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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

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🌐 www.fenedge.co.uk

📘 fenedgenews

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Registered Charity No. **293020**

Spring/Summer 2019

4 Chair's Message

5-7 Events Diary

9-25 Cottenham

9 Colts; 11 Fun Run, Theatre Workshop, Village Society; 13 Firs House PPG

15 Crazy Crafty Chicks, Messy Church

17 Tennis Club, WI

19 Bowls, Gardeners' Club, Rainbows

21 Cricket Club; 23 Community Centre

27-29 Landbeach

27 Friends of Worts Meadow

29 Tithe Barn, Landbeach Society

31-38 Adult & Family Classes

39-41 Rampton

39 Ramparts

41 Charity Horse Show, Gardening

43-49 Willingham

43 Youth Trust, WI; 45 Willingham Wheels

47 Bowls and Social clubs; 49 Gardening Club

51-53 Parish Councils

55-63 Fen Edge Groups

55 Fen Edge Orchestra, Footpath Group

57 Stitch Wild

59 Arthur Rank

61 Whirl and Twirl; 63 Rotary

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



2019 has got off to a very auspicious start for the Fen Edge Community Association. We have welcomed our 60th and 61st member groups: the Rampton Friday Club and the Cottenham Community Land

Trust have both joined. On behalf of the Committee we would like to welcome them and we look forward to supporting their work in the community.

There are a number of very exciting things to look forward to in 2019. Cottenham Community Centre, one of the most active FECA members, celebrates its 10-year anniversary with a very exciting programme of events in March. This is a tremendous community asset and on behalf of the Fen Edge Community Association we would like to congratulate the Centre and all its volunteers and thank them for all their work. Very well done!

I would also like to put in a plug for the Cottenham Tennis Club as FECA were delighted to be able to recently provide funding for tennis coaching. It would be great to see a thriving tennis club so if you would like to get involved please visit www.cottenhamtennis.co.uk, email info@cottenhamtennis.co.uk to find out more.

We are looking forward to the Fun Run in May over the traditional, and very precise, 7 kilometres course around Cottenham. Many thanks again to Martyn Leeks, Rebecca Cole and Mark Hurworth for devoting their time and energy to the organisation of this very popular event. There are plenty of opportunities for non-runners to also get involved as stewards on the

course. Details are in the magazine but let's hope for a large turn-out and a bright (but not too hot) day. There will be a junior event as in previous years. June will see the return of the Fen Edge Festival on the weekend of 21–23 June. The Organising Committee is hard at work and will no doubt reveal the theme and the details of the activities in due course (*Ed: these will be posted on fenedge.co.uk*). I am sure that there will be a great range of activities for young and old to enjoy. The Festival is particularly dependent upon volunteer stewards to ensure the safe and smooth running of the event. If you have enjoyed the event in the past but have not volunteered previously, please consider doing so. To put it quite simply: without volunteers, there would be no Festival. If you are interested, please drop an email to chair@fenedge.co.uk

Lastly, I would like to thank Adrian Stephens for his hard work in overhauling the FECA website. This is the place to discover what is going on in the Fen Edge area – please visit www.fenedge.co.uk. It really is worth a look.

Neil Gough

Chair, Fen Edge Community Association

ONLINE RESOURCES

FECA has three online resources that can help keep you up to date with what is going on in the community.

Our website (www.fenedge.co.uk) contains relevant news articles, reference information (such as the Fun Run and Chairman's reports), a directory of member groups and their contact details, plus a list of advertisers in the Fen Edge News.

FECA also has a Google calendar of events, which includes the same information as the Fen Edge Events Diary section in this newsletter, plus additional events notified at shorter notice. You can subscribe to the calendar from your smartphone if you want to get reminders, see website for details.

Our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/fenedgenews) also contains the news content from our website.

FECA uses these resources to advertise member groups' meetings/events. Please send an email to the editor (editor@fenedge.co.uk) if you want to do this.

FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

What's on and when in the villages

MARCH

Sat 30 Fen Edge Footpath Group – Walk: *Little Thetford, Kingfisher walk* (p55)

Sat 30 8pm Willingham Social Club – Live comedy band: *Ouse Valley Singles Club* (p47)

APRIL

Mon 1 7:30pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *From Crowbar to Crocosmia–The making of a Fenland Garden* at Willingham Social Club (p49)

Fri 5 7:15pm Willingham Social Club – Willingham Cricket Club: *Quiz Night* (p47)

Sat 6 3:30–5:30pm All Saints Church – Messy Church: *Lots to make, ending with an Easter Egg Hunt* (p15)

Mon 8 7:30pm Willingham Women's Institute – Talk: *Llamas* at Willingham Social Club (p43)

Wed 10 7:30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Talk: *Air Ambulance* by Jean Coxall at Cottenham Village College (p17)

Thu 11 7:30pm Fen Edge Archaeology Group – Talk: *Bones on the beach: human evolution and osteoarchaeology in coastal environments* by Michael Rivera at Cottenham Village College, see feagblog.wordpress.com

Fri 12 7:45pm Willingham Social Club – Custard Comedy: *Paul Sinha from The Chase* (p47)

Fri 12 8pm Cambridgeshire Bird Club – Talk: *Guillemots on Skomer Island* by Tim Birkhead at Cottenham Village College, see www.cambridgebirdclub.org.uk

Fri 12 7:45pm Cottenham Village Society – Talk: *The loss of skills in Conservation* by Jonathan Ashley-Smith at All Saints' Church, Cottenham, Church Hall (p11)

Wed 17 7–9pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Decorated bird boxes* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Thu 18 1–3pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Whimsical lampshades* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Sun 21 2–4pm Cottenham Bowls Club – Open day (p19)

Fri 26 7:30pm Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Talk: *Cyclamen* by Joe Sharman from Monksilver Nursery at Franklin Gardens Community Centre (p19)

Sat 27 8pm Willingham Social Club – Disco: *Soul and Motown* by UA Roadshow (p47)

Sat 27 9:30am Fen Edge Footpath Group – Walk: *An 8.5 mile walk starting in Linton taking in Horseheath and Bartlow.* (p55)

Sun 28 2–4pm Cottenham Bowls Club – Open day (p19)

MAY

Wed 1 7–8:30pm Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust – Meeting: *AGM* at Landbeach Village Hall (p29)

Sat 4 Cottenham Tennis Club – Tennis for Free at Cottenham Sports Centre (p17)

Sat 4 10:45am Fen Edge Community Association – Fun Run & Junior Run at Cottenham Village College (p11)

Mon 6 7:30pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *Plant Heritage.* Will be plants for sale. At Willingham Social Club (p49)

Wed 8 7:30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Talk: *Resolutions and Just Desserts* at Cottenham Village College (p17)

Wed 8 7:45pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Theatre: *The Real Inspector Hound* and *A Separate Peace* by Tom Stoppard at Cottenham Village College. Doors open 7:15pm. (p11)

Thu 9 7:45pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Theatre: *The Real Inspector Hound* and *A Separate Peace* by Tom Stoppard at Cottenham Village College. Doors open 7:15pm. (p11)

Fri 10 8pm Cambridgeshire Bird Club – Talk: *Wild birds in human history: the archaeological approach* by Umberto Albarella at Cottenham Village College, see www.cambridgebirdclub.org.uk

Fri 10 7:45pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Theatre: *The Real Inspector Hound* and *A Separate Peace* by Tom Stoppard at Cottenham Village College. Doors open 7:15pm. (p11)

Sat 11 8pm Willingham Social Club – Live Band: *Or Wot. Free member's night.* (p47)

Sat 11 7:45pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Theatre: *The Real Inspector Hound* and *A Separate Peace* by Tom Stoppard at Cottenham Village College. Doors open 7:15pm. (p11)

Continued on Page 7

FEN EDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Cottenham SEVEN K FUN RUN 2019

7.0K Fun Run
including Junior Fun Run
& Market stalls

**Saturday
4th May**

Race Registration
from 9am to 10:30am
at Cottenham Village College

7K event - start 10:45am
Junior event - start 10:00am

Race Entry Fee
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FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

Continued from Page 5

Mon 13 7:30pm Willingham Women's Institute – Talk: *Film, Television and Theatrical costume design* at Willingham Social Club (p43)

Wed 15 7–9pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Felt hearts and flowers* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Wed 15 7:30pm Fen Edge Archaeology Group – Talk: *Archaeology along the East Anglia ONE cable route: changing the landscape of the River Deben Valley in east Suffolk* by Andy Peachey at Cottenham Village College, see feagblog.wordpress.com

Thu 16 1–3pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Dream catchers* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Fri 17–Sun 19 Fen Edge Footpath Group – Walking Weekend: *Hartington Hall, YHA, Peak District*. (p55)

Sat 18 8pm Willingham Social Club – Rock Band: *The Indietones* (p47)

Fri 24–Sun 26 Waterbeach Parish Council – Waterbeach Colts Beer festival at Waterbeach Recreation Ground (p53)

Sun 26 9am Cottenham United Colts FC – 5-a-side tournament: www.cottenhamunitedcolts.com (p9)

Wed 29 7:30–9pm Friends of Worts Meadow – AGM & Talk: *With wine & cheese and illustrated natural history talk* at Landbeach Village Hall (p27)

Fri 31 7:30pm Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Talk: *Growing and Propagating Herbs* by Zsuzsa Serer of Herbal Haven at Franklin Gardens Community Centre (p19)

JUNE

Sat 1 5:30–7am Friends of Worts Meadow – *Dawn Chorus Walk: followed by breakfast meet* at Landbeach village Hall car park (p27)

Sat 1 2:30–4pm Friends of Worts Meadow – Pond dipping at Main pond in Worts Meadow (p27)

Mon 3 7:30pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *The History & Uses of Herbs* at Willingham Social Club (p49)

Sat 8 7:45am Willingham Gardening Club – Excursion: *Wakehurst Mansion and Botanic Gardens* (p49)

Sat 8 Fen Edge Footpath Group – Walk (p55)

Sat 8 Waterbeach Feast at Waterbeach Village Green (p53)

Sun 9 Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Summer Lunch Party at the garden of Ken and Dawn Marr (p19)

Wed 12 7:30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Talk: *Cambridge Green Badge Guide* by Yvonne Pinchen

at Cottenham Village College (p17)

Sat 15 8pm Willingham Social Club – Disco: *70's, 80's and 90's* by UA Roadshow (p47)

Sat 15 Waterbeach Dog Show at Waterbeach Recreation Ground (p53)

Sun 16 Willingham Wheels – Bike Ride: *Two bike rides 50-60 miles and 8-10 miles* at Over Day Centre (p45)

Wed 19 7–9pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Paper bunting* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Thu 20 1–3pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Felt flowers* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Fri 21–Sun 23 FEN EDGE FESTIVAL

Sat 22 7:30pm Landbeach Society – Landbeach Lunch at All Saints' Parish Church, Landbeach (p29)

Sat 22–Sun 23 Cottenham Tennis Club – Tennis for Free at Cottenham Sports Centre (p17)

Fri 28 7:30pm Cottenham Gardeners' Club – Talk: *A History of Easton Lodge* by Claire Matthews, Trustee of Easton Lodge Gardens at Franklin Gardens Community Centre (p19)

JULY

Mon 1 7pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *Principles of Garden Design* at 38 High Street, Willingham (p49)

Sat 6 10am Fen Edge Footpath Group – Walk: *A walk of about 7 miles through Villages old and new*. (p55)

Wed 10 Cottenham Women's Institute – Garden Party (p17)

Sat 13 8:15am Willingham Gardening Club – Excursion: *Oakham and Barnsdale Gardens* (p49)

Sat 13 7:30pm Fen Edge Orchestra – Summer Concert: *a short programme of varied music* at All Saints' Church, Cottenham (p55)

Wed 17 7–9pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Fish lavender bags* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Thu 18 1–3pm Crazy Crafty Chicks – Workshop: *Paper bunting* at Cottenham Community Centre (p15)

Sat 20 10am–5pm Ramparts – The Alternative RA Summer Exhibition at Rampton Village Hall (p39)

Sun 21 10am–4pm Ramparts – The Alternative RA Summer Exhibition at Rampton Village Hall (p39)

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM UNITED FC COLTS

Preparations are well under way for our Annual 5-a-side tournament on Sunday 26 May. Well over a hundred teams from all over the region covering U7 to U14s will be competing all day long from 9am. Girls' football is thriving in Cottenham and this year we are pleased to be able to include an U14 Girls category and potentially U12 too.



Kelly Smith



Rachel Yankey

Some of our U14 squad attended an FA Game of Our Own training day at Bedford with Cottenham Village College with the aim of becoming Activators to recruit more girls to try football. Here they were lucky enough to meet some very well-known female footballers: Faye White, Rachel Yankey and Kelly Smith. They are all ex-England Lionesses and were happy to pose for photos with the girls!

The club was also one of the first in the County to pass its annual FA Charter Standard health check, having previously received Development Club status.



This success means that we are among the best in England at grassroots level in upholding the values that appeal to all and is a safe pace for all to enjoy football. All our teams from U7–U17 are enjoying a fine season with very few weather enforced postponements. Famous last words!

We continue to grow and develop. We have a new U6 team coming to fruition. The hard work and foundation laid in our FA SSE Wildcats project is paying dividends with potentially two new girls' teams forming. We are always looking for new players, coaches and volunteers as we continuously evolve. If anyone wishes to contact us there are links through our Facebook site and website www.cottenhamunitedcolts.com



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM FUN RUN 2019

The ever-popular Cottenham 7K Fun Run will take place on Saturday 4 May at Cottenham Village College along with the Junior Run, which takes place around CVC playing field a distance of approximately one mile. All Junior Run competitors must be accompanied by an adult. All competitors in both races will receive an engraved medal at the finishing line. Top three place medals will be awarded to category winners.

Once again, we are indebted to Malary Limited for their generous support and sponsorship of the event. Registration for both races starts, on the day, at 9am. Age categories and entry fees are: Primary age girl/boy £3, Secondary age girl/boy £3, Adult male/female £7; Veterans (50+) male/female £7. Online entry is also available now via the Fen Edge Community Association website (www.fenedge.co.uk).

The Junior Run commences at 10am. The 7K Fun Run commences at 10.45am on Cottenham Village College playing field and follows a measured seven kilometres on a well marshalled route through and around the village.

Last year's Fun Run raised over £1,000 for the Cambridgeshire branch of the Motor Neurone Disease Association and this year all proceeds, after costs, will be donated to local charities and good causes chosen by the Fen Edge Community Association.

There will also be a Morning Market for spectators to enjoy. Please contact info@fenedge.co.uk to book a stall (free for Fen Edge Community Association member groups).

You can stay in touch with all the latest details on Twitter @CottenhamFunRun and Facebook Cottenham 7K Run.

COTTENHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP

Two plays for the price of one!

Yes, you read that correctly, Cottenham Theatre Workshop are performing two plays this year for our Spring Show.

Directed by our long-standing member and friend, Kerry O'Connell will once again be taking the reins for another outing as a CTW director. For your pleasure, we will be putting on performances of *The Real Inspector Hound* and *A Separate Peace*, both written by Tom Stoppard and both only one act long!

The Real Inspector Hound focuses on Moon and Birdboot, two drama critics, arriving to watch the performance of a new detective play, a parody of the conventional stage thriller. However the private lives of the critics become inextricably mixed with those of the play's characters and the real Inspector Hound proves to be ... ? Find out in the show.

A Separate Peace is a sly, gentle dig at society's conventions and preconceptions. John Brown arrives at a country nursing home with a case of money expecting hotel-style service but is neither physically or mentally ill. Why is he there and who is he really? Again, come along and find out.

The shows run from Wednesday 8 May to Saturday 11 May at Cottenham Village College. Performances begin at 7.45pm with doors open from 7.15pm.

Tickets are now available via our website www.cottenhamtheatre.com or by ringing our provider, TicketSource, on 0333 666 4466 (additional booking fee applies). Make sure to get yours quickly before they're all gone.

Finally, you don't just have to be on stage to be a part of CTW, we're always looking for new volunteers in our backstage and front of house teams. If you've got any questions, please feel free to contact us at cottenhamtheatre@gmail.com or visit our website. Also follow us on our social media channels on Facebook and Twitter.

We hope to see many of you at the performances - enjoy the show!

COTTENHAM VILLAGE SOCIETY

Do you remember any of the shops and businesses in Cottenham that have now disappeared? Have you any photographs of them? Have you any publicity, leaflets invoices or other paraphernalia related to past and current businesses? Are there any stories of these establishments you can tell us? If so Cottenham Village Society would love to hear from you. We are compiling a list of Cottenham traders in preparation for a new publication.

Our next talk is Friday 12 April at 7.45pm – The loss of skills in Conservation by Jonathan Ashley-Smith at the Parish Church Hall.

Please contact the secretary: telephone 01954 251544 or email cottvillsoc@gmail.com

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

FIRS HOUSE AND TELEGRAPH STREET PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

The group (PPG) is made up of patient representatives from the Practice based in Cottenham and Histon. We act as a sounding board for ideas on how the Practice can improve the experience of its patients and provides a good opportunity for two-way communication between patient representatives and the Practice.

The PPG meets bi-monthly, generally on the first Tuesday of the month from 6.15–7.45pm together with a GP Partner and the Practice Manager. Our involvement was highly praised by the Care Quality Commission and helped the surgery win its coveted Outstanding rating. The PPG has been actively involved in organising a number of wide-ranging health promotion events in partnership with local community centres in Histon and Cottenham. These events are free and open to anyone in the community, whether or not they are registered patients with the Practice. Some of you may have attended our most recent event on Falls Prevention Awareness, On Balance, held at the Cottenham Community Centre as part of its 10th anniversary celebrations. Other topics have included, allergies,

Firs House and Telegraph St



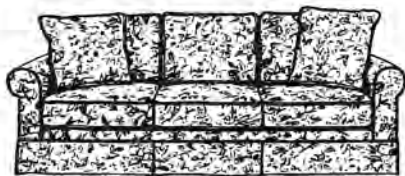
Patient Participation Group

diabetes, understanding dementia and looking after your skin (in the sun). We will be planning more events during the year, so watch this space!

We would welcome new members to our PPG, particularly patients living in the Fen Edge area who are registered with the Practice. If you are interested in joining the PPG and would like to find out more about what we do, please contact reception at the surgery in person or by phone: 01954 251180. More information can also be found on firshouse.com/ppg.aspx

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

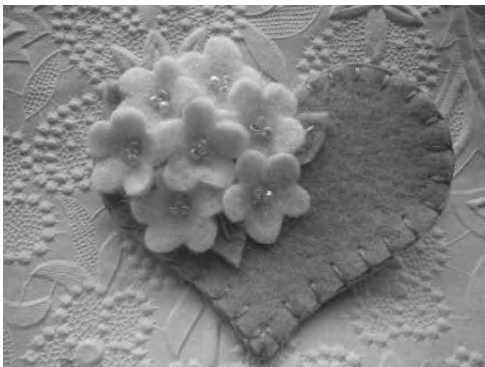
CRAZY CRAFTY CHICKS

Workshops to use recycled materials and everyday objects to create new treasures.

Once you have attended any of the workshops, you will be equipped to do the craft on your own, or show others how to be as creative as you! This is a very informal craft club and we love new ideas, so if you have an idea that we could run as a workshop, please let me know.

As well as our monthly evening workshop, Crazy Crafty Chicks is starting a new daytime class in April between 1–3pm and held in the Hall at Cottenham Community Centre.

Sound like something you might be interested in? Then all you need to do is book your place on Eventbrite. Cost £20 refreshments included.



Felt heart and flowers



Fish lavender bags

Evening workshops 7–9pm

- 17 April – Decorated bird boxes
- 15 May – Felt hearts and flowers
- 19 June – Paper bunting
- 17 July – Fish lavender bags

Daytime workshops 1–3pm

- 18 April – Whimsical lampshades
- 16 May – Dream catchers
- 20 June – Felt flowers
- 18 July – Paper bunting

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH COTTENHAM

A Church for everyone and open to all

We are very excited to announce the launch of MESSY CHURCH at All Saints' Church!

Messy Church is Church ... but not as you know it! An action packed, informal and fun session for the whole family, with crafts to enjoy, stories to hear and songs to sing, all followed by food. Come with your children and enjoy! We launch in Cottenham with Messy Easter on Saturday 6 April 3.30pm to 5.30pm in All Saints' Church, at the end of the High Street. Not surprisingly, the theme is Easter. Come and make Mini Egg cornflake cakes, roll marbles dipped

in paint, knock nails into wood to create a heart design, and make a huge domino run.

The session will end with an Easter Egg Hunt in the churchyard. For more information, contact Lynda at revlyndadavies559@gmail.com or 583651.





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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM TENNIS CLUB

The Tennis Club are extremely grateful to FECA for their generous funding, which has helped provide coaching and equipment for our community weekday coaching.

COMMUNITY WEEKDAY COACHING

Rusty Rackets, Wednesdays 7.30-8.30pm

Kids age 7-11, Thursdays 5.30-6.30pm

These two coaching sessions are a fun, sociable way to get fit and improve your skills. There is no need to book, and the cost is just £4 each for these term-time sessions. We'd love to see more people taking up this amazing value coaching, so come and give it a go.

TENNIS FOR ALL COTTENHAM SCHOOL CHILDREN

Over & In are a top class coaching team, who deliver our weekend coaching. After February half term their coaches went in to Cottenham Primary School and Cottenham Village College to run free lunchtime sessions. They also made very generous discounts on coaching for all Cottenham school children so we are really hopeful that more young people will be inspired to play tennis. Email coaching@overandin.com to find out how you and your family can access further coaching in Cottenham.

TENNIS FOR FREE

Saturday 4 May

Weekend 22-23 June

Keep an eye on the Cottenham Tennis Club Facebook page for details about these events, held at Cottenham Sports Centre, where anyone can just turn up and play. Rackets and balls will be available. There will be something for everyone even if you've never played before, and some challenges for intermediate and advanced players.

MEMBERSHIP

The new membership year starts on 1st April and still offers great value.

Junior – £20 (age 15 and under)

Student – £22 (16+ in education)

Adult – £45

Family – £85 (up to 4 members, £15 per additional member)

For membership contact: info@cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk

or call 01954 288760

GRASS COURTS

We hope that the 2 council run grass courts at the Recreation ground will be refurbished and playable



Cottenham Tennis Club coach Alec Davies, with some of the kids coaching squad, receiving a cheque from the Fen Edge Community Association

for the summer season. It will be great to see these courts back in use and it means there will be somewhere to play tennis during the day. All we need now is a long, hot summer!

With all these opportunities to play and have lessons locally we really hope to see many more of you taking up or getting back in to tennis, no matter what your age or ability or where you live in the Fen Edge area.

For more information about the club see:

www.cottenhamtennis.co.uk,

email info@cottenhamtennis.co.uk

or call Louise Cooke on 07841 573490

COTTENHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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. Our monthly meetings are at the Village College, where we have speakers, craft evenings and socials. We also have a walking group, craft group, bridge group, poetry group, darts group, lunch 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 and try us out. For more information about our meetings contact Margaret on 01954 250870 or Jill on 01954 250605

Diary of Events

Wednesday 10 April – Jean Coxall will give a talk about the local Air Ambulance, CVC 7.30pm

Wednesday 8 May – Resolutions and Just Desserts, CVC 7.30pm. Discussions around resolutions for conference followed by delicious desserts made by our members.

Wednesday 12 June – Yvonne Pinchen will give a talk about her work as a Cambridge Green Badge Guide, CVC 7.30pm

Wednesday 10 July – Garden party, please ring Margaret 01954 250870 for details

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM BOWLS CLUB

Another bowls indoor short mat season is coming to a close. This winter we have welcomed other bowls clubs from the area to form a short mat league. It has been a pleasure to meet new people and ensure that our club is being used to its full potential. We are looking forward to another enjoyable outdoor season and hope the weather will be as kind as last year.

To start the new season we are holding **two open days** for anyone who is interested in giving bowls a try. The dates for your diary are: Sunday 21 and 28 April 2pm – 4pm.

If you are unable to make these dates you could contact anyone below and they could organise a time for you to bowl some woods. Bowls is a great way to get gentle exercise in the fresh air and meet new people from Cottenham and surrounding villages. We are a successful and friendly club so come and give us a try.

As well as playing bowls we have a good social section which includes BBQs and Quiz Nights.

Finally Cottenham Bowls Club would like to thank RJ Pepper & Son Family Funeral Directors for their continued support.

Contacts

Dave Parrack 01954 230732

Eric Hobbs 01954 251956

Christine Forster 01954 200720

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

COTTENHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

Anyone with an interest in gardens is welcome to come to the club. We meet at Franklin Gardens Community Room, usually on the last Friday of the month. Refreshments are served from 7.30pm, with a talk starting at 7.45pm, followed by a raffle.

Our next few talks are:

Friday 26 April – Cyclamen, by Joe Sharman, our local Horticulturist from Monksilver Nursery

Friday 31 May – Growing and Propagating Herbs, by Zsuzsa Serer of Herbal Haven

Friday 28 June – A History of Easton Lodge, by Claire Matthews, Trustee of Easton Lodge Gardens

Also, on Sunday 9 June the club Summer Party will be held in the garden of Ken and Dawn Marr; with lunch jointly provided by members and committee.

In July, date to be confirmed, there will be an evening visit to Cambridge Botanic Garden, with a guided

tour; after the grounds are closed to the public.

Annual membership is currently £14, possibly subject to change at the forthcoming AGM. Guests and visitors are very welcome to try a single meeting for £2, or £4 for a party.

For any further information please contact Sarah Dumont, Tel: 01954 260482

COTTENHAM RAINBOWS

In Cottenham we are lucky to have 2 Rainbow units that meet each week, at the Salvation Army Barn.

We did have 3 units but we have run out of leaders!!

Can you give up some of your time, once a week to help run a unit? We asked the Rainbows what sort of person you should be and they said "FUN!" "Have lots of energy and like playing games," "Teach us some new skills that we want to learn," and "Make sure we have lots of different things to do every week!"



If this sounds like something that you would be interested in please get in touch with Dani Wykes 01954 250324 or Deanna Raven 01954 250388, joint District Commissioners, for more information. Full training is offered via a mentor in the Girlguides and support from all the leaders in Cottenham.



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM CRICKET CLUB

The cricket season is just around the corner and pre-season preparations are already well underway. Cottenham Cricket Club is looking forward to a busy season with games taking place on most days of the week. We have active sections for both adults and juniors with home games taking place on the Recreation Ground. This year the club will be running teams at U11, U13 and U15 age groups with games played on weekday evenings throughout the summer term. Matches are against other local village teams with formats designed to introduce the players to the game and ensure everyone gets a chance to participate. We're running indoor training sessions with qualified coaches at Cottenham Village College Sports Hall on Weds evenings, 5pm-6pm (U13s), 6pm-7pm (U15s) and Thurs evenings 5pm-6pm (U11s) until the end of April. We are always keen to have new players. If any boys or girls are interested in joining please just turn up to any session – everyone is welcome. After that date we'll be training outdoors on Friday evenings from 6pm-7.30pm. The season finishes in mid-July with a family day where all the teams get to play a fun game against their parents together with presentation of awards.

All-Stars Cricket will also be running again in Cottenham. This is a recent initiative from the England and Wales Cricket Board to introduce 5-8 year old boys and girls

to cricket. It is great fun and very reasonably priced with each participant getting their own backpack full of goodies. Registration for this is through the ECB at <https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/all-stars> and look for the Cottenham sessions. We will also be running two adult teams again in 2019. The 1st XI play in the Senior League Division 3 with the 2nd XI playing in Junior League Division 4. We have a wide range of ages playing in these teams and are very keen to hear from any new cricketers or those that would like to return to the game. Indoor training is underway with sessions on Sunday mornings at 9am, held at the Fenner's Indoor nets in Cambridge. These run until April 14th. After that nets will move outdoors to the Village College all summer. The season begins on Saturday May 4th with games most weekends until the end of August. Please come along to any of the sessions or contact any of the people below if you would like to know more.

Please check out our website (see below) where the Club News section has all the details regarding our 2019 pre-season sessions and the fixtures for the season. Club Contacts: Email: cottenhamcc@yahoo.co.uk Secretary: David Chaplin (01954 250075) Chairman: Ralph Lambie (07740 195947) Vice Chairman: Dave Partridge (01954 203210) Junior Teams Coordinators: Dave Partridge and Alan Raven (01954 250388) Website: www.cottenham.play-cricket.com

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Classes and activities

It is 10 years since the charity that runs Cottenham Community Centre was established. To celebrate this 10th anniversary, we held special events 15–24 March 2019.

The back kitchen and toilets have been re-roofed and re-fitted and 3 windows in the hall replaced. The new facilities are now open. We are very appreciative of the tolerance and understanding of our hirers and the financial help we have received from the Parish Council, Amey, FECA, ARM, the Co-op and others.

For full details of our many classes on each day and evening, see “classes” on our website (where you will find times and contact details) www.cottenhamcc.org or under “Function Rooms”, then refer to the room (hall, studio or coffee shop) booking calendars. Most classes have spaces.

New

On Mondays a **Beginners Pilates** class at 12.15pm, a **Barre** class at 7.15pm and a **Seni Ki Ryu** martial arts class at 8.30pm in the studio plus. In the hall **Mucky Pups** have returned at 10am and there is a **Bounce Dance** class at 8.30pm.

On Tuesdays **Vinaya Yoga** 7–8am, **Hatha Yoga** at 5.30pm and **AllDance's** new day and time 7.30pm, all in the studio. Monthly **Business in the Community** meetings at 12–2pm from 16 April in the hall.

On Wednesdays **Hatha Yoga** at 10am and 5.30pm and **Beginners Pilates** at 8.15pm in the studio and **Post-Natal Yoga** at 11.30am and an after-school club (**ArtastiCambridge**) 3.45–4.45pm in the hall. And monthly, **Crazy Crafty Chicks** at 7pm (including 17 April) and monthly **Photo Club** at 7.30pm, including 24 April, in the coffee shop.

On Thursdays **Pilates Workout** at 7pm and Yin Yoga at 8pm, both in the studio. Monthly, **Crazy Crafty Chicks** 1–3pm in the hall (including 18 April).

On Saturday and Sunday, **Colour Awareness** workshops, **Defibrillator and First Aid training** (bookings miranda@mi-time.eu), **Dad's 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 (including 5 April, 2 May and 7 June 2019) at 7.30pm and sometimes, for families, 2pm. Information from website: www.revcoffee.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 but can't get off the ground because of uncertainty over income to cover room hire?

We would like to hear from you. We charge for using these facilities, but we are keen to encourage community activities and would be flexible towards organisations looking to try out new community projects.

If you would like to know more, please contact Mike Smith on smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com or 01954 251915

Room Hire

There are three rooms (main hall, studio, coffee shop) for hire at the Cottenham Community Centre for new activities or parties. Full food catering and/or a bar can be provided. The hall is also great for businesses to use for training or meetings. A full entertainment licence is held. New are our wonderful new back kitchen facilities – great for a party or pop up café. See the website www.cottenhamcc.org or email smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

Continued on p25

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COTTENHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE

Continued from p23

Artwork on display in the coffee shop

Cottenham Community Centre regularly displays a selection of works by Cambridgeshire artists. The artwork can be purchased with 20% of the proceeds donated to the Centre itself. If artists are interested in this excellent opportunity to display their work, contact the art co-ordinator, Claire Noelle Holmes; email clairenoelleholmes@gmail.com. An artist's statement is required with details of artistic background, techniques used, extent of exhibition history and contact details. Artwork should be framed, unless on canvas. The exhibitions usually run for two months. There is a wall hanging system in place and plentiful wall space to show work.

Volunteers wanted

Become part of the team at the coffee shop, meet people and improve your skills. Weekly or less regular volunteers welcomed. Are you looking to complete the volunteering section of your **Duke**

of Edinburgh Award or have a reference for your **CV and College applications**? We welcome young volunteers. Come and have a chat with Jane, our manager; Tel: 01954 202109 or manager@cottenhamcc.org

Become a member of CCC and help ensure that this popular community centre continues to be a major focus of Fen Edge life or maybe consider becoming a trustee yourself: www.cottenhamcc.org/membership

Enjoy

Come in and enjoy a fantastic scone, cake or lunch. Coffee shop opening times are 10am–4.30pm Monday, 10am–2pm Tuesday to Saturday (except around Bank Holidays, Christmas and late August). The coffee shop will close for food and drinks for the Easter break at 2pm on Thursday 18 April and re-open at 10am on Wednesday 24 April.

To become a member, and receive a free beverage after 10 drinks bought and a 10% discount on a room hire, download a membership form at www.cottenhamcc.org/membership



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FECA IN LANDBEACH

FRIENDS OF WORTS MEADOW Natural History Notes.

I'm writing this on one of the warmest February days since records began and this is now officially a 'heatwave' (five consecutive days at 5°C or more above the average). On almost the same day last year there was snow on the ground as I filled the bird feeders in Worts Meadow. The aconites

and the first primroses had already shown their colours a couple of weeks beforehand and their timing is much the same this year. But the native daffodils we planted there a few years ago are well ahead of the game.

In October we checked all 25 of our nest boxes to see how many had been occupied and by which bird species. Fifteen of the boxes had nests in them, all of which seemed to be great tit or blue tit nests. Four of the boxes are open-fronted ones designed for robins, but sadly none of these had been used. Standing and watching the birds at the feeders this week, there were at least two robins around so our 'real estate' is obviously not yet good enough for them to take up residence. During just a few minutes of watching, four or five great tits, several blue tits, three boisterous greenfinches, and a very handsome tree sparrow joined the feast. The greenfinches are bold and boisterous and sit happily eating on the feeders. The tits tend to fly in and take individual sunflower seeds away to eat in the bushes behind the feeders. Although I've seen many goldfinches in Bourne Wood, they no longer seem to come onto the small seed feeder as they used to, maybe because it is now further away from safety of the dense bramble that had all but submerged the feeders. Join us on our dawn chorus walk around the reserve on Saturday 1 June to see if any are around then.

In the last edition, I wrote about our new and renewed amphibian ponds. The ponds have been gradually filling up and hopefully will soon be home once again to common and great crested newts. A few adventurous



Every winter we clean out the nest boxes ready for next season and record which ones have been used. This is a great tit nest.

individuals have already been spotted. With the surrounding mud settled and grass, weeds and flowers just starting to sprout, we are now planning to plant native rushes, and a variety of water plants. We have also started to build a bug and beast hotel a rather grand name for what is currently a heap of old willow panels, logs and brush. But hopefully it will provide useful shelter for a variety of creatures.

If you are interested in taking part in our activities, including work parties, please join our e-mail list. See contact information below. Or if you just want a peaceful stroll then do visit the reserve. FOWM volunteers help with the practical management of Worts Meadow Local Nature Reserve in Landbeach. 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. For more information contact Frances Dipper on 01223 861836, frances.dipper@sustenergy.co.uk

Events

Wednesday 29 May – Friends of Worts Meadow AGM with wine & cheese and illustrated natural history talk (speaker TBA) 7.30-9pm Landbeach Village Hall.

Saturday 1 June – Friends of Worts Meadow Dawn Chorus walk 5.30–7am followed by breakfast. Meet at Landbeach Village Hall car park.

Saturday 1 June – Friends of Worts Meadow Pond dipping 2.30–4pm. Meet at main pond in Worts Meadow, Landbeach.



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FECA IN LANDBEACH

LANDBEACH TITHE BARN TRUST - GET ACTIVE AND INVOLVED

Pencil the date in your diary for our AGM on Wednesday 1 May 7pm till 8.30pm at Landbeach Village Hall. We're busy finalising our events programme for 2019 and events will range from a theatre performance to participating in the Fen Edge Festival. So make sure you check www.tithebarntrust.org.uk/learning/ soon to find out more.

The Tithe Barn Trust is a small charity and not-for-profit volunteer group committed to saving and sympathetically restoring the Tithe Barn. Key to the Tithe Barn Trust's charitable aim is maximising public access to the Tithe Barn and education. We want to ensure that the Tithe Barn has a vibrant and sustainable future.

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.

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2. Become a Friend. Visit www.tithebarntrust.org.uk/become-a-member/
3. Volunteer. Email tithebarntrust@gmail.com to find out more.
4. Shop online via TheGivingMachine – a site that lets you raise free donations for the Tithe Barn Trust every time you shop online. Visit www.thegivingmachine.co.uk/causes/tithe-barn-trust/

Find us at www.tithebarntrust.org.uk

Admission to all our events is free, but donations are of course welcome towards the restoration of the Tithe Barn.

Tithe Barn Trust

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Volunteers at our outdoor gym

Apple gifting in October 2018



How to find the Tithe Barn

Gate entrance is opposite No 2 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9FA. Walk along the uneven grassed track. Free road parking or no. 9 stagecoach bus stops at Landbeach High Street, near Cockfen Lane or Citi Bus no.2.

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FECA IN RAMPTON / GARDENING

RAMPTON CHARITY HORSE SHOW

The organising of this year's show (our 32nd show) on Saturday 21 September has begun in earnest. This is a traditional, family horse show and will again feature showing (in-hand and ridden) classes, jumping classes, dressage, fun classes, fancy dress, clear round ring and our very popular fun dog show. Do please come along to one of the friendliest village horse shows in the Eastern region.

May we please ask any local businesses to consider advertising in our show schedule and/or sponsoring one of our classes, as we rely on local support to enable us to continue putting on what is one of the very few village horse shows still in existence. Please check out our Facebook page and visit our website (www.ramptonhorseshow.org) for updates.

GARDENING

It's time to bide awhile.

It's tempting to begin by saying something like 'here we go again', but we won't. It occurred to me when thinking about what to write, that I'm always giving you a list of jobs; we never talk about just enjoying what we've got. The medical profession have recognised that being outside and connecting with nature in some way is a pretty good way of dealing with a range of mental issues. Plants are a little like animals, in that if you have them, they rely on you for care, and will reward you in some way. For myself, I welcome the opportunity to have space to think and just being in that middle of a small part of the natural world.

This is the time when garden furniture begins to emerge from wherever it spends winter. If you have some, have a think about where you put it. Is it in the best place to catch the sun when you're around? Is it going to be in the best place to suit what's best for you? Maybe a change of aspect would be a good thing. If you're considering buying furniture for the garden, it's always best to try before you buy, but you knew that. Decide where you want to put it, and measure the size of the area. What will be the function of the furniture? Is it to be somewhere to have a glass of something while the sun goes down, or an industrial sized table to cope with a family of ten? What will be the time of day that you will mostly be using the chairs? Perhaps you want a light table and chairs to move around your patch, or to fold away to save space in a small area?

Loungers have now come a long way, and with care you can find ones that are easily moved and stored, and also weatherproof. I did see an excellent ironwork double wine glass holder that you could position wherever you felt most appropriate!

If you haven't got a cover for your chosen furniture, don't stint on the cover; a good one will help keep your investment in good order. If you don't have a garden or green space to call your own, there may be an answer. I've noticed on our allotments, that people are beginning to turn them into more than rows of vegetables. Summer houses and patio areas are beginning to appear, embellished with all sorts of artwork. Yes, there are vegetables aplenty, but also flower gardens. Putting your name on a waiting list doesn't commit you to a life of weeding and sowing. You could become part of a community of like-minded gardeners, sharing experiences, and enjoying a common interest.

Do though plan yourself some downtime in your garden over the year. If you're an avid gardener, or even if you're not, there is always the temptation when looking at your own patch to either see things to do, or to grab a pair of secateurs and lay into something. Don't. There will be time tomorrow, or later. If it's one of those twilight evenings, when the birds are beginning to settle with just the blackbird left singing, the damp scent of the grass begins to rise and the little solar lights that you bought pop into life, sit and enjoy!

Ken Ellis – Cottenham Gardeners' Club

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

WILLINGHAM YOUTH TRUST

What a year 2018 was for the Willingham Youth Trust!

The youth club re-launched in 2018 seeing many kids come to the club on Wednesday nights to have fun with their friends.

In 2018 the **Coding Club** saw around 75 young people and finished with an exciting project combining computer programming and some basic electrical engineering of robotic cars. They used Raspberry Pi computers and robotic cars supported by code that the children had worked on in previous blocks. Children showed great creativity and ingenuity in building the cars, writing code for driving, using sensors to detect objects and responding to speech and music. We are planning to take the next group of children to a local company, where they design and programme driverless cars, so that they can see how the technology is used in the real world. If your children are interested in coming along to the coding club please contact one of the organisers at enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org. Summer 2018 saw **It's A Knockout** back in Willingham. Despite the day being grey and damp the community enjoyed a fun day of laughter and activity. Local organisations supported the event, teams came together from all walks of life and volunteer supporters from Willingham Action Group and Saint John's Ambulance were there on the day to help out. The event raised around £2,000 for the youth centre.

As autumn 2018 approached the Youth Trust looked forward to its annual family disco which was Halloween themed and resulted in much fun for the large numbers that attended. Everyone enjoyed food, drinks, games and a great raffle all raising further much needed funds to support the centre.

Finally we were thrilled to kick off the festive season at the Christmas Crafting Party where we enjoyed glitter, mulled wine, cookie icing, crafting and much laughter.

Coming Up

Term Time Wednesday nights 7–8.30pm – **The Youth Zone** for years 6, 7, 8 and 9.

The **Coding Club** will be three blocks of six weeks term time sessions dates to follow.

22 June – We will be at the **Fen Edge Festival** and will no doubt turn up with our spatulas and our juice bike to support the event.

In July – Summer BBQ at the playing field, details TBD.

Summer weekends and holidays – Hoping to open the centre as a **Pop up café**. If you are interested in volunteering please contact us at enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org. Watch this space!

Don't forget this great venue is available to rent either on a regular basis for clubs and events or for parties both kids and adults. It holds up to 60 people and has great facilities at competitive prices.

Watch out for dates and information on all of the above on our website www.willinghamyouthcentre.com.

or our Facebook page or email the team directly at enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org

Happy 2019 from all the team at the Willingham Youth Trust.

WILLINGHAM WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

2018 was a very successful and memorable year for us at Willingham WI. We celebrated the centenary of women getting the vote and 90 years of the Women's Institute in Willingham.

2019 started with some very interesting speakers at our meetings in January and February and at the time of writing we are preparing for a social evening at our meeting in March, along with our formal Annual Meeting.

We meet on the second Monday of each month and our meetings are held at the Willingham Social Club, starting at 7.30pm. We have a variety of speakers lined up for the Spring including a talk about Llamas at our April meeting followed by a talk about Film, Television and Theatrical costume design for our May meeting. New members are always welcome and more information is available from Wendy Law on 01954 202188.

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM



Swavesey and Over Cycling Group

WILLINGHAM WHEELS

Willingham Wheels Cycle Club is organising two donation bike rides for Sunday 16 June, with help from Swavesey & Over Cycling Group, for the Over Day Centre. We hope this will be a popular Father's Day activity.

There will be one ride for serious riders of about 50–60 miles and another for families of about 8–10 miles. They will commence at the Over Day Centre (at different times) and end at The Green, Over (at around the same time). We will have a food marquee, refreshments, bar and live music at The Green, to make a lively social

event and as the bike rides are a joint celebration of 10 years of the Over Day Centre. Donations will go to the Day Centre, to help maintain and enhance services for the elderly in Over and many surrounding villages. The rides, planned by a British Cycling Route Planner, will be marked, with back-up maintenance/first aid.

We hope local bike clubs, keen individuals and families will join us to enjoy the rides and to help make the day a lively event. Fliers with final details will be published in the next month or so. In the meantime, please put this date into your diary if you might think of joining us.



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FECA IN WILLINGHAM



WILLINGHAM BOWLS CLUB

A new season will shortly be upon us and Willingham Bowls Club welcomes any new members. Don't worry if you have never played before, we have members prepared to show the basics of bowls. It's a great game to play, full of tradition, competition and it is a gentle form of healthy exercise.

Although we have teams in three leagues it is not all about competition, if you just want to go down to the green for a roll up, we organise sessions for that purpose. Our policy is to make the club open and friendly.

We are in the Ely and District league which is played in the afternoons. We are also in the Business Houses league, two teams and these are played in the evenings. All of our teams are mixed.

The outdoor season is not particularly long, so we have a team playing at Chesterton Indoor Bowls during the winter, this has proved very popular as it keeps the club active for twelve months.

We also have a policy of trying to attract younger players and membership for 16 years and younger is free.

Adult Membership for the year is £35.

We are trying to increase our social events, at the moment we have an annual BBQ and an end of season Dinner, we are looking to increase that in the future. The BBQ and Dinner are also open to members' families.

If you want to try bowls please feel free to contact us.

Terry Buckley – terry.buckley@virginmedia.com

Ian Bissett – ianbissett@gmail.com

WILLINGHAM SOCIAL CLUB

What's on...

Cash Bingo – Every Wednesday, eyes down 7.30pm

Jam Club – Last Monday of the month 7.30pm

Jazz Club – First Sunday of the month 12 noon

Saturday 30 March 8pm – *The Ouse Valley Singles Club*, live comedy band

Friday 5 April 7.15pm doors – Willingham Cricket Club quiz night

Friday 12 April 7.45pm – Custard Comedy with TV Celeb' Paul Sinha from *The Chase*

Saturday 27 April 8pm – Soul and Motown disco with UA Roadshow

Saturday 11 May 8pm – *Or Wot*, live band.

Free members night

Saturday 18 May 8pm – *The Indietones*, live rock band

Saturday 15 June 8pm – 70's, 80's and 90's disco with UA Roadshow

Events are constantly being added to, please see www.willinghamsocialclub.com Facebook or ask at the bar.



Some tickets for events are available from www.wegotickets.com or the club. New membership applications welcome, ask at the bar or download form. Competitive Hall hire prices.

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

WILLINGHAM GARDENING CLUB

Willingham Gardening Club meets on the first Monday of the month, except January, at Willingham Social Club, at 7.30pm. The new club year begins, and annual subscriptions will become due, at the April meeting. New members are always welcome and guests are welcome at our meetings for a small charge.

Excursions. Our first two outings for 2019 are:

Saturday 8 June 2019 – Wakehurst Mansion and Botanic Gardens. Pick-up at 7.45am at Cottenham, 8am at Willingham

Saturday 13 July 2019 – Oakham and Barnsdale Gardens. Pick-up at 8.15am at Cottenham, 8.30am at Willingham

For further details contact Celia on 01954 261394.

Our Programme Secretary has been hard at work planning our programme of speakers for the coming year.

Willingham Horticulture & Craft Show

This is an advanced notification of the annual village Horticulture and Craft Show which will be held on Saturday 31 August. Now is the time to be planning your fruit & vegetable and craft entries. This year's Show Schedule will have several minor amendments but last year's Schedule can still be used for guidance.

Events

Monday 1 April – *From Crowbar to Crocosmia—The making of a Fenland Garden.* Willingham Social Club at 7.30pm.

Monday 6 May – *Plant Heritage.* Willingham Social Club at 7.30pm. Will be plants for sale.

Monday 3 June – *The History & Uses of Herbs.* Willingham Social Club at 7.30pm

Monday 1 July – *Principles of Garden Design.* 7pm at 38 High Street, Willingham.

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PARISH COUNCILS

COTTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) will be held this year on Thursday 2 May. This is your opportunity to find out what the Parish, District and County Councils have been up to over the past 12 months. The event will start at 7pm with refreshments followed by presentations from 7.30pm. We look forward to seeing you there.

Neighbourhood Plan

The "Regulation 16" consultation run by SCDC closed on 25 March. The comments received are now being passed, alongside the plan and its supporting information, to an Independent Examiner who has to check that our plan can progress to a referendum, either "as is" or with some amendments.

Major Building Developments

The Bellway and Persimmon developments have made considerable progress but traffic disruptions caused by utility connections and changes to the carriageway to provide pavements and safe crossing places will continue for some months. Surface water drainage arrangements for all these developments remain a concern until they are finished and adopted by the relevant authorities. The County Council and Gladman developments are progressing more slowly as both involve sales of the land that was granted outline planning permission to other parties before the detailed designs can move ahead. The County Council one is particularly sensitive because of its impact on our Primary School and Recreation Ground.

Village Hall/Nursery update

Some preparatory work is under way while bidders consider their responses to our invitations to tender for these two projects – either separately or together. Our recent emphasis has been on how to maintain safe operations of Ladybird Pre-School, the Kids Club and the general play and sport activities during the inevitable disruptions caused by the building works. The APM on 2 May will be a good opportunity for you to examine our plans as the Parish Council prepares to make its go/no go decision – hopefully in June.

Highways

At the time of writing we're waiting to hear the result of our LHI bid to County Highways for traffic calming measures on Histon Road.

Cricket Nets

At the time of writing we're currently waiting for a decision from SCDC regarding our planning application to install cricket nets at the Recreation Ground. The nets, located behind the Pavilion, will be used for pre-match warmups, coaching and training.

Tennis Courts

The two grass courts at the Recreation Ground are currently undergoing some specialist works to make them playable for the summer.

New Bridleway

On 6 February the County Council created a Public Bridleway. The bridleway provides a new link between Broad Lane (just before the bridge), Les King Wood and Rampton Road.

Cottenham Community Directory

A "contacts and information" booklet has been prepared to help new and current residents settle in. The directory details the wealth of clubs and leisure activities in the village as well as useful information about our facilities. A copy of the directory can be found on our website.

Meetings

A reminder that our Full Parish Council meeting takes place on the 1st Tuesday of the month. Residents are welcome to attend and time is set aside specifically at the start of the meeting for you to raise questions. Meetings begin at 7.15pm and take place in the Village Hall. We also have smaller Committee meetings throughout the month for planning, community facilities, highways and finance. These meetings commence at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and again residents are welcome to attend.

Sports Pavilion Hire

If you'd like to hire the Sports Pavilion multi-purpose room (up to 40 people) for your birthday party, christening, anniversary celebrations, classes etc. please contact Sam (asstclerk@cottenhampc.org.uk) for rates and availability. You can also check the diary and make provisional booking enquiries via our website.

Jo Brook, Parish Clerk

Email: clerk@cottenhampc.org.uk Phone: 07503 328401
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RAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

King Street Recreation Ground Toddler Play Area
The Council wish to thank the Big Lottery Fund for awarding the Council a grant of nearly £10,000 to replace and improve the worn play equipment. As well as refurbishing the traditional roundabout a new Young Explorer unit (a low rise cabin on stilts with ladders and slides) and a Play Hut will be installed, and in common with the adult log-beam exercise equipment there will be a balance beam, a wobbly plank and a half log walk specifically designed for infants. These will all be installed in time for spring, so take the kids and enjoy!

continued on page 53

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PARISH COUNCILS

continued from page 51

Village Website

Rampton Parish Council are pleased to say that more details about the Council, the assets it manages and how the Council functions, plus local events, are now available on the village website rampton.org

Community Grants

The Parish Council has instigated a trial Community Grant Scheme for the village, whereby grants of up to £100 (subject to budget limits) can be given to village groups to assist voluntary services, enhance the quality of life, improve 'access and opportunity', benefit groups and benefit the environment. Details of this scheme can be found on the village website.

Closure of the Churchyard at All Saints' Rampton: The All Saints' Rampton Action Group have announced that the historic church graveyard (churchyard) is full and cannot accommodate new burial plots. This has been the case for some years and so the Parochial Church Council (PCC) has now started the process of formal closure of the churchyard. Once this process is complete, the responsibility for maintenance of the churchyard will fall to Rampton Parish Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

This proposed closure will not affect the adjacent public cemetery which will continue to be managed by Rampton Parish Council.

To contact the clerk, please
email ramptonparishclerk@gmail.com

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council hires the Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road for local groups and individual events. The hall is very popular and holds a variety of regular classes (see below). If you would like to book an event or are interested in any of the classes then please contact the Parish Office.

Mondays

9.30–10.30am – Zumba/aerobics; 10.45–11.45am – Pilates
12–1pm – Mother and Baby exercise class
6–8pm – Fitness, strength & conditioning circuits
8–10pm – Badminton

Tuesdays

6–8pm – Fitness, strength & conditioning circuits
8–10pm – Badminton

Wednesdays

7.30–8.30pm – Keep fit/Zumba

Thursdays

9.30am–12.30pm – Adult Ballet; 7–8pm – Yoga

Fridays

9.30–10.30 am – Aerobics; 10.30–11.30am – Fitness Pilates
8.30–10pm Ballroom dancing

Meeting dates are published on the website, www.WillinghamParishCouncil.gov.uk

the notice board outside the public hall in the High Street and at the Library.

The Parish Council Office is open Monday to Thursday from 10am to 1pm, except Bank Holidays and there is an answer-phone service outside office hours.

The contact details are: Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP.

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

WATERBEACH PARISH COUNCIL

Setting the Parish Precept. The precept for Waterbeach has been set at £84 for a band D house. This represents an increase of £2 or 2.4% over the previous year. Last year we were able to reduce the precept by using up some of our general reserves. We are still budgeting to reduce our general reserves but are also looking to spend additional sums on addressing traffic problems in the village and carrying out some long delayed maintenance.

Library opening hours. Because of major building works being carried out at the school, there have to be some changes to the opening hours of the library. Until further notice these are: Monday afternoon 3–5pm, Wednesday afternoon 3–5pm, Wednesday evening 6–8pm, Friday afternoon 3–5.30pm and Saturday morning 10–noon.

Cemetery Extension. The new cemetery extension is ready for use. We have started off by installing a number of concrete foundations for memorials along the wall. These contain holes for memorial stones and vases. The use of these foundations will ensure that memorials are fixed in position and there is much less chance of them becoming unstable in the future.

Community Warden. A Community Warden scheme covering Waterbeach, Landbeach and Chittering is now operating to help people over 60 years of age remain living at home as independently and safely as possible. If you would like more information, or to refer a friend or neighbour, please contact the warden, Diane Robertshaw on 07977 219403
Supplementary Planning document for Waterbeach New Town. SCDC adopted the SPD at its Cabinet meeting on 6 February.

Events

Friday 24–Sunday 26 May – Waterbeach Colts Beer festival on the Recreation Ground

Saturday 8 June – Waterbeach Feast on the Village Green

Saturday 15 June – Waterbeach Dog Show on the Recreation Ground.



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FEN EDGE GROUPS



FEN EDGE ORCHESTRA

We had a busy start to 2019, rehearsing for a concert which took place in Histon Baptist Church on 9 February. The concert was warmly received by an appreciative audience, who enjoyed the contrasting pieces played. Music included the frenetic *Polovtsian Dances* by Borodin, an arrangement of 3 beautiful English folk songs by Holst and Bizet's *Symphony in C*. The symphony, written when Bizet was only 17, displays youthful exuberance in the outer movements, and lyrical tenderness in the slow movement. For its winter concert the orchestra always supports a charity suggested by one of its players. On this occasion, £217 was raised for Waterbeach Toddler Playgroup.

The orchestra's next outing will be at the Fen Edge Festival on Cottenham Green. You will be able to hear a short programme of varied music on Sunday 23 June

at 2.45pm. Come along and enjoy a sit down and a cup of tea while listening to some live music.

On Saturday 13 July at 7.30pm, All Saints' Church, Cottenham will be the venue for the orchestra's summer concert. It's a lovely place to make and listen to music, especially since the refurbishment of the church interior which took place last year.

Are you interested in playing in an orchestra? Fen Edge Orchestra is a friendly group which meets in Cottenham Village College every Wednesday evening in term time. At the moment there are spaces for violin, viola, double bass, french horn and trumpet. Whatever instrument you play, do fill in the contact form which you will find on the website: www.fenedgeorchestra.wordpress.com

There are no auditions, and your name will be held until a vacancy arises for your instrument.

THE FEN EDGE FOOTPATH GROUP

If you are new to Cottenham, Waterbeach, Willingham, Rampton, Landbeach or Chittering, how about getting to know the area and the people by joining the Fen Edge Footpath Group for one of our monthly walks? We meet at Cottenham Village College for car share. Please refer to the website: sites.google.com/site/fenedgefg for full details where not shown below. Please confirm your participation with the Walk Leader using fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com at least one week before the date. The forthcoming walks are:

30 March - Little Thetford, Kingfisher walk. Leader: Janet /Eilean.

27 April – Linton area; Meet at CVC at 9.30am for

lift share or 10am at the health centre car park TL56274 46854 CB21 4JS access from Coles Lane. An 8.5 mile walk starting in Linton taking in Horseheath and Bartlow. The route is undulating and slippery underfoot in places so please bring stout shoes and use walking sticks if needed. Bring picnic. Leader: Claire/Chris G.

17-19 May – walking weekend Hartington Hall, YHA, Peak District. Leader: David.

8 June – TBD. Leader Roger.

6 July – A walk of about 7 miles through Villages old and new. Park at Madingley P&R or park near footpath for Eddington Avenue. Meet at footpath to start at 10am. Bring lunch. Leaders: Ian and Anne.

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FEN EDGE GROUPS

STITCH WILD

We are a friendly group of creative textile artists from around Cambridgeshire and further afield who get together once a month to stitch. We started meeting at All Saints' Hall in Cottenham in 2016. We have come from various sewing backgrounds and work together to help each other develop. We work on our individual projects, also enjoy internal group activities and workshops from external tutors. Our projects include many 'techniques' including, design work, nuno felting, dyeing, using soluble material, appliqué, machine embroidery, hand sewing, and of course great company.

Our group members have either a City & Guilds qualification in a textile area or many years' experience in machine embroidery and textile art. Our group has a steady membership of fifteen and occasionally a place will become available. We try to invite new members with experience in textile art as we are not specifically a teaching group but one that supports each other in the progress of our work. Below is a picture of our work in progress.



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FEN EDGE GROUPS

ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE

Hospice's fundraising Christmas tree recycling scheme beats all expectations!

Over one hundred volunteers helped Arthur Rank Hospice Charity collect 1,860 pre-loved Christmas trees on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 January, raising £26,500! The Christmas tree recycling and fundraising initiative has grown quickly since it was first launched by the Hospice's fundraising team in 2016, when it raised £3,500.

Community Fundraiser Bec Beattie explains what happened next: "We quickly realised that we would need to increase the number of helpers we had on board, so we put out an appeal and doubled the number of people and vans on our volunteer collection team within two days! Thanks to them generously giving up their time, we were able to complete our 'treasure hunt for Christmas trees.'"

90% of the funds raised will help fund Arthur Rank Hospice Charity's care to those living with a life-limiting illness in Cambridgeshire, with 10% donated to a local cause nominated by those who volunteered to help with the tree collection.



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity would like to extend its grateful thanks to every single one of the volunteers and local companies involved in the collection scheme and its promotion; as well as Amey Cespa at Waterbeach and Cambridge City Council for their support in recycling the trees.

If you would like to help by volunteering or sponsoring the Hospice's next annual Christmas tree recycling scheme in January 2020, please email bec.beattie@arhc.org.uk or call 01223 675885 to register your details.

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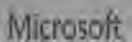
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FEN EDGE GROUPS

WHIRL AND TWIRL

If one thing is certain it is that things change. More of us are making it to retirement and looking for activities to keep us active, in both body and mind. One of the most beneficial as recognised by the Department of Health is dance. Whirl & Twirl is a local club that provides a friendly non-competitive environment for anyone to learn to dance. There are no long dance routines to master just a few figures to learn, these are then called out individually for the dancers to complete. Since the last Fen Edge Festival, we have welcomed in a new class who are now working on Waltz having mastered Rumba, Cha Cha and Two Step. Many of them will be dancing in the exhibition dance on the Sunday in the main marquee at the 2019 Fen Edge Festival. At the last festival members of the audience were also invited to join in, and many took the opportunity to try out a few figures.

Whirl & Twirl meet on a Wednesday night at 7pm in the Cottenham Community Centre. Everyone is welcome to join in and no prior dance experience is required. Alternatively, if you want to give a Latin rhythm a try, we are due to start a new class in April.

For more information you can email Suzanne at suzanne.baldry@hotmail.co.uk or call her on 07958 545 754 in the evenings or at weekends.



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FEN EDGE GROUPS

ROTARY CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE SOUTH

Rotary Car Parking in Cambridge at Christmas 2018 raises £33,000

A huge thank you to all our Fen Edge volunteer helpers and to all the people who parked with us. The Rotary Club of Cambridge South and lots of friends manned the 3 car parks for 12 days in Cambridge during December and raised the wonderful amount of £33,000. Volunteers filled over 280 time-slots!

Motorists paid a contribution of £7 (or more if they wished) for as long as they liked whilst the car park was open. The money all goes to very good causes:

Jimmy's Nightshelter, **Wintercomfort** for the homeless, **CAMpod** (medical research at Cambridge University), **Camvet** (crucial care for sick and injured animals), **Friends of the Rosie**, **Cambridge Carbon Footprint** and **ABF** (the soldiers' charity); other Rotary and small local charities (including **Cottenham Mobile Warden**



scheme); International charities, including water and sanitation facilities for a **Maasai school** in Tanzania, Youth and Peace activities, the **Memory café** at Girton, **Homeless Football** tournaments.

More volunteers are needed for next year – please contact smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

Please see the website www.cambridge-southrotary.org.uk if you would like to know more about Rotary.

We have recently started a Rotary Business forum early on alternate Friday mornings at Waterbeach as a Business networking group. This is going very well. If you would like to know more, please let me know.

Once again, many thanks,

Mike Smith, Rotary Club of Cambridge South

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At Fitzwilliam House we hold our family values close to our hearts and believe that it is important to keep close ties with our local community; participating in many events and enjoying the company of local school groups. We invite you to join us at some of our upcoming community events;

Cottenham Fun Run
Saturday 4th May

National Care Home Open Day
Friday 28th June

Fitzwilliam House Summer Fete
Saturday 13th July from 1pm

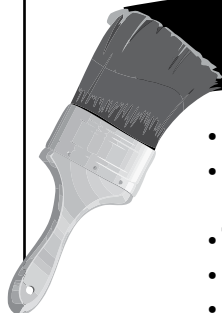
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