

Fen Edge news

community association

NEW YEAR 2022

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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.

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CHAIR'S MESSAGE



It is the time of the year when the mornings become colder and the days become shorter. An odd time to turn attention to next summer, but that is what a group of people are currently doing with the planning for next year's Fen Edge Festival. We

hope that it will take place from 24–26 June, 2021. But a number of things need to fall into place for it to happen: most importantly, the organising committee and sponsorship.

Fen Edge Villages contain an extraordinary group of people with an extraordinary range of talents and experience. For anyone looking to give something back to the villages, this is a great way to do so. It's a classic case of many hands make light work and it is one of the most satisfying things you can do. If you are interested, email chair@fenedge.co.uk. Sponsorship is equally important. One of the principles of the Festival is that a family can enjoy the weekend at modest expense. We keep the music and entertainment events free and the price of rides well below commercial levels, particularly for children by limiting the main rides and activities to a £1 charge. But we also have a lot of overheads relating to the marquees, toilets, security, etc. To bridge this gap, we need significant sponsorship from local businesses. We have a number of very loyal sponsors who contribute festival after festival, but there are also those that haven't taken up the opportunity to do so. If you are one of those businesses and are interested in sponsoring the event, please contact treasurer@fenedge.co.uk. It's a great way to engage with the local customer base and we are open to ways to recognise your contribution through event advertising.

Lastly, a message for our member organisations. We know that the Festival represents an important opportunity for community groups and organisations to increase their profile, raise money and attract new members. Please take the next couple of months to think about how you would like to engage in the events whether that is running a competition, a stall, or putting on a demonstration.

While the next few months might mean we spend a bit longer indoors, I hope that at least some of you will be tempted to spend some of that time getting involved in the Festival. When hopefully, the Festival takes place next summer, some people will inevitably say, "This event is wonderful and it is truly astonishing what our villages can accomplish." It is astonishing, but there is no magic. It is the product of the hard work of a dedicated team of people that makes it all possible. Please get involved.

In the meantime, best wishes for a safe and enjoyable few months, including what we all hope will be a delightful festive season.

Neil Gough

Chair, Fen Edge Community Association

FROM THE FEN EDGE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

We've welcomed 3 new member groups in recent months: Rampton Parish Council, Cottenham junior parkrun and Cottenham Community Allotment.

We continue to provide financial support to member organisations. From 1 April, FECA has given grants totalling over £5,000 to six groups: Cottenham Community Allotment to purchase materials for an outside shelter plus tools and plants (£500); Cottenham Colts for mobile goalposts (£1,300); All Saints' Church Cottenham for a new digital projector (£2,000); Rampton Horse Show to continue our sponsorship of the Fen Edge Community Association cup (£30); Willingham Social Club as main sponsors of this year's Willingham Beer Festival (£1,000); and Cottenham Bowls Club for a new fire door (£408).

The importance of supporting community groups also extends to supporting village shops, trades and services. Supporting local businesses means you're helping local individuals and families and maintaining your community. We would like to publicly thank our many loyal advertisers for their continued support – we couldn't produce the Fen Edge News without them.

FEN EDGE EVENTS DIARY

What's on and when in the villages

DECEMBER

Wed 1–Fri 3 7.30pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Performance: *Treasure Island* at Cottenham Village College (p25)

Sat 4 1pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Performance: *Treasure Island* at Cottenham Village College (p25)

Sat 4 5.30pm Cottenham Theatre Workshop – Performance: *Treasure Island* at Cottenham Village College (p25)

Sat 4–Sun 5 Rotary Club Cambridge South – Charity Car Parking (p61)

Mon 6 7.30pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *Getting the best from your plants and garden* by Geoff Hodge at Willingham Social Club (p45)

Wed 8 7.30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Meeting at Village Hall, Lamb's Lane (p17)

Fri 10–Sat 11 4–7.30pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Alternative Grotto (p9)

Sat 11 2.30pm Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust – Carols (p41)

Sat 11–Sun 12 Rotary Club Cambridge South – Charity Car Parking (p61)

Sun 12 10.30am–12pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Christmas Carol Service (p9)

Mon 13 7.30pm Willingham Women's Institute – Christmas party at Willingham Social Club

Tue 14 6pm Cottenham Parish Council – Carols on the Green

Sat 18–Sun 19 Rotary Club Cambridge South – Charity Car Parking (p61)

Sat 18 3.30pm All Saints' Church – Live Nativity at Churchyard of All Saints', Cottenham

Sat 18 4–7.30pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Alternative Grotto

Sun 19 10.30am–12pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Nativity From Scratch (p9)

Sun 19 7pm All Saints' Church – Carol Service at All Saints' Church, Rampton

Tue 21 7–9pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Quiet Space (p9)

Wed 22 7pm Cottenham Community Centre – Mulled Wine and Mince Pies (p27)

Fri 24 5.30pm All Saints' Church – at All Saints' Church, Cottenham

Fri 24 11.30pm All Saints' Church – Christmas Eve Communion: *At both Cottenham and Rampton*

Sat 25 8.30am All Saints' Church – Holy Communion

Sat 25 10.30am–12pm Cottenham Baptist Church – Christmas Day Family Service (p9)

Sat 25 10.30am All Saints' Church – Holy Communion

Sun 26 10.30am Fen Edge Walkers – Walk: *Boxing Day Walk* at Broad Line, Cottenham (p57)

Mon 27–Fri 31 Rotary Club Cambridge South – Charity Car Parking (p61)

JANUARY

Sun 9 1.30–4pm Cottenham Community Allotment – Working Weekend (p21)

Tue 11 7.30pm Rampton Parish Council – Meeting at Rampton Village Hall (p49)

Wed 12 7.30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Meeting at Village Hall, Lamb's Lane (p17)

Fri 14 7.30pm Cottenham Village Society – Talk: *Just where did/does Histon begin and Impington End – An ancient and confusing tale* by Eleanor Whitehead at Cottenham Village Hall (p23)

Fri 14 7.30pm Cottenham Gardeners Club – New Year Party at Franklin Gardens Community Room (p25)

Sat 15 7–10pm Friends of All Saints' Church – New Year Quiz at All Saints' Hall (p9)

Sat 22 10am–12.30pm Cottenham Community Allotment – Working Weekend (p21)

FEBRUARY

Sun 6 1.30–4pm Cottenham Community Allotment – Working Weekend (p21)

Mon 7 7.30pm Willingham Gardening Club – Talk: *Practical gardening* at Willingham Social Club (p45)

Wed 9 7.30pm Cottenham Women's Institute – Meeting at Village Hall, Lamb's Lane (p17)

Fri 11 7.30pm Cottenham Village Society – Talk: *The Great Plague in Cambridge* by Evelyn Lord at Cottenham Village Hall (p23)

Sat 19 10am–12.30pm Cottenham Community Allotment – Working Weekend (p21)

Fri 25 7.30pm Cottenham Gardeners Club – AGM and Talk at Franklin Gardens Community Room (p25)

MARCH

Fri 11 7.30pm Cottenham Village Society – Talk: *The Kimbolton Hoard and Iron Age Huntingdonshire* by Liz Davies at Cottenham Village Hall (p23)



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

Welcome from the Principal

Welcome to Cottenham Village College, part of the Astrea Academy Trust, a highly successful 11–16 mixed academy. Here you will find hard-working, well-behaved students and friendly, dedicated staff who are committed to a fully inclusive, comprehensive education. Through a highly-ambitious curriculum at CVC, we aim to foster students' curiosity, unlock their potential and raise their aspirations, as well as ensure that students achieve high levels of attainment that will open doors for their future. We are equally proud of the wider curricular provision at CVC, both in formal lessons and outside the classroom. Our extensive range of extra-curricular activities, including sports, music, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme and residential trips, help to give all students a fully-rounded education and creates opportunity for their personal, as well as their academic, growth.



Science Classroom set up for Year 6 Open Evening

What's been going on over this half term

Year 7 transition – This half term has seen our Year 7 students settle in wonderfully. The leap from Primary school to Secondary school is large; however, with a little help from our Year 9 mentors, our new cohort of Year 7 have made the transition look effortless. This was an excellent thing as we had a huge turnout for our Open Evening event at the beginning of October and needed a great deal of student guides. Lots of our new Year 7s volunteered as they were confident enough to show prospective students and adults around the school, answer questions they had about transition, lessons, and timings of the school day. The feedback from our Open Evening visitors has been



A competition entry for European Languages Day

fantastic, with people complementing our students commenting that "they were extremely helpful and mature, (and) are all a credit to the school." We have also been having lots of visitors during our Open Mornings, if you were not able to look around the school then please visit

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nQjGBoJ_zvg to view the school and hear from our students and senior leaders.

Primary Outreach – At Cottenham Village College we pride ourselves on our outreach programme with local primary schools. Last week the science faculty visited the Lantern Community Primary year 3 class. We are lucky to have the equipment to bring along to primary schools so that they get the opportunity to develop their practical skill base. This time the Year 3 students were utilising their observational skills by using hand lenses and using physical specimens of rock and apply their theoretical knowledge to figure out which rock was which! The science faculty will be next visiting Willingham Primary School for some more practical science outreach.

What's been happening at Cottenham Village College?

– We have been celebrating European Languages Day. Miss Braysher, from the Modern Foreign Languages faculty, organised a baking competition to celebrate the European Day of Languages. Students baked something at home that came from or represented a country in Europe or elsewhere in the world. We were really impressed with the pictures that students submitted of their cooking!

For more information about Cottenham Village College, you can visit our website

www.astreacottenham.org

follow us on Twitter (@CottenhamVC), and Facebook (Cottenham Village College)



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

We are excited this year to welcome people back into our building to celebrate Christmas through a variety of events, including another Alternative Grotto, based on the success of last year. We hope you feel able to come and celebrate Christmas with us this year – everyone is welcome.

Alternative Grotto – All ages are welcome to come and visit our Alternative Grotto to see the Christmas story through various artistic, video and live presentations. Walk through the grotto, take part in the different activities, and everybody who comes ends up with a goody bag. The grotto will be open from 4–7.30pm on Friday 10, Saturday 11, and Saturday 18 December. Slots can be booked in advance and safety measures will be in place. For more information and to book a slot go to www.cottenhambaptist.org.uk or find us on Facebook.

Quiet Space – The church will be open between 7–9pm on **Tuesday 21 December** as a space for people to reflect and pray on their own.

Christmas Services (all begin at 10.30am)

Sunday 12 December, Christmas Carol Service

Sunday 19 December, Join us for our Nativity from Scratch. Everyone is welcome, props will be available at the door if you wish to join in, dressing up is optional.

Saturday 25 December, Christmas Day family service. Everyone is welcome to join us whether you have joined before or this is your first time. Go to www.cottenhambaptist.org.uk for log in details if you want to join on Zoom rather than come in person. For more information about all our events or if you would like to contact us about anything else, please look at our website, call us on 01954 252378 or keep up to date with all we do on our Facebook page.

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

New Projector and Screen

The Parochial Church Council of All Saints are very grateful to Fen Edge Community Association for a generous grant towards the cost of our new projector and screen. One of the most exciting things about the new screen is that when you visit the church it will be almost invisible! The screen is mounted behind the arch over the altar and drops down when the projector is turned on. This means that the church retains its historic beauty while having access to some very clever technology. The projector and screen will allow us to show

video clips, images and the words for songs or parts of services at the touch of a button where previously we had to balance a screen on chairs and hope that the sun wasn't too bright. The new projector is powerful enough to provide a clear image even on a sunny day and will be high enough that it can be seen clearly from the back of the church.

The projector and screen will be useful outside church services for showing films, or illustrating talks.

We are very grateful to FECA for helping to make this exciting development possible.

FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS' CHURCH COTTENHAM

Events – Saturday 15 January – New Year Quiz in All Saints' Hall at 7–10pm. Entry £5.00, please bring your own food and drink. Teams can be pre-arranged or join a team on the night as it is a friendly social and light hearted occasion. We hope that social distancing will not be an issue by then.

Other forthcoming winter events yet to be confirmed include an Astronomy evening in the rectory garden with hot food and drink provided, date to be confirmed.

A calendar for 2022 has been produced by the Friends featuring some lovely photographs of the church interior and local scenes. These are now available from Sean's News, The Curry Palace and the church.

The Friends recently held a photographic competition which produced some high-quality images, which will be displayed in church in due course.

We are grateful to Helen Medlock and the Medlock Ensemble for supporting the Friends with many excellent concerts in the past, also Cottenham Brass more recently including their generous donation.

While it is our aim to support the church, especially with major restoration work, we are fortunate in having an adaptable church building and the church hall to hold some of our functions.

This facility is, of course, open for the whole village to use, we need the church to be there when we have weddings, baptisms and funerals.

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FECA IN COTTENHAM



COTTENHAM TENNIS CLUB

After a postponed attempt in 2020, our first Family Tournament for many years took place on October 17 2021. Miraculously

the rain held off, and we had a great morning. 17 parent and child teams participated in a round-robin set up, so that everyone had a chance to play several games, before whittling the teams down to 4 for the semi-finals. In the final, the might of Isaac Stevens-Lee and Wendy Dear overcame the formidable Lou and Francis Cooke to take home the cup and the £1 million cheque (only joking!). Definitely some champions in the making. The participating juniors all took home a small prize and they also particularly enjoyed the cakes and flapjacks kindly supplied by some parents. We hope this will become an enjoyable annual event in the Cottenham Tennis Club calendar. We are grateful to the Sports Centre for getting the lines repainted and thankfully it was just in time for our family tournament.

In other news, the club continues to grow from strength to strength. We now have 120 members and are fielding a second men's team as well as the established ladies' and men's firsts. The newly formed second men's team have (so far) a spectacular 100% record with some wins by 8 sets to nil.

Unfortunately, the ladies had to concede a match when one home game was cancelled twice due to court unavailability. We do look forward to the distant possibility of increased sports facilities including tennis courts in Cottenham as the village grows, which should prevent such difficulties. When the ladies have played, they have also had some success. However, the core of the club is not necessarily about competition, but about getting out and enjoying tennis in a social setting. Our Fen Edge neighbours, Waterbeach, are in the process of putting in floodlights at their public courts, which will also expand local facilities for the winter evenings. Our coaching team is now well established with our excellent coach Alex from *Game Set Tennis* helping to improve all our standards, from absolute beginners, through to tiny tots and the more expert group, including participants in the popular early-morning sessions at several primary schools in the Fen Edge area. The school holiday tennis camps have also proved successful, all being fully booked and enabling the participants to get out and enjoy sport at their level in their local area. A new doubles tactics coaching session is proving extremely popular and is helping to make our teams a bit more savvy! Several of our club teenagers have also taken up the opportunity to become assistant coaches, with sweatshirts to prove it. This gives them additional experience, kudos and a bit of pocket money, and

they are really enjoying the experience. For some this has also counted towards their *Duke of Edinburgh* awards. With 22 hours of coaching a week there really is something for everyone. We would love more local schools to take up the *LTA Youth Schools Programme* offer of free online courses for primary and secondary school teachers. On completing these courses each school is provided with £250 to spend on quality tennis coaching in school, delivered by coaches like ours from



Family tournament 2021

continued on page 13



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

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Game Set Tennis, or on new tennis equipment for their school.

Cottenham Village College is hosting a *South Cambridgeshire Schools Tennis Festival*, with the help of *Game Set Tennis*, for years 3 and 4, in May 2022, with sports leaders from secondary schools assisting with the organisation. So, there is plenty for children in the Fen Edge area to be getting involved with, whether they are playing or helping. Watch this space and speak to your school about taking part!

This has been a great year for British tennis, with Cameron Norrie, Alfie Hewitt, Emma Raducanu, Gordon Reid, Joe Salisbury and Neal Skupski all now being household names. Why not channel your favourite champion and come and join us on court! We welcome new members.

Website: www.cottenhamtennis.co.uk

COTTENHAM UNITED COLTS FC

Despite Covid and lockdowns, the club, its volunteers and sponsors have kept very busy over the last few months and continue to look forward as we grow with the village. Our hugely popular and successful Monday Night Soccer school and FA Wildcats for primary-age girls has restarted and continue to feed players into our teams. Building fast, especially the girls' side, we are now approaching 26 teams from U6-U18.

With this expansion comes an increasing demand for pitches and equipment. We are grateful to our providers Cottenham Village College and Cottenham Parish Council. Some may have noticed we have a goal with top bins in it at the recreation ground and we thank Rampton PC for use of their recreation ground too. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Co-op for supporting us through their community scheme, helping buy our fantastic new 11 v 11 goals. Fen Edge Community Association have been amazing supporters giving grants towards the 11 v 11 goals and new portable floodlights, which give us more flexibility and opportunity to train across the winter months. We also acquired a defibrillator courtesy of the Football Foundation and Premier League, which has been put up at the Fire Station and is accessible to all. Thank you all.

We are glad to have been invited several times to a packed Abbey Stadium to provide ball boys/girls for Cambridge United. We look forward to taking part in this year's remembrance parade, as we have done in previous years. And, finally, we live in hope that in 2022 we can look forward to the return of our renowned tournament, which we have lost to Covid over the past two years. Grants have helped sustain our income to cover our costs, but this is a really important fund-raising event. And thank you to all our kit sponsors. Anyone wishing to play or sponsor or help fund this wonderful club please do contact us. Lead Coach: David Burkett, d.burkett07@icloud.com



Cottenham United Colts U17 and U14 Girls pictured with Cambridge United's Wes Hoolahan after their ball girl experience.

COTTENHAM JUNIOR PARKRUN

A group of residents are in the process of starting a new junior parkrun in Cottenham. This is a free, weekly, timed, 2 km run for children aged between 4 and 14. It will take place every Sunday at 9am on the far field at the Cottenham recreation ground. The team are currently raising start-up funding and have already been well supported by several local businesses. If you would like to get involved contact Tracy Hutchison at coldhamscommonjuniors@parkrun.org.uk We will bring you news of the date of the first event early in the new year.

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM CRICKET CLUB

With just a few Covid 19 limitations, we were able to enjoy a pretty normal cricket season this year. The Club's main aims at the start were to consolidate the 1st XI in Junior 1 and to try and get the 2nd XI promoted out of Junior 5. It was hugely satisfying that we achieved both objectives with our 2nds actually finishing up as League champions. We also ran an u-15s team in the CYCA League. We were determined to do this as they had missed out on a complete summer in 2020 and we didn't want that to happen again. As well as playing their own matches, the u-15s ended up providing, at various times, five different players for our men's teams which was very encouraging indeed. They will be stronger and more experienced for it next year, so we're hoping they'll make an even bigger impact with the senior team next season. The youngsters also provided one of the highlights of our summer when, playing away at local rivals Histon, they chased down 130 runs for a brilliant victory. Our juniors are massively important to the Club and we are planning to run All Stars (for 5-8s) and Dynamos (for 8-11s) programmes next year plus an u-11s team in its own right. Anyone interested and willing to get involved with us in helping to facilitate the running any of our junior programmes should please get in touch (details below). We really need your support to get these up and running successfully.

It's very important at this time, and especially this year, to say thank you! To all our committee members for their hard work throughout a difficult eighteen months; to all those parents and coaches who helped in the running of our u-15s this summer; to our generous sponsors, Nigel Bolitho's BV Services, Create Signs who, along with several other businesses (details on our website), bid to sponsor our Club kit and were the ultimate winners, and the Curry Palace. We have appreciated their invaluable support so much in what has been a very trying period for businesses in general. We are also massively indebted to FECA, the Coop and the Cottenham Schools Trust who helped us improve our facilities greatly by, amongst other things, enabling the purchase of a mobile batting cage from which both our seniors and juniors have benefitted immensely this season. We must also thank Cottenham Parish Council for their continued support throughout a very difficult period for them and to groundsman Andrew King and his team for their sterling efforts over the season.

No sooner has one season finished than the next one seems to be just around the corner. Indoor, pre-season



The mobile batting cage

net practice will be starting in the New Year so please keep an eye on the Club News section of our website for details. We are always keen to welcome any cricketers in the neighbourhood who are not playing for us and might be interested in joining the Club to help us keep moving forward as we enter our 171st season as a competitive Club. We have a lot of new housing developments in the area right now and we would ask anyone new, and even not so new, to the village who would like to join us to contact any one of us below. You'll be assured of a very warm welcome, I can promise you that.

Secretary: David Chaplin (01954 250075)

Chairman: Ralph Lamble (01954 250313)

Vice Chairman: Dave Partridge (01954 203210)

Junior Teams Coordinators: Dave Partridge and Alan Raven (01954 250388)

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM RENEGADES RUFC

It was a great relief when full contact rugby resumed at the beginning of the 2021/22 season. Cottenham Renegades last played a game of rugby on the evening of 6 March 2020, when we lost to a very good Sudbury team on a cold and damp Friday evening in Sudbury. Then everything slid towards lockdown and rugby (along with many other things that make life bearable) was suspended.

Some limited touch rugby was permitted in the Autumn of 2020, but that was shut down again as the second lockdown was imposed. Touch and limited rugby emerged again in July of this year, and to everyone's relief, full contact rugby was allowed again from early August.

Renegades are once again participating in Eastern Counties Division One West. We are familiar with our opponents having played them all at one point or

another in recent years: Cambridge 3, Shelford 3, Bury St Edmunds 3, Haverhill, Mildenhall/Red Lodge, and Cantabrigians 2.

Renegades season has got off to a reasonably good start with three wins and one close home loss to Shelford. At the time of writing Renegades have just played a top of the table clash with Cambridge 3s. Before the game Renegades topped the league by a single point. It was a fiercely contested game. In the first half, Renegades got two yellow cards but the half time score was only 0–5 to Cambridge. In the second half, Cambridge stretched the lead to 0–24 with 10 minutes to go, Renegades rallied, and the final score was 14–24. Renegades is a very friendly club, dedicated to playing their best on the field and to having a good time when not playing. There is a good range of talent and anybody who fancies trying their hand at rugby is welcome to come along and try us out. For details, please visit the Renegades website www.renegadesrugby.net

COTTENHAM WI

Inspiring Women

All Welcome to our meetings. Come and enjoy speakers on various topics, meals, outings, challenges, games and friendship together, plus receive help and advice.

We meet the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall, Lambs Lane.

What are you waiting for? Phone 01954 488427.

Meetings

Wednesday 8 December, Wednesday 12 January,

Wednesday 9 February



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If you have a few hours to spare (when it suits you), you would hold one meeting a term. And the role can be shared with another. If you are interested, please contact Claire Course, claire-cc@cambsseastguides.org.uk

COTTENHAM DAY CENTRE

Cottenham Day Centre meets on Tuesdays at the Coolidge Gardens Community Room.

Our members are absolutely delighted (especially post lockdown) to get out and meet together for refreshments, a chat, some games/activities, and a slap-up two-course freshly-cooked meal. A minibus is available to provide transport. There is a waiting list for Members. If you are interested in joining, please contact the Chair. The Day Centre is run by volunteers. We need new volunteers (including a secretary and a treasurer). Can you help with shopping, cooking, serving or washing-up? Volunteers might offer an hour or two, or the whole day, and don't have to volunteer every week. Whatever you can offer, we can use it!

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact: Pauline Brown (Chair), chair@cottenhamdaycentre.co.uk 01954 250035.

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*I very much look forward to
seeing you soon!*

FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM UNITED FC

The Club is currently running a 1st team in the Cambridgeshire FA County League Division 1A. At the time of writing, it's still very early days but things have got off to a decent start with two wins and one defeat so far. We have a new management team of Harry West and Toby Burkett and they are settling into the job very well. We recruited a number of new players for the 2021/22 campaign. Our aim this season is to ensure the team consolidates in its new Division. Looking further ahead, we have ambitions to continue growing the Club by entering a reserve team into the Cambridgeshire FA League pyramid next season.

This has been an exceptionally difficult, and at times scary, eighteen months for everybody. The Club would like to thank all of our sponsors, the Curry Palace, Pocock and Shaw, the Hopbind, Giuseppe Piran, Chris Richards, the Cottenham Grill and Gavin Wetton, whose financial support has enabled the Red and Blacks to continue operating throughout the Covid 19 pandemic, when regulations allowed. Without their help (and we fully appreciate what a hard time this has been for many businesses) the Club might have stopped and, indeed, a number of other teams in the Cambridgeshire FA leagues have not been so successful. We really are hugely thankful for the invaluable support we have received.

We are also very grateful to the Cambridgeshire FA and Cottenham Parish Council for all their help and advice in enabling us to keep playing. It has been so important for the physical and mental well-being of everyone involved to be able to play as much competitive football as was safely possible during the pandemic and we are very thankful we have managed to do just that.

Training sessions are currently taking place weekly from 8-9pm on Wednesday evenings on the all-weather, outdoor facilities at Cottenham Village College. All are most welcome and you can be assured of a very warm reception so please do come along if you are interested in playing. You may be new to the village and looking for a chance to play your football closer to home or already living here and wanting to get started again. Also please visit the Cottenham United FC website to find out more details of our Club sponsors and how other

local companies or supporters could also help by taking up one of the many options of sponsorship we have to support your local village football club. And do please check out our social media accounts (below). Anyone interested in finding out more should please contact our Chairman, Ian Stuchbury, at shirley.stuchbury@googlemail.com
Website: www.cottenhamunitedfc.co.uk
Facebook: Cottenham United Football Club
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COTTENHAM COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

The Local Planning Authority (South Cambridgeshire District Council) has managed to publish a first draft of the next Local Plan, including provision for up to 49,000 additional new homes between now and 2040. However, with house prices around 10 times household incomes even these "affordable" homes are beyond the reach of the many Cottenham families that do not qualify for social housing. As a result, our community is eroded as young families are forced to leave the area, and far more land will be developed than is necessary.

Many local landowners had put their land forward for inclusion in the draft Local Plan but, as in the biblical expression, "many are called but few are chosen." In the Cottenham case, none have been chosen, partly because of the adopted Neighbourhood Plan, which does identify a need for around 100 locally-affordable homes, ideally at around three times household income.

If you are one of those landowners who put forward a parcel of land adjacent to Cottenham's development framework, please consider helping your community by offering the land to Cottenham Community Land Trust Limited. While the price may not be as high as a developer might pay one day, the money will be a significant gain on agricultural values and, more importantly, could be realised within a lifetime, and before the next Local Plan beyond 2040.

There is a short window for us to obtain the necessary grants to move a project forward, do contact us.

Frank Morris; Chair, Cottenham CLT Limited,
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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT

Cottenham Community Allotment has been running for nearly ten months and a lot has been happening. The allotment plot given to us in March had not been used for quite some time and needed completely digging up, turning over, and replanting. Alongside this we fixed up the greenhouse, erected a shelter and created a couple of raised beds. As we began in March, the



Before ...

planting season was already upon us and so over the next few months much hard work was put in to plant potatoes, courgettes, squash, runner beans, tomatoes, sunflowers, onions, beetroot, strawberries, raspberries,

herbs, and many other crops. By summer we had an abundance of onions, a wonderful harvest of potatoes, and courgettes coming out of our ears! With vegetables to pick each week, weeding to keep on top of, and watering most evenings it was a very busy time. The volunteers who have joined us over the past few months have been invaluable.

Towards the end of the summer, we joined with Sustainable Cottenham's project, Vegfest, on a wonderful sunny day where it was great to see so many people visiting the allotment and children enjoyed digging for "treasure" – potatoes! More recently we have linked up with the food bank to provide veg boxes and fresh produce to add to the non-perishable goods already given out. We have also passed on produce

to the coffee shop where, if you have been in recently, you may have seen some of this for sale or even enjoyed soup and sandwiches made with some of the vegetables that we have grown. We are very excited for the future of the allotment. We were recently given an extension to our plot and have plans for a junior allotment for younger ones to experience planting, growing and harvesting food for themselves. We are also working to develop stronger links with the Doctors' surgeries and other organisations in our village so that we can offer a space in the open, among the plants, so that through nature people can connect with others to enhance their wellbeing. We would like to thank everyone who has been involved in the allotment so far, offering time, expertise, and equipment to enable this wonderful project to get off the ground.

Working Weekends – If you would like to join us on one of our working weekends or just come and see what we do please pop along in the new year, dates: **Sunday 9 January** 1.30-4pm, **Saturday 22 January** 10-12.30pm, **Sunday 6 February** 1.30-4pm, and **Saturday 19 February** 10-12.30pm (no expertise or equipment needed). As a community project we would value your feedback on what we have done and what we have grown so far. If you are able to do this or want to find out more or ask any questions, please contact Sue on cottenham.allotment@gmail.com or go to our Facebook page.



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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM VILLAGE SOCIETY

Cottenham: an old farming village



Cottenham, © Cottenham CCAN

Cottenham has had a thriving farming community going back to medieval times. At a time when farming was a major occupation, the 16th century was an age of profit particularly amongst farmers who enjoyed security of tenure and whose labour was provided by the family. The hearth tax of the 17th century showed Cottenham having an abnormally high proportion of the middlingly prosperous compared with others in Cambridgeshire. In the 17th century the village was free of domination by a lord apart from Kathryn Pepys, so the inhabitants had more control of their affairs than other villages. The independent spirit of villagers thrived under these conditions. Cottenham was able to retain small farms because of the extensive common rights which survived up to the early 19th century. The farmsteads remained mainly either side of the High Street. In the spring the farmers would take their cattle to feed on the rich pastures in the Fens after the floods had subsided. Some of the old names of the pastures and fields give an indication of their use; Church End Cow Pasture, Bullocks Haste, Green End Cow Pasture and Calves Pasture. Each day the herds would be driven along the High Street to the farmsteads either side of the road for milking. Imagine the state of the road! Cottenham was famous for its cheese, unfortunately the recipe has been lost. A cheese press has been found in at least one dwelling in the village. Enclosure act of 1848 had a drastic effect on the use of farming land around the

village, but the cattle plague of 1865-6 led to most of the dairy farming disappearing. Sheep were also found in the pastures, their numbers declining rapidly by 1890. Of course crops had always been grown for human and animal consumption. Whilst cattle breeding declined more crops were grown, finally leading to the large increase of fruit growing and market gardening in the early 20th century.

2022 Meetings at the Village Hall, off Lambs Lane 7.30pm on the second Friday of each month.

January 14 – *Just where did/does Histon begin and Impington End? An ancient and confusing tale* by Eleanor Whitehead

February 11 – *The Great Plague in Cambridge* by Evelyn Lord

March 11 – *The Kimbolton Hoard and Iron Age Huntingdonshire* by Liz Davies

April 8 – *The Cambridge Horse Tramway* by David Stubbings

Non members are welcome at a charge of £3.

For the most up to date information (in case we have to cancel) please check our website.

Please book in advance with Glynis, the secretary, as we may have to restrict numbers.

Secretary telephone 01954 251544

Email cottvillsoc@gmail.com

www.cottenhamvillagesociety.wordpress.com

COTTENHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL PTCA

We would like to thank everyone for all their support over the last two years, we are still very much in unpredictable times, so are unable to arrange any of our annual large-scale events, but we will be arranging an online hamper sale running up to Christmas. We will also be at Carols on the Green on Tuesday 14 December if you would like to come along.

If anyone would like to support our school or make a donation you can do so online via easyfundraising by purchasing your goods or through smile on Amazon, don't forget you can also donate directly through donatemyschool.com

Thank you again for your continued support, not only to our parents and carers but to the local community too.

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FECA IN COTTENHAM

COTTENHAM THEATRE WORKSHOP



Tickets now on sale for Treasure Island!

Cottenham Theatre Workshop is delighted to announce that you can now order your tickets for our Christmas pantomime – *Treasure Island*! Written by acclaimed pantomime playwright Ben Crocker and directed by our long-standing friend and member Kerry O'Connell, this is Ben's largest cast pantomime and a madcap, laugh a minute pirate adventure story from start to finish!

The show will run from **Wednesday 1 December – Saturday 4 December 2021** at Cottenham Village College. Weekday performances begin at 7.30pm and there are two performances on Saturday 4 December; a matinee showing at 1 pm and an evening showing at 5.30pm.

Tickets are available on our website, www.cottenhamtheatre.com or through our third-party provider Ticketsource by calling 0333 666 4466 (additional booking fee applies).

Finally, we're starting to prepare for our Spring show, which will take place in April 2022 (we hope!). While we haven't fully decided on a show yet (we've got a few options but need to confirm licensing rights!), we're banking on it being a comedy of some description.

The show will be directed by Helen McCallum and we will be looking to get some sort of readthrough or audition sorted shortly after the Pantomime ends, in preparation to hit the ground running for rehearsals in 2022. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more details!

We hope to see many of you at the performances – enjoy the show.

COTTENHAM GARDENERS' CLUB

December is a quiet month for the gardening club, as there is no meeting. I will be busy in our garden

planting a *Cottenham Seedling* apple tree, together with a suitable pollinator. These two trees will join our *Willingham Gage* (we used to live in Willingham) and our *Beurré Dumont* pear tree.

The New Year Party will be on **Friday 14 January**. This features a quiz, and supper provided jointly by the committee and members. The venue currently has a limit on numbers, so meetings at the moment are for members only, but new members are welcome! Our AGM will be held on **Friday 25 February**. At this meeting the new programme for March 2022 – February 2023 will be unveiled, and new membership cards will be available. Anyone who paid for membership back in February 2020 will pay half rate. After the formal business there will be a short talk or activity, yet to be arranged.

Meetings are usually held 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, with prizes kindly donated by members and committee. For further information please contact me on 01954 260482

Sarah Dumont

COTTENHAM CHARITIES

Free Christmas voucher

Christmas vouchers have been given by Cottenham Charities for many years to help individuals and families on low income to meet the cost of Christmas. Cottenham Charities and the Fitzwilliam Charity provide the funds for the scheme. Residents in the Parish in receipt of Income Support, Incapacity Benefit, Employment and Support Allowance, Pension Credit, Housing Benefit or Universal Credit are eligible but we are not able to consider those receiving Jobseeker's Allowance.

If you, or someone you know, could benefit from a little help this Christmas, application forms will be available from Cottenham Post Office or online at www.cottenhamcharities.co.uk from **Monday 22 November** and must be returned by **Wednesday 8 December**. Proof of eligibility will be required and only one application per household can be accepted.

Additionally, applications for grants for essential household or disability items can also be considered by Cottenham Charities throughout the year. Please apply online via our website.



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FECA IN COTTENHAM



Cottenham Community Centre

We wish all our members and users, seasonal greetings

Volunteering – at the coffee shop is a great opportunity to meet people, learn new skills, add to your CV and be part of a very worthwhile community facility. Please have a chat with Jane Tel 01954 202109 (when open) or manager@cottenhamcc.org

Trustees – We would love to have some new people. Would you like to help manage this wonderful facility and/or help organise an event on behalf of the charity?

Please consider becoming a trustee to assist with the smooth running of the Community Centre. The trustees are hands-on as well as making key decisions. Do let us know if you would like to know more.

The **Coffee Shop** is now open 10am–2pm, six days a week. Thank you for supporting the Community Centre. Just come along, or to reserve a table or to place a takeaway order you can call us on 01954 202109 during opening hours only. There is some outside seating available. Jane, Tricia, and the team look forward to welcoming you. Come and enjoy a great coffee or tea or hot chocolate, delicious scones and cake or great light lunch from our menu. Please note the coffee shop will be closed Friday 24 December to Tuesday 4 January inclusive.

Events

Community Cinema on the **first Sunday of the month**. Films starts at 7.30pm each time. See top class films at a fraction of the cost and without having to travel.

Mulled wine and mince pies evening **Wednesday 22 December** at 7pm.

Funds and membership – We welcome your support. Membership is just £15 for an individual (seniors £10) with a loyalty bonus of a free beverage after you have bought ten drinks. You will also get a 10% discount on one-off room hire.

Please download a membership form here:

<https://www.cottenhamcc.org/membership/>

If you are shopping on-line, please consider using (it costs you no more) Easy Fundraising or Amazon Smile for Cottenham Community Centre, which will then receive a small percentage.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/cottenhamcc/>

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/gp/chpf/about>

Christmas will soon be here! We have attractive gift vouchers – please consider buying as a gift for someone local.

Contact treasurer@cottenhamcc.org

Covid restrictions have caused the income to fall substantially. If you can help with fundraising in any way, please do get in touch – ideas welcome.

Classes and room hire – Many of our classes, for example Pilates, yoga, adults' and children's dance, are running again or will be starting soon. Do check with the class leader or the Community Centre whether spaces are available.

Little Humbugs runs **each Wednesday** during term time in the hall at 10.30am for pre-schoolers and there is a craft group (**Tuesdays at 10**) and a knitting group (**Wednesdays at 10**) in the coffee shop

If you would like to run a class on behalf of the centre, please contact bookings@cottenhamcc.org

Room Hire, including for children's parties – subject to the Covid rules at the time, there are three rooms (main hall, studio, coffee shop) for hire, for which we have a full entertainment licence. Our wonderful new back kitchen facilities are great including for a pop-up café.

We encourage classes, community activities and welcome organisations looking to try out new community projects.

For other enquiries see the www.cottenhamcc.org or email bookings@cottenhamcc.org

Please **DO NOT** come to the Community Centre if you feel at all unwell, thank you.



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Half-term: Monday 14th – 18th February 2022

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COVID 19 – Please be assured that we will do everything to ensure that you are safe while you are learning with us. We will adhere to all Government & College guidelines and regulations which are in place at the time of your course; and all learners will need to ensure they comply with all Government & College policies and procedures.

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

Materials extra unless otherwise stated.

Please bring a packed lunch & your own refreshments for the day

SATURDAY 15TH JANUARY

Calligraphy Embossed Letters (Liz Barrow)
10am – 4pm Fee: £45

This is a practical workshop where participants will examine the Neuland lettering style, and then design their own letter which they will emboss onto plain paper, adding simple decorative elements if wished. The letter can be left as its own piece of art or combined with some pen calligraphy and used as a greeting card.

Dressmaking (Sally Tilley) 10am – 4pm
3 Saturdays (15 Jan, 5 Feb & 19 March) Fee: £135

For all those interested in dressmaking from complete beginners to the more experienced wanting to brush up their skills. You will learn how to make basic pattern alterations, cut out, assemble and fit garments. As well as this you will be taught basic dressmaking techniques and make samples to practise your skills. More advanced learners will be encouraged to make more complicated garments.

SATURDAY 15TH JANUARY

Emergency First Aid at Work (Colin Fordham)

10am – 4pm Fee: £75

Acquire new skills to enable you to handle lifesaving situations at home, work or on the road. Theoretical & practical training is given and a Certificate (valid for 3 years) will be awarded for successful completion of the course, a First Aid Manual is included in the fee.

Watercolour Landscapes (David Hyde)

10am – 4pm Fee: £45

Join David where he explains all that is needed to simplify your landscape painting. It will help you focus on your subject, understand what to leave out and what to include and how to work loose strong washes that suggest so much. He will show exercises that will help boost your confidence, understand your colour mixing and speed up your paintings. You will learn the approach taken by experienced artists and pass on those tips that separate the amateurs from the professionals. David has been painting watercolours for over 50 years – he is enthusiastic about his painting and is only too pleased to pass on his knowledge.

Still Life Drawing (Lisa Fretwell)

10am – 4pm Fee: £45 plus materials

Have you always wanted to draw but never thought you could? If so, this course is for you – the tutor will teach you how to draw a still life using pencils, with a focus on shading using a bright light source to create strong shadows. No prior experience required.

Sketch & Stitch (Ricki Outis) 10am – 4pm Fee: £45

A relaxing and creative day of drawing and stitching. This is a great way to develop your personal style and to make unique fabrics. Bring three objects with you to use as inspiration. We'll start with some fun drawing exercises to loosen up and develop the drawings into stitch using hand embroidery. By the end, you will have one or more patches which you can use as a pocket, cushion centre or just frame as a work of art! No experience is necessary, just a willingness to experiment and embrace the unexpected.

Upholstery (Lisa Cramp) 10am – 4pm

3 Saturdays (15 Jan, 5 Feb & 19 March) Fee: £135

Learn the techniques and skills to upholster a small chair or stool in traditional or modern upholstery. Intermediate level learners can continue to upholster an existing project or to start a larger project in either modern or traditional upholstery learning new and more advanced techniques (Students bring their own piece of furniture – materials extra). *Course full – contact us for waiting list.*

SATURDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

Crochet for Beginners (Gordana Adamceska-Halson)

10am – 2pm 2 Saturdays (5 Feb & 19 Mar) Fee: £60

This introduction to the art of crochet will provide you with the basic practical skills and knowledge so you can start to create your first masterpiece. The course covers the following crochet techniques and stitches – chain, double crochet, treble crochet, slip, stitch, half treble crochet, change of yarn colour, weaving ends. The project for the two sessions will be to make a scarf and hat.

Lino Printing (Clive Riggs) 10am – 4pm Fee: £55 (includes materials)

Suitable for beginners or those with some experience. An in-depth exploration of a range of techniques both for multiple prints or one-offs. You will have the opportunity to print by hand or with a press, producing both colour and black & white. All materials included.

Indigo & Shibori (Ricki Outis) 10am – 4pm Fee: £45

Explore the magic of indigo on cotton fabrics. You will make a mini indigo vat in order to learn the whole process. We'll do shibori – folded, bound, scrunched and stitched resists patterns. With indigo, the fabric changes from green to a beautiful blue and becomes even bluer as we progressively build up colour. This is an opportunity to experiment, to create some beautiful fabric samples and to learn about new ways of working with this ancient dye. This workshop is ideal for people who enjoy creating their own fabrics for stitch. (We won't be dyeing large items eg – T-shirts or other clothing in this workshop)

Silver Jewellery Making for Beginners (Tina Yates)

10am – 4pm Fee: £70 plus materials

This is a day for those who would like to learn some basic silversmithing skills, including soldering, shaping and texturing. These skills will then be used to make some simple pieces of jewellery, including two simple rings, cut out a shape for a small pendant, or, if time allows, two shapes for earrings. Principles of designing and knowledge of Hallmarking will also be covered.

SATURDAY 5TH FEBRUARY

Spectacular Stained Glass (Lisa Fretwell)

9.30am – 4.30pm Fee: £53

During this workshop you will create a unique and beautiful Copperfoil Stained Glass panel based upon a nature theme. Experiment with cutting glass, shaping it using a grinding machine, copper foiling it, and finally attaching the fragments together with a soldering iron. A choice of designs will be available for you to use or you can bring your own.

T'ai Chi – Qigong for the year of the Tiger

(Alison Warlow) 10am – 4pm Fee: £23

In this session we will practise qigong exercises to set us up for and engage with the dynamic and unpredictable Year of the Tiger and we will take a look at Chinese astrology along the way.

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

Drawing Birds (Lisa Fretwell) 10am – 4pm

Fee: £45 plus materials

Do you love art? Birds? Be shown some easy techniques that you can use to create a lifelike bird, using only pencil crayons and by the end of the day you will have drawn a beautiful lapwing, feathers & all!

Digital Photography for Beginners

(Laura Galbraith) 10am – 4pm Fee: £45

This course aims to enable learners to use their digital cameras with confidence and understand the various functions and modes available to expand their technical knowledge as well as to help learners to explore their creativity through photography. By the end of the day, you will know how to access the main functions and menus of your camera, use aperture and shutter settings for greater creative control, achieve correct exposures and use compositional elements to make stronger, more creative photographs.

Hosting an Indian Dinner (Mina Joshi) 10am – 4pm

Fee: £45 plus ingredients

This workshop will be a cook along class where you will be shown the authentic way to make various dishes from scratch using locally sourced ingredients.

Lino Printing (Clive Riggs) 10am – 4pm

Fee: £55 (includes materials)

Suitable for beginners or those with some experience. An in-depth exploration of a range of techniques both for multiple prints or one-offs. You will have the opportunity to print by hand or with a press, producing both colour and black & white. All materials included.

Tai Chi – Qigong in Springtime (Alison Warlow)

10am – 1pm Fee: £23

In this workshop we will practise qigong (chi kung) exercises to take advantage of the qualities of the season - growth, expansion and the free flow of energy. We will draw on Chinese five element tradition to embody elements associated with the liver and the eyes - vision, decisiveness, planning and the qualities of the deer - gentleness, grace & curiosity.

DAYTIME & EVENING CLASSES

MONDAY

Adult Ballet for Beginners (Nicci Spray) – 10 weeks

7.30 – 8.30pm Fee : £65 starts 10th January

For complete beginners, those who took ballet as a child and have had a break, or older dancers who would like to maintain their mobility. The lessons will focus on teaching basic ballet barre and centre technique with correct posture and alignment. A good foundation from which students can progress safely to further levels.

FREE TASTER SESSION 6TH DECEMBER

7.00-7.30PM - get in touch to book a space.

Adult Tap Dancing Beginners (Nicci Spray)

10 weeks 6.30 – 7.30pm Fee: £65

starts 10th January

For complete beginners, those who took tap as a child, or older dancers who would like to maintain their mobility.

The lessons will focus on teaching basic tap technique and tap steps, accompanied by a variety of music. A good foundation from which learners can progress safely to further levels. **FREE TASTER SESSION 6TH DECEMBER 6.30-7.00PM - get in touch to book a space.**

MONDAY

Art History: Renaissance in Europe (Lisa Fretwell)

10 weeks 7-9pm Fee: £130 starts 10th January

Aimed at anyone who would like to know about Renaissance art between approx. 1500-1600 – a basic introduction to this period starting with the influences upon it. The focus will essentially be painting & sculpture, looking at how the style spread North from Italy to Northern Europe. Artists and their work will be studied each week so that students gain an insight into how and why they were seen to be so important during this progressive era.

Creative with Clay (Larry Mogridge) – 10 weeks

7 – 9pm Fee £155 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 to go on the waiting list.*

Dressmaking (Sally Tilley) – 10 weeks

12.30 – 2.30pm Fee: £130 starts 10th 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 practise your new skills. Suitable for all abilities. Materials extra.

Watercolour Painting for Improvers (David Hyde)

10 weeks 10am – 12pm Fee: £130

starts 10th January

This course is for people with some experience of Watercolour. It is the most popular medium, and for very good reason. There is little to compare with the beauty of transparent colour washes; watercolours are handled in a way that is impossible with other mediums. This course will have a definite bias towards traditional landscape painting. There will be plenty of new colour mixes, tips and 'tricks of the trade' for you to learn and enjoy.

TUESDAY

Contemporary Textiles – Dyeing the Blues

(Ricki Outis) – 6 weeks (alternate Tuesdays)

10am – 3.30pm Fee: £215 starts 11th January

This hands-on class is for people with some experience in creating artful textiles who would like to explore and experiment with like-minded people. We will be exploring the magic of indigo and each person will make a mini indigo VAT to dye their fabrics in. We'll try out shibori - folded, bound, scrunched and stitched resists patterns. With indigo, the fabric changes from green to a beautiful blue and becomes even bluer as we progressively build up colour. Continuing with the blue theme, we'll also make photograms with cyanotype (blueprint fabric). Finally, we will assemble our various pieces and overlay them with sashiko stitching.

Fitness for Mature Movers (Margaret Briggs)

5 weeks 11.30am – 12.30pm Fee: £30

PLOUGHMAN HALL, WILLINGHAM

Starts 11th 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!

Guitar Roots & Branches (Brooks Williams)

10 weeks 6.45-8.45pm Fee: £130 Starts 11th January

A fun, hands on workshop with lots of playing & singing. Expand your guitar playing by exploring the music that inspired the music we know. We will be looking at strumming and fingerpicking, chords that move up the neck of the guitar, and riffs we can play based around those chords. We will do all this by learning and playing classic blues, country, folk and rock songs. Participants should be familiar with the basic 1st position chords like: E, A, G, D, C, B7, F, Em, Am, Dm, Bm (no class 1st March).

Introduction to Woodwork & Carpentry

(Chris Dommett) – 10 weeks 7-9pm Fee: £130

Starts 11th January

An informative & enjoyable course enabling progression from idea to conclusion. We offer a top quality, extensively equipped workshop. You will design & make a woodwork project of your choice. Suitable for complete beginners and those wishing to work on projects. Bring your own woodwork materials.

T'ai Chi for Beginners Plus (Alison Warlow)

10 weeks 7 – 8pm Fee: £65 starts 11th January

For beginners or those with a basic knowledge.

T'ai Chi for Improvers (Alison Warlow) – 10 weeks

8 – 9pm Fee: £65 starts 11th January

For those with at least one year's experience.

WEDNESDAY

Creative with Clay (Larry Mogridge) – 10 weeks
7-9pm Fee: £155 includes clay & firing

Starts 12th 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 to go on the waiting list.*

Fitness for Mature Movers (Margaret Briggs)

5 weeks 2.30-3.30pm Fee £30

starts 12th 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!

Mindfulness (Pauline Matthews) NEW – 6 weeks

7.30pm – 9.00pm Fee: £59 starts 25th January

Letting yourself relax after the hard time we have had recently, to allow you to be more mindful and in the moment, have time to yourself to feel rejuvenated and in touch with the good things in life. It's a bit like having a holiday, giving yourself a break for an hour and a half a week.

Silver Jewellery Making for Beginners (Tina Yates)

5 weeks 7 – 9pm Fee: £100

starts 12th January

For those who want to get started in creating their own silver jewellery designs, and for those who may have done some basic silver shaping and soldering, and now want to learn the basics of designing, and further silversmithing skills. You will learn the basic principles of shaping and soldering silver to create jewellery and the practical side of designing your own pieces.

Vegetarian Indian Cookery (Mina Joshi) NEW

4 weeks 6 – 8pm Fee: £52

starts 26th January

Learn to cook traditional Indian food from the comfort of your own kitchen. You will cook 2 dishes each evening which will form a meal you can eat straight away or save or freeze for another day! Dishes will include: Balti curry and plain rice, Jalfrezi curry and plain parathas, Puris and chickpea and potato curry, Kenyan style sweet potatoes and green beans curry with saffron rice.

THURSDAY

French Conversation (Jean-Louis Barges)

10 weeks 10.15am – 12.15pm Fee: £130

starts 13th January

An informal conversation class to develop and improve your French. Learners should have a good knowledge of French with at least 2 years' experience.

Upholstery (Lisa Cramp) – 10 weeks

10am – 3.30pm Fee: £325 starts 13th January

Learn the techniques and skills to upholster a small chair or stool in traditional or modern upholstery. Intermediate level learners can continue to upholster an existing project or to start a larger project in either modern or traditional upholstery learning new and more advanced techniques (students bring their own piece of furniture – materials extra). *Waiting list only.*

FRIDAY

Upholstery (Lisa Cramp) – 10 weeks 10am – 3.30pm Fee: £325 starts 14th January

Learn the techniques and skills to upholster a small chair or stool in traditional or modern upholstery. Intermediate level learners can continue to upholster an existing project or to start a larger project in either modern or traditional upholstery learning new and more advanced techniques (students bring their own piece of furniture – materials extra). *Waiting list only.*

NEW COURSE IDEAS:

We're always keen to know about new course ideas – contact us at Adult Learning if you have ideas about new courses that you'd like to try or if you're a Tutor who would like to offer a new course for us.

Tel: 01954 288751 or Email: community@astrecottenham.org

VENUE HIRE at COTTENHAM VILLAGE COLLEGE

Excellent facilities available for hire evenings and some weekends for meetings, conferences or clubs.

This can be on a block booking or casual basis. Contact the College for further information on 01954 288944

Or Email andrea.swain@astrecottenham.org

ENROLLING IN CLASSES – Adult Learning Terms & Conditions

ENROLLING IN CLASSES - Adult Learning Terms & Conditions

Office hours – during term time only: Monday-Thursday 9am-2pm and

Monday-Wednesday evenings 6.30-8pm.

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

Enrolling by email: community@astreacottenham.org with full details of course, name, address and telephone number.

Payment: by cash, cheques made payable to ASTREA ACADEMY TRUST, or by debit/credit card.

Enrolment and Fee Policy

- For full course information: <http://community.cvcweb.net>
- Material charges are not included in the course fee unless otherwise stated.
- We accept bookings over the phone, please have your credit/debit card to hand.
- We welcome enquiries by email but please DO NOT quote your card payment details on email.
- Enrolments are welcome throughout the year.
- Courses with fewer than the minimum number of learners may have the option of continuing on payment of supplementary fees.
- Fees are payable in full at the time of booking a course. We accept payment by all major debit and credit cards, cheques (payable to Astrea Academy Trust) or cash in person.
- Please note, should you withdraw from a course that continues to meet you will still be liable to pay any outstanding fees.
- Refunds will be paid in full if a class is unable to start due to insufficient enrolments.
- Refunds cannot be given if a course has already started, unless you cancel your place for medical reasons, in which case a Doctor's Certificate is required.
- Concessionary fees **may** be available at the discretion of the College if you are:
 - in receipt of the "Guaranteed Credit" element of the Pension Credit
 - in receipt of a means tested benefit, e.g. Working Family Tax Credit
 - in receipt of Universal Credit

DATA PROTECTION: OPT-IN to receive information about courses – if you wish to receive information about Adult Learning courses please go to our website: community.cvcweb.net and follow the link to **OPT IN** to enable us to keep you updated regarding courses.

Cottenham Village College aims to ensure that all personal data collected about staff, pupils, parents, governors, visitors and other individuals is collected, stored and processed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018). To see our data protection policy please go to:
<https://www.astreacottenham.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Astrea-Data-Protection-Policy-2019-21.pdf>

Learner Information

- If you have given us your email address, you will receive confirmation of your place following enrolment. Contact Adult Learning 01954 288751 or Email: community@astreacottenham.org
- Please note that we attempt to run classes on consecutive weeks, however if this isn't the case we will let you know the dates in advance as far as possible

- In the event of Tutor illness or school closure due to severe weather conditions resulting in a cancelled class, an additional class may be offered at the end of the course

- Free parking is available (at own risk)

- **PAT Testing** – any personal electrical items used on school premises must hold a current PAT certificate unless under 1 year old, eg: Sewing Machine, Overlocker, glue guns, soldering irons etc.

Equality & Diversity

We are fully committed to equality of opportunity and welcome enrolments from all adults aged 19+. We positively encourage all learners with any concerns about specific needs which might affect their learning to discuss their requirements with us in confidence. 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 will do our best to ensure that resources and equipment are accessible to all and make reasonable adjustments to ensure that all learners can access activities.

Additional Learning Support

We welcome learners with disabilities, learning difficulties, medical conditions and other needs. If you would like to discuss how we can support you to reach your learning aim, please speak to your Tutor or ask for a confidential discussion with the Adult Learning office 01954 288751.

Safeguarding

We've made arrangements to ensure that you are safe in Cottenham Village College. If you feel you are not safe for any reason, eg. through verbal or physical abuse or you have been discriminated against, tell your Tutor or the Adult Learning office, who will investigate to ensure your safety.

National Careers Service (NCS) Careers advice is available to all learners. The NCS provides free information and guidance on all aspects of learning, skills development and employment. Help is provided in a way that suits you, on-line, face to face or by telephone.

Transport Difficulties

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

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.

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.



Cottenham Sports Centre boasts an array of quality sports facilities; open to the public:

Monday – Friday 4pm-10pm

Saturday 8am-5pm & Sunday 8am-12pm

Tel: 01954 288760 or visit: cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk

- Fitness suite (Cardio and weight resistance machines)
- A dance / aerobics studio, with wood sprung floor with Air Conditioning & Heating
- 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
- 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 ACTIVITIES & MEMBERSHIPS

We run a number of sports courses for adults and children.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL FEES MUST BE PAID BEFORE THE START OF THE MEMBERSHIP OR COURSE IF APPLICABLE

To book a Sports Centre membership/course, please visit our website or contact 01954 288760 from 4pm

FITNESS CLASSES – STARTING JANUARY 2022

Monday:	Box Fit	7pm-8pm	Dance Studio
Tuesday:	Circuits	7pm-8pm	Gymnasium
Saturday:	Circuits	8-9am	Outside/Main Sports Hall
Per Class:		£5 (More classes starting later in January)	

Fitness Suite Memberships

Silver Membership Student (Gym Only)	£13.50	per month
Silver Membership Adult Standard (Gym Only)	£15.50	per month
Silver Membership Over 60's (Gym Only)	£10.50	per month
Gold 3 Month Membership Student (Gym Only)	£29.99	per month
Gold 3 Month Membership Adult Standard (Gym Only)	£35.99	per month
Gold 3 Month Membership Over 60's (Gym Only)	£23.99	per month
NHS Monthly Membership	£11.50	per month
Single Session:	£6.00 (Weekends – £3)	

Badminton Classes

For Dates visit – Badminton & Social Classes (cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk)

Beginners	6.00 – 7.00pm	£5 per session Pay as You Go
Intermediates	7.00 – 8.00pm	£5 per session Pay as You Go
Advanced	8.00 – 10.00pm	£5 per session Pay as You Go

DISCOUNTED TERM PRICES AVAILABLE

Prices per Hour

Badminton	£9.00 per court	9-A-Side Outdoor 3G Pitch	£64.00
Basketball	£8.00 per mini court	Sports Hall Room Hire	£35.00
Tennis Court	£6.50 per court	Dance Studio Room Hire	£18.00
Netball Court	£18.00 per court	Gymnasium Hall Room Hire	£22.00
5-A-Side Indoor Football	£35.00	Children's Parties	Prices vary on activity
5-A-Side Outdoor 3G Pitch	£32.00		

Get in touch to find out what else we have to offer.
We also have discounted club rates available.

Online Booking System

It has never been easier now to book an activity, pay for a Monthly Gym Membership or to grab any offers available.

Our system operates 24/7 and can be used on your home computer, phone, or tablet.

New customers to our online booking system will need to create an account.

You will be asked for your name, address, contact details and emergency contact details.

Once created, you can log in whenever and wherever you are.

All transactions are secure through 'SagePay'

Use the link below to access the site

cottenhamsportscentre.co.uk/online-booking

The Community

At Cottenham Sports Centre, we are determined to provide excellent and affordable sport and fitness activities to the local communities and further afield.

We also want to help community groups and organisations find a home for their events and activities. We are proud to provide a home to so many sport and fitness clubs/organisations. These groups include Cottenham Colts Football, Cottenham Tennis Club, Cottenham Gymnastics, ABM School of Ballet, Rink Hockey, Cottenham Netball Club and more!

We are always growing bigger and better and we welcome everyone along the journey.

We look forward to welcoming you at Cottenham Sports Centre. Your local community sport and fitness centre.

Adam Newland – Sports Centre Manager

CHRISTMAS AT RECTORY FARM

Fancy a Free Range Bronze Turkey for your Christmas celebration?

One that's slow grown, high welfare with no growth promoters or unnecessary antibiotics... it's just how turkey should taste. Or perhaps you would like a change and try a Goose this year?

Order online before the end of November, for collection on 23 December.

Christmas Trees & The Christmas Barn

Order your Christmas Tree online and either Click & Collect or have your tree delivered.

If you prefer to visit we will still have our Farmyard full of Christmas Trees and we have made sure that it is safe for you to visit.

We've got just what you need for a tree-mendous Christmas!

Our Christmas Barn is open from 27 November to 23 December (closed Mondays) and is all decked out and bursting with baubles, decorations & stocking fillers.

Find us on the A10 Milton bypass CB24 6AE

For more information or for help with ordering:

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FECA IN LANDBEACH

Tithe Barn Trust

The *Spend a Penny* campaign hits its target!

A year after its launch the Spend a Penny campaign has reached its £30,000 target – thanks to the Postcode Places Trust, a major anonymous

personal gift and donations of all sizes from many other local supporters.

Spend a Penny will enable the installation of two eco-friendly Kazubaloos for use by all those visiting or using Landbeach tithe barn, greatly enhancing its value as a local community asset. A great fundraising effort has been capped off by a generous £17,819 grant by the Postcode Places Trust that will enable these loos and also cycle racks to be put into place. Gemma O'Shea, Tithe Barn Trust chair commented: 'It is thrilling that we have reached our target and our greatest thanks go to all who have contributed. We are especially pleased that the Postcode Places Trust has recognised the added community value that these loos and cycle racks will bring via the tithe barn to Landbeach and our surrounding communities.'

It is hoped to have these in place by May 2022 so watch this space for news of events next summer that will celebrate this major step forward and capitalise on these enhanced facilities.

Heritage Open Day – Over 80 people took advantage of the national Heritage Open Day festival to visit Landbeach tithe barn on 18 September. This

year's theme of Edible Britain made the tithe barn, a place intimately associated with food production in years gone by, the perfect place for this. There was lots to interest people of all ages from a display of medieval dance in traditional costume by the



Medieval dancers outside the barn

Capriol Society for Early Dance, complete with opportunities for audience participation and a chance to try your hand at hand making flour with a quern – a traditional grinding stone. For children there were readings of the delightful tale of The Little Red Hen and her determination to bake some bread and a small world touch tray for smaller children to play with.

Event – Saturday 11 December 2:30pm – Carols, Free entry. Start your festive season with Carol singing and enjoy mulled wine or fruit juice and mince pies. Wrap up well.

To find out more about the barn, what's on and the plans for its future, go to www.tithebarntrust.org.uk. Another way you can make a contribution: Join our friendly family of helpers! Make new friends, work in an amazing space and know that you're helping a great cause – three fabulous reasons to get volunteering. We are looking for people to help out on open days and/or to contribute as an event volunteer or learning volunteer. Whether you can make a regular commitment or just spare the odd few hours, we have opportunities for you to contribute to the future of this remarkable barn. Email tithebarntrust@gmail.com or see our volunteering page to find out more about the opportunities.

How to find the Tithe Barn – The gate entrance is opposite No 2 Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, Cambridge, CB25 9FA. It's a short (5 minute) walk along the uneven grass track.



Grinding flour



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Neil Robinson and the team at AMAS investments Ltd pride themselves on providing a personal service tailored to each client's needs.

Having been Cambridge based for the past 25 years, Cottenham for past 15, Neil has excellent local knowledge of the city and surrounding areas.

Neil and the team work tirelessly to secure the best mortgage deals for clients and recognise that circumstances are not always straightforward. They are experts in their field so rest assured that you are in safe hands when financing your new home, whatever your situation may be.

LIFE INSURANCE PROTECTION

There are many protection insurance options, Neil will run through your individual circumstances and make recommendations so you have the correct level of cover in place for your needs.

With a 'no hard sell' approach you can be confident that Neil and AMAS are working solely in your interest.

Neil Robinson holds The Certificate in Mortgage Advice and Practice (CeMAP), enabling him to offer regulated advice in Mortgages and Protection.

Email: Neil.robinson@amas.co.uk or Call: 07967 205497
to arrange a no obligation consultation

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FECA IN LANDBEACH

LANDBEACH SOCIETY

At a Special General Meeting held on 20 October the members unanimously voted to dissolve the Society. So after nearly 50 years this village organisation has closed.

The Society was formed in the early 1970s and over the years it has responded to planning proposals for developments in the village, and encouraged the restoration and maintenance of historic properties, particularly the Tithe Barn. However, the latter proved too great a burden and responsibility for it was taken over recently by the Tithe Barn Trust, with great success in restoring and promoting its use.

With falling numbers attending meetings, the Society has decided that it is no longer viable. Its archives will be donated to the Cambridgeshire Collection and the County Archives for safe keeping, and residual funds will be given to the Tithe Barn Trust.

LANDBEACH VILLAGE NETWORK

The King is Dead, Long Live the King!

Ray Gambell has announced the end of the

Landbeach Society after 50 glorious years of campaigning to save the Tudor Tithe Barn, raising awareness of the antiquity and value of the historic core of our village and engaging a range of speakers who gave us some wonderful talks on all aspects of local history from Mammoths on the A14 to the history of Chivers.

But all good things must come to an end. The Landbeach Society could not, of itself, raise the sums necessary to maintain the Tithe Barn. The Friends of Worts Meadow are undertaking sterling work, not only in preserving the meadow for the future but, in their programme of activities, interesting new and younger people into the wealth of history and natural history which lies on our doorstep.

Attendance at meetings of the Society was dwindling and it was often embarrassing to book a speaker when only (at most) 12 people arrived to hear them. Things had to change! As a Society which has been part of Landbeach village life for so long this was a hard decision to make, but,

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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

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given the reality of life in 21st Century Britain, the most sensible one.

The Landbeach Society is no more, but, hopefully, that is not the end of the story. Some of us are trying out a new concept called the Landbeach Village Network #LandbeachVillageNetwork. It will be an online group with the aim of fostering the village community, information about the history of Landbeach, upcoming events and activities etc.

There will be information on the village website, landbeach.org.uk and we're hoping to meet up at the Old Forge in the Village Hall on the **third Thursday of each month**. Do come along to meet your neighbours and to exchange ideas for the Network.

WILLINGHAM GARDENING CLUB

Thank you to all who contributed photos of their produce, flowers and craft to this year's *Virtual Horticulture & Craft Show* – the in-person show having been cancelled again this year. These photos were published in a two-page spread in the October issue of the *Willingham News*. It is good to see more people taking to the outdoors and enjoying growing their own vegetables and flowers.

This year has been a challenging one for all those involved in horticulture and agriculture because of the erratic weather conditions impacting farmers, fruit and vegetable growers, cut flower growers, and gardeners generally. All the evidence points to climate change being upon us; so, what should we grow next year to survive and flourish? An extraordinary meeting of the Gardening Club was held on 6 September to discuss the Club's future following our long absence due to the Covid-19 restrictions.

Meetings – at Willingham Social Club, Fen End, starting at 7.30pm

Our speaker for **Monday 6 December** will be Geoff Hodge who is a freelance gardener and horticultural writer, author, editor and radio and TV broadcaster, whose aim is to give advice to gardeners to get the best from their plants and garden, and is someone to answer all your plant and gardening questions. Geoff covers a wide range of practical slide talks and demonstrations, and we are still in the

process of selecting a topical subject of interest to our members.

There will be no meeting in January as usual, but there are plans for a talk on **Monday 7 February**, to start the gardening year with practical aspects of gardening, care of the soil, and pest control.

WILLINGHAM YOUTH TRUST

Youth Club is back! After a challenging eighteen months, Willingham Youth Centre has finally been able to open its doors again, providing a free youth club once a week in collaboration with a fantastic team of youth workers from Connections Bus Project. After taking over as chair and secretary of Willingham Youth Trust back in April 2021, Jack and Vicky are so excited to be able to welcome back the young people of Willingham and the surrounding villages. It has been fantastic to see so many young people turning up on a Wednesday night. Indeed, demand for Youth Club has been so high that we have already had to split our group of young people in half, with group A attending one week and group B attending the following week! With this in mind, if you are wanting to come along to Youth Club, please contact us first so we can assign you to one of the two groups.

We have numerous plans for future Youth Club sessions, including graffiti art and cooking workshops, and we are hoping to run some workshops for the wider community as well, such as first aid training, so make sure to follow us on Facebook (Willingham Youth Trust), Instagram (willinghamyouthtrust) and Twitter (WillinghamYT) to stay up to date! We are currently looking for more volunteers to help out on a Wednesday night (Youth Club runs from 7–8.30pm), so if anyone would like more information about this, please drop Vicky an email on enquiries@willinghamyouthtrust.org, or message us on social media. We are also looking for people who might be interested in training as youth workers, as we are keen to employ our own youth workers so that we can run more than one youth club per week, so if you would like more information about this, please get in touch!



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FECA IN WILLINGHAM

WILLINGHAM WHEELS

Over Day Centre Bike Rides Sunday 3 October 2021

With the weather kind to us, riders and families enjoyed one of three rides and a celebratory get-together afterwards at the Over Community Centre. Local cycle clubs, Willingham Wheels and Swavesey and Over Cycling Club, shared their expertise and enthusiasm to organise the rides with the help of Over Day Centre Trustees and many friends. Very warm thanks to all who helped.

126 riders participated.

56 riders tackled the Challenge Ride of 50 miles, passing through scenic landscape and villages to Old Wimpole, on to the notorious Chapel Hill, and returning to Over. 21 riders had a go at the 20-mile ride, following the same route as the 50-miler at first, but then diverging at Elsworth to pass over the A14 iconic bridge to return. 49 riders (with around one-third children – the youngest aged 4) joined as families or individuals to follow the cycleway and busway track to St. Ives for the water and fruit-bar stop before retracing their tyre tracks to Over. It was lovely to see the children enjoy receiving their finisher medals, as was the fulfilment on faces as



riders completed their rides.

Just as pleasing was the enjoyment of riders and families who welcomed them back to the Community Centre. With excellent refreshments and catering on offer, as well as live music from *RPM*, there was a lively atmosphere of rider celebration. Warm thanks go to all our sponsors: Law and Lewis, Joiners; Redmayne, Arnold and Harris, Estate Agents; Cambridgeshire Bathrooms and Fen Edge Community Association. Also, many thanks to Aero Bicycle Repair for mechanical help, Dean Cullum for broom wagon (recovery of riders with bike if unable to continue), Pete Gosnell paramedic, for first-aid support and to Jon Watkins for the wonderful photos.

The event raised just under £2,400 for the Day Centre. This sum will help enhance the services provided to local folk. Many thanks to everyone for their donations, either as riders or supporters. Some comments illustrate the success of the day: 'Well done to the organisers and helpers of this event. It was lovely to sit in the sun outside the Community Centre with a pint watching all the riders coming back. Fantastic charity to support.' 'Great ride yesterday, very well organised and executed by the team.' 'Thank you for all the great work in the community.' 'See you next year'.

In all, a very enjoyable day. Next year's rides are planned for Sunday 12 June 2022 – make a note in your diary!





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PARISH COUNCILS

RAMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Bus Service – We are currently working with our County and District Councillors and the Greater Cambridge Partnership to secure a regular and more frequent bus service for the village. We are also working with the County Council to secure an improvement to the crossing at Reynolds Drove across the busway and into Northstowe, as we appreciate that with the school in particular there is an increasing need for safe passage between the two villages.

Beautiful Barrels – This summer saw Rampton made even more beautiful by the installation of many flower barrels, these were very kindly sponsored by local businesses and maintained by local residents, these have added some real colour to the verges and we are looking forward to restocking them for the winter to keep the colour going.

Flood Plan – Other than surface flooding from high runoff and poor drains, Rampton is a very low risk flood area. However, after the exceptional rainfall last winter and the associated issues particularly in the area of Pauley's Drove, we worked to improve the drainage at that location. We also cleared and jetted drains around the village. We are also developing a flood plan so that Rampton remains a low-risk area for flooding.

Football – Cottenham Colts have been welcomed to the Recreation Ground and have installed a set of goals, which have been enjoyed by all over recent months.

Skatepark – Ramps 4 Rampton continue to develop a community project to provide a skatepark on the recreation ground. This project is currently at tender prior to further public consultation. The group have been busy fundraising over the summer, with a very successful band night at the Black Horse and a Raffle alongside the Fairies Breakfasts.

New Life in the Old West (NLOW) – The NLOW team worked with volunteers to build bug hotels and wildlife habitats at the recreation ground and churchyard in Rampton. Bat boxes were installed in both locations. Following a recent twilight bat walk, *Common Pipistrelle* and *Soprano Pipistrelles* were recorded on detectors around the church.

Further information on family events held by NLOW can be found here: www.newlifeoldwest.org.uk/events/
Rampton Parish Council meetings are held bi-monthly on the second Tuesday of the month in Rampton Village Hall at 7.30pm. The next meeting will be on

Tuesday 11 January 2022

Contact: ramptonparishclerk@gmail.com

WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council has been working on projects over the last few months, some of which have come to fruition and some which are moving towards completion. The A14 Legacy Grant approved a footpath to the orchard on Earith Road, the long-awaited works should start early in 2022. This footpath will enable residents to visit the orchard safely. We look forward to its installation.

The Council successfully bid for a Zero Carbon Community grant in 2020 for the installation of infra-red heating in the Ploughman Hall. This has been installed and will provide a more pleasant environment for users whilst at the same time saving on electricity and reducing our carbon footprint.

We have also made a successful bid this year for wildflower planting along the edge of the QEII playing field and hedging on the northern boundary of Barton Field. Residents and visitors should enjoy these enhanced green spaces.

The Council welcomed two new councillors at its October meeting, Maedee Rogers and James Welton.

They will undoubtedly bring new skills and ideas to the Council. At the same time, we bid farewell to one of our long-standing Councillors, Andrew Cook. Andrew has been a member of the Council for a number of years and played an active role both as a Councillor and as Chair. Andrew worked tirelessly to support the village during his time on the Council and his extensive knowledge and contributions will be greatly missed. Councillors' details can be found on the website.

Council meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday of the month, starting at 7.30pm. Agendas are published on the website and the notice board outside the public hall in the High Street. Members of the public are welcome to attend and speak briefly or ask questions (see agendas for further details).

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FEN EDGE GROUPS

STITCHWILD

Spotlight on Esther Montero by Di Cowell

I had a chance the other day to talk in more detail to Esther, one of our group stitchers, and thought you might like to know more about her! Esther is a Cottenham resident who recently participated in the *Cambridge Open Studios* program; so, she may be a familiar face to some Fen Edge News readers!

Esther grew up in a home with a mother who made high-end wedding dresses and says that she was attracted to the tactile nature of fabrics from childhood. She has been a creative person from a young age in many different types of crafts, ranging anywhere from rugmaking to crochet, upholstery, carpentry – you name it. Her first thought when seeing something interesting is, 'Can I make that? I'll have a go.' But it wasn't until about three years ago that she really got started into textile art in a serious way. One of

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FEN EDGE GROUPS

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her first textile art projects was inspired by the painting *Las Meninas*, by Diego Velazquez, painted in 1656, depicting a scene at Spanish court during the reign of King Philip IV of Spain. Esther saw modernised versions of Velazquez's *Court Ladies* interpreted in different mediums; and this inspired her to make a textile work, using fabric collage and applique. Was it intimidating to Esther that she didn't know how to do fabric applique? No, she taught herself this and other techniques necessary for her work from YouTube videos.

Esther has completed some of Velazquez's *Court Ladies* and has also been inspired to re-create some Klimt and Modigliani portraits in the same way. In Esther's words, 'I am really interested in figurative art and portraiture and found that recreating known paintings is not only really enjoyable but helps me focus in learning and developing my techniques without the pressure of making my own composition or finding the

likeness of a real person. I hope to find my own style of portraiture this way.' Esther is a self-taught stitcher, but, in addition to YouTube, credits the TextileArtist.org *Stitch Club* as her main source of instruction at the moment. She has also taken contemporary textiles courses through Cottenham Village College. She joined *StitchWild* just a few months before everything stopped for lockdown in March 2020, and took the opportunity afforded by lockdown to study and work to improve her knowledge and standard of textile work. As well as being a prolific maker, she has been an avid participant in on-line workshops; and she realised one of her goals this summer by participating in the ever-popular *Cambridge Open Studios*, where she shared her passion for her textile art with more than 60 visitors to her home studio. *StitchWild* is pleased and fortunate to have such a talented and motivated stitcher in our midst. Esther will have some work on show at Textiles East, which takes place on **18-19 February 2022** at Swavesey Village College.

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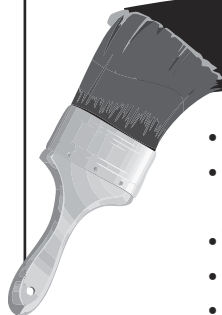
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
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FEN EDGE GROUPS



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SJP11709 V1 (12/19)

FEN EDGE GROUPS

FEN EDGE WALKERS

(Formerly Fen Edge Footpath Group)

The Fen Edge Footpath Group was set up about 40 years ago to look after and create new footpaths within Cottenham and the surrounding area.

We now feel the time is right to change our name to make it clearer what we do and appeal to the wider population. We are a friendly and very welcoming group who enjoy walking at a leisurely pace with distances ranging from 6 to 10 miles. We do not have any joining or membership fees and people new to our expanding villages will be made very welcome.

Over the summer we have enjoyed several Saturday walks. Last week we enjoyed our annual week of varied and interesting walks both home and further afield. Our annual family Boxing Day walk of about 4 miles on **Sunday 26 December 2021** starts at 10.30am from the junction of Cottenham Broad Lane and High Street.

See sites.google.com/site/fenedgefg for details of upcoming walks. fenedge.footpathgroup@gmail.com



Step into 2022 with confidence – Would you like help to stay safe and well at home, or reconnect with your community? A chat with an expert local Community Navigator might help you take those first steps to a healthier, happier you. Contact your local coordinator to discuss available options, including access to our free, short-term Help at Home and Wellbeing services. Call us on 01954 212100 or email: SouthCambs.Navigators@care-network.org.uk To learn more about volunteering opportunities please visit www.care-network.org.uk or call 01954 211 919.

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FEN EDGE GROUPS

FEN EDGE ORCHESTRA

Fen Edge Orchestra is rehearsing enthusiastically, and as you can see in this picture, enjoying the pleasant surroundings of the new Cottenham Village Hall. The ground floor room, where we usually meet, is brightly lit and spacious enough to hold over 30 (socially distanced) players.

The orchestra has happily welcomed several new members in different sections of the orchestra. There is a waiting list for some instruments, but there is always a need for additional competent violinists (ideally, grade 7 or above). We are also hoping to recruit a double bass and French horn player. There are no auditions, and if you are invited to attend, just come along and see if you enjoy the rehearsal. The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly, but we work hard to improve the standard of our performances.

Talking of performances, the orchestra usually gives



two concerts each year. The last year or so was unusual, so there haven't been any concerts, but we are keen to perform as soon as we can. By the time you read this, there should be a concert on the horizon. Look out for posters in the area, or check out the orchestra's website:

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ROTARY CLUB CAMBRIDGE SOUTH

More volunteers are needed to help **with charity car parking**. If you could spare a few hours and would like to help at Christmas 2021 (weekends **27–28 November to 18–19 December** and then **27–31 December**) please contact smithmichaelstanley@hotmail.com

Also, if you are wanting to park in Cambridge on those days, it is just £7 for as long as you wish in car park opening hours and all the proceeds go to charitable good causes. A wonderful way of giving to charity at Christmas, whilst parking for Christmas shopping or to see an early show.

Please look for the Rotary signs on Lensfield Road (Chemistry building) and Tennis Court Road (Downing site). Many thanks to the University for allowing us to use these car parks.

Also please see the website www.cambridge-southrotary.org.uk if you would like to know more about Rotary, whose motto is *Service above Self* and main worldwide aim is to eradicate Polio world-wide

within the next few years. Now that the Taliban leadership has expressed their commitment to include female frontline workers, provide security and assure the safety of all health workers across the country, there is a real chance of eradicating polio there and in Pakistan, which are the last 2 countries where polio is regarded as endemic.

Cottenham Community Centre showed the brilliant film *Breathe* in early October in advance of World Polio Day. This is an amazing story of a young man in the UK in the 1950s who survived Polio and who, with his wife, helped to change worldwide attitudes towards disability.

Our club meets on alternate Mondays (except bank holidays) 6 for 6.30pm at the Arundel Hotel Cambridge with great speakers. New guests and potential members are very welcome, we would love to hear from you. I would be happy to have a chat with anyone who may be interested, do get in touch.

Peace activities – Rotary Peace scholars from overseas may study for a Master's degree at the

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FEN EDGE GROUPS

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University of Bradford. One Rotary Peace Fellow (who spoke in Cottenham in 2019) is studying the behaviour of young men regarding violence against women, for a PhD at Cambridge University. Another, with a UN security responsibility, is coming from Liberia to visit us in Cambridge between February and April. I am sure that they will be speaking to the club. If you would like to hear them, please do get in touch, they are both wonderful and inspiring speakers.

Memory café – This is held at Girton on the first Friday of every month. See the website above for more details, including the theme for the month. It is at St Vincent's Close Community Hall CB3 0PE.

FEN EDGE TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The effects of the Covid-19 period have been hard for us all, and they have severely affected the social side of our activities. Formal links with Avrillé remain

strong, but the fun things have been limited to virtual meetings. Cocktails are just not the same when glasses cannot be clinked.

But there is light at the end of the tunnel. The French have been invited to visit us for the Royal bank holiday weekend, **3–6 June 2022**, and they are very keen to accept. We have learned not to take too much for granted, but plans are in hand to make this the most rewarding visit yet – for both guests and hosts!

There are no firm plans yet for re-opening our domestic social or fundraising activities, but we hope this will happen very soon.

The Fen Edge Twinning Association is a local group which is open to all residents in Waterbeach, Landbeach, Cottenham, Rampton and Willingham. If you are interested in taking part as a singleton, a couple, a family or as part of a local group, please contact Julia Gwilt (juliagwilt@gmail.com) or Kit Kilgour (kitkilgour@yahoo.co.uk). New members are always welcome.



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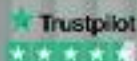


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