TOFT VILLAGE CALENDAR

November 2026

DIARY DATES

The Parish Council
The next meeting is on Monday 2nd November at 7.00pm in the People's Hall. All welcome.

St Andrew's
Christmas Fayre
28th November at
Toft People's Hall

Toft Friendship Club
11th November 2.30pm
Toft People's Hall
Icing, ready for Christmas

The Club
Games and Pudding Night on Saturday 7th & Food on Friday 13th November

Fireside returns
Friday 6th November
7.30pm at
Toft People's Hall

Save the date
Christmas concert
Toft Choir & Toft Session on Saturday 12th December at 4pm at St Andrew's Church

EDITORIAL

Run up or run away? That is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer Christmas cards in July, baubles in September, tinsel in October or to just close the eyes, plug the ears and come down with a dose of despair? Journalists and commercial advertisers are fond of the phrase 'the run-up to Christmas'. It has an air of breathlessness about it, a collective sprint the moment the starting gun goes pop, with the finishing line a marathon's distance away but no less demanding. And the starting gun seems to go off earlier and earlier each year. A well-known bird protection society, which this household supports with purchases of honey, bird-feeders and sundry 'save our birds' paraphernalia, laid out its 2026 Christmas cards in July. I kid you not. And a large, equally well-known department store in Cambridge has been glistening and dazzling us with baubles and tinsel since the end of August. Now I don't know how long it takes you to choose a nice Christmas card to send to an old friend whose last known address was in Taunton in 1994, but it would seem to be a task swiftly and efficiently dispatched on about the 5th of December, or later if the Christmas greeting is just a warm wish via email, text or WhatsApp. And baubles and tinsel? When I was a nipper, the same trimmings, tree-baubles, tinsel and holy crib were brought down from a dusty box mid-December, year after year. Those were the days. And here's a good tip: if you really want to get your Christmas cards in early, wait till the New Year, when they are half-price. So that covers January, but, oh dear! It means there are only five months clear when you won't see Christmas cards in the shops. Here's another tip: send your Christmas greeting to Toft friends and neighbours via this Calendar next month. See below.

Your Christmas greetings to friends and neighbours here. Portrait or landscape. 42mm x 92mm

Send your Christmas greetings via the Village Calendar

The greetings help greatly towards the cost of producing this Village Calendar. Book your space this year by email to *jane@tebbitdesign.co.uk* as soon as you can as these pages take time to format.

The deadline is 17th November but if you wait, there may not be space.

Bank transfer is the preferred and easiest way to pay. (The bank now makes it difficult for us to pay in cheques.) **Details of how to pay will be sent to you when you are happy with your greeting.**

If you are not happy with internet banking, you can pay with cash.

Spaces are sized 42mm x 92mm (see example left) and cost just £15. You can send me your own design, landscape or portrait, or I could create something for you if you wish.

Toft People's Hall

Toft People's Hall AGM

Toft People's Hall Management Committee will hold their AGM on 26th November 2026 at 8pm in the main room of Toft People's Hall.

All members of the village are welcome to attend.

THE CHURCH IN TOFT

St Andrew's Parish Church This church extends a warm ecumenical welcome to all.

Lay Minister Mrs Barbara Preece 263466
Churchwardens Mrs Ann Mitchell 262516
Mrs Elizabeth Dolman 262574
Deputy Warden Jean Verney 263028

SERVICES OF WORSHIP

1st November
8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
Revd Prof. Michael Reiss
11.00am No service
3.00pm All Souls – service to remember those who have died
Mrs Cathy Michell & Mrs Barbara Preece

8th November
Royal British Legion REMEMBRANCE
10.30am gather outside former Chapel for laying of wreaths
10.55am RBL Service of Remembrance St Andrew's
Revd Prof Michael Reiss & Ann Mitchell

15th November
8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
Revd Prof Michael Reiss
11.00am Morning Worship
Revd Robert Dolman

22nd November
11.00am Holy Communion
Revd Priscilla Slusar
8.30am Holy Communion (BCP)
Revd Prof Michael Reiss
11.00am Holy Communion
Revd Priscilla Slusar

On Wednesday evenings at 8.00pm, via Zoom, a service of compline: ID: 899 215 191 or follow the link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/899215191
Zoom services available at 11.00am on Sundays.
MEETING ID: 823 1147 36

Formerly, the Comberton and District Branch of the British Legion Service alternated its Remembrance services between Comberton and Toft. Comberton is now a Branch Community Support but they are continuing, for the moment, the former tradition and will be joined by local uniformed organisations at 10.30am outside the former Methodist Chapel in High Street, where wreaths will be laid as usual, and then for the 11.00am silence and service at St Andrew's.
As usual, the collection will be for the Royal British Legion.

Remember

'Remember, remember, the fifth of November, gunpowder, treason and plot.' People do still light bonfires and mount dazzling firework displays each year, but I doubt whether many of us give much thought to Guido Fawkes and his band of conspirators who attempted to blow up the House of Commons and provoke a constitutional crisis. The commemoration continues but the memory has faded and the names are forgotten.
Several times recently I've heard people talking about investing in experiences - holidays and the like – which will build up a store of shared family memories for future years. A similar argument can be made for learning poetry by heart; it gives us a resource of reflection and nourishment to sustain us when life has slowed down or become difficult. As J.M. Barrie put it, 'God gave us memory so that we might have roses in December.' Our personal identities are very much bound up with the memories that populate our minds.
For the Churches November is very much associated with memory. At the beginning of the month, we observe the festival of All Saints, in which we remember the vast crowd of faithful Christians who lived inspiring lives and in countless ways radiated the love of Christ in their communities. Then we observe All Souls' Day, in which we give special thanks for our memories of those whom we have loved and lost. And at the eleventh hour on the eleventh day of this eleventh month of the year, we join with all people of good will in remembering those men and women who sacrificed their lives in two world wars and many other conflicts in the cause of justice and freedom and peace.
Rituals of many kinds help to keep our memories alive. Jesus said, 'Do this in memory of me,' as he shared bread and wine with his disciples in the Last Supper before his death.
Memory is one of the greatest gifts we have. We need to cherish and treasure it.

Robert Dolman

THE CHURCH IN TOFT

A QUIET SERVICE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

You are warmly invited to St Andrew's Church Toft for a time of remembrance and thanks, quietness, words and music for 'Those we love but see no more'.

3.00pm on Sunday November 1st, followed by refreshments

THE WARM HUB IS BACK

Come and join us for chat, games, friendship and refreshment, all for free.

We meet every Monday, from 10.00am to 12.00 at Toft People's Hall.

We would love to see you there - you'll be guaranteed a warm welcome.

Feel free to bring a friend.

BADGERS

We seem to have acquired some badgers in the churchyard! Of course they are diggers - not good in a churchyard - and adept at getting in anywhere. We are working on a way of deterring them. In the meantime, PLEASE keep the gate closed and the palette which we have placed in the gap down the drift in place!

Friendship CLUB

11th November 2.30pm Toft People's Hall

Icing, ready for Christmas

The Friendship Club is for over 50s. We normally meet every month on the 2nd Wednesday at 2.30pm at Toft People's Hall; programme followed by tea and biscuits. **Visitors always welcome.**

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

This year the Christmas Fayre at Toft People's Hall is on Saturday, 28th November in the morning. More details on a flyer but KEEP THE DATE.

ST ANDREW'S EAST WINDOW

The temporary repair has been done, which will give us time to set about raising the up to £115,000 we need for a proper repair and conservation in 2027. If you can help, we would be so grateful.

You can use one of these methods to donate:

- https://givealittle.co/c/standrewtoftrestoration
- the QR code below
- or Bank Transfer to: Account name: 'Toft PCC' Sort Code: 30-91-56 Account: 02251476
- Cheque to 'Toft PCC' to 20 High Street, 40 School Lane or 2 Beldams Close (please add a note with the cheque, or email standrewtoft@gmail.com for a Gift Aid Form).

Paul Baker

We are sad to report the death of Paul Baker, husband of Joan, who lived in the High Street.

The funeral will take place at 12.00 noon on Friday 6th November at Saint Andrew's church.

FIRESIDE

One of the village's most loved and enduring traditions, makes a welcome return!

On Friday November 6th at 7.30pm at the People's Hall, Toft's own Dr Claire Nicholson will speak on:

The Odd Couple: Virginia Woolf and Rupert Brooke.

Free entry. Free nibbles. Toft Club bar.

TOFT PARISH COUNCIL

Who is on the Council?
The Parish Council is comprised of a Chair and Deputy Chair and up to five other councillors, all of whom are volunteers. Currently these members are:

Chair: Martin Yeadon
01223 263663
cllr.yeadon@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Deputy: Elaine Miles
01223 262255
cllr.miles@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Avril Coghlan
cllr.coghlan@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Emma Darbyshire
07763 463234
cllr.darbyshire@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

William Howling
cllr.howling@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Paul McCarthy
cllr.mccarthy@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Clerk: Ben Stoehr
01954 210241
clerk@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Parish Council represents the residents of Toft and aims to support the welfare and interests of its residents and businesses. Each council member takes responsibilities for specific areas covering Highways, Health and Safety, Footpaths, Lot Meadow, The Recreation and Playground area, The Allotments, Climate Change, The People's Hall, the Defibrillator and Welcome Packs.

(This summary can be found on the Parish Council website: https://tpc.toft.org.uk)
The Council met on Monday 5th October 2026 at 7pm in the People's Hall.
Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday 2nd November 2026 at 7.00pm in the People's Hall. All welcome.

Comments from Members of the Public

A representative from TPH Committee informed the meeting that the windows in TPH needed to be replaced. This expenditure would incur VAT if TPH manage the project, as it is not a charity. Recognising that the Hall is a PC asset, the Clerk agreed to look at the legal agreement to see if the VAT payment could be avoided and report back.
A resident reported that the hedgerow on the bend on Brookside leading to Church Road was extremely overgrown, meaning drivers, cyclists and pedestrians could not see, nor be seen. As this hedgerow is the responsibility of the landowner, enquiries will be made to find out who this is and ask for this to be dealt with.
District Councillor Hubbard raised the issue of 'Active Transport' - where people walk or cycle - and reported that Years 10 and 11 at Comberton Village College, although keen, were unable to engage in this as the roads and shared path were too dangerous. She has suggested that a cycleway be run adjacent to the proposed EWR between Caldecote and Comberton. Cllr Yeadon pointed out that this had been suggested in the PC's responses to EWR. Cllr Hubbard believes that EWR may be willing to look favourably on this idea and she is to ask for a public meeting involving other local parishes to discuss this in more detail.
The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

Matters Arising

Cllr Yeadon reported that following discussions with the new owners of the Methodist Chapel, the Remembrance Service will take place this year at the Chapel as normal and the car park will be opened. Cllr Yeadon has requested that the bench outside the Chapel, which was donated to the Chapel, is retained by the village. Regarding the actual War Memorial, Cllr Yeadon has been in discussions with families who have relatives listed on it and the Church regarding an alternative site. Depending on the complexity of removing the plaque from the wall, it may be that a new plaque will be commissioned.
Referring to the RoSPA report, which stated that the two brushes in the mechanism of the swing were beginning to show slight signs of wear, it was agreed that we would continue to monitor it and consider the advice from the next RoSPA report.
Cllr Miles reported that the bench on Brookside was in need of being repainted and cleared of weeds. Regarding the refurbishment of benches and map signs, quotes had been received and the PC has chosen the most economical.
The PC now has new approved email addresses, which have been updated in the Calendar. The PC website has been redesigned, information on which is being updated. Once complete, the new website will be announced to the village.
Regarding the excessive advertising on the bend on the High Street, the Clerk will be writing to ask for the removal of the signs on the grounds that permission needs to be sought from Highways before they can be erected, as well as their being unsightly.
There is a separate notice elsewhere regarding speed monitor results and the Speed Watch Group.
The Jubilee Fence is to be painted in the near future.
Due to the shortage of land available to us, it was agreed that we would request only one free tree, an oak.

Finance, Procedure, Risk Assessment

The finance report and the payment of bills was approved.

Equipment in the playground was considered in good order except for the small swing, which has an ineffective bolt. The equipment is still safe but the bolt will be repaired or replaced as soon as possible. It was agreed that the insurance with Zurich insurers was still the best value for money.
The Internal Auditor's report was considered and it was agreed to continue with the current Internal Auditor FY2027.

Highway matters

There is a separate article covering traffic matters elsewhere in the Calendar.
Having reported the trees on Brookside being a potential risk to the overhead wires, Cllr Darbyshire was informed by the energy company that this was considered a low risk and the problem had been removed from their list. Cllr Darbyshire has asked for the company to reinstate this as it could well become a problem in the near future.
The PC was disappointed to hear from Cllr Darbyshire that she had been informed that the "siding out" of the shared path has only just gone out to tender even though this matter had been discussed and the work agreed with a representative of CCC in July of this year, when we had been assured that the work would be finished in time for the reopening of the college after the summer break.

Members' Items

Cllr McCarthy reported that a new battery has been installed in the defibrillator and he has ordered replacements for the First Aid pack. It was agreed that he would sign Toft up to be part of "the Circuit" a system for linking to the Ambulance Service. He is also to contact The Community Heartbeat Trust and/or Magpas, who give defibrillator and CPR training sessions, requesting one for Toft, hopefully in January. The usefulness of the defibrillator depends on a team of people who can be contacted in an emergency, known as the VET Scheme (Volunteer Emergency Telephone) scheme. Please see a reference to this elsewhere in the Calendar asking for volunteers.
In respect of disaster planning, Cllr Howling reported he is to meet up with a member of CCC in the coming week and SCDC can provide templates for us to use. Initially, Cllr Howling will assess the current and potential risks for Toft over the winter period, make contacts with the various organisations already dealing with this for help and advice, contact local parish councils to share information and ideas and organise cluster planning. Going forward, a plan will be drawn up covering risks over the year.
The meeting finished at 9.05pm.

VETS
VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The Parish Council is updating the VETS (Volunteer Emergency Telephone System) to ensure that if a village resident calls the emergency number - 01223 755503 - following a suspected heart-related incident, there will be a volunteer available to answer the call and respond appropriately. VETS is part of the Community Heartbeat Trust dealing with heart-related issues. The team of volunteers normally consists of 10 members. However, over time that number has reduced and there is now the need for another 4 or 5 people to join the team. As a guide, initial actions following an emergency call could be to call 999 if not done previously, collect the defibrillator from the outside wall of the People's Hall and then attend to the caller.
A session including CPR (heart, lung resuscitation) will be arranged in the coming months.
If this is something you feel you would be willing to join and contribute to, please do let us know.
cllr.mccarthy@toftparishcouncil.gov.uk

Toft Road Safety

Speeding in the village is probably the issue that is most often raised by residents to the Parish Councillors, so we thought this is a good opportunity to update the village on the various efforts the PC has been making to address this issue.

Cllr Darbyshire has had discussions with the County Council Highways to (again) ask if it's feasible to have a zebra crossing in the village. Unfortunately, we have had the same response. There isn't a long enough straight section of road in the village near to the amenities that is suitable for a zebra crossing. Obviously, the ideal spot is by the shop or the main bus stop but, equally obviously, the bend is exactly in that position and so a crossing could not be installed there. If it was to be installed further from the amenities, it just would not be used sufficiently to justify the considerable expenditure.

The PC has applied for Toft to become a 20mph zone again this year. We are doing better in that we were 15th on a list of over 40 applicants. Unfortunately, only the top seven got approved. The fact that we don't have a school in the main village doesn't help. However, we will give our application some minor tweaks and try again for next year.

The data we can generate from the speed monitors have been interesting. Generally, about 80% of the traffic in the village does comply with the speed limit but there are exceptions and some very serious exceptions. The data we are able to generate will help with the 20mph application.

We're pleased to report that the village Speed Watch team has become active again, monitoring the traffic speeds a few times over recent weeks. Having a Speed Watch team shows that we are monitoring vehicle speeds; it shows that residents care about the issue and the team informs the police of serious violations, which are then followed up by the police. It also means that the police will consider carrying out monitoring in the village. However, the team is short of members; being a member of the team isn't particularly time consuming (even less so with more members) and it enables you to contribute to our efforts to reduce speeding in the village. If you are interested, please drop an email to csw.toft@outlook.com

Toft Club News

We start the month with a **Games and Pudding Night** on Saturday 7th. Come along and have a delicious pudding and then spend the rest of the evening playing games – both board games and some interactive Wii games on the big screen! Or just come along for the puddings or games! Doors open at 7:30pm.

The excellent food continues with the popular **Food on Friday**, on Friday 13th. We will be serving a delicious Chicken Casserole (veggie option available) – just £7. Food is on a first come, first served basis so don't be late for this popular evening. Doors open at 7pm.

September film night is on a different night this month - **FRIDAY 27th,** showing the 2025 film *Dead Of Winter*, starring Emma Thompson, Judy Greer and Marc Menchaca. A woman travelling alone through snowbound northern Minnesota interrupts the kidnapping of a teenage girl. Hours from the nearest town and with no phone service, she realises that she is the young girl's only hope. Doors open at 7:30pm and the film starts promptly at 8pm. Annual membership of the film club is £12 and evening membership is £3.

Regular events continue this month, with **Toft Art** on Thursday 5th, **Toft Quiz** on Thursday 12th and **Carpet Bowls** on Friday 20th. The very popular monthly **Open Mic / Music Night** is on Saturday 14th, where you can enjoy talented local musicians playing. The **Slow Session** is on Saturday 28th, where you can join us to play or come along and listen.

The Club is open every Thursday and Friday evening from 8pm, plus most Saturday evenings and there is always a warm welcome where you can meet up with friends and enjoy a drink.

Keep up to date here:

Website: https://toft.club

Follow us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ToftSocial

toft historical society

Toft 1895

Part 9

May Creek's fascinating journal of her memories of Toft in 1895 has brought us almost in a complete circle from her starting point at the bottom of the High Street, via Comberton Road and Church Road, to Toft Manor and Brookside.

Next the Manor. Here lived the Beldams. He was known as 'Major' but whether a regular or not I cannot say. Here were servants for every occasion. They provided wives for many of the village boys, ten that I remember. The Beldams left the village for Canada about 1906. The one interesting memory about the Beldams and the Manor is going there in a crocodile from school at Christmas to collect one orange and a bag of sweets each. Of course, when we started at the British School, we were not eligible for the same. I'm sure the Passinghams had been and gone and Colonel Taylor was living at the Manor at the outbreak of war, August 1914, and left in 1918.

Now we move on to the Bottom End, Brookside if you like. The first cottage to note is Priory Cottage, in 1895 lived in by Mr & Mrs Collett. I do not remember 'him' but Mrs C. was a very smart lady with her tiny chic bonnet and her smart small shoulder cape in which she came to chapel. Then to the cottage came Mrs Falkenstein and Lil. She had foster children, did a bit of nursing in the village and made beautiful wool rugs for sale, all this before the five shillings a week, the LG pension*, came into being. This corner of the village, the lanes, brook and meadows were attractions. In Water Meadow Lane** you could find many damp-loving plants. The next holding was a larger plot belonging to the Ward family. Here was a double cottage where old George and his wife lived. They had a large family. I only knew three of their daughters. Joe and George junior lived next door. There was a jockey son 'Lisha', who came in a wheelchair after a riding accident. The others that I knew were in service with good families. Mrs Dorrington was the youngest. Patty was more like her mother. Joe was, I think, the oldest. Next door too there was a crowd: five girls and four boys. These cottages were only two up and two down, small at that.

*Local Government Pension Scheme

*Also known as Water Lane, i.e. Brookside

Comberton Heritage Society

Tuesday November 24th in Comberton Village Hall at 8pm, a talk by Joanna Hudson

George Brewster - The Last Climbing Boy

The story of George Brewster, an 11-year-old boy, whose death in a chimney in Cambridgeshire in 1875, was the catalyst for change in the child labour laws, which changed the lives of children across Britain.
Joanna Hudson is a Communications Manager for the University of Cambridge and is an amateur historian.

Reaching for the sky!

Congratulations to Luigi Corbelli, who was the winner of Scotsdales Garden Centre's 2026 Tallest Sunflower Competition, having grown a sunflower measuring an incredible 4.8 meters (almost 16 feet) high.

Village Hero

Dear Resident
In years past, the District Council ran a Village Hero Scheme and Toft was successful in its applications with awards for Ann Mitchell, Martin Sebborn and Richard Fletcher. After that scheme ceased, the PC started its own scheme in 2025 and Peter Johnson and Brian Roberts were awarded our own Village Hero Awards for that year. The PC will be repeating this again this year.

The Award will be presented to an individual (or possibly two) who have made a valuable contribution to the village over the years.

We are, again, asking for nominations. If you have one, please email Martin Yeadon at Martin.yeadon@gmail.com explaining why you feel the individual deserves the recognition. We will be including the nominations from last year so, please don't feel you have to renominate if you have already done so. Please respond by 29th November.
The PC will decide on the successful nominations.

Thank you.

The Clock Strikes Five. It's time to wear the trousers.

One of the joys of living in this part of the world for me has always been the ability to experience ground-breaking theatre. Recently I was privileged to see one of the best actresses of our time - Tilda Swinton - make a long-awaited return to the stage after more than 40 years in a landmark revival of *Man to Man* at The Royal Court Theatre, directed by Steven Unwin and designed by Bunny Christie.

Written by Manfred Karge, the play is a study of survival in a terrifying world. Ella is a working-class woman in 1930s Germany, who takes on the identity of Max, her dead husband, to survive in a time of unrest and deep uncertainty. Thus, Ella/Max is a divided person in a divided culture in a divided land.

It is clearly seen in the two new scenes written for this revival that history repeats itself as we begin to see patterns of history re-emerge in these worrying times of the rise of fascism and the far right in Europe.

The performance lasted 1hour 30 minutes and I was part of an audience who were riveted to the spot. In a time of bombardment by screens this is why live theatre is still such a powerful artform and one that should be encouraged in schools as part of a whole curriculum.

SCHOOLROOM Community Café

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Many thanks to everyone who generously supported this event last month, which raised the impressive sum of over £950 for the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. Sadly, most of us have been touched by cancer in some way, so enabling the organisation to continue giving support through difficult times to sufferers and their loved ones seems a very worthwhile outcome. And we did it by doing what Toft does best - eating great food and enjoying good company!

In addition to all the hard work by our regular helpers, we're very grateful for the assistance given by Ben and Oscar, recipients of the Toft Enterprise Award. Thank you everyone!

The Café has now resumed its normal routine and welcomes both regular and new visitors, on Wednesdays from 10.30am to 1.30pm, with homemade cakes, scones, sausage rolls, soup and more.

Funtime for Little Ones - half an hour of singing and stories for babies and toddlers and their parents or grandparents - takes place 10.30-11am. It's free, no need to book, and provides an opportunity to meet other young families from the area.

Comberton library

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library
Tel: 01223 457958

Digital Buddy Assistance Need any assistance to get online, uploading photos, bus pass renewal/new application, general printing or even accessing your emails. Digital Buddy will assist you **Mondays, 11am-1pm**, every week. Book an appointment.

Weekly activities
Knit, Sew and Natter group meets in Comberton Library at **10.30am-11.30am**. **November** dates: 9th and 23rd. **December** date: 7th. Then every other Monday. Newcomers welcome. Tea, coffee and biscuits available.

Rhymetime, **10.30am – 11.00am** (except during the school holidays) for children between 0 to 4 years of age. **November** dates: 2nd, 16th and 30th. **December** date: 14th. **First Steps Library Club** for ages 0-4 years. On every visit to the library, attending events like Rhymetime, your child will get a special stamp towards a certificate.

It's Lego Time with Duplo. **Saturdays** at 10.30am. Come and explore your imagination. Every child needs an adult to accompany them. **This is a free event**.

Opening hours (excluding bank holidays etc.)

Monday	10am – 1pm
Wednesday	10am – 1pm and 2.30pm – 5.30pm
Friday	2.30pm – 5.30pm
Saturday	10am – 1pm

NUALA'S FUNDRAISING WALK FOR THE SAMARITANS

A big thank you to everyone who supported me on my sponsored dawn walk, whether it was by making a donation, sending round emails or actually doing the walk! Perfect autumn weather on the day, clear and still, and dry underfoot.

The total raised for the Samaritans so far, including gift aid, is £985. The fundraising page is staying up for another few weeks… can we make the final total over £1000?

My JustGiving page: https://dawnwalk.samaritans.org/fundraising/dawn-walk-for-the-samaritans2027

Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs & Northants

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs, and Northants is a local wildlife conservation charity aiming to achieve bigger, better and more joined-up habitats for wildlife and people.
November and December events in Cambourne. Booking is essential except for the Christmas Fair. Please visit wildlifebcn.org/events.

- **Nature Girls sustainable craft session**, Cambourne Wed 11th Nov 7-9pm. Nature Girls is a social group for women over 18 who have an interest in wildlife, the outdoors and/or sustainability. Connect with a network of women interested in wildlife, the outdoors, and sustainability via our website. See our Facebook page and a WhatsApp group. wildlifebcn.org/wildlife-trusts-nature-girls
- **Annual Christmas Fair, Cambourne**, Fri 27th Nov 3-7pm (free entry)
- **Community work party**, Cambourne (for adults and families with children aged 7+) Sat 12th Dec 9.30-12.30 (free!)

Local enquiries
Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org
Facebook: @BeccaBadgerWTBCN

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care NETWORK CAMBRIDGESHIRE
People at the heart of everything

Care Network Cambridgeshire celebrates 40 years of changing lives

From a small village initiative to a countywide charity helping thousands of people every year, Care Network Cambridgeshire celebrated its 40th anniversary last week.
Since becoming an established charity in 1986, Care Network has supported thousands of people across Cambridgeshire through some of life's most challenging moments – helping them overcome loneliness, rebuild confidence, access essential services and maintain their independence.
Through three core service areas – Help at Home, RISE (Resilience, Intervention, Support and Empowerment) and Community Support – the charity provides practical help, personalised guidance and community-based services.
Enquiries: Sam Holson Care Network Cambridgeshire sam.h@care-network.org.uk 01954 211919 www.care-network.org.uk
Registered Charity: 1120693

CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Take Charge and Be Safe this Festive Season

As the festive season approaches and people look for presents and take advantage of Black Friday deals, many are looking to save money on electrical items. However, we urge people to Take Charge and Be Safe when buying devices, especially items that require batteries or chargers.

- Games consoles with controllers, tablets, laptops, e-bikes and e-scooters are on lots of people's present list. All these items require charging as they contain lithium-ion batteries.
- Buy electrical items only from reputable dealers; be awake and at home when using and charging devices.
- Most devices come with failsafe features to ensure they do not overheat when being charged but rely on the manufacturers' provided charging cables and adapters to work. Use the plug and cables supplied with the product rather than cheaper versions.

Remember, remember to celebrate safely!

Firework safe

- Only buy fireworks with a CE mark.
- Light fireworks at arm's length. Never go back to a lit firework.
- Never throw fireworks or put them in your pockets or clothing.
- Keep pets indoors.
- It is illegal to sell fireworks to someone under the age of 18 or to light fireworks in a public place.
- Respect your neighbours; don't let off fireworks late at night.

Bonfire safety

1. Build your bonfire well clear of buildings, fences and hedges.
2. Never use flammable liquids and never burn dangerous items such as aerosol cans, paint tins or batteries.
3. Always keep a bucket of water or a hosepipe nearby.
4. Avoid lighting bonfires in high winds.
5. Don't leave bonfires unattended. When finished, damp it down with plenty of water.

ADVERTISEMENT

REFLEX ZONE THERAPY

ACUPRESSURE OF THE FEET, HANDS AND HEAD

Benefits

Deep relaxation - reduce anxiety

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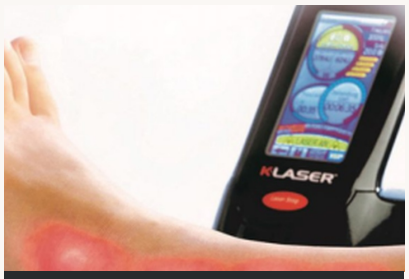

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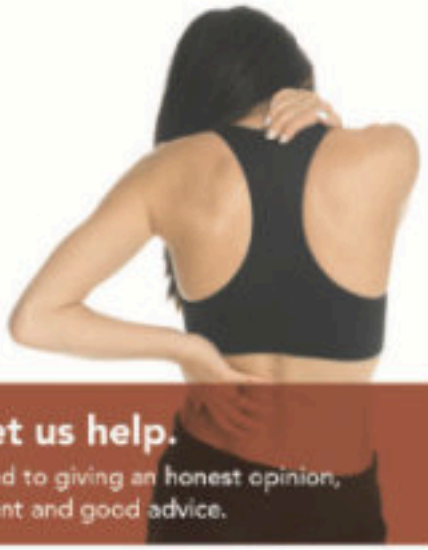

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Advertisements are published quarterly. Copy for inclusion in the next available edition of the Calendar must reach us by 17th January at the very latest. Advertisements will NOT be published unless full payment has been received in advance. Please note: Quarter-page adverts MUST be Portrait-style, half-page adverts MUST be Landscape style. In the first instance, advertisers should contact Jean Verney at: calendaradstoft@gmail.com to discuss their requirements.

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

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Anglian Water (for sewage): 08457 145 145
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Ashcroft Veterinary Surgery: 01954 210250
Bourn GPs' Surgery: 01954 719313
Cambridge AIDS help-line: (01223) 508805
Cambs County Council: 0345 045 5200
Cambridge Dial a Ride: 01223 506335
Cambridge Water: 01223 706050
Care Network Cambridgeshire: 01954 211919.
Citizens Advice Bureau: 0844 848 7979
Comberton GPs' Surgery: 01223 262500
Comberton Village College: 01223 262503
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CVC Community Education: 01223 264721
District Councillor: Lina Nieto: 07506 420655
Household Waste/Pest Control: 0345 045 0063
Lifespan Health Care,
Family and Child Team: 01223 264460
MP pippa.heylings.mp@parliament.uk
Meridian Primary School: 01223 262423
Police: 101 (Emergencies: 999)
Local Beat Officer is PCSO Sam Kennedy
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Street Lighting: 0800 7838 247
Street Cleaning: 03450 450 063
South Cambs District Council: 01954 713 000
South Cambs Fire and Rescue: 01480 444 500
Toft Car Scheme: 07790 171710
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UK Power Networks (Emergencies): 0800 31 63 105

SOME USEFUL WEBSITE ADDRESSES

Cambridgeshire Constabulary:
https://www.cambs.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-

Cambridge City Food Bank:
https://cambridgecity.foodbank.org.uk/

South Cambridgeshire District Council:
http://www.scambs.gov.uk

Toft Parish Council: https://tpc.toft.org.uk

Toft Shop: http://www.toftshop.co.uk

Toft Village Website: http://www.toft.org.uk

A CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

We hope you're enjoying Toft Village Calendar and all the usual content. We always welcome contributions from readers for any of the features we include, such as 'What I'm Reading' (let people know in just a few sentences, 50-100 words, what you're reading and why you're enjoying it – or disliking it). We'd also welcome suggestions for new features. And if you'd like to write a guest editorial, we'll consider contributions of 300-500 words on any topic. Naturally, we reserve the right to not publish any offensive, politically-biased or inappropriate material; otherwise, feel free to offer a view of the world that would interest Calendar readers. Send all contributions and ideas to calendareditor@toft.org.uk.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CALENDAR

The Calendar is always pleased to receive contributions from readers and fund raisers. We reserve the right to edit, amend, abridge or otherwise butcher any submissions to accord with technical or editorial requirements, or sometimes just on a whim. We do not normally accept anonymous contributions or those using pen names.

Contributors are asked to note that all text formatting is removed from items on receipt. Please send your written contributions as Word documents, if possible, or just plain text. Send any photos, art or illustrations in a separate document.

Photographs are best submitted as JPEG files. Graphics as SVG or PNG.

Please avoid sending PDFs unless you have no other option. Please ALWAYS send your contributions to calendareditor@toft.org.uk - never to an individual member of the editorial and design team.

Many thanks.

And, finally... Please remember that contributions for the next issue of the Calendar must reach the Editor by 18th November.

Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition.

Email: calendareditor@toft.org.uk

Post: The Gig House, The Old Horse Yard, Comberton Road, Toft CB23 2RY