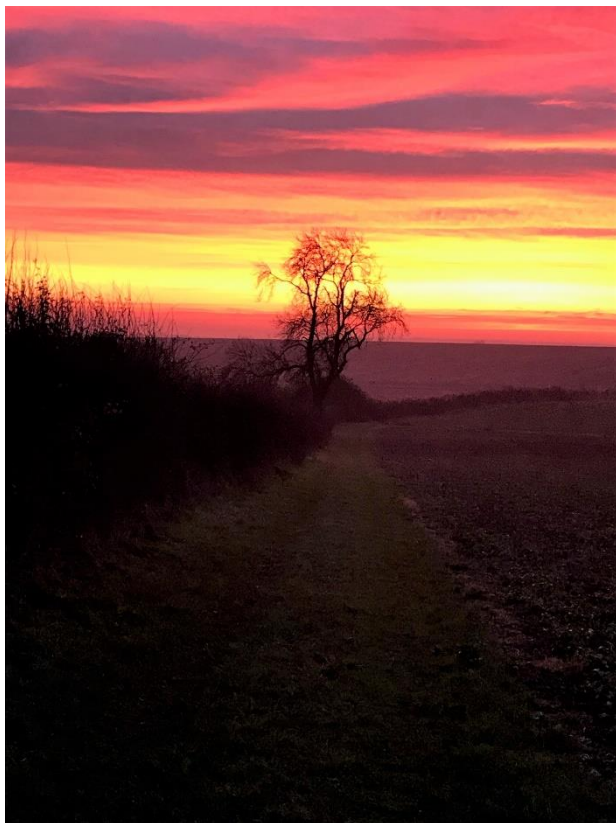


Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



January 2020

Village Diary

Saturday 4 th January	Pub Night at the Village Hall, 6pm-10pm
Wednesday 8 th January	Village Coffee/Tea – Village Hall – 10.30am
Tuesdays 7 th , 14 th , 21 st , and 28 th January	Wellness Workouts, 10.00am & 6.30pm
Thursday 16 th January	Kingston Music Club, 7.30pm
Saturday 25 th January	Quiz and Chips at the Village Hall

Wheelie bin collection dates

Friday 3 rd January 2020	Blue bin only
Thursday 9 th January	Black bin
Wednesday 15 th January	Blue and Green bins
Wednesday 22 nd January	Black bin
Wednesday 29 th January	Blue bin only

Editorial

Happy New Year!

The beautiful photograph on this month's cover looks eastwards from Kingston and shows a most resplendent sunrise. This shot is so apt. The beginning of another day in Kingston is used here to symbolize new beginnings and the beginning of another new year, full of colour and promise. In many ways this particular new year has to be better than its predecessor. So now is the time to be merry and full of cheer!

Please note the date of this month's coffee morning, which on this occasion is the second Wednesday of the month and for all those going to the Quiz and Chips on January 25th please read what Paul Wright has to say. Also, Chris Reid is looking to finalize the Kingston Pub rota for 2020. Please see below for details.

Peter Holly pjholly45@gmail.com 01223 264 556

Vicar's Letter

Did you find what you were looking for? It's a question we sometimes hear in shops – and these days on websites, too.

January 6th is the Feast of the Epiphany – the church celebrates the visit of the Wise Men to Jesus. Of course, we hear and sing lots about the Wise Men at Christmas time, but at Epiphany they get their own chance to shine without being overshadowed by angels and shepherds.

After a roundabout journey, they eventually found what they were looking for.

In France, Epiphany is a bigger deal than it is here in England. There are special cakes called Galettes des Rois – Kings' Cakes – and hidden in each cake is a small figure, called a fève.

Whosever slice of the galette has the fève becomes 'king' for the day, with privileges of rank – and the obligation to provide the next galette!

Last year, on post-Christmas holiday in Normandy, I had two galettes, and I found the fève both times, much to everyone else's disgruntlement, but the privileges of kingship quickly wore off.

Jesus told a number of parables about the Kingdom of God in which he compared it to something small and hidden. In one, he spoke of a person who discovered treasure hidden in a field, so they sold everything they had, and bought the field. In another, he described the Kingdom as like a small amount of yeast which is hidden in a much larger amount of flour, and causes the bread to rise.

His point was that the Kingdom of Heaven is there to find for those who go looking. It's not a matter of luck, like me finding the fève in a Galette des Rois. Instead, like the Wise Men, it's a matter of paying attention to the signs, and persevering when you seem to have taken a wrong turn. Like the treasure hunter, once you've found it, it's worth any amount to keep it. And like the yeast, even when you can't see the Kingdom of Heaven, it's there, having a big effect on the world around us.

Did you find what you were looking for at Christmas? It's never too late to have another look.

Rev. Steve Day

Church Services for January

Sunday 5th January EPIPHANY Holy Communion 8.30am

Sunday 19th January Family Service 10.30am

Church cleaning

1 st Sunday	Peter and Suzy Stokes
2 nd Sunday	Donal and Monica O'Donnell
3 rd Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4 th Sunday	Janet Clear
5 th Sunday	Linda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

5 th January	Joan Reynolds
12 th January	Kay Forsythe
19 th January	Linda Smith
26 th January	Lee Steele

Home Communion

If you cannot get out and would like to receive Holy Communion at home, please let the office know and we will arrange for the sacrament to be brought to you on a regular basis. If you are having difficulty getting to church, but a lift would make that possible please contact the team office on 01480 839933 and we will be able to help.

Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust

To: Joan Reynolds

On behalf of the Cambridgeshire Historic Churches Trust I have pleasure in advising that a bank transfer has been made direct to your nominated bank account for £185.55 as a donation to your church funds. This represents half the proceeds raised by the people who nominated your church on our annual sponsored Ride and Stride event.

The Trustees and the Executive Committee wish to thank all the organizers, helpers, sponsors, walkers and riders for making such a success of this year's Ride and Stride. Please convey these thanks to all concerned.

Alan Churcard, Hon Treasurer

Peter Hall 1929 – 2019

Peter Hall died in August 2019: he was our church architect from around 1984 to 2001. During this time important repairs were undertaken, including the rebuilding of the nave east gable and the chancel east end, the replacement of the C13 window in the chancel, besides the installation of new gutters, downpipes and drainage. This was also the period when the wall paintings in the chancel and north aisle were conserved.

Peter was born in Stoke on Trent in 1929, where many of his family worked in the pottery business. He went to St Catherine's College, Cambridge in 1948 to study history but soon switched to architecture. He married Pat in St Mark's, Newnham, in 1953, and moved to Grantchester in 1959 where he built a modernist house to his own specifications. He and Pat had three children and, in due course seven grandchildren: he was very much a family man. Peter had a varied career as an architect, teaching at Keele University and at Cambridge. He was Deputy Director of the Cambridge University Estates Department, and from the later 1970s went into private practice, with offices in Cambridge and Bury St Edmunds. He worked for several of the Cambridge Colleges, was the architect for Wesley House, and oversaw the construction of Robinson College. He also took on several churches, work which he particularly enjoyed.

Peter was a faithful servant of the community in Grantchester for 60 years, as a school governor, parish councillor, fund raiser and churchwarden. As an architect he was old school, producing beautiful measured drawings by hand – he never took to Computer Aided Design. He liked to sketch, wherever he went. In Kingston he developed a close working relationship with Jim Burnell, nominally our Treasurer, but in effect Clerk of Works. Peter Hall was a gentle, courteous man, amiable and sociable, with unfailing good humour. We were lucky to find in Brian Page a successor of a similar character (and also one of Christian commitment).

In his *'Remembering Peter'*, John Gray, of Grantchester, writes that 'It was fitting that, when parts were being handed out for the Christmas Nativity round the village, Peter should have been allocated the role of Simeon. Simeon, you may remember, had the last word. Peter delivered his lines with gusto and sent us on our way.' And *'nunc dimittis* strikes me as a very appropriate way to say farewell to him'.

Peter Reynolds

QUIZ AND CHIPS - 25 JANUARY

All eight tables have now been booked. If you are not on a table and would still like to come, let me know and I will circulate your name among the team leaders in case they have vacancies.

To Team Leaders

You have all indicated that you will manage a table for the Quiz and Chips. Just a reminder of what you will need to do:

- 1) Fill your table with six contestants
- 2) Take food orders from your team and pass them to me. I will send you the menu and prices in January
- 3) When I have your orders I will tell you how much you should pay Chris Reid for your whole table. You are responsible for collecting your table money as Chris cannot collect 48 individual payments

Paul Wright

Paulwright8@btinternet.com

Mob 07803 237751

Thanks

Many thanks to all who decorated the church for Christmas, and to all who provide flowers and clean the church faithfully month after month. Also to those who lock and unlock the church every day throughout the year. We have had a record number of visitors this year: many of them comment on how well our church and churchyard are cared for. For the latter we must also place on record our gratitude to our gardener, Philip Payne, of Willingham.



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Greater Cambridge Local Plan: The First Conversation

Ever walked past a building and wondered how it got planning permission? Worried about climate change and how we are going to adapt? Trying to buy a house and finding it really difficult?

The Council's Local Plan is the document that shapes our area's future and answers these big questions. It covers the key themes of climate change, biodiversity and green spaces, wellbeing and social inclusion, and great places. It will affect what kind of new homes get built and where, where businesses can grow and how buildings, streets and spaces should be designed. As a result, the Local Plan affects all of us – yet most people have never even heard of it.

But things are changing and we want you to be a part of it.

For the first time ever, Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are preparing a joint Local Plan for the Greater Cambridge area: and this time we want to do better than ever before at working with you all to make it happen.

We will be starting a big conversation with the community, with many different ways to get involved, online and offline, on Monday 13 January. Please look out for more information nearer the time, and get in touch at

www.greatercambridgeplanning.org

Help shape our future together!

Gareth Bell, *Communications Manager*
South Cambs District Council



The Digital at Home Service

The Library service are currently looking for donations to support people registering for the Digital at Home service.

Digital at Home (D@H) is a service for Library members who have sight loss and/or are housebound. The set up equipment needed is a boom box and minimum of 4 USB/memory sticks. Our volunteers then download e-Audiobooks onto USB/memory sticks, which are delivered to D@H listeners. This keeps our D@H listeners engaged with literature and enjoying their books.

We would like to make the service as accessible as possible. Therefore we are looking for donations of USB/memory sticks (at least 1GB) which you can drop off at your nearest library. Please delete all content before donating. If you are able to donate £60 this would purchase a boom box for a D@H user, which will enrich their lives. Please contact the Volunteer Development Team directly volunteers@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Dear friends of Kingston Pub,

Chris Reid is working on a proposed service rota for 2020 pub nights. As ever, the Easys will do pizza (not in January though) so it is "just" serving beers. This is a great opportunity to give to your village while having a lovely time visiting with fellow villagers on a Saturday night. Everything is provided for you and the job is simply serving up drinks and good cheer! If you are interested in getting on the rota, please contact Chris Reid. Below is the list of dates and a tentative listing of those who have volunteered in the past. Please consider adding your name to the list and filling in the blanks.

Kingston Village Hall pub rota

(Remembering that John Easy is generally doing the pizzas so this is just serving beers)

Month	Year	Exact date	Early shift (best with 2 people)		Late shift (only one person needed really)	
			Person 1	Person 2	Person 1	Person 2
Jan	2020	04/01/2020	Peter & Kay [with frozen pizzas]		Jill	
Feb	2020	01/02/2020	The Tans		Rachel	
Mar	2020	07/03/2020	Isabelle and Chris Nett		Pat and/or Simon	
Apr	2020	04/04/2020	Linda & Charlie		Chris	
May	2020	02/05/2020	Greg & Paige			
Jun	2020	06/05/2020	Peter & Suzy		Chris	
Jul	2020	04/07/2020	Jill	Rachel	J&R to do late pub	
Aug	2020	01/08/2020	Lee			
Sep	2020	05/09/2020	Chris and Katherine			
Oct	2020	03/10/2020	Mark & Katherine Stalham			
Nov	2020	07/11/2020	Heather & Lance			
Dec	2020	05/12/2020	Pat & Simon		Chris and Katherine	

"Not on rota just yet but is only a matter of time when I know when they are in Kingston" : Sarah & Paul

Anglesey Abbey special collection snowdrop tours

Monday – Friday between 28 January – 15 February

Anglesey Abbey has one of the finest snowdrop collections in the country, with more than 300 varieties to spot, 20 of them discovered in the gardens themselves. To get the most out of your visit, book onto a mid-week behind-the-scenes tour led by the Abbey's garden team, or enjoy the gardens opening earlier at 9.30am. Look out for snowdrops on the Winter Walk, too. For details see

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/angleseyabbey

Anglesey Abbey Gardens, CB25 9EJ. Tel 01223 810090

Date	Title	Bourn	Kingston	Caxton	Longstowe
Jan 5	Epiphany Christmas 2	10.30am FHC	8.30am HC	10.30am MP	
Jan 12	Baptism of Christ	10.30am W4A		10.30am W4A	8.30am HC
Jan 19	Epiphany 2	8.30am HC	10.30am FS		
Jan 26	Epiphany 3	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP
Feb 2	Presentation of Jesus	10.30am FHC	8.30am HC	10.30am MP	
Feb 9	4 before Lent	10.30am W4A		10.30am W4A	8.30am HC
Feb 16	3 before Lent	8.30am HC	10.30am FS		
Feb 23	2 before Lent	10.30am FW		8.30am HC	10.30am MP

HC = traditional Holy Communion (BCP) MP= traditional Morning Prayer (BCP)

EP = traditional Evening Prayer (BCP) FHC= Common Worship/All Age Holy Communion

W4A/FS = Family Service

FW = All Age Worship/Morning Prayer/Prayer & Praise/Morning Worship

P&P=Prayer & Praise

Kingston Music Club News

Another meeting of the Kingston Music Club was held in the Village Hall on Thursday December 5th when Jill Coleman was the presenter. She played a range of tracks much liked by Dusty Coleman and recounted his work with the Cambridge Folk Festival over the years. In fact, the evening turned into a celebration of Dusty and his music. Songs played included tracks by a host of folk artists including Gordon Lightfoot, James Taylor, Joan Baez, Bob Dylan, Johnny Cash, The Chieftains, Joni Mitchell, Tom Paxton, Steve Goodman, Arlo Guthrie, Cisco Houston, Simon and Garfunkel, Woody Guthrie, Steeleye Span, Pentangle, and Tom Jans and Mimi Farina. The evening proved a resounding success and included all those present singing "Happy Birthday" to Charlie Richmond, at which point yummy cakes were consumed and much appreciated by all!

Upcoming Music Club Nights

Thursday January 16th: Simon Draper

Thursday February 13th: Colin Whitworth

Thursday March 19th: Suzy Stokes

Thursday April 16th: Peter Holly

All evenings start at 7.30pm and bar facilities are available.

That Was The Year That Was

At my age you should never wish the years away but, in the case of 2019, I'm glad it's nearing its end. It hasn't been a great year; even the word pestilential comes to mind. What has been so bad about the Year of the Pig?

It was the year when we all finally woke up to the dangers of climate change. It took a teenage girl from Sweden, Greta Thunberg, to bring us out of our Trump-induced stupor and when our own national treasure, David Attenborough, chimed in, we all sat up and listened. Look at the data, we were told. Look at the raging fires (in Australia, California and Brazil); look at the floods around the world, including in Venice and in our own country. It's all evidence that we can't ignore. And at the 2019 UN Climate Change Conference in Madrid the smaller island countries (generally most hit by climate change) realized that they needed to gang up against the bigger countries (generally less hit by climate change so far and more profligate when it comes to carbon emissions). This glaring world-wide inequality will only get worse as the ice-caps continue to melt and the oceans rise. Amazingly, the Australian delegation at the Climate Change conference failed to mention the fact that bush-fires are besieging Sydney and beyond. And now we are told that 2019 has been one of the three hottest years ever recorded. At the beginning of the year we were worried about the over-use of plastic; now we're all thinking of becoming vegetarians.

In British politics, turmoil reigned. Brexit dominated the headlines and the debate. Trust in politicians was at a low point. Who to believe when all those involved use the truth as loosely as they do? The ill-advised 2016 referendum has cast a pall over British politics like no other. Creating a divided nation has been its greatest effect, stymying parliament and the country. Deadlock has meant that everything else of national interest has been left to one side. The election result, however, should put an end to the Brexit impasse and, hopefully, 2020 will see an end to all this political pain.

Talking about pain, conflict internationally has been a non-stop occurrence. In Venezuela, the Kashmir, North Korea, Libya, Sri Lanka, Hong Kong, Iraq, the Gulf of Oman have all been international hot spots. Despite the tension between Pakistan-India, Russia's meddling in everybody else's affairs, Iran's belligerence and the USA vs China trade war, the one good thing you can say about 2019 is that no major conflicts have raised their ugly heads. And whether rightly or wrongly, social media now determine that any outbreak of violence across the world is now viewed by us all minutes after it occurs. One of the curious aspects of the riots in Hong Kong has

been that camera-men and women often outnumber the protesters, thus quenching our ever-increasing thirst for the sensational.

Even in sport, normally the generator of much British goodwill and cheer, 2019 was a very mixed year. We did win the Cricket World Cup (albeit in dubious circumstances), but managed to lose the Ashes to Australia on home soil, with poor Ben Stokes leading the fight-back almost it seemed single-handedly. At the Rugby World Cup, England humbled the Kiwis but were then humbled themselves by South Africa in the final. Dina Asher-Smith and Katerina Johnson-Thompson lifted our spirits by winning gold in the Athletics World Championships, Lewis Hamilton reigned supreme again in F1, and Liverpool battled their way to winning the UEFA football championship.

In the popular arts, there has been precious little to celebrate. Popular music seems to have entered a terminal state of torpor and it comes to something when the two new movies I've most enjoyed this year were when we took our grandkids to see Toy Story 4 and Frozen 2. 2019 was the year when we finally lost the indefatigable Doris Day. Born Doris Mary Anne Kappelhoff in 1922, she lustily sang "The Deadwood Stage" in Calamity Jane and we all lustily admired her siren song "Move Over, Darling" in the early '60s. Others who died this year were Bob Willis, a cricketing hero of yesteryear, the author Toni Morrison, the actor Albert Finney, and the internet sensation, Grumpy Cat. The fact that the latter stole many a headline is an indication of the paucity of our current cultural health. And don't get me started on the cult of celebrity that seems to have taken over the airwaves.

So 2019 bids us farewell (thank goodness) and the Year of the Rat now awaits us. I never liked the numbers involved in 2019 and 2020 sounds so much more promising. We get a February 29th this time around and England's football team is one of the favourites to win the European Cup. Every year starts in promising fashion but I feel in my bones that this one is going to be special. No pestilence, just the odd rat to deal with.

Peter Holly

Happy New Year

MARK STEELE

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AND DECORATING WORK CARRIED OUT

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or

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Update From Bourn Primary



The Autumn term is always busy and exciting and this year was no exception. We welcomed our new reception children into Acorn Class and it has been a delight to watch them grow in confidence over the weeks. They have made amazing progress in their reading and writing and they are now very much part of the school, helped along the way by their Year 6 Buddies, who have risen to the challenge of supporting the youngest children in school.

This term we have introduced our new Houses, named after inspirational people who embody many of our values of hope, courage, justice, forgiveness and friendship. Each child belongs to one of four houses – Shackleton, Seacole, Hawking and Pankhurst – and they earn merits for their house for positive action such as hard work, kindness, good manners and helping others. This term, Seacole house has earned the most merits but of course this may change next term! Each house also sponsors a Child Ambassador through the Build Africa scheme and the houses will be raising money for this scheme over the next two terms.

One element of our school vision is that we ‘strive to make the world a better place’. One way in which we have begun to do this is to establish an Eco Council as part of the Eco Schools initiative. Huge numbers of children are very keen environmentalists and have worked hard to make changes within school. We now recycle all of our food waste as well as dry recyclables. The Eco Council was keen to encourage us to have a fun but eco-friendly Christmas. As part of this they organised a Christmas jumper swap, encouraged everyone to think about how to send Christmas wishes without buying everyone a card, and the children made crackers for our Christmas dinner which contained no un-recyclable foil or plastic toys! I am very proud of the children’s determination to take action to protect their planet for the future.

Bourn is a Church of England School and in October, we had a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). This inspection looks at how effective the school’s distinctive Christian vision is in enabling pupils and adults to flourish. We were pleased that the inspector found that policy and practice take well-being into account, effectively supporting pupils and adults which enables all to flourish. The report also notes that our focus is on the progress of the individual which goes beyond the academic and that creativity in the curriculum and extra-curricular activities cater for all interests and abilities.

Our music provision, recognised as a strength in the inspection report, has continued to expand this term. As well as our very impressive choir, we now have two Singing Clubs which run at lunchtime, and are attended by more than 50

children a week. The choir itself has been part of the Even You Song project, an immersive work by artist Bettina Furnee, based at the Wysing Arts Centre. This was performed first at All Saints and St Andrew's Church, Kingston with the Cambridge Chorale and then at St James' Church in Piccadilly, London with the London Oriana Choir and choirs from two other schools in Cambridge.

The school itself has undergone a transformation in many areas. Thanks entirely to the generosity of time and hard work of parents, staff and governors, we have been able to redecorate the entrance hall, Acorn and Willow classrooms and corridor, part of the hall, Hazel classroom and the corridors leading to the Key Stage 2 classrooms. We have also, with the help of the BSA, enabled every child to plant hundreds of bulbs in the school grounds and we are eagerly looking forward to spring when we will see a riot of colour to brighten up the dark days.

Next term, and for the remainder of this academic year, we will continue to work on reviewing and revitalising our curriculum in order to make it as interesting, relevant and inspiring as possible for our children. We are also continuing our focus on ensuring that every child is able to read as fluently as possible as quickly as possible, which in turn opens up every other area of learning. We will soon be recruiting and training 'Reading Champions' to help us do this. If you are able to spare an hour or two every week to listen to children read in school we would love to hear from you! It is so rewarding to be able to help children improve their reading and the children absolutely love reading to an adult. If you think you might be interested in this opportunity, please email office@bourn.cambs.sch.uk asking for more information about Reading Champions and we will get in touch in January 2020.

As with every other state funded school, budgets at Bourn continue to be tight and we are not able to afford everything we need. The Bourn School Association is a team of well organised and dedicated parents who fundraise for the school in a wide range of creative ways. They run a huge number of events which not only raise money but entertain along the way. This term, the main events have been Bourn to Run and Christmas Capers but there have also been cake sales, the Christmas gift shop, a film night, a quiz night and many more. Through the BSA, the community continues to raise money which goes directly into the school to provide such essential items as books, computers, interactive whiteboards etc which we simply would not be able to afford otherwise. A heartfelt thank you goes to all those who co-ordinate, organise and participate in these events in whatever capacity.

Whatever resources we have, all the staff at the school work tirelessly to provide the best possible education we can for our children. Staff work long hours - way beyond what they are paid for - and I have the utmost admiration and gratitude for what they do. So much of what staff do, particularly the teachers, is unseen and

takes place in the background. The planning of exciting and challenging lessons, marking, assessing progress as well as the organisation of trips, plays and other events takes many, many hours each week and this happens after the children have gone home and often extends into evenings and weekends. Teaching is a very demanding profession and these demands seem to increase year on year. To be a teacher takes dedication, resilience, hard hard work, endless optimism and creativity and an outlook on life that always sees the best in others because we are always looking for the potential we can tap into. Despite the demands, however, working with little people is also unpredictable, exciting, rewarding, inspiring and sometimes hilarious and it is an absolute privilege to be part of their lives.

Best wishes to everyone for a happy 2020.

Laura Latham, Headteacher

New Year Bulletin from Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Service

Happy New Year to all! It's time for making your New Year Resolutions so why not find out how to keep your family safe in your home.

At Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service, we are encouraging people to make four New Year's Resolutions for 2020 to keep your families and homes safe from fire.

- Make sure you have a correctly fitted working smoke alarm on every floor of your house and test it weekly – involve the children in this to ensure they are aware of what the smoke alarm does, what the alarm sounds like and what it means if it goes off;
- Check older relatives and friends have a working smoke alarm and test theirs regularly – you may support older relatives and friends with transport and shopping but may overlook the crucial role of a smoke alarm. We can provide testing sticks to help older less mobile people to test their alarms without overreaching or hurting themselves;
- We also offer Safe and Well visits to those that are eligible which covers a far wider range of areas than just fire safety. Find out if you are eligible for a Safe and Well visit by contacting us on: 0800 917 9994.
- Escape Plan: Make a fire escape plan so you and all of those in your home know what to do in case a fire breaks out in the home.

Like us on Facebook for regular updates www.facebook.com/cambsfrs or follow us on Twitter @cambsfrs. For more information or to get in touch contact us at firefire@cambsfire.gov.uk or on 0800 9179994.

Book of the Month

“Agent Running in the Field” by John Le Carré (Penguin/Viking)

This is a very different spy novel from John Le Carré. It's bang up-to-date in terms of its topicality and feels close to the action and also very personal. In his other recent books Le Carré examined international terrorism, Middle Eastern tensions, and European politics, as well as ploughing old furrows. This time around, however, the subject is Britain in the age of Brexit. The timing is virtually today and the backcloth consists of world geopolitics. Putin, Trump and Brexit all figure largely in the book. Putin's Russia is seen as “anti” everyone: Putin's attitude is that the weaker he can make everyone else the stronger he will be. So, seen from this angle, Brexit is a wonderful opportunity to drive a giant wedge into European unity and strength. Seemingly, taking his cue from Putin, Trump is also anti-European and anti-NATO and, consequently pro-Brexit. Indeed, a theme running through the book is what happens after Brexit in terms of trade deals and anti-European alliances. And given these changing dynamics, Le Carré scrutinizes what happens to the spying community in terms of changing affiliations and loyalties and its failing attempts to cling to continuity amidst change. Where do their loyalties now lie is an open question.

The central character is Nat, who is 47 years old and a veteran of the British Secret Intelligence Service. When he is brought back to London, he thinks his days as an agent runner are over. Reunited with his long-suffering wife, Prue, a human rights lawyer, he is given one more job. He takes over The Haven, a virtually defunct outpost of London General with a ragtag band of spies. The only bright light on the team is young Florence, who is currently on the scent of a Ukrainian oligarch who has links to both Britain and Putin. When surveillance of his murky affairs is planned, it is shut down by those in power over The Haven, mainly, it transpires, because the wife of a British politician is on the payroll of the Ukrainians. At this point Florence walks away from the service in disgust.

In the meantime, Nat – an enthusiastic badminton player – has befriended the younger Ed, who has challenged Nat to a game. They end up playing a weekly match after which they have a couple of drinks and Ed lets off steam about the current political situation vis-à-vis Trump and Brexit. Neither man admits that they are actually working for sister secret services. Through a coincidental series of events, however, through Nat, Ed meets Florence and they soon become an item, united in their disillusionment. Then Ed, very much a Europhile, sees a secret document which alludes to a post-Brexit anti-European stitch-up, a secret alliance between Britain

and the USA. His loyalty, Florence's, Nat's and indeed Prue's are now tested to the limit as the novel moves to its climax.

This book is not so much a spy novel, more a political treatise. It explores modern political challenges with Le Carré's heart very much on his sleeve. Whether his is a voice in the wilderness is another question.

Peter Holly

Volunteer Recruitment Day at Wimpole Estate

Sat 18 Jan 10am-2pm

at the Old Rectory Restaurant, Wimpole
SG8 0BW.

Come and meet the team to find out
more about how you could become
involved at this special place.

Booking not needed, free event.

Curling Night

at Cambridge Ice Arena,
Newmarket Rd, Cambridge, CB5 8AA

Thursdays

2 Jan, 9 Jan, 16 Jan, 23 Jan, 30 Jan
8pm-10pm

Come and try the fastest growing sport
in the world, an accessible sport that is
easy to pick up but challenging to
master! Bring warm layers, trousers or
leggings that offer some stretch, and a
winning attitude! Don't worry if you've
never played before. Once you've had
some practice, you can get competitive
and play a game. £15, book at
[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/
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Record of the Month

American Epic: The Sessions

It's fitting that the New Year features this particular set of recordings which is more record of the decade, even record of the millennium. I was alerted to its existence by Pat and Simon Draper at a recent session of the Kingston Music Club and what a find!

It's the soundtrack of a documentary film made in 2017. In the film an engineer restores the fabled but long-lost first electrical sound recording system that was used in the 1920s across America to get a swathe of regional musical styles on disc. On the soundtrack twenty contemporary artists record mainly traditional (or at least traditional-sounding) songs on the restored machinery. And it's a revelation. The soundtrack features a diverse line-up of performers both ethnically and musically, thus representing the breadth of cultures that were first given a national platform through the invention of this mobile recording machine. It also explores the extent to which the original recordings made in the 1920s influenced and inspired contemporary music. Taken across America, the equipment was used to capture a variety of musical genres: blues, gospel, Hispanic, Cajun, country, Hawaiian and Native American. What you hear on this soundtrack is taken directly from the actual recorded discs with no editing or enhancements: it's the real McCoy. As one critic observed, it represents American roots music, "music that stirs the soul". As Joe Boyd (a British record producer eminently capable of making wise comments) wrote in the Guardian:

For two hours we revel in filmed performances in front of that single microphone, as the camera lovingly follows the sound through anaconda-like cables to the cutting head. As soon as the blank disc starts spinning, our soundtrack switches from the film-maker's twenty-first century handheld digital stereo to the glorious mono of the single microphone. There are no faders; if Burnett and White (the producers) want more of this musician and a bit less of that one they move them closer to or away from the microphone...Miss it at your peril.

While Joe Boyd is talking about the film, I would say the same thing about the soundtrack. You hear the likes of Alabama Shakes, Nas, Elton John, Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Rhiannon Giddens, Los Lobos, Beck, Ashley Monroe (singing the glorious "Like a Rose"), Pokey LaFarge, the majestic Taj Mahal, Bettie LaVette and the Lost Bayou Ramblers – all singing their hearts out on a slew of wonderful songs. The singers all do justice to the songs and vice versa. And I haven't even mentioned Jack White's contribution yet. As co-producer with T-Bone Burnett, he features on several tracks including his own songs, "Matrimonial Intentions" and "Mama's Angel

Child". Since his days with The White Stripes, Jack White has led parallel musical lives: his own career and his valiant work as a producer and enthusiast for American roots music, along the way making a major contribution to the movie soundtrack of "Cold Mountain". He is the contemporary musicologist par excellence. And the superb quality of the American Epic Sessions must be seen as his legacy.

Peter Holly

Christmas Tree Collection For Recycling

Now in its fifth year the Christmas tree recycling scheme run by Arthur Rank Hospice works very simply; anyone who lives in postcode areas CB1, CB2, CB22, CB3, CB23, CB4, CB24 and CB5 and does not want the hassle of getting rid of their tree, can register online at arhc.org.uk/treerecycling to have it collected by us. We welcome a small donation to the charity in exchange for collecting your tree (which is then recycled). Last New Year we raised a huge £26,000 for the Hospice and we would love to match that this year. Christmas Tree Collections will take place between Thursday 9 January and Saturday 11 January.
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Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary)

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kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com



Papworth Team Ministry (C of E)

The Papworth Team Ministry Team Office:

Lower Pendrill Court
Ermine Street North
Papworth Everard
CB23 3UY

Email: papworthteamministryoffice@gmail.com

Web: www.papworthteamchurches.org

Our Team Administrator, Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday mornings; serving the parishes of Bourn, Boxworth, Caxton, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley with Papworth St Agnes, Kingston, Knapwell, Lolworth, Longstowe, Papworth Everard, Toseland and Yelling.

For enquiries about weddings, baptisms, funerals and general parish matters, please contact Chris (as above), visit the website or speak to one of our clergy...

> The Revd Nigel di Castiglione, Team Rector – 07770 697240 - 01954 267241

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Big Garden Birdwatch: 25-27 January

This year the Big Garden Birdwatch will be held over three days. It's so easy to take part. Just watch the birds in your garden or local park for one hour between 25 and 27 January. Count the most birds that land at once and record the highest number of each bird species you see at any one time. Then tell the RSPB what you saw.

Every count is important, so don't worry if you don't see anything. Observing which birds aren't around is as important as seeing the ones that are. You can submit your results online at rspb.org.uk/birdwatch from 25 January until 16 February. Or you can download a submission form from rspb.org.uk/birdwatch and post your findings back by 11 February.

The quickest and easiest way to attract birds into your garden is by putting out food – particularly when the weather is colder and natural food sources may be scarcer.

The RSPB offers these tips to get you started.

Different birds have different feeding habits and food preferences. Blackbirds mostly feed on the ground and will eat many things from fatty nibbles to mealworms. Tits, such as blue tits and great tits, prefer to use a feeder, eating seeds, suet and peanuts. Finches, including chaffinches and greenfinches, will use both a feeder and a bird table, and particularly enjoy sunflower hearts.

There are many different bird foods available, with mixes for bird feeders and bird tables, as well as for ground feeding. Look for good quality bird food – and avoid ones with “fillers” such as dried peas and beans that birds rarely eat. Birds also enjoy small amounts of bread, fruit cake, dried fruit, unsalted nuts, or fruit such as apples and pears. Avoid anything mouldy or salty, and if you have a dog don't put out dried fruit – vine fruits such as raisins can be toxic to them. It's very important to keep bird feeders clean to prevent a build-up of bacteria or fungal spores.

As well as food, it's a good idea to put out water for the birds in something like a large plant pot tray or a bird bath. Keep it clean and put out fresh water every day.

Find out more at <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/>

Warm Up for the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch: Sun 19 Jan 11am-3pm

at The Lodge Nature Reserve, Potton Rd, Sandy, SG19 2DL. Get useful tips on identifying birds coming to the feeders and information on the Big Garden Birdwatch survey, giving nature a home and feeding your garden birds. Join a guided walk to search for birds that spend the winter on the reserve. Make fat balls to take home for your garden birds and stock up your bird food. Booking not required. Donations welcome. Hot drinks & snacks available from the shop. 01767 693333

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Comberton Surgery Opening Times

tel. 01223 262500

Reception

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(Out of hours for duty doctor's number
ring: 01223 262500 or 262579)

EMERGENCY 01223 464242

Dispensary

Mon-Fri 8:00-12:30 & 2:00-6:30
Sat 8:30-10:30 (Pre-ordered only
& not bank holiday w/e)

Commercial advertising rates in this magazine:

- Full page: £8 (£80 for 12 issues)
- Half page: £5 (£50 for 12 issues)
- Quarter page: £3 (£30 for 12 issues)

Other sizes by arrangement. Reduced rates for Kingston residents

Telephone numbers

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Addenbrooke's switchboard	01223 245151
Age UK (Information and Advice line)	0800 1696565
Anglian Water (sewage)	08457 145145
Ashcroft Vet Surgery 169 St. Neots Rd, Hardwick	01954 210250
Cambridge Rail Station general inquiries	0845 7484950
Cambridge Water	01223 706050
Camdoc (out of hours)	01223 464242
Chinese , Fish and Chips 2 High St. Toft	01223 263337
Citizens Advice Bureau	01223 222660
Crimestoppers (anonymous crime reporting)	0800 555111
Drs. Parker, Mills, Shepherd, Wheatley and Kent	
58 Green End, Comberton	appointments 01223 262500
	prescriptions 01223 262399
Dr. Redwood & Partners, Bourn Surgery	
	appointments 01954 719469
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Electricity (emergency)	0800 3163 105
Health-Child & Family Team (Community Health Office)	
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Indian , The Hoops Gt. Eversden	01223 264443
Italian , The Pergola, Harlton	01223 260005
Jetlink (to Stansted, Heathrow, Luton, Gatwick)	08705 747757
Magazine Editor Peter Holly	01223 264556
National Rail Enquiries	08457 484950
Neighbourhood Watch (Peter Stokes)	01223 262207
NHS 24hr health Advice Line (talk to a nurse/doctor)	111
Parish Council Chairman (James Clear)	01223 263746
Parish Council Clerk (Peter Stokes)	01223 262207
Park and Ride	01223 845561
Police non-emergency (our PCSO)	101
Road repair	01223 833717
Rosie Maternity Hospital	01223 217617
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SC District Council (Local Councillor Tumi Hawkins)	01954 210840
South Cambridgeshire District Council	03450 450500
Stagecoach (Cambus) information 8am to 8pm	0870 6082608
Stansted Airport	0870 0000303
Streetlight failure reporting	0800 7838247

Papworth Team

Rev Stephen Day (1st contact) revdsmday@cantab.net	01954 264226
Rev Nigel di Castiglione (Team Rector) nigel.dicastiglione@gmail.com	01954 267241 or 0777 0697240
Rev Nigel Pearson	01954 719637

Churchwarden Peter Reynolds

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PCC

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Village Hall MC Ron Leslie (Chair)	07867677724
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Chris Reid (Treasurer)

Sarah Wright (Vice Chair and Secretary)
kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com

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Lee Steele, Rachel Hooper