the Clerk.

Continued on page 45

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FEN EDGE PARISH COUNCILS cont

COUNCIL

Meets first Monday in month (not August) at the Village Hall, 7.30pm. On bank holiday Mondays, meetings are on second Monday. Clerk: Maria Sylvester. Office (by appointment 9am to 1pm, 2-5.30pm): 30 Lee Close, Cottenham. Contact details: 07724 047656, landbeachparishcouncil@gmail.com and www.landbeach.org.uk

RAMPTON

Rampton Council would like to thank John Garstang, now the retired clerk, for all his hard work and contribution to the running of the Council over the past 8 years. We would like to extend our gratitude to him and his family and all the willing villagers and groups who give up their time and expertise into making Rampton an inclusive, active and community spirited place to live. We also welcome Fran Cook, our latest member of the Council, who officially began duties in July 2017.

To contact the new Rampton Parish Clerk, Claire Perrott, please email ramptonparishclerk@gmail.com or if you would like the Councillors to be informed at the same time email [\[council@googlegroups.com\]\(mailto:council@googlegroups.com\). For further contact details and finding out more about activities in Rampton, please see \[www.rampton.org\]\(http://www.rampton.org\).](mailto:rampton-parish-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

WILLINGHAM

New Councillors

The Council have welcomed two new Councillors, Councillor Sara Croft and Councillor David Carlton. Your current Parish Councillors and their contact details can be found in the Willingham News and on the Council website.

Elections

Councillors hold office for four years and as with many other Parish Councils we will be having our Parish Councillor elections on the 3rd May next year along with the elections for District Council.

Christmas Tree

Following the very positive responses received last year for the Christmas tree and lights erected on the Village Green, the Council will be putting these up again this year and hope that Parishioners continue to enjoy the display.

Defibrillator

The Parish Council currently have one public defibrillator located at the Pavilion on West Fen Road. They have recently purchased a second and this will be located at the library on Church Street.

COUNCIL

Meets first Wednesday of month and the dates are published on the website, the notice board outside the public hall in the High Street and at the library. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak briefly or ask questions. Names will be taken down at the beginning of each meeting, together with the electoral register number to ensure everyone has a fair chance to speak within the allowed time (15 minutes in total for all speakers - 3 mins max per person).

The meetings are held in the Octagon behind St Mary and All Saints Church and they start at 7.30pm. The Parish Council office (Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP) is open Monday to Thursday from 10am to 1pm, except Bank Holidays and there is an answerphone service outside office hours.

Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell 01954 261027, E-mail clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Waterbeach Parish Council see page 51

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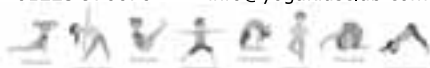
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FECA IN RAMPTON

RAMPTON HORSE SHOW 2017

On 16th September the 30th Rampton Horse Show took place on the Parkland in Rampton. The morning started out mild but overcast, with the weather forecast promising dry weather all day. Show entries were well up from the previous year, when very wet weather persuaded many people to stay at home. Unfortunately the vagaries of the British weather proved the weather forecast wrong and from midday onwards the rain came and went all afternoon. Despite this, the show was reasonably well attended – the novelty classes and fun dog show being particularly popular. As a result, we are pleased to report that the Committee will be making donations to this year's four nominated charities - Multiple System Atrophy Trust, World Horse Welfare, The Raptor Foundation and Fenland Animal Rescue. Our grateful thanks to all our local volunteers, without whose help the show would simply not take place. The proposed date for next year's show is Saturday 15th September 2018 - pencil the date into your calendar now.

TABLE TENNIS GROUP

We have a weekly low-key and fun table tennis session 7.30pm to 9.30pm on Thursday evenings. Newcomers are welcome to join in. Cost (that covers the Village Hall booking) is £3, reducing to £2 for regular players.

GRAND JUMBLE SALE

17th March 2018. 10am to 12noon in the Village Hall. Entry 40p on the door. Donations to the Village Hall on the evening of 16th March or first thing on 17th.

RAMPTON RELAY

Giant's Hill Meadow, Rampton on Sunday 29th April. Registration from 2pm, race starts at 2:30pm. This is a race run on a (approx) 1 mile course which can be tackled as a four lap relay, a single lap or a four mile single runner challenge. Certificates for participants and medals for various categories. There is a Shield to be awarded to a team of Primary School aged children.

TUESDAY TEA CLUB

For over 55s who meet fortnightly in Rampton Village Hall between 2.30pm and 4.30pm for tea and coffee, biscuits and a relaxed chat. The club arrange occasional speakers and at least one trip out a year. Dates are 5th December and fortnightly following that.

RAMPTON WALKING GROUP

Rampton Walking Group meets on the third Saturday of the month. The walks are usually about 5 miles long, often with a shorter option available, followed by a pub lunch. Contact Sylvia Beaumont on 01954 252043

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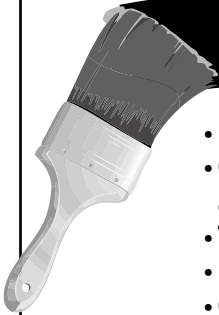
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PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Firs House and Telegraph Street Patient Participation Group (PPG) were delighted to participate in the Fen Edge Festival, to raise awareness of our group and to support the Festival. At our stall, we aimed to reflect the different age groups that make up our community, by having adult and junior health quizzes, and a healthy food hamper and hula hoops as raffle prizes, in keeping with our "Healthy Lifestyle" theme.

Our PPG is made up of volunteer patient representatives who feel passionate about helping to improve the patient experience and to increase our understanding of health matters. We do this by working in partnership with the Firs House/Telegraph Street Practice, bringing to their attention issues which patients have raised, and organising health information events which are open to anyone in the community, whether or not they are registered patients of the Practice.

We encourage patients who are interested in being kept in touch with the PPG and developments at the Practice, and who would like the opportunity to respond to public consultations about health services that could affect them or their families, to join the Virtual Patient



Reference Group which now numbers over 1,000 patients. You can do so online at www.firshouse.com or by asking reception at the surgery.

We are very grateful for the grant that the Fen Edge Community Association has awarded our PPG, from the proceeds raised at the FEF. This will enable us to pay for the hire of venues with car-parking facilities, so those unable to travel on foot or bicycle can still attend our community health information events. We are planning our next event for early 2018, so look out for further details in the New Year!

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WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Planning Issues

We now have a dedicated page for the Urban and Civic Planning Application: www.waterbeach.org.uk/opus/opus285.html. We understand that an application from RLW Estates, for the area between the barracks and the river, is likely to be submitted in early 2018. RLW are holding an exhibition at the Salvation Army Hall, 7 Station Road, Waterbeach, CB25 9HT on Friday November 24th: 15:30 - 19:30 and Saturday November 25th: 10:00 - 15:00. We understand they will be putting a flyer round the village and also notifying the surrounding Parish Councils. When planning permission is granted for new developments, money is often provided by the developer to enhance village facilities. These are known as Section 106 funds. The new developments on Bannold Road as well as others will be providing quite substantial amounts and the Parish Council is looking for ideas for expanding and improving village facilities using this money. We have already allocated funds towards improvement of the Recreation Ground Car Park and the sports pavilion as well as possible improvements to Tillage Hall and the Library Access Point. We are also asking residents for their ideas. At the moment we expect getting on for £250,000 will become available in the not too distant future so we have a real opportunity to enhance our village amenities. There are some eligibility criteria involved – for instance, the money comes in under three broad headings: sports, indoor community facilities and children's play equipment. We are encouraging Waterbeach residents to contact us (council@waterbeach.org.uk) if they have suggestions they would like to see considered.

Neighbourhood Plan

We have secured some grant funding to help us move on to produce an Area Character Assessment. We also have Summary Objectives on which you can comment:

- A housing growth strategy tailored to the needs of Waterbeach Village and reflecting the current built form and rural setting

- Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting
- Sustaining and improving local facilities for the benefit of existing and new residents. Including shops, leisure/recreational, health and education
- Strengthening and supporting economic activity which provides employment opportunities for local people
- Support transport improvements which prioritise pedestrian, cycling and public modes of transport
- Protect greenspace, the landscape and support nature conservation
- Involve local people on an ongoing basis in the process of plan-making and review

If you are a Waterbeach resident and would like to get involved in your Neighbourhood Plan, please contact: npadmin@waterbeach.org.uk or write to NP Admin. The Old Pavilion, Cambridge Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9NJ

A Greenway for Waterbeach

The Cambridge Greenways project is aiming to establish a high quality network of routes into Cambridge from some of the surrounding towns and villages, approximately five to ten miles away. They will primarily be commuter cycle paths, but with additional benefits for pedestrians, horse riders, leisure activities and recreation. Officers from the City Deal Cycling Team held two public consultation events in the village in the summer to gather comments and ideas. There is more information on the Greenway project on the website www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/greenways/

Council meets first Tuesday of month at The Old Pavilion, Recreation Ground, Cambridge Rd, 7.30pm.
Clerk: Shelley Mason.

Office: Tues and Thurs 10am-12pm The Old Pavilion (or by appointment) 01223 441338; council@waterbeach.org.uk and www.waterbeach.org.uk



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GIRL GUIDING IN COTTENHAM AND WILLINGHAM

Our district comprises of 3 Rainbow units, 3 Brownie units, 3 Guide units and 1 senior section unit (soon to be known as Rangers). Girl Guiding is a safe space for each individual girl, it gives the girls the chance to have their own say, not to be judged and to help them grow into confident young ladies. As a district we participate in Thinking day services at our local churches, as well as harvest festivals. We also are actively visible at village events and remembrance parades, where we very proudly display our flags and lay our wreaths. Here are just some of the things our girls have been up to this year:

Rainbows (age 5 to 7 years)

Our Rainbows meet on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays for fun and games. They have made bread, been baffled by science, made headbands for the Remembrance Day Parade, turned banana boxes into cars for the Feast Parade, had a movie night, celebrated their 30th birthday with a big party and written to their pen pal Daisies in America. One unit supports a young girl at Sunflowers by visiting her weekly so she was able to take part in the 30th birthday challenge with the unit.

Brownies (age 7 to 10 years)

Our three Brownie packs meet on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. All three packs have been away this year on pack holiday (a weekend away with your brownie friends for fun and sleepovers) – the themes of this have

been 'flower power', 'a year in a weekend' and 'bush craft and nature'. Our Brownies have also been visiting ponies as part of their Friend to Animals badge, cooked marshmallows over tea lights, researched about Brownies from years gone by and tried on old brownie uniforms. They have made dream catchers, decorated umbrellas, cooked shortbread for Burns Night, visited Denny Abbey, had a go at clip and climb, visited Wildly Curious to learn about bushcraft and fire starting and created outfits out of bin bags to name but a few things!

Guides (age 10 to 14 years)

Our three Guide packs meet on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. All three units have been busy camping with summer camps taking place as well as attending the County Grafham activities weekend. Our girls have helped out at Fen Gallop in Willingham, taken part in a litter pick, been lumberjacking, and taken part in the Willingham Horticultural and Craft Show. They continue to partner with Brownies and Guides in an orphanage in Malawi. The Malawi Guides sent craft items for the Willingham Guides to make bracelets, who then sold their creations to raise much needed funds. One of the guide leaders led an international trip to Switzerland in the summer. Cottenham Guides have helped pack bags for the Cambridge Half marathon, been to the panto

Continued on page 55

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FEN EDGE MISCELLANY

in Cambridge and held a cake stall to raise funds for Christmas parcels. There has been lots of baking and icing to gain the confectionery badge, a visit from the Air Ambulance to learn about their work. The baking practice helped to raise £170 towards their vital work. We have walked, climbed, baked and generally had a lot of fun this last year!

Senior Section (age 14 to 25 years)

Willingham Senior Section is very active and have taken part in lots of activities this year with one of their members going on an international trip to Fiji.

All of our units are active and thriving. The adult volunteers have just as much fun as the girls, so if you fancy joining us as a volunteer then please get in touch: www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/register-your-interest

We would be very glad to hear from you.

FEN EDGE DANCE NEWS

Recent ballet exams saw a 100% success rate and many of the senior dancers gained Distinction and above. A well-deserved result as they work hard in their classes. The younger dancers also achieved high grades all gaining Merit +.

Our dancers are going to be busy in the next few months: first the two contemporary groups SCAMBS Junior and SCAMBS Senior will be taking part in the

10th Energise dance showcase at the end of January at Swavesey Village College. This event, started by April Martin, now attracts dancers from Cambridgeshire, Essex, Suffolk and Norfolk.

One of the young ballet students was accepted by Dance East for their Advanced Training Scheme and started in September.

May 12th 2018 sees the annual ballet performance and this will be Prokofiev's *The Stone Flower*. It will be at Swavesey Village College.

We welcome new members for both ballet and SCAMBS so get in touch if you want to know more. Ballet forms the "building blocks" for many kinds of dance and the benefits gained from good tuition last into adulthood. April Martin has links to the Cambridge Ballet Academy run by Mark Swann BA, an ex student and graduate from Rambert School of Ballet and Contemporary Dance. He runs classes in Cambridge for Adults and also for teenagers who wish to progress into a dance career. There is also a link to SCAMBS run by Jack Stinton BA, again an ex student and graduate of Northern School of Contemporary Dance.

Contact April: tutusrus@ntlworld.com

Mark: markswann24@gmail.com

Jack: jack@jackstintondancecompany.com

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

WILLINGHAM ACTION GROUP (WAG)

Firstly may we wish everybody in the Fen Edge Area a good Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to WAG and FECA continuing their community work in 2018!

FROM 2017

The new community orchard continues to develop and the fruit trees gave a beautiful display of flowers in the spring and a good crop of fruit in the autumn. The new play equipment on the QEII Field had much use over the summer and brought enjoyment to many although, very sadly, it suffered some vandalism. By the time you read this WAG will have launched a new website since the old one, now nine years old, is getting out of date. The new one will have lots of information about village history, events and will hold details of local businesses as well as all back issues of the Willingham News. Search 'willinghamlife.'

WAG coordinated the Willingham Feast events as usual.

WILLINGHAM FEAST 2017

Another year nears its end, another Feast. Willingham history and the Social Club figured highly in this year's Feast programme. The first weekend started with a guided tour of the most historic wall paintings in St Mary and All Saints which was well attended. The Feast then continued with a bang caused by some heavy metal emanating from Willingham Social Club when the AC/DC tribute band, 'Let There B/DC' performed there.

The third Feast event, Thurston's funfair on the Green, was followed by Custard Comedy at the Social Club to help raise money for the installation of a disabled toilet. The comedy nights are always sold out as they are so good. The Comper, Jonathan Elston, was brilliant at interacting with the audience and we had two 'normal' very funny comedians followed by the headliners, Raymond and Mr Timpkins. You will never see another act like this, they resembled Laurel and Hardy but with the film speeded up ten times faster. Their very clever act involved non-stop clips from songs accompanied by dozens of props.

Continued on page 59

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

On Feast Saturday and Sunday we had three exhibitions in the village; one run by the Octagon art group, one by the photography club, and the library hosted an historical perspective of Willingham with material from the 'Old Willingham' website and material from the Cambridgeshire Collection. The photography and art displays were as outstanding as ever and one is reminded that there are so many talented people in the village. The photos of 'Old Willingham' raise unusual emotions for me. I have lived here for just fourteen years but this is the first place in which I have felt a real sense of belonging, partly due to a knowledge of its history. It was, and still is, a wonderful community.

On Saturday night Willingham School Association ran a ceilidh. By the end, like most ceilidhs, everyone was hot, happy and slightly confused for at times it resembled the game 'British Bulldog' I used to play as a boy scout.

Feast Sunday started with the cycle ride to Ely, which looked wonderful in the sunshine. Later the Treasure Hunt around the village started with a search for older buildings and other points of interest. We must apologise that, for the very first time in many years, there was no concert on the Green by a Salvation Army Band. It was cancelled at the last minute for reasons beyond our control. The band did perform in the church in the evening.

The final weekend started with a 70s/80s disco, I believe the audience would not let the DJ go home until the early hours. On Saturday Willingham Youth Trust held a very successful family Disco and the Feast finished with Willingham Wine Club's wine quiz, nearly 70 people tasted large amounts of wine over the course of four hours and the event ended with dancing to the excellent band 'Word of Mouth.' The Feast takes place early in October, watch out for events next year!

Mike Tidball - Willingham Action Group

on behalf of, and with thanks to, the organisers of all the Feast events.

WILLINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

We have had a very successful year with 38 members, 4 under 16's and completed over 60 matches, quite remarkable really as we only had 9 members last year; no home green and all our matches were played at Longstanton Bowls Club who generously allowed us to use their green. At the end of last season the few members we had

decided to try and revive our home green, we lost it during 2015-16 due to lack of members, illness and lack of maintenance. The task was vast, the grass was over 2ft. tall and weeds everywhere. We virtually had to invest all our funds to get the green back, a local specialist played the grass and cut it and then we spent over £2,000 with a greens specialist who put down over 6 tonnes of topsoil and various dressings to get it back into some shape.

We had revived our green and we were now able to play on it, or so we thought. During our very dry spring and early summer our irrigation system broke down, the pump decided it had had enough. But thanks to the Fen Edge Community Association, who gave us a grant for £500, we will have it back in operation for next season.

That was not the end of our problems. During the season we noticed bare patches appearing and after advice from ProGreen and the Royal Horticultural Society we realised we had a bacteria in the green. Thanks go to our Parish Council who gave us a grant of £900 to have the green treated. We were also fortunate to receive a grant of just over £600 from South Cambs District Council to have our toilets re-vamped for next year.

So far it sounds like we had a hard year and yes we did, but helped by these generous grants and support from various local businesses including The Duke of Wellington, The PorterHouse and Vintage Holidays, plus other local businesses giving donations we have survived and look to have secured our future.

We now have positive news, this year we had several open days and encouraged local people to try bowls, we supplied the equipment and instruction and I was very pleased to see many of those who tried the sport go on to join the club and play in some club matches. Bowls is a game for all ages and we are very keen to encourage the younger generation, so we offer free membership to those 16 and under. Willingham Bowls Club is not just for Willingham people it is open to everyone. It is a very enjoyable, skilful and friendly game, everyone is welcome to come and try during the season which is May until September. We welcome anyone who would like to have a go, just contact, terry.buckley@virginmedia.com to book a time.

A special thanks to all the members who helped this year with green maintenance, general maintenance and fund-raising.

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WILLINGHAM SOCIAL CLUB

It's been a whirlwind of different events over the past few months at Willingham Social Club.

In June The Beer Festival ran in partnership with Willingham Action Group, The Bank Public House, and Jolly Good beer. It was very well attended over all 3 days. From the total sum raised by all parties, a donation of £2,959 was made towards our fund raising efforts to add disabled toilet facilities. It was generated mainly from our own food sales and the generous donation from WAG of the door entry fees. We have a target of £32,000 and have currently raised in excess of £8,000. Our thanks to all of the volunteers for their hard work in making the event such a success.

Willingham Social Club has a long list of upcoming events which include live bands every month, Karaoke, Quiz Nights, Jam Club, Jazz Club, Darts Competitions, discos and much more.

We pride ourselves on researching and booking some of the best Live Bands from all over the region. On Saturday 20th January, Bear Club the ultimate party band are at the club, playing sounds of the 80's. Saturday 17th February we welcome Eton Rivals, playing ska, mod, punk and new wave covers. They are a lively band which our talent scouts discovered!

Saturday 24th March, Jessies Ghost are here, in their early days they made it into the X Factor house!! Highly in demand and charismatic, playing modern and classic dance tracks from Ed Sheeran, James Blunt, Mumford and Sons and a few of their own too. Christmas Karaoke Friday 8th December, free entry. Custard Comedy are back on the 23rd February, acts to be confirmed but always a popular event. The club is pleased to welcome Meeting Point an organisation which holds discos for over 30's, originally a singles event it is now open to everyone and has been very well attended. Dates to be confirmed.

Details of all of the events held at the club can be found at www.willinghamsocialclub.com our Facebook Page and Willingham Events facebook group. Or contact Mick Gough at the club via willinghamsocialclub@gmail.com or 01954 260557. Tickets where applicable from the club or www.wegotickets.com

New members are always welcome and an application form can be downloaded from our website. We are hoping to hold more free members nights as the club continues to grow. Willingham Social Club is a not for profit organisation. Thank you for your continued support.

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