

CAMPS REVIEW



2020 2021

Photo: Year 6 pupils (Castle Camps C of E Primary School) on Remembrance Day. Taken by Ali.

Castle Camps Clubs & Amenities

Children's Activities

Brownies Horseheath	01223 891086
CATS (Village Hall)	01440 762290 – Trevor Bishop
Toddler Group (VH)	01799 584785 – 9.30-11.30 Weds (term time only)
Youth Club (VH)	01799 584379 – Fridays 7-9pm (term time only)

Recreational Clubs

Bowls Club Apr-Nov	01799584523 / 07444 232911 – Peter Cottage
Carpet Bowls (VH)	01799 584694 – Wednesdays 7.30pm
Gun Club	01799 584217
Tennis Club	www.facebook.com/campstennisclub
Yoga (VH)	01799 584890 – Caroline Daunt
Art Club (VH)	01440 730035 – Sue Moss (alternate Thursdays 10.30-1.00pm)
Good Companions	(VH,50+) 01799 584016 – Maureen McKenna

Village Amenities

The Oak	01799 584207
Mobile Library	2 nd Tuesday of the month 11.25-11.40 Camps End, 12.15-12.50 Claydon Close
Hanchett Toys	01799 584979
Saddlery, Horse & Pet Feeds	01799 584802
Castle Camps School	www.castlecampsschool.co.uk
Three Counties Mobility	01223 756440

Useful Contacts

Oil Syndicate	01799 584527
Parish Council (VH)	01799 584428 – 8pm 2nd Thursday (every other month)
Mel Laing, Parish Clerk	01799 584428 / castlecampspc@gmail.com
Parish Maintenance Volunteer Group	ccpc.mikepeirson@gmail.com
Linton Health Clinic	01223 892555
Non Emergency	101
Village Hall enquiries	01799 584596
C of E (Churchwarden)	01799 584012
URC (Secretary)	01223 892214
Castle Camps Website	www.castlecamps.org.uk (VH = Village Hall)

Shudy Camps

Shudy Camps Parish Council – For information, see website www.shudycamps.org.uk
 Parish Clerk: Andrew Webb – clerk@shudycamps.org.uk – 07757 740090
 St Mary's Church, Shudy Camps – Churchwarden: Andrew Webb – 07757 740090

Cover photo: Year 6, Castle Camps C of E Primary School. If you would like to feature on a future cover, or would like to nominate someone, please get in touch. You don't need to have done anything, just simply be a member of our community. Any community is about the people, and the diversity of everyone in it should be celebrated.

From the Team

Dear Reader,

Well it's 2021! Last March, we couldn't have imagined we'd be starting a new year in tier 4 followed by lockdown. Life has been very different although we hope you managed to find some joy in the festive season. When a 'Deck the Camps' call to action was put in the last issue, you all certainly stepped up! There's probably never been quite so many lights and displays in our villages. It was wonderful, so thank you for spreading a little magic for everyone. If there's one thing to be grateful for from the last year, it's been the show of strength as a community. From adapting businesses to just being positively lovely neighbours, you've got through this.

Entering a new year, usually we think about resolutions and goals. This can feel a challenge on an ordinary year, let alone during a pandemic when you can't simply take up a class at adult education colleges or pop to the gym. So however you feel about the days ahead, it's ok. It's ok to take



each day as it comes. It's ok if on one day, all you achieve is getting out of bed and getting dressed. Sometimes, it can be useful to reflect though, try and find some positives, and then look ahead.

There's an article later titled 'Reflect, Renew & Reset' if you want to think a little more about this.

Writing this on New Year's Eve, it's hard to imagine what the year will bring. But there are vaccines ready to roll out and things will eventually get better. Who knows, maybe we'll get to have the summer fête again! Some say, the roaring 20's are coming! There will be holidays again, there will most likely be some indulgence, and there will be fun.

Article submission

Cindy Smith – cindycamps@yahoo.com
Sue Herbert – sueherbertccpc@gmail.com

Advertisements

Mel Laing – castlecampspc@gmail.com

Design, illustration and editorial

Ali Norden – info@alisonnorden.com



Goodwoods Farm, Nosterfield End



P.T. Haylock, Mill Green

Advertising

Animal care

In the Dog House [Dog groomers] 07747 535156 07

Art and design

Copy Cats [Design and print] 01799 522145 52

The Rosewood Studio 01799 584028 31
[Picture framing]

Building and maintenance

Alexander Talbot [Tree surgeon] 01440 842178 37

Ben Bidwell [Painter & decorator] 01440 785706 14

Clive Germany [Builder] 07932 624367 07

Neaves Electrical 01223 290956 22

Suffolk Oil Solutions 01440 820267 25

Walden Sweeps 01799 599981 48

Food and drink

Roughacre Brewery 07801 930091 39

Funeral services

Peasgood & Skeates 01440 840140 33

Health and well-being

Caring Hands [At-home care] 07868 937733 15

Feet Retreat Therapies [Reflexology] 07961 918388 17

Louise Bidwell [Mobile hairdresser] 07919 185306 17

Three Counties Mobility 01223 756440 13

[Mobility and healthcare]

Wild at Heart Yoga 07980 593427 22

Yoga Classes with Mindfulness 01799 584890 11

Home improvements

Alun Design Consultancy [Architects] 01799 540600 43

Capri Blinds 01223 894020 11

Advert sizes and prices

Quarter page landscape
(128 x 45mm) £30

Quarter page portrait
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Half page landscape
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All adverts will be printed black and white.

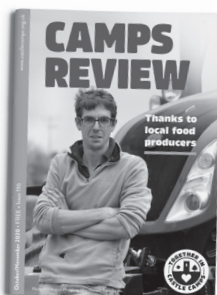
Prices shown are for a full year of 4 issues including payment terms etc.

Deadline for articles and copy for next issue:
1st April 2021.

Advert artwork specifications

- PDF or JPEG format
- Please try and include good quality images and supply the ad at the correct size.
- If you wish to place an advert in the next issue please contact Mel Laing (Parish Clerk) on 01799 584428 or castlecampspc@gmail.com for more details.

Advertise your business in the Camps Review





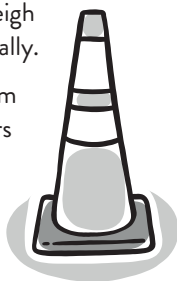
News from Castle Camps Parish Council

Photo taken by John Schneider



Christmas is over and all packed away. Thank you to everyone who decorated their houses to bring cheer to the dark nights. Santa and his sleigh delighted young and old equally.

We are grateful to Barry from Acorn Garage and his helpers for the magnificent tree on the village green. At least we were able to keep one village tradition going.



As the new lockdown continues, if anyone needs help of any kind, please contact the coronavirus response group on 07579 793765 and we will try to be of assistance.

We are hoping things will continue to happen in the parish. The oak on the village green is due to be pruned. Powergen agreed to lop trees that are encroaching on power lines after being contacted by a parish councillor. Speed of vehicles using the roads in the village continue to be monitored but unfortunately we are unable to run speed watch sessions during lockdown. At the time of writing we are still awaiting notification for a date of the resurfacing of the High Street.

VILLAGE HALL PARKING

The car park will be available for resident parking during the High Street resurfacing due to happen early February 2021.





News from Shudy Camps Parish Council

Community spirit is alive and well in Shudy Camps!

Amid all the ongoing gloom and anxiety around coronavirus, there has recently been inspiring evidence of community spirit in Shudy Camps.



The dying back of vegetation in the winter never fails to expose the amount of litter and unsightly detritus discarded by the roadside and on paths. This year the problem seems to have been even worse than usual.

At the suggestion of a resident, the Parish Council has invested in litter-grabbers, hi-vis jackets and rubbish bag holders to support and encourage voluntary litter-pickers. The response to this initiative has been magnificent, with a number of families and individuals collecting several bags of deposited matter. It is great that we have the community spirit and the equipment to make this an ongoing activity.

Shudy Camps Neighbourhood Plan

We mentioned in our last report that the Parish Council is looking to develop a Neighbourhood Plan to reflect the aspirations of the community for the future provision of housing and facilities in the village. Community engagement is essential in this process so it is very encouraging that we have already had some expressions of interest in taking part in our village WhatsApp Chat Groups. A flyer about the Plan will be circulated through doors, on the Parish Council website and on the WhatsApp Groups shortly. Do watch out for it!

We really want this to be an initiative in which the whole community is involved.

Other ways to help support the village

There are also other opportunities to further build up community spirit through volunteering for one of the following roles. If you would like to offer your services for any of these please contact Andrew Webb, Parish Clerk on clerk@shudycamps.org.uk

☐ **Village Website Administrator.**

Bring your creativity and IT skills to bear on the life of the village! We require an individual to help maintain and develop our village website! Training will be provided, but some previous knowledge and experience of maintaining websites would be an advantage.

☐ **MVAS Coordinator.** Several of the local Parishes have use of an MVAS (Moveable Vehicle Activated Sign) which records driving speeds through the village. We are looking for an individual to take over the installation of these and subsequent download of its data, which can be used by the Parish Council to support bids for funding under the County Council's Local Highway Initiative scheme. Again, training in using the equipment will be provided.

☐ **Age Concern Representative for Shudy Camps.** By being part of the Small Villages Steering Group, this is a great opportunity to help guide the work of the local Age Concern Warden in caring for our senior citizens.

☐ **Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator.**

Concerned about crime? Here is an opportunity to take an active role in promoting greater crime prevention awareness through Shudy Camps and liaising with neighbouring villages where required.

☐ **Maintenance of our Green Spaces.**

There are a number of grassed areas throughout the village that provide seating for residence and the Council is looking for volunteers to maintain them by mowing them and keeping them tidy. Equipment (including a mower) is available and training can be provided if required.



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County & District Councillor's Report

Happy New Year – Happy new year from your local councillors, Henry and John. With a prolonged episode of lockdown and social restrictions looking to carry on well into 2021, if either of us can be of assistance at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Henrybatchelor89@gmail.com
& johndbatchelor23@gmail.com

Local Authority Covid Support – At the time of writing, we are about to enter the New Year in 'Tier 4', which has its own set of restrictions as laid out by government, which can be seen here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/tier-4-stay-at-home>

This will of course have some impact on people and local business. There is a small support grant for business that is forced to close due to Covid, available from the District Council: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/businessgrant>

There is also financial support for 'wet pubs' from the District Council, this is to support pubs, and other businesses, whose income is more than 50% from drinks alone: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/financial-support-for-south-cambridgeshire-s-pubs-now-available/>

Also available from SCDC is a 'Covid Co-Ordinator' who can assist with most things Covid related, including advice and directing to these various grants. Her name is Vicky Hoover: Vicky.hoover@scambs.gov.uk

There is also support available from the County Council, via their 'Hub' which can be contacted through their website: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/covid-19-coordination-hub-your-community-needs-you>

Local Directory – South Cambs have set up a local business directory to help promote local business during this time of difficulty, which looks set to continue. Businesses can register themselves on the website and be seen publicly: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/local-business-directory>

Local Plan – The joint Local Plan, being drawn up between South Cambs and the City councils, is still moving forward. The latest update is that the findings from the consultation last year have now been collated and published. The councils will take this information on board whilst formulating their preferred options, which will likely be published next autumn. If you'd like to see any of the documents, including the proposed locations of developments, you can see all the information here: <https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/emerging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/document-library/>

Resurfacing – As previously reported, the County Council are resurfacing some roads in our area, this is due to occur in the first few months of the year.

Vaccine Transport Volunteers –

The County Council are looking for volunteers to help transport elderly people, who aren't able to drive, to their Covid vaccination appointments. If you can assist please register here: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/appeal-for-volunteers-to-transport-people-to-vaccination-appointments>

Uttlesford and West Suffolk Local Plans –

Some of you may remember that last year Uttlesford District Council (directly to the

south of us, North Essex) submitted plans to a government inspector to allocate 5,000 houses near Gt Chesterford as part of their Local Plan. The inspector told them to go away and start again, which they are now doing and are asking for public engagement in this process. Uttlesford still need to allocate these houses somewhere and there is still a risk of them trying to do so on/near to the South Cambridgeshire border, which will directly affect our infrastructure etc.

West Suffolk are also going through the same process and need to allocate more housing somewhere in their area, with the likeliest locations being Haverhill and Newmarket.

John and Henry will keep you as up to date as possible from the local authority angle, but do keep your ears to the ground!

A1307 Update – There isn't an update from last month's report, which was –

The upgrades, managed by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), to the A1307 continue with the next steps being installation of average speed cameras between Haverhill and Linton, a new roundabout at the end of Bartlow Road in Linton and remodelling of the Dean Road junction. The signalised pedestrian crossing at Hildersham is attempting to move ahead but are having difficulty securing the land required. The GCP are trying all avenues, including compulsory purchase, which will increase the project time as this isn't a quick process.

Sunnica Solar Farm Consultation –

Not strictly in our area, or District for that matter, but there are proposals for an enormous solar farm based in East Cambridgeshire, across 4 sites. The company is currently consulting on these proposals and anybody can comment here: <https://sunnica.co.uk/proposals/>





Camps Village Hall

Like hedgehogs, the hall and its committee have gone into hibernation for winter although ours is, of course, due to coronavirus. We've hunkered down along with the rest of the parish and nation to await spring and the vaccines!

The loss of all the various social activities that the hall facilitated has been a blow for residents, but we are told that there is light at the end of the tunnel!

Meanwhile, the hall is checked/cleaned weekly and bill are being paid (electricity, insurance, heating etc.). We had to drain the oil tank to remove water contamination, an unexpected cost, but the government grant has been a life saver to tide us over this year.

As mentioned previously, we are keen to have new committee members once we restart.

So if you are newly or early retired or have time on your hands and wish to help our community, please contact me on the email below or Dicky Moore, our chairman, at: richard.ccvh@outlook.com if you would like to discuss the above. For more information about us, just enter our charity registration number 300375 into the Charity Commission website and review all the available data.

Terry Chapman
Secretary to the
Management
Committee
of Trustees



Village Hall hiring rates

Full day hire for the full hall:

Castle Campers: £100

Shudy Campers: £120

Non-Camps hirers: £160

Hourly rates:

Main hall rates for these above three categories are: £10, £12, and £16 respectively

Small meeting room rates are: £8, £10 and £12 respectively

Please ring Susie on 01799 584596 to book or view, or email terence.chapman44@gmail.com

Details can also be viewed online at www.hallsforhire.org.uk and www.venues4hire.org

Scene from 2020 Vision Show by CATS at the village hall, 2020



Photo contributed by Trevor Bishop

PLEASE STOP

Vandalism of shed roof

Castle Camps Playgroup is a non-profit making organisation. It is run by a group of volunteers for the children in this community. When this roof is vandalised, we have to pay for the repairs ourselves. Constant vandalism means that we do not have any funds to buy toys for the children.



Climbing on the shed roof

Climbing on the roof is not safe and causes damage to the toy store for Castle Camps Playgroup.

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CASTLE CAMPS
VILLAGE HALL

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1:1 sessions by private arrangement

**Contact Caroline Daunt on
01799 584890 or 07794882471.
Email cardaunt@aol.com**

British Wheel of Yoga Teaching Diploma 2007



Together in Castle Camps

Eco bench and tote bags

Happy New Year everyone! In the last issue, I was eagerly awaiting the arrival of the eco bench which was purchased with donations from pin badges and face masks etc. Like an early Christmas present, it arrived! It looks fantastic with the engraving. This will have a home in the community, ready for those warmer months that we're all extra keen for. Thanks to everyone who has supported this project. The tote bags also arrived in November and have been available at Michael Prentice's mobile shop, The Oak and direct from me. It was good fun having these made, so thank you to everyone who has purchased one. There are still some available at the point of writing this, so if you'd like one, do get in touch. They cost £5 each with £2 from each sale going back into the community.

a Ali, *Graphic Design & Illustration*
 info@alisonnorden.com
 07920 404677



Eco bench



Tote bags

A polite
reminder from
the Parish
Council





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Neighbourhood Watch

I would like to share this letter from Robin Sutton of Neighbourhood Watch.

Best wishes, Lindi Kent

Hello Everyone,

The last year has shown us the power of kindness. Amongst all the difficult and distressing times there have been a huge number of events that we might not have noticed amongst the turmoil. We will never forget Sir Captain Tom who showed us all that determination and a passion for helping others can achieve far more than we ever think is possible even in the darkest of times. Behind the headlines there have been a vast number of individual acts of kindness which have made a difference to so many people.

When people face adversity they gather together for comfort and support. This was the year when we have seen communities joining together and finding that by helping others we also help ourselves. In showing appreciation for the actions of others by clapping for the NHS workers many people also found out that they could join together with their neighbours, have a conversation

even if it was two metres apart, share a problem or offer to use their skills to help someone who needed it. We learned that it is possible to make a difference to the life of their community and to help those who are lonely and isolated by something as simple as saying hello or asking how they are. These and many other actions help to create a safer and happier place for everyone to enjoy.

This spirit of community is at the heart of everything Neighbourhood Watch encourages. Our movement is not just about preventing crime but about building communities where acts of kindness and helping others gives a greater sense of purpose in their everyday lives.

This year Neighbourhood Volunteers have taken an active part in supporting communities across Cambridgeshire. Thank you for all that you do, your efforts in your community make a difference.

Robin Sutton
(NHNW, Chairman
Cambridgeshire
Neighbourhood Watch)



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Notice board

Village Christmas tree – Thanks to all who were involved with supplying, putting up and lighting the tree. It really was lovely!

Tree Warden needed – Cllr. Harper has stepped down as Tree Warden, so a volunteer vacancy is now available. This will suit anyone who is interested in the environment.

No prior knowledge needed. Contact Clerk for more information.

Dog poo problem – all field footpaths are littered with dog poo. Pick it up whether it's on concrete pavements or field footpaths.

Footpaths – winters seem to be wetter and muddier than ever before. Please try to keep



to footpaths though. Where crops have been planted, they may no longer grow.

Community spirit – Thanks for supporting our local businesses! A special thanks comes from Michael and Deb at the mobile shop for all your continued support. They will continue to open Fri & Sat, 8.30am to 1pm.



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activities/day trips



Cherished memories at Wandlebury* – Remembering Molly

At the beginning of lockdown CambridgePPF were notified of a legacy bequest from the estate of the late Miss Molly Edwards.

Molly had kindly remembered CambridgePPF in her Will because of a long and endearing connection to Wandlebury Country Park. After speaking to Bill Clarke the former Warden of Wandlebury and Peter Giddens the executor of Molly's Will, we [CambridgePPF] uncovered the heart-warming story of the Edwards family connection to Wandlebury.

In the 1970s Bill remembers meeting a Ms. Whittick and her beagle at Wandlebury. Ms Whittick frequented Wandlebury for many years, even as she underwent treatment for cancer, she was eager to exercise and explore the outdoors with her lively four-legged friend. She was often driven to the park by her companion, Mr Derek Edwards. After the untimely passing of Ms. Whittick, Derek approached Bill to make a donation of £200 to the charity and asked him to plant trees at Wandlebury in loving memory of his companion and the time they had spent there together. Derek had also promised to care for Ms. Whitticks beloved beagle, Bill remembers seeing them regularly over the years enjoying Wandlebury.

Some years later the charity was notified of a bequest in the Will of Derek Edwards



Molly & Becky the beagle

Image from CambridgePPF Ring 42

who had bequeathed £15,000 for the ongoing care of Wandlebury, a place he cherished. Derek had also requested that his ashes be scattered in the trees planted at the park in memory of his late companion.

Several years later Bill was contacted by Miss Molly Edwards who had been a regular visitor to Wandlebury with her brother Derek and after Derek's passing with the beagle, who had come into her care. She wished to make a donation to the charity on the condition that the now deceased beagle, could be buried in the trees planted in memory of her original owner, she was extremely fond of the park.

After Molly's death, CambridgePPF were notified that Molly had chosen to remember CambridgePPF in her Will, leaving the charity 1/6 of her estate – over £40,000 “In appreciation of the happy association my family have with Wandlebury... where so many of the family have enjoyed the beauty of the area and in the hope that many future generations will have the same privilege and enjoyment.”

CambridgePPF are so grateful for the support of Miss Molly Edwards, her brother Mr Derek Edwards, their friend Ms. Whittick and Becky the beagle who each had a special connection to Wandlebury.

The gifts they have made in loving memory and in legacy of the time they spent together at Wandlebury will ensure that we can enhance and care for Wandlebury in the future and keep it alive so many more people can enjoy the park and get closer to nature.

The legacy bequest from Molly Edwards has come at a critical time in the history of the charity. As we navigate the uncertainty caused by the coronavirus pandemic, we are reliant on support from our members and visitors more than ever to keep places like Wandlebury alive.

*Requested article & image from CambridgePPF Ring 42

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www.feetretreattherapies.uk



Coronavirus

(COVID-19)

Hello! If you are housebound or self-isolating, we can help.

Castle Camps Parish Council has volunteers who are happy to help. Please contact Sue Herbert by phone or email to arrange help.

Telephone: 07579 793765

Email: sueherbertccpc@gmail.com

We can help with:

A friendly phone call, posting mail, walking dogs, paying bills getting shopping, prescriptions, cutting grass, getting pensions.

Just contact Sue and we will do our best to help.

Coronavirus is contagious. Please take every precaution to ensure you are spreading only kindness. Avoid physical contact (2m distance). Wash your hands regularly. Items should be left on your doorstep.



*Information as provided by South Cambridgeshire District Council to our parish councils on 7th January and also from the government.

As at the beginning of January 2021

National lockdown – what are the rules?

You must not leave, or be outside of your home or garden, except for a very limited set of exemptions:

- ➔ To shop for basic necessities, for you or a vulnerable person
- ➔ To go to work, or provide voluntary or charitable services, if you cannot reasonably do so from home
- ➔ To exercise with your household (or support bubble) or one other person, this should be limited to once per day, and you should not travel outside your local area
- ➔ To meet your support bubble or childcare bubble where necessary, but only if you are legally permitted to form one
- ➔ To seek medical assistance or avoid injury, illness or risk of harm (including domestic abuse)
- ➔ To attend education or childcare – for those eligible

Hospitality is closed aside from sales by takeaway (until 11pm), click-and-collect, drive-through or delivery. Essential shops can open. Non-essential retail must close and can only run click-and-collect and delivery.

You must not stay overnight away from home. Limited exceptions apply e.g. to stay with your support bubble.

Funerals of up to 30 people are permitted.

**For more information,
go to gov.uk/coronavirus**



Weddings up to 6 people permitted in exceptional circumstances. Wakes and other linked ceremonial events of up to 6 permitted.

You must stay at home. If you do leave home for a very limited set of exemptions, you should stay local in the villages or towns.

Coronavirus cases in South Cambridgeshire

[As stated early in January] The cases in South Cambridgeshire have risen – up to 435 per 100,000 and we do have the new variant of the virus. You can view the latest information on cases in South Cambridgeshire on the Government's website if you search by 'local authority' and then South Cambridgeshire. Our hospitals are under an enormous amount of pressure and are encouraging people to only attend A&E, or call 999, for emergencies and life threatening situations – if it isn't an emergency, people are being asked to call 111 in the first instance.

National lockdown – Clinically Extremely Vulnerable residents

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (CEV) people have again been asked to shield during the current lockdown. The Government is writing to everyone on this list to ensure that they are aware of the support that's available. Cambridgeshire County Council is also writing to the 32,000 CEV residents in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with information about local support in each district, including the help from local community groups.

Vaccination programme

The really positive news at the moment is the speed with which the Government is intending to vaccinate people. Here are a few key points that it may be helpful for you to be aware of.

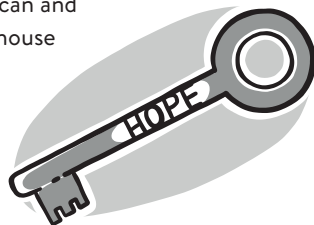
The availability of vaccination appointments is going to grow enormously – whereas people were likely to have to visit a hospital to be vaccinated before Christmas, many more local GP surgeries are going to be able to invite people to be vaccinated.

If people are registered with a GP and they are in the priority groups identified, they will be contacted to arrange an appointment – the NHS is asking people not to enquire with their local GP about when they will be vaccinated (unless they are not currently registered with GP) – a 'don't call us, we'll call you' message is clear from the NHS.

People who are invited to have the vaccine will be written to as well as contacted by text/phone call – so it doesn't matter if people don't have a mobile phone to receive an invitation by text – they won't miss out.

There are, sadly, people trying to profit from the vaccination programme. You will never need to use a bank card for identification nor will you ever need to pay for the vaccine.

People who have appointments to be vaccinated can and should leave the house even in lockdown to attend these appointments.





Don't fence me in

A reflection from Katherine Bowyer



Never experiencing restrictions to my freedom, Lockdown One was greeted with curiosity and, dare I admit it, excitement. At last being paid to stay at home – result.

OK. I confess after the first fortnight that “I’m on holiday” mood started to feel, well, odd.

Looking at the garden and house I wondered what could be achieved when shopping was not an option. Grocery shopping had taken on the air of a military operation: mask, check; bags, check; gloves, check... You get my drift. And the queues: to chat demanded from you the ability for voice projection and exaggerate your facial expressions which was occasionally farcical. Along with my fellow citizens I turned to the internet. Hmm. For ease I’ll group together my new found knowledge:

Food shopping slots – comedic. 480,000 on a waiting list? Slimmer waists were on the menu... Hello queues.



Clothing and such – got lectures from delivery drivers on what was the point: I was not going anywhere. A good point indeed. *Hi boys!*

Gardening – amazing how plants can endure the trials of being transported.

But the benefits of lockdown...

Walking the dog – meeting people and their dogs is great. I was unaware of Castle Camps being such a dog haven.

The weather – lockdown one had stunning weather. The UK is truly lovely and made us appreciative and more protective over it.

Family and friends – oh how we had to re-learn to communicate!

The morning grunts on leaving for work morphed into words! Those that worked all day appreciated those who stayed at home making that place called home and visa versa. The idiotic texts, photos, comments passed made laugh-out-loud moments.

Need I go on...

Neighbourliness – the butcher, the baker, the grocer, the neighbours – thank you.

And then freedom! The announcement was greeted by all with glee. Let crazy normality commence...

But then Lockdown Two came, and now wait, here we are again in Lockdown Three. Oh the swagger of knowing what to expect! But somehow it is different.

Weather – yep, it is cool, damp and gloomy, but it is still lovely in its own way.

Grocery shopping – licked that one! Got on a delivery list!

Walking the dog – oh the mud, the slipping, the showering (dog) but how nice to see the regulars. Thankful for that.

Family and friends – the frustration! Just as plans for catch-ups and get-togethers... Wallop, no way! But I have new skills... Zoom, FaceTime, texting and photos! *Move over 5 year-olds.*

For our household we have gained so much from being together and whilst having the limited contact with family and friends, we sure do appreciate each other and them so much more. Bring on 2021!



HM Government

NHS

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STAY HOME SAVE LIVES

The new Covid-19 variant is spreading fast.
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For factual information about the COVID-19 visit: nhs.uk/covidvaccine



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Reflect, Renew & Reset

Extract from a Forbes article by Margie Warrell

Undoubtedly 2021 will hold new challenges for you. This isn't bad. It's life. Yet like those you've faced before, what matters most is not the problems themselves, but how well you've responded to them and how you've applied their lessons to grow and thrive in your career, relationships, leadership, and life.

Or not.

The concept of Post Traumatic Growth (PTG) may not apply to everyone right now but it applies to many. PTG is the positive change people experience as a result of their struggle with a major life crisis or traumatic event. We can activate it in various ways including through the story we tell ourselves about our experience and channelling the learning we've gained in a meaningful way.

To that end, my intention for this column is to help you extract optimal learning and growth from 2020 and apply that learning to create a better future. After all, 2020 was a Masterclass for personal growth and building 'muscles for life.' So before reading further, I invite you to grab a pen and paper to jot down your answers as you read along with these three simple steps.



1. Reflect on lessons learned

To say that none of us woke up on 1/1/2020 with 2020 Vision for what it would hold is an understatement. We wouldn't have believed it anyway. Yet just as good sailors are not made on calm seas, you now have the benefit of having weathered one of the stormiest years of modern history which has equipped you to rise above whatever other storm waves lay head. That's no small gift!

So [...] reflect on the most valuable lessons you've gained from this last one. What did you learn about:

- Yourself, your resilience, and your ability to adapt?
- How would you describe who you are now versus the person you were a year ago?
- The values that helped you navigate the hardest days?
- Other people – about human connection, community, compassion and collaborating virtually?
- The nature of fear and your courage to do hard things?



2. Renew and recharge

Many people used up their surge capacity back when we were still watching Tiger King and dreaming of when life would be back to normal... by Summer... by Fall...by...??? Huh!

As this pandemic has dragged on, many people have found themselves feeling depleted – physically tired, mentally fatigued, emotionally spent and spiritually holding on. Yet, resilience isn't what you have, it's what you do. It's why small daily rituals and habits make such a profound impact on how respond to stress and on our 'bandwidth' for coping with life in general. So if small things have been started having a disproportionate impact on your wellbeing, take a moment to identify one small thing you can do for yourself every day over the next 7-10 days that will help you do everything else better.

What can you do on each of these four core dimensions of wellbeing:

Physically – to nurture and strengthen your body?

Emotionally – to cultivate more positive emotions – gratitude, compassion (for self and others), playfulness, connection, intimacy, belonging, and optimism? (this isn't about Toxic Positivity). E.g. Happy hour with friends – in person or virtual.

Mentally – to be more mindful (less reactive, anxious and overwhelmed) reprioritise your commitments and refocus on the most important?



Spiritually – to reconnect to a deeper sense of purpose and meaning, nurturing your faith? E.g. prayer, journalling, meditating, being in nature.

3. Reset on your brightest future

Just because your plans derailed last year is no reason not to set your sights on the bold vision for the one ahead.

Vision = Power. Creating a vision for your future acts as a 'life compass' to guide you in where to best direct your time and talents. Any area of your life in which you don't have a vision you run the risk of wandering aimlessly, directed by the currents of life. All well and good except you may not like where they take you.

Psychologist William James wrote that most people live in a restricted circle of their true potential. This year has taught that life's potential is fragile. Yet it's also taught us that we often sell our own potential short when we underestimate our 'capacity for life' and ability to rise to its challenges with courage, creativity, resilience.

Given how much you've strengthened your own 'muscles for life' over the last 12 months, then what would you love to create

or change or contribute over the next twelve that you never would have otherwise?

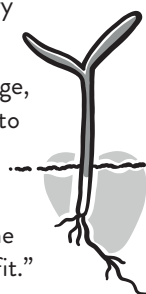
How can you honour the hardships and heartaches of 2020 by diving more deeply into life and daring to live it more bravely, more purposefully and more passionately?

If everyone were to go your way in 2021, what would you be looking back upon a year from now and what would you have needed to do to facilitate it?

What goals you would love to achieve? What knowledge, skills or mastery would you love to gain?

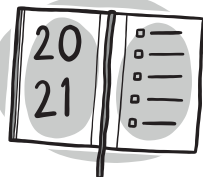
How will you draw on your courage, strengths and hard-won wisdom to lead the charge on change?

"Every adversity, every failure, every heartache carries with it the seed of an equal or greater benefit."



These words by Napoleon Hill apply as much to us collectively as they do individually in so far as every period of crisis in human history has been followed by a social, economic, and cultural blossoming.

[...] So before you turn the page on this worst of years and step into 2021, honour the loss of those who will never see another year by taking the time to reflect, renew, and reset on your highest vision for the one to come. One that is not dictated by the plans that fell through this year or what you were unable to do, but by all that inspires you most deeply. After all, we're all on this earth so briefly in the long march of time. At life's end, we fail far more from settling too soon, for too little, than from daring boldly toward what tugs most at our hearts.





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The Connection

News from our Anglican churches

Dear Friends,

I feel rather odd writing this letter as, because of copy deadline, it is just before Christmas and I am writing a letter that will appear in the February edition which covers a period including both Lent and Easter. Thinking of Lent, I don't think I really need to talk about giving things up. We have all had to give things up during lockdown and with the various tier restrictions (unless of course you've picked up any bad habits during lockdown). I do, though, want to think ahead to Easter which is full of the promise of new life. With the days getting longer and buds bursting into bloom, after winter we look to celebrate the new life brought to us by the resurrection of Jesus.

According to the gospel of Matthew, the resurrection was literally an earth shattering event: And behold, there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord descended from heaven and came and rolled back the stone and sat upon it. (Matthew 28:2 (RSV))

But earthquakes aside, the Resurrection changed the way the world is. When God created the world, he set in train a cycle of life and death, a process of evolution in which plants and animals are born, live, die and decay to be replaced by new plants and animals. As it says in Genesis: In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return. (Genesis 3:19 (RSV))

The Resurrection broke that cycle and brought to us a new form of life that goes beyond death, eternal, resurrection life.

Because God raised Jesus from the dead, we are not limited to an earthly life of 'three score years and ten' – we can have a life that continues for eternity. We need not fear death as the end of all things.

To obtain that eternal life, all that is required is that we respond to Jesus and believe that Jesus is the Son of God. When we believe, when we live lives of faith and action, then eternal life is not just a hope of life after death, it is the life we live here and now.

Eternal life is the life of faith, it starts now and continues beyond death.

I think after the year we have had, we all need some new life. So, in the word of the poet George Herbert:

Rise heart; thy Lord is risen. Sing his praise/
Without delays/ Who takes thee by the hand,
that thou likewise/ With him mayst rise:/ That
as his death calcinèd thee into dust, His lift
may make thee gold, and much more just.

So, I wish you a not too bad Lent but a happy and glorious Easter.

Ian Fisher (Team Vicar)

ian.fisher@btclick.com



SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY – SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE LENT

Linton	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Maggie Guite
Horseheath	10.00	Sunday Club	Pat Smith & Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Morning Prayer	Cathy Watts
Horseheath	16.00	Evening Service with healing	Rev. Ian Fisher

SUNDAY 14TH FEBRUARY – SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE LENT

Castle Camps	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Family Service, Valentine Celebration	Cathy Watts

SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY – FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Horseheath	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	16.30	Evensong	Cathy Watts & Rev. Michael Wilcockson tbc

SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY – SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

Shudy Camps	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Eucharist	Cathy Watts

SUNDAY 7TH MARCH – THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

Linton	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Horseheath	10.00	Sunday Club	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Morning Prayer	Cathy Watts
Horseheath	16.00	Evening Service with healing	Rev. Ian Fisher

SUNDAY 14TH MARCH – MOTHERING SUNDAY

Castle Camps	10.00	Holy Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Family Service	Cathy Watts

SUNDAY 21ST MARCH – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Horseheath	10.00	Holy Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	16.30	Evensong	Cathy Watts

SUNDAY 28TH MARCH – PALM SUNDAY

Shudy Camps	10.00	Holy Eucharist Palm Sunday Procession	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Passion Play	Cathy Watts

THURSDAY 1ST APRIL – MAUNDY THURSDAY

Shudy Camps	19.00	Agape Bring and Share Meal	Rev. Ian Fisher
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FRIDAY 2ND APRIL – GOOD FRIDAY

Horseheath	10.00	Liturgy	Rev. Ian Fisher
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SUNDAY 4TH APRIL – EASTER DAY

Linton	10.00	All Age Worship & Egg Hunt	Rev. Maggie Guite
Castle Camps	08.00	New Fire	Rev. Ian Fisher
Castle Camps	10.00	Easter Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Easter Eucharist	Cathy Watts/Rev. Michael Wilcockson tbc

SUNDAY 11TH APRIL – SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Castle Camps	10.00	Holy Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Family Service	Cathy Watts

SUNDAY 18TH APRIL – THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Horseheath	10.00	Holy Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	18.00	Evensong	Cathy Watts/Rev. Michael Wilcockson

SUNDAY 25TH APRIL – FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Shudy Camps	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Ian Fisher
Bartlow	10.00	Eucharist	Rev. Michael Wilcockson tbc

PLEASE NOTE

Due to concerns about Covid, these services will not be physically taking place.

However, the bells at each church will be rung at the appropriate service times and the Rev. Ian Fisher will be saying his prayers in each of the churches where possible.

For details of virtual services available, please visit www.stmaryslinton.org.uk



Granta Medical Practices

COVID-19 Vaccinations

At the time of writing, we are about to embark on the mammoth task of vaccinating our 44,000 patients with the COVID-19 vaccinations. Please be assured that everyone will be vaccinated. However, please remember that we have to vaccinate in accordance with Public Health England's priority list. Details of the priority list can be found on our website or at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/>

Due to the extreme demand for the vaccine around the country we may get deliveries at short notice, which means we may have to contact you at short notice.

Please note that you will NEVER be asked for payment for a COVID-19 vaccination and any texts, phone calls, or letters requesting payment or bank details should be ignored.

Please continue to keep yourself and our community safe by adhering to national restrictions, social distancing, wearing of face masks and hand hygiene.

We would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding whilst you wait for your vaccine during this unprecedented time.

Sandra East

Granta Communications & Patient Liaison

T. 01223 627743

E. capccg.contact.gmp@nhs.net

W. www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk

GRANTA Medical Practices

NHS

You cannot catch coronavirus from the COVID-19 vaccine

COVID-19 Vaccine

NHS

The **COVID-19 vaccine** has been through three phases of clinical trials to ensure it meets the highest standard of safety and effectiveness.



Public Health
England

NHS **CARE**

COVID-19 vaccination

First phase priority groups



Priority		Risk group
1	80 yrs	Residents in a care home for older adults and Staff working in care homes for older adults
2	75 yrs	All those 80 years of age and over and Frontline health and social care workers
3	75 yrs	All those 75 years of age and over
4	70 yrs	All those 70 years of age and over and Clinically extremely vulnerable individuals (not including pregnant women and those under 16 years of age)
5	65 yrs	All those 65 years of age and over
6	60 yrs	Adults aged 16 to 65 years in an at-risk group*
7	60 yrs	All those 60 years of age and over
8	55 yrs	All those 55 years of age and over
9	50 yrs	All those 50 years of age and over
10	50 yrs	Rest of the population (to be determined)

* Blood cancer (such as leukaemia, lymphoma or myeloma); diabetes; dementia; a heart problem; a chest complaint or breathing difficulties, including bronchitis, emphysema or severe asthma; a kidney disease, a liver disease, lowered immunity due to disease or treatment (such as HIV infection, steroid medication, chemotherapy or radiotherapy); rheumatoid arthritis, lupus or psoriasis; have had an organ transplant; had a stroke or a transient ischaemic attack (TIA); a neurological or muscle wasting condition; a severe or profound learning disability; a problem with your spleen, eg sickle cell disease, or you have had your spleen removed; are seriously overweight (BMI of 40 and above), are severely mentally ill.



COVID-19 immunisation
Enjoy life. Protect yourself.



Marsh Mail

Linton Village College

It's incredible just how much has changed in the space of a month. All of us have had to adjust to being in lockdown once again and the impact that this has had on children's education.

At Linton Village College, needing to revert back to remote learning and closing the College to the vast majority of our students came as a shock at the end of term. However, the resilience and adaptability of our staff, students and families has been remarkable.

While the press is quick to criticise teachers and teenagers, I have the privilege of working alongside both and observing how hard both have worked to make online learning a success. Overnight, teachers changed curriculum plans and upskilled to move their regular lessons onto Microsoft Teams. Students stepped up, with the support of their parents and carers, to take greater responsibility for their learning.

Our partnership with Cambs Youth Panel continues with many families benefiting from access to technology through this means, in addition to devices issued by the Department for Education.

Meanwhile many members of our support staff have been working hard in school to supervise vulnerable children and the children of critical workers. Those learning in school have engaged brilliantly with the remote provision and new routines.

Other members of staff and volunteers from the local community have contributed to the setup of a rapid Covid-19 testing

centre on site. The College's sports centre has been converted into testing bays and the trained testing team, expertly led by our Sports Centre Manager, is now working hard to administer lateral flow tests for staff and students based in school.

In time, as we welcome back more teachers and students to work and learn in school, more testing will be required. While not as accurate as the lab-processed PCR Covid-19 tests, the lateral flow devices can help us to identify asymptomatic cases amongst the College community.

I am incredibly proud of how colleagues and families have responded in the current challenges.

The volume of appreciative messages and comments of support have also helped to keep morale high and community relationships strong.

Helena Marsh
Headteacher



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We go back a long way

Some evidence you may not have known

For some of us, when we think of Camps history, we think of the castle. Recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086, the castle dated back to the time of the Normans. It probably originated as a Saxon fortress. Maybe there was even something Roman given you can find little traces of that time in our area. Whilst there is history to explore there as well as more modern history with the airfield, we can look to something in Shudy Camps, once called Great Camps.

Did you know, there's an ancient burial ground in Shudy? It's an Anglo-Saxon site which was explored and dated in 1933, south-west of the village (somewhere out the back of Carter's Farm). It's probably from an early Christian period.

Ok, it's probably not like stumbling on the Bartlow burial mounds. If you're new to the area, that's definitely worth a little visit. There's a pleasant walk to them, if you go across the church yard and take a footpath that crosses over the old railway line, it goes straight to the mounds. Kids would probably love running around there. The hills were originally the largest group of Roman Barrows in northern Europe and include the highest burial mound in Britain. The seven mounds (there are three obvious ones if you go) covered extraordinarily rich burials which were excavated in the 19th century. They found wooden chests, exotic vessels, decorated bronze, glass and pottery, lamps and more.



Roman burial mound, Bartlow Hills



Bartlow Hills, Bartlow

The Shudy Camps burial ground contained 148 burials, including 33 children, in two groups. Approximately 76 burials had grave goods with them, and it was the analysis of the type and origin of these goods which lead to the conclusion that the burials took place no earlier than the seventh century. Items included glass beads, fifty iron knives, rings of silver wire, Roman coins, mosaic beads, bronze hasps, iron keys and chains, an ivory ring, bronze brooches, pots and cowrie shells from the Indian Ocean (recognised as a fertility charm and aid to childbirth)! You can find out more about Shudy history at shudycamps.org.uk/town-history

If you do head for Bartlow, there's another curiosity around. Between the turning for Shudy Camps and Camps End or Whitsmire Hill, have you ever wondered what that clipped hedge is all about?

I had no idea until I spoke to John Beavis at Christmas. So some time ago, the land behind, then owned by Roy Haylock, had a vast orchard. Where this hedge is, there was more dense hawthorn which prevented people from accessing it. After the war, John's grandfather, Charlie Ford, who was an engineer and had a knack for mending things, used to catch a bus for Cambridge here. When waiting, he began clipping a terrier dog in there with his penknife, hidden out of sight. Decades on, as you know, there is no longer an orchard or trees around the clipped hedge, but the terrier hedge is kindly left with the land in the care of Paul Haylock. John maintains the hedge a few times a year, a lovely tradition.

Ali



Photo credit: Haverhill Echo, 1972


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Camps Amateur Theatrical Society (CATS)

A happy and healthy new year to everybody in the Camps! Camps Amateur Theatrical Society (CATS) have been performing in Castle Camps for over 25 years. The only enforced break in our history was the building of the new village hall back at the start of the Millennium.

This time last year, we had just started preliminary rehearsals for our 2020 Vision Show. Little did we know that as the curtain fell on the last performance, within two weeks the whole country would be in lockdown because of Covid-19.

So, for only the second time in our history, we have been forced to break from entertaining you. Unfortunately this time there is no projected date to work to, and at present there is no light at the end of a very dim tunnel.

When the village hall reopens for business, it will herald a time when we may consider our next production. Hopefully then, rehearsals can start, assuming the hall is available to hire.



Photos contributed by Trevor Bishop

So, at this point of time, I cannot tell you what our next production will be. I cannot give you a date for our next production. All I can say is that when the virus has gone and "It's Behind You," I'll get the cast out of cobwebs, check their medication, recharge their batteries and I'll get back to you.



Stay safe! Without you the stage is empty.

Trevor Bishop, CATS



The Good Companions

Social club for the over 50's

I would like to wish everyone a happy New Year. We hope to resume our meetings, activities and events when we are in better times.

Maureen McKenna
Chairperson



If you would like to report on your club or local activity this year, from arts and dance to flower arranging, please do get in touch.



West Wickham and District Gardening Club Zoom talks

The WWDGC Committee has put together a programme of talks on Zoom for January, February and March and we are happy to welcome non-members who wish to join us.

January 18th – John Anderson, the Keeper of Gardens at Windsor Great Park whose talk will include the Savill and Valley Gardens

February 15th – Cherrill Sands, gardening historian from the Guildford Institute will talk on Gertrude Jekyll, one of the most iconic figures in 20th Century garden design

March 15th – Andrew Ward from Norwell Nurseries in Nottinghamshire will talk on “Ringing the Changes with Bell Flowers” which will include plants such as Foxgloves and Campanula.

All talks start at 7:30 and we are offering these for free as a gesture to our local communities during this long lockdown. If you would like to take us up on the offer, you need to send your email address to Sue Boase, our Zoom co-ordinator: sueboase@hotmail.co.uk She will then invite you in from 7:15 on the evening of the talk. We are lucky to be able to book these eminent speakers online since under normal circumstances, they are too far away to travel to West Wickham. Best wishes to you all from the Gardening Club for 2021.

Rosemary Yallop
(01799 584262)



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2020 POPPY APPEAL

Thank you to everyone in the village for supporting this year's poppy appeal. We raised:

£850

Special thanks to: Susan Cutter, Michael Prentice, The Oak, Castle Camps Saddlery and Castle Camps School who helped collect contributions during these most difficult times.



Bloom & Grow

Pruning priorities in winter

There are quite a few rules that you should follow when you venture into the garden on a pleasant day in winter.

Armed with sharp secateurs, loppers and a pruning saw start with the apple trees. Have a really good look for any signs of cancer on the branches and remove any that are affected – there is no need to paint the wound. Having wiped the loppers clean, check for crossing branches and try to keep the centre of the tree open to let air circulate. There are two types of apple tree – spur fruiting or tip fruiting and these need different pruning regimes. Spur fruiting should have smaller branches taken back to an outward facing bud, roughly six to 12 inches up the branch. If you prune a tip or partial tip bearing tree like a Bramley, just remove older branches and those growing inwards.

Pear trees can be pruned in winter but leave cherries and plums until summer after fruiting as they are susceptible to silver leaf disease if wood is cut in winter.

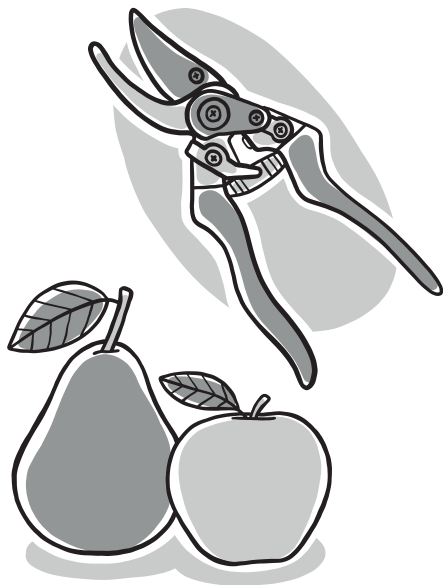
A good rule to follow with shrubs is only prune after they have flowered. It is very tempting to “tidy up” but tackling a Forsythia for example in winter will result in all flowering buds removed. Do not touch a late flowering shrub until autumn.

Hydrangeas can be a problem unless you know which type of plant you have. Mop heads should be left with their old flowers on to protect the new buds from the cold and pruned back to a new shoot just below the old head in spring. Hydrangea Paniculata and Arborescens can be more rigorously pruned again in spring even, in the case of Hydrangea Annabelle almost to the ground.

Fruit bushes such as currants, red and black are pruned differently. Blackcurrants are pruned after fruiting with all wood cut back and older wood removed completely. However, don't get too enthusiastic as they fruit on new wood and need to make good stems for next year. Redcurrants fruit on old wood and can get very congested if you don't prune some straggly branches to shape the bush. If you have autumn fruiting raspberries, cut the old canes down to the ground in February, or if you like, you can leave a few to fruit again next summer.

Hope you find this advice useful.

Rosemary Yallop





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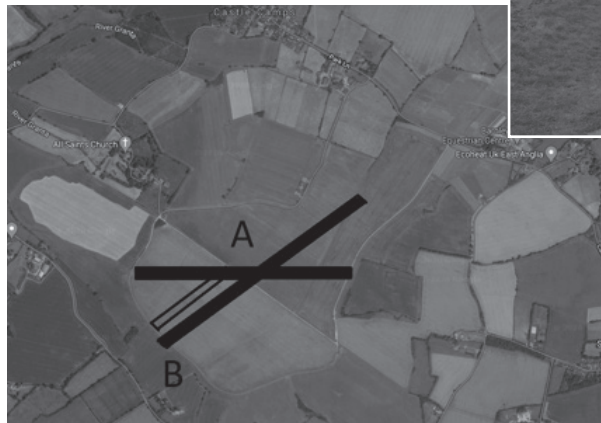


Why not explore Castle Camps heritage?

RAF Castle Camps was constructed in September 1939. It opened as a satellite of RAF Debden in June 1940 and became a satellite station of RAF North Weald in July 1943.

The Airfield was visited by many different nationalities with Canadian, New Zealand and Polish Squadrons. For the first year the accommodation was by tents which must have been blustery and cold. In 1941, some improved facilities and operating runways were built which included the tower we see here today. It was not a popular place to serve as no permanent accommodation was built and road links were poor.

The airfield closed in January 1946. It was returned to Farmland and the hard runway material was used in the construction of the M1 near Luton and soil brought back to fill in the field. The perimeter track is still present, and the footprint of the airfield runway can be seen from the air on Google Maps where the crop ripens at a different time due to the difference in soil structure. This has been blacked out on the photo below.



Once you're up on the airfield, check Google Maps and you can see this for yourself where the airfield was. There is very little left of the original runway; but if you want to stand where many mighty aircraft flew missions. There are small areas left where the concrete perry track road changes to tarmac and rubble. These areas are marked area A and B. A is down the middle perry track road:



B is on the perry track nearest the church:



Photos of tracks taken by Mike Peirson

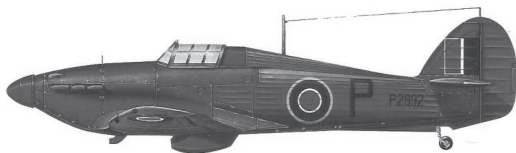
This was the end of runway Number 2. If you are up at this end of the runway, please look out over towards Linton. I am sure any pilot who left on a mission during the 1940's knew what he was fighting for. The views are amazing on a clear day.

Did you know?

One of the Squadrons based at the Castle Camps Airfield was 527 RCS Squadron. This was Radar Calibration Squadron and may be the reason why we have the fine Metal Tower Structure so prominently by the airfield. They flew Modified Blenheim, Hawker Hurricanes and Hornet Moth from the 15/6/43 until 28/2/44.

There is a famous quote from Air Chief Marshal, Hugh Downing. He was asked if he was trusting in radar and praying to God. His reply was he was trusting in God and was praying for radar. The Calibration of Radar at high altitude was pinnacle to the defence of the UK and this squadron was engaged with the calibration of radar stations in Southern England and East Anglia.

There are no images of these aircraft and they were rumoured to be bright red in livery like this Hawker Hurricane below based at RAF Hornchurch in 1943. They would have stood out against the other camouflaged aircraft stationed at the Camp. The need for calibration units lessened considerably in 1944 and the squadron was absorbed into 528 Squadron and headed for Lincolnshire.



Mike Peirson

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CASTLE CAMPS

In case you didn't know, Castle Camps has a brewery!

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www.roughacre.com or facebook.com/theroughacrebrewery
 or call us on 0780 1930091 to discover what we have to offer!



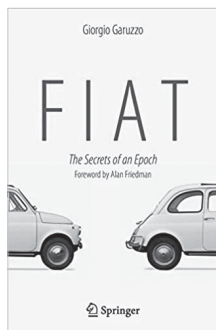
Book Reviews

TITLE: FIAT (The Secrets of an Epoch)

AUTHOR: Giorgio Garuzzo

PUBLISHER: Springer

REVIEWER: John Biggs



An authentic historical book by one of the most senior executives of the Fiat Group during the time of my own employment at this mighty Italian, industrial empire. Giorgio Garuzzo covers a period of twenty years as a

senior executive at the heart of this empire that included Fiat, Alfa Romeo, Ferrari, Iveco truck, New Holland, Juventus and La Stampa within its portfolio. This included the manufacture of cars, trucks, agricultural machinery, robots, trains and aeroplanes in a period of the eighties and nineties where he became the CEO through his achievements then fell foul of the political infighting and jealousies which lead to him being marginalised and eventually fired.

Garuzzo covers this epoch where Fiat moved from a mainly Italian manufacturing company into a global manufacturing company with international and global recognition for fair and equitable business; it covers the time of "clean hands" in industry where the Italian culture included bribery and corruption of those of influence in Italian administration and government.

This book is enlightening, a reminder that those even at the highest levels of industry

still have their frailties, weaknesses and individual characteristics that provide the motives for their actions. Individuals who are not operational and have no real idea of how an industry should operate in the rapidly developing and evolving automotive world.

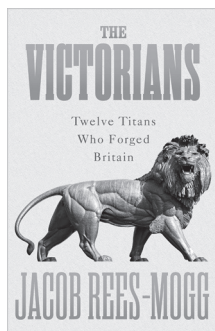
Anyone interested in how business can be affected both positively and negatively by an individual will be intrigued to read this book from cover to cover. My interest in acquiring this book was based upon my experience and relationships with some of the named individuals and my involvement in the local and international strategies deployed at the time. It is a very interesting and lively book covering analytical detail at a level that will be of interest to those in a developing business and especially big business.

TITLE: The Victorians

AUTHOR: Jacob Rees-Mogg

PUBLISHER: WH Allen

REVIEWER: John Biggs



An entertaining and well-written book by Rees-Mogg who has his detractors in and outside of politics, but few can criticise this well researched and interesting body of work. To anyone interested in history and in particular

the Victorians, it is very insightful and chastening. It is based upon Jacob's choice of the Twelve Titans Who Forged Britain. Most of us will have heard about and even read about the likes of Robert Peel, Charles Napier, Viscount Palmerston, Prince Albert and others not so well known. This book of

works calculates, explains and outlines in some detail how these individuals contributed to the country, which explains a lot about how we are today and how we became what we are in the eyes of the world.

Despite it's large font making it an easy read, the book does make you think as Rees-Mogg uses terms and phrases that are not in the common man's usual daily vocabulary. Thoroughly recommended to those interested in how the politics and characters within the governing bodies influenced and characterised Great Britain in its heyday.



Castle Camps URC

At the end of last year we enjoyed several Zoom services. We'd like to thank James and Sara Davey who arranged these meetings, including a Carol Service which was most enjoyable. They were conducted by the Rev. Hilary Davey (James's mother) and we were most grateful to come together.

Things look to be closed for a while longer, but in the meantime, we hope you all stay safe and have a happy and healthy new year.



1st Horseheath Brownies

We managed one more face-to-face meeting at the end of term. It was another busy one where we completed Christmas crafts – bauble for the tree, Christmas cracker and a calendar. At this meeting we held Megan's Promise celebration and presented Ella with her Brownie Gold Award. It was also Ella's last meeting as a Brownies as she is moving up to Guides. Luckily, I will see get to see her as she has moved up to Brinkley Guides where I am also a leader; not sure if Ella will think this is lucky.

This term we will be joined by Emilia, a Rainbow moving up, so it will be good to keep the same number of girls. We are hoping to complete some unit meeting activities this term as well as joining the county in a virtual Thinking Day event. We might also try having a virtual sleepover as I doubt we will be able to go to the Jarman Centre for our annual holiday this year.

As the country is in another lockdown, we won't be able to have any more face-to-face meetings for a while. This means we will be busy Zooming on Wednesdays, so if you notice a dip in your internet service around 6pm you'll know why – the Brownies are taking over.

We still have space if you would like to send your daughter to Brownies; as mentioned we are meeting online until we can meet face-to-face again. If you would like to know more about Brownies or the Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards, please checkout the Girlguiding website (www.girlguiding.org.uk) or drop us a message on horseheathbrownies@gmail.com

Brownies is where the girls have fun learning new skills and enjoy just being themselves.

Pauline, Katie and Laurené

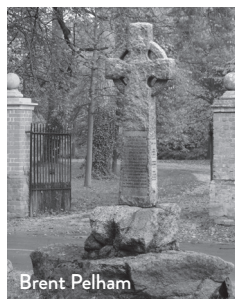
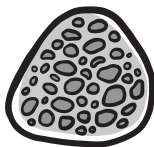


The Hundred Parishes Society

www.hundredparishes.org.uk

Our area has a good number of so-called “Hertfordshire puddingstones”. I am not convinced that Hertfordshire has any real justification for claiming the puddingstone because examples can be found on both sides of the Essex/Hertfordshire county boundary. I recently acquired a copy of “Puddingstone Walks in Essex”, a neat little book that describes walking routes which in total pass more than twenty puddingstones or groups of puddingstones in the Essex part of the Hundred Parishes.

A puddingstone is a conglomerate of many small, rounded and colourful pebbles that appear to have been cemented together. Geologists explain that they were formed around 50 million years ago and were deposited in this area by a retreating glacier, possibly only 10,000 years ago at the end of the last Ice Age.



Brent Pelham



Arkesden

Some puddingstones lay where they were deposited, whilst others have been moved to more convenient locations and sometimes put to good use. Brent Pelham and Arkesden have incorporated them into their war memorials. Others are visible in Arkesden in the stream of Wicken Water beside the bridge.



Wendens Ambo



Ugley Green

Stones have been used as building material within walls in Much Hadham and Wendens Ambo, in Great Hallingbury's church tower and in St Helen's Chapel at Wicken Bonhunt.



Standon



Newport

One in Standon is proudly displayed, whilst a large puddingstone in Newport seems to have been unceremoniously abandoned beside the approach road to the station. Others stand in Tilty churchyard, by the pump at Ugley Green, in Saffron Walden Museum's grounds, by the Shell House in Hatfield Forest and beside the Yew Tree pub in Manuden.

No doubt there are many more – I would be pleased to hear of any that I have missed – please email me at hundredparishes@btinternet.com, if possible with a photo. Will we find more in Hertfordshire or Essex?

Ken McDonald, Secretary



Jobs

Your future, your career

In these extreme times with redundancies, furlough and short working times, the future has never been more uncertain.

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Creative Corner

Bake, bark and craft

Hot cross buns – a Jamie Oliver recipe

Ingredients

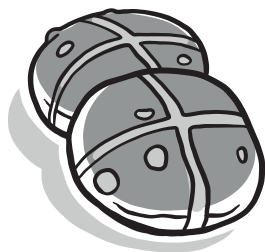
200ml semi-skimmed milk
55g unsalted butter
2 x 7g sachets of dried yeast
455g strong bread flour,
plus extra for dusting
1 teaspoon mixed spice
1 teaspoon cinnamon
1 whole nutmeg, for grating
55g caster sugar
2 balls of stem ginger
1 large free-range egg
2 tablespoons plain flour
55g sultanas or raisins
30g dried cranberries
2 tablespoons mixed peel
Runny honey

Makes 12

Cooks in

2 hours 30 minutes

PS. Did you know,
Jamie Oliver lives
over at Spains Hall in
Finchingfield? Probably
about as close as we get
to having a celebrity on
our doorstep, or at least
that we know of.



Add the milk and 50ml water to a small pan and place over a low heat for a few minutes, or until slightly warm – you should be able to dip your finger in without scalding it.

Add the butter to a separate pan and place over a low heat for a few minutes, or until melted, then set aside.

Transfer the warmed milk mixture to a medium bowl and stir in the yeast.

Sift the flour into a large bowl, then add 1 teaspoon of sea salt, the spices, a few good scrapings of nutmeg and the sugar. Finely chop the stem ginger and stir it into the mix.

Make a well in the centre and pour in the melted butter, followed by the yeast mixture. In a separate bowl, beat the egg and add it to the bowl.

Using a fork, mix well until you have a rough dough, then transfer to a clean flour dusted work surface and knead for around 10 minutes, or until soft and springy.

Return the dough to a flour-dusted bowl, cover with a damp tea towel and leave to prove in a warm place for at least an hour, or until doubled in size.

Transfer the dough to a clean flour dusted work surface. Knock the air out by bashing it with your fist, then sprinkle over the dried fruit and mixed peel and knead into the dough for 1 to 2 minutes.

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F/Gas 5. Grease and line a large baking tray.

Divide the dough into 12 equal pieces and roll each into a ball, evenly spacing them out on the tray as you go. Then cover with the tea towel and leave in a warm place for a further 30 minutes, or until doubled in size.

Place the plain flour and 2 tablespoons water into a small bowl and mix to a thick paste.

Gently pat down the risen buns then use the batter to carefully trace a cross over the top with a piping bag or spoon.

Place the buns into the preheated oven for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden brown. Transfer to a wire cooling rack, brush over a little honey to glaze, then leave to cool.

Walking with my human

From Riley Coxall

Hello. My name is Riley. I'm a handsome (my human tells me this all the time) chocolate Labrador. I live with Hugo who is also a chocolate Labrador and he's obsessed with balls. I keep telling him that if he keeps bringing back the ball after they've thrown it, they will throw it again and you'll have to go and get it again – it's a silly game if you ask me.

Our humans are called Malcolm and Sue. They are really nice.

Anyway, I thought that I would tell you about our favourite walk, and I mean our favourite, FAVOURITE walk. So when we hear, 'Do you want to go to the WOOD?!' – YES, we do!



But then we have to wait while Sue gets her socks on, her boots, her jacket, sometimes a waistcoat too which all takes such a long time! Then Sue gets her bag with the poo bags and more importantly, our biscuits. Leads on and we are ready at last.

So it is out the door and round the field and through the allotments. We have to be careful here as Sue says it's a bit slippery and if we pull her over she will be, and I quote, "Most displeased!" This does not sound a good thing.

Across the field and we are in the woods. It smells great. And I mean really, really great. We sniff sniff and there's leaves to snuffle through too. I can sniff sniff lots of

other dogs and, sniff sniff, I think that one might be Millie from next door.

I can also sniff, oh fox, and, sniff sniff, deer, and oh, sniff sniff, I think that it's, sniff sniff, yes, squirrel! They are close.

Oh there they are going over the bridge – let's chase them!



Oh dear, that was not one of our better ideas. We almost pulled Sue over and I think that she was very nearly, "Most displeased" – a bit scary really.

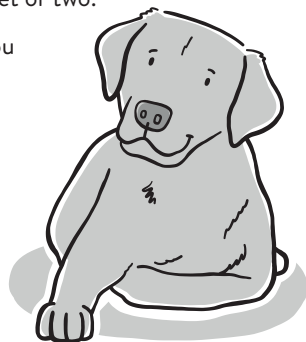
Well, I now think it's time for a biscuit, so I give Sue a nudge and a happy face and my most appealing eyes and... We are rewarded with a biscuit.

We are out of the wood now and it's nudge-face-eyes and... Yes, a biscuit! But it's the last one for today as Sue says we will get fat bottoms! Well that's not what Sue said but I'm a gentleman and I don't use bad words.

Back home for coffee and crumpets. I've never had a coffee but Sue always shares a crumpet or two.

So where do you go walking with your human?

Riley.



“Devil makes work for idle hands to do,” said Granny – Katherine Bowyer

Blowing away a fine layer of dust I hauled out the sewing machine from its 10-year home.

This memorable moment was week three of lockdown one. And it was watched by a cynical husband whom quickly disappeared when he heard, “Tables need to be moved.”

Why was I doing this? House clean and tidy, garden tidier, admin chores done, etc. Now what? I enjoy working with my hands (especially flexing my husband's credit card!). I have been actively encouraged by family members since I was a child to try all sorts of activities including “crafting”. Its been rewarding, frustrating, mindful and creative.

A rummage through my box of “stuff” I re-discovered fabrics, the magical button box and knitting yarns that were completely forgotten. I did the fashionable thing, a pile that “spark of joy”, a pile to be recycled and pile for charity shops. Then with projects in mind I looked at websites for sources of fabric, haberdashery, knitting yarns, patterns and other stuff that I did not realise I would need! These ones I found were particularly good for my needs:

myfabrics.co.uk – based in Germany. Amazing selections.

minerva.com – UK based and have been incredibly helpful. Fabrics.

lovecrafts.com – UK based and it does what it says on the tin!

sewdirect.com – UK based sewing patterns galore to suit any shape, size and budget.

ravelry.com – patterns for knitting and crocheting. Amazing.

But I soooo enjoy browsing in shops. Trips into large towns can be quite time consuming but locally I have discovered:

Craft Days (Saffron Walden) – yarns spun from natural fibres, Liberty fabrics (quilters note), haberdashery, patterns and courses. Service and repair of sewing machines! An experienced shop team who are so willing to help. Tel: 01799 218429

ColourCraft (Saffron Walden) – yarns, embroidery threads, cross stitching, art materials. Courses offered with experienced staff. Tel: 01799 522607

Bury Sewing and Knitting (Bury St Edmunds) – Yarns, patterns, fabrics, advice and on a street on independent shops! Plus if you like large centre for shopping... Tel: 01284 754378

So my stashes of fabric and yarn are ready to work and I can channel my energy/frustration here. Hello of course to lockdown three.

It'll mean we can't visit those shops until they're allowed to open again, but hopefully you will find ways of getting your hands on materials and start crafting.

I also recently discovered that there are silversmithing courses in the centre of Saffron Walden! Whilst classes might be currently on hold, it's certainly something to look forward to hopefully in the near future (info@helencwallsjewellery.com). I could be making a tiara in 2021...

Katherine



COLOUR ME

More FREE

downloads are available
at milliemarotta.co.uk &
johannabasford.com

It will
be ok



Could anyone provide Derek with info about these photos of Castle Camps Rectory (now known as Berghane Hall) and the wedding group (c. 1900)? The photos were amongst his grandmother's papers and her surname was Brandreth (maiden name, Chapman). Email Derek Stanley at derekstan@talktalk.net



Castle Camps Rectory (Berghane Hall) wedding, contributed by Derek Stanley



Paddy McKeown

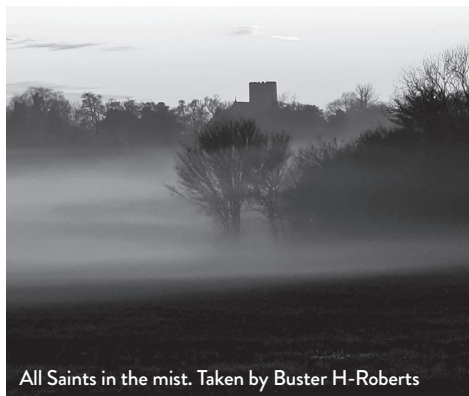


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WWW.WALDENCHIMNEYSWEEPS.CO.UK



All Saints in the mist. Taken by Buster H-Roberts



Neeps enjoying the snow. Taken by Rosie Campbell



Sport

Castle Camps Bowls Club

Well, it's a few months until the new season starts and we open the bowls club. Let's hope between now and then, coronavirus cases and restrictions ease up.

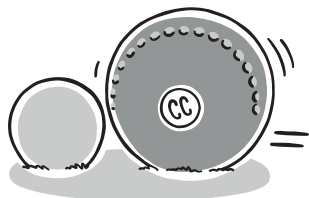
We should have had our AGM last October, but we decided to postpone it to keep everyone safe. Covid permitting, it will be on March 24th at 7pm in the pavilion. The green may have been silent over the colder months, but a couple of things have taken place. One not so good; a water mains pipe broke and the broken manhole cover was found in the pond. Needless to say, quite a lot of water filled the area but it has been resolved. The good news is that the council have given us permission to move a hedge a little further into the car park. This will allow for more space where people stand at the end of the green ready to bowl, something which is ideal in the midst of this pandemic when we need to maintain distancing.

We've all got to sit tight for a couple more months, but perhaps you might like to join us in April? (All being well.) We won't make you sign on the dotted line, just come and have a go and see if it's for you!

You don't have to be retired to play bowls!

Bowls really is for everyone – any age and any gender! And guess what? We've come a long way since the days of wearing skirts 8cm below the knee, cravats and hats! It's also more than just a sport – there's the social side. And it's right on your doorstep.

To find out more, contact Peter Cottage on 07444 232911 or email p.j.cottage@btinternet.com



If you'd like to report on your sports club, please get in touch.



Mobile library

Timetable

*BALSHAM BANDSTAND		TWICE MONTHLY	2ND & 4TH	TUESDAY
1	Linton	Flaxfields	10:00	11:00
2	Camps End	Sangers Farm	11:25	11:40
3	Shudy Camps	Main Street	11:50	12:05
4	Castle Camps	Claydon Close	12:15	12:50
5	Horseheath	Old Nurseries	14:00	14:40
6	West Wickham	Streetley End	14:50	15:05
7	West Wickham	Council Houses	15:15	15:30
8	Balsham	Bandstand	15:40	16:45



Local public transport

Bus timetables: 59 and 19

DO CHECK
where you can
for the latest
schedules

59 – TO SAFFRON WALDEN / AUDLEY END	MONDAY TO FRIDAY					SATURDAY	
High Street, Castle Camps	08:01	10:20	12:20	14:20	14:20	08:05	11:50
St Mary's Church, Shudy Camps	08:03	10:22	12:22	14:22	14:22	08:08	11:53
Carter's Farm, Shudy Camps	08:05	10:24	12:24	14:24	14:24	08:10	11:55

59 – TO HAVERHILL	MONDAY TO FRIDAY					SATURDAY	
High Street, Castle Camps	07:04	08:32	10:27	12:27	14:27	10:50	15:20
St Mary's Church, Shudy Camps	07:04	08:32	10:30	12:30	14:30	10:51	15:21
Carter's Farm, Shudy Camps	07:05	08:33	10:31	12:31	14:31	10:52	15:22

Visit stephensonsofsex.bushub.co.uk/all-bus-services/59 for the latest schedules, other locations and times.

19 – TO HAVERHILL	MONDAY TO FRIDAY					SATURDAY	
Carter's Farm, Shudy Camps	09:31	12:01	14:01	17:36		-	-
opp The Manse, Castle Camps	09:36	12:06	14:06	17:41		-	-

19 – TO BURROUGH GREEN VIA LINTON	MONDAY TO FRIDAY					SATURDAY	
Castle Camps, High Street	10:33	12:33	15:03	18:08	18:35s	-	-
Castle Camps, opp The Manse	-	-	-	-	18:36s	-	-
Carter's Farm, Shudy Camps	10:38	12:38	15:08	18:13	18:30s	-	-
St Mary's Church, Shudy Camps	-	-	-	-	18:31s	-	-

Times marked s – “sets down only” – the bus will only stop to drop passengers off.
Visit bustimes.org/services/19-haverhill-linton-burrough-green for the latest schedules, other locations and times.



South Cambs support during the coronavirus outbreak

The Countywide Hub – The Countywide Hub is run by Cambridgeshire County Council, with support from volunteers, and is the first port of call for shielded residents. Requests for support for residents who are shielding and need food parcels or medicines to be delivered should contact the Countywide Hub.

communitycv@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
0345 045 5219

South Cambridgeshire District Council Hub – The South Cambridgeshire District Council Hub connects residents who need help with the local community groups in their village. This Hub also provides one-off emergency food parcels for residents in need or essential supplies for babies.

duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk
01954 713 398

Care and support providers throughout Cambridgeshire

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/adults/organising-care-and-support

Council support for business during the Coronavirus outbreak

www.scambs.gov.uk/business-coronavirus

South Cambridgeshire District Council – During the Coronavirus outbreak, please check www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus for the latest information on:

- how the Council's services, such as bin collection dates, are impacted
- support for residents, including housing and homelessness advice
- guidance and FAQs for community groups supporting residents

#EveryMindMatters – tips to look after your mental wellbeing during the pandemic
www.nhs.uk/oneyou/every-mind-matters

Step Change debt charity
www.stepchange.org

Universal Credit
www.gov.uk/apply-universal-credit

Citizens Advice – www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Disability Cambridgeshire
www.disability-cambridgeshire.org.uk

Foodbanks
www.scambs.gov.uk/food-support

Children and young people – The Prince's Trust offers support for young people
www.princes-trust.org.uk

Cambridge Women's Aid
www.cambridgewa.org.uk / 01223 361 214

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Domestic Abuse and Sexual Advice Partnership
www.cambsdasv.org.uk

Care Network Cambridgeshire
www.care-network.org.uk

Age UK Cambridgeshire
www.ageuk.org.uk/cambridgeshireandpeterborough

Safeguarding – Children, young people and adults are vulnerable to abuse and neglect. Referrals should be made to Cambridgeshire Children. For vulnerable adults: 0345 045 5203 (office hours) or 01733 234 724 (outside office hours) For family support: early.help@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Bin Collection Schedule



DATE	BLACK	BLUE	GREEN
Monday 25 th January 2021		✓	
Monday 1 st February 2021	✓		
Monday 8 th February 2021		✓	✓
Monday 15 th February 2021	✓		
Monday 22 nd February 2021		✓	
Monday 1 st March 2021	✓		
Monday 8 th March 2021		✓	✓
Monday 15 th March 2021	✓		
Monday 22 nd March 2021		✓	✓
Monday 29 th March 2021	✓		
Wednesday 7 th April 2021		✓	✓
Tuesday 13 th April 2021	✓		
Monday 19 th April 2021		✓	✓

It is possible that later dates may change. For up-to-date schedules, please visit www.scambs.gov.uk/bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day and enter your postcode.

SAMARITANS

Call free on 116 123, day or night, 365 days a year



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