

Kingston Parish & Church Magazine



October 2025

Village Diary

Sat 4th October from 6.30pm.

Wed 8th October 3-4pm & 7-8pm

Thurs 9th October 1 – 1.30pm

Pub night in the Village Hall

Heat Pump presentation in the Village Hall

Library Van at the crossroads

Tuesdays at 10-11am

Wednesdays at 10.30am

Fridays at 10.00am

Boogie Tuesday at the Village Hall

Village Hall Coffee Morning

Pilates at the Village Hall

Wheelie bin collection dates

Thursday 2nd Oct

Thursday 9th Oct

Thursday 16th Oct

Thursday 23rd Oct

Thursday 30th Oct

Thursday 6th Nov

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Black bin

Blue and Green bins

Editorial

October already and, of course, I need to draw your attention to Harvest events. As I write and if you receive this in time, the winners in Hudson's scarecrow competition will be announced at this month's pub night on Oct 4th. Do come along whether or not you participated and many thanks to Hudson for setting up this fun event.

Our annual harvest supper has been re-purposed as a harvest tea on October 11 in the village hall at 4pm, followed by the harvest festival service in the church at 6pm. Do please come along to one or both. It is a great opportunity to meet and mingle with neighbours and celebrate how lucky we are to live in this beautiful spot and how grateful we are to all our local farming families for their hard work throughout the year.

Our recent water emergency was quite exciting (sort of) and made me get on the village WhatsApp group. Glad I did. It's not just about stray animals, it can be useful in an emergency as I found out. Food for thought.

And finally a quick word to all newcomers who may not be aware that a county library van pulls up at the crossroads on the second Thursday of each month at 1pm. Use it or lose it folks! Useful outing for young children...just sayin'!

Miki Ellar miki.ellar7@gmail.com 07568 706106

Vicar's Letter:

There is something wonderfully unsettling about new beginnings. Whether it's the first day at school, a house move, or starting a new job, these moments seem to be packed full of both excitement and trepidation. As I begin my role as the new Team Rector in the Papworth Team, I feel much the same: delighted to be here, but also very aware that I still have many people to meet, many new places to discover, and plenty to learn!

Thankfully, I've already received such a warm welcome and so much encouragement as I've begun to settle in. Walking our Labrador through the beautiful Cambridgeshire countryside in recent weeks, I've often thought of those opening words in Genesis when God said, "Let there be light." Every sunrise across our fields feels like a gentle reminder that God is always in the business of fresh starts.

The Gospels are full of them too: fishermen dropping their nets to follow Jesus, tax collectors discovering generosity, disciples stumbling but bravely starting again. And of course, the resurrection is the ultimate declaration that God brings life from death, hope from despair, and new beginnings where we least expect them. In our villages, I see those same opportunities for fresh starts all around: in families welcoming new life, in neighbours helping one another through tough times, and in communities coming together to celebrate, to grieve, and to hope.

Of course, new beginnings don't always run smoothly. First impressions are tricky, names are easy to muddle, and country roads aren't always straightforward, especially when the A428 is closed! But it's often in those unscripted moments that we find ourselves laughing, making memories, and discovering life in all its fullness. Only last week, I knocked confidently on the wrong door and was welcomed in with such kindness that I nearly stayed for a cup of tea! It reassured me that even when things don't go quite to plan, God's grace is more than enough to carry us through.

So, as I start out here, I want to thank you for the kindness you've already shown me, and to invite you to see this not just as my new beginning, but as ours together. It's a fresh chapter for all of us: a chance to look out for one another, to look outward to our communities, and to listen for where God is leading us next.

Do keep an eye out for me around the villages, and don't be shy about saying hello. I enjoy a chat, a joke, or a tip on where to track down the best coffee or pint. As we set out on this new chapter together, let's do so with open hearts, with a sense of adventure, and with trust in the God who delights in making all things new.

Rev. Matt Phillips

Team Rector, Papworth Team Ministry

matt@papworth.team 01954 604889 07518 377245



Kingston Church Services for October

Saturday 11th October HARVEST FESTIVAL 6.00pm

The church is open every day.

Papworth Team Services (HC=Holy Communion, MP=Morning Prayer, FW Family Worship)

Oct 5th 10.30am Harvest at Bourn

Oct 12th 8.30am HC at Bourn 10.30am Harvest at Caxton 10.30am HC at Longstowe

Oct 19th 10.30am MP at Caxton

Oct 26th 10.30am HC at Bourn 9.00am HC at Caxton 10.30am MP at Longstowe

The website papworthteamchurches.org has up to date service information for all churches in the team. It also has the Zoom link for the Morning Prayer.

ZOOM Chapel Morning Prayer (Mon – Sat) at 8.15am (Zoom)

Telephone service on Mondays at 5.00pm (except Bank Holidays)

Team Prayer meeting: St Peter's Church, Papworth Everard, 6.30pm, 20 Oct

Something new....

If you phone 01480 776464 you can hear a recorded message with all the church services across the team for the next Sunday.

Church cleaning

1 st Sunday	Henrietta Burbridge
2 nd Sunday	Donal & Monica O'Donnell
3 rd Sunday	Peter Reynolds
4 th Sunday	Janet Clear
5 th Sunday	Linda Rimmer

Church flowers and brasses

Oct 5	Christine Allison
Oct 12	Annabel Diggle
Oct 19	Christine Stone
Oct 26	Lee Steele
Nov 2	Monica O'Donnell

Highlighting heat pumps in Cambridgeshire

Heat pumps will take centre stage this year for Cambridge Carbon Footprint's Open Eco Homes: Winter Special.

From 26 Oct - 23 Nov, people from across the region are invited to discover for themselves what it's like to retrofit their homes to increase comfort, reduce carbon emissions and enjoy cost savings.

4 weeks of tours and talks, in-person and online: all are FREE; advance booking required. Featuring 7 local eco homes offering homeowner led tours and 5 expert led talks and workshops. For full event details and booking go to

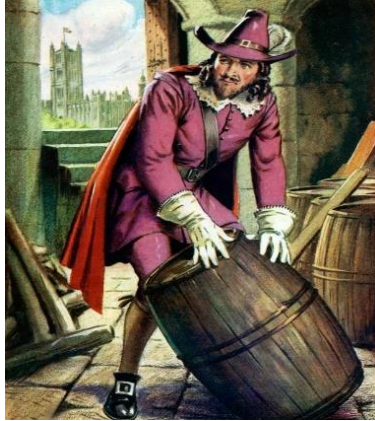
<https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/what-we-do/open-eco-homes/>





Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot: what we still don't know

A talk by Dr Mark Nicholls



Thursday 9th October at 8.00 pm in the Village Hall

There will be a bar and we hope this will be the first of a series of talks by invited speakers over the winter months.



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, Revd. Chris Westgarth, works in the office normally on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday 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 Matt Phillips

matt@papworth.team

01954 604889

From Egypt his mortar unit went to France where it was assigned to the 13th Australian Infantry Battalion that took part in heavy fighting around Bullecourt in 1917, and his name appears in Australian press casualty lists in May 1917 as wounded on 11 April. His name also appears in the Cambridge Daily News, along with that of his brother David (aged only 18), showing he had been taken prisoner on 11 April, after being wounded.

The engagement at Bullecourt on 11 April was costly for the Australians, as tank and artillery support was ineffective. The Australian brigades, including Israel Custerson's 13th Infantry

Battalion, got into the German front position but were cut off and gradually overwhelmed; only a few Australians managing to break out. The Australians suffered 3,289 casualties including 1,166 prisoners (one of whom was Israel Custerson) against 749 German casualties. Another prisoner from Israel's Battalion taken on 11 April was Douglas Grant, an Aborigine, who became an object of scientific curiosity to the Germans. His origins and later life are fascinating and can be read about here <https://www.awm.gov.au/learn/memorial-boxes/3/online-resources/grant>

KINGSTON

PTE. D. CUSTERSON.—Pte. David Custerson, son of Mrs. Custerson, of the Chequers Inn, Kingston, has been rather badly wounded in the right arm and back, and now lies in hospital at Bath, where he is progressing as well as can be expected. Pte. Custerson has two other brothers in the Army. One, Pte. W. Custerson has been home on 10 days' leave, and the other, Pte. Israel Custerson, of the Australian Imperial Forces, was taken prisoner on April 11th, 1917, and has been interned in Germany since. News was received last week that he had been transferred from Germany to Switzerland.



Australian lines at Bullecourt, April 1917. Source: Australian War Memorial

After the war Israel returned to Victoria where he married Vera Williams in 1920, producing a son, John Clement and possibly two daughters, Pauline and Barbara. Meanwhile, David, who is Charlie Richmond's maternal uncle, returned to Kingston and is listed in the 1921 census as living with his parents at the



Chequers and working as a self-employed carrier, so he must have recovered from his wounds. Charlie knew him well and tells me his carrier business was a horse and cart that ran errands to Cambridge, even taking farmers' cash to banks. Later, he worked at the Lords Bridge military depot before retiring in his 60s and remaining active until his death in 1972.

The Digger statue in Bullecourt, northern France. Picture: AFP/Denis Charlet

Paul Wright and Simon Draper. September 2025

Climate and Nature Strategy

South Cambridgeshire District Council is developing a new Climate and Nature strategy to guide their work for the next five years. This recognises the important links between climate and nature. A consultation on this new strategy will be running throughout October. Hearing the views of residents is an essential step to help the council access new ideas and suggestions, and consider all views, and will help shape the council's actions around residents' needs and aspirations.

The consultation will be available on www.scamb.gov.uk/consultations

PRESENTATION HEAT PUMPS

**Kingston Village Hall
Wednesday 8th October**

Afternoon 3-4pm Evening 7-8pm

Tea and coffee will be served

Come along and find out:

- Why correct installation is critical and how to avoid a bad job
- Why the Government will pay you £7500 to install a Heat Pump (NB limited availability)
- Why VAT has been removed from Heat Pumps this year
- How you can keep warm day & night – and still cut your energy bills and carbon

If you cannot make the meeting or for more information call Neil Holley on

Office: 01992 526 117

Mobile: 07767 831 763

Cambridgeshire Hunt Meet at Kingston c1969





Photos J D Reynolds

Community Hubs

With free refreshments and good company, Cambridgeshire ACRE's safe and warm community hubs welcome hundreds of residents from across the district every week. Hubs are community-led, coordinated and hosted by trained volunteers in local communities. They are funded using money provided by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough integrated Care System. There are local hubs at:

Caldecote Pavilion, Furlong Way, Highfields, Caldecote, CB23 7ZH
Tuesdays, 10.30am-3.30pm

Cambourne Community Centre, High St, Great Cambourne, CB23 6GW
Monday and Friday, 9.30am-1pm

Hardwick Evangelical Church, Broadway House, 149-151 St Neots Road,
Hardwick, CB23 7QJ. Tuesdays fortnightly, 10am-2pm

Toft Methodist Chapel,
High St, Toft, CB23 2RL
Mondays, 10.00am-12.00
from 27 October

[https://www.scambsgov.uk/
community-and-people
/community-hubs](https://www.scambsgov.uk/community-and-people/community-hubs)

Community Engagement

South Cambridgeshire District Council has introduced a community engagement platform which hosts ongoing consultations across multiple departments, including Planning, Communities and Housing.

Each survey or consultation provides clear background information, proposed changes, and a simple way for you to submit your views.

You can find it at www.scambsgov.uk/consultations

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Kingston residents: Before 7pm - £6. After 7pm - £8

Non residents: Before 7pm - £11. After 7pm - £14

Enquiries: Sarah Wright (secretary)

kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com

0787 999 1068

New unitary council changes

The leaders of Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District councils are making the case for a new unitary council for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire and have launched a survey to ask for local views. (The County Council prefers the option that also includes East Cambridgeshire.)

The survey runs until 11.59pm on Sunday 12 October and also seeks suggestions for a name for the new council if it goes ahead.

More details at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/news/leaders-call-for-views-on-unitary-councilfor-cambridge-and-south-cambridgeshire>

You can find the survey at <https://engage.scambs.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/future-councils>

If you would prefer to complete a paper survey, please email communications@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 713000.

County Council information at: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news>

A New Butterfly Trail

A new butterfly trail has been created in Cambridge. The self-guided Cambridge Butterfly Trail consists of eye-catching marker posts located in 30 different parks and open spaces, celebrating some of the incredible species of butterfly and moth you might spot in the city and surrounding countryside.

The marker posts offer an interactive way to find out about different species of butterflies and moths. The plaques on the posts contain a QR code that can be scanned to find out fun facts and detailed information about the characteristics of a particular butterfly or moth, as well as where to find the other marker posts. Each plaque also has an outline of a particular species that can be rubbed with a pen or crayon onto a piece of paper, or onto a collectable sheet which can be downloaded from the council website at <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/butterfly-trail>

The trail aims to highlight the roles butterflies and moths play in healthy ecosystems, and some of the threats they face – including habitat loss and climate change.

Local Council Tax Support scheme changes

A public consultation has launched on proposed changes to South Cambridgeshire District Council's working age Local Council Tax Support scheme, which aims to provide greater support and improved outcomes for customers.

You can find more details of the proposed changes and make comments at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/news/have-your-say-on-the-local-council-tax-support-scheme>

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Smiling Is Infectious
by Spike Milligan

Smiling is infectious,
you catch it like the flu,
When someone smiled at me today,
I started smiling too.

I passed around the corner
and someone saw my grin.
When he smiled I realized
I'd passed it on to him.

I thought about that smile,
then I realized its worth.
A single smile, just like mine
could travel round the earth.

So, if you feel a smile begin,
don't leave it undetected.
Let's start an epidemic quick,
and get the world infected!

**Environmentally Friendly
Period Products scheme**

The District Council is again working with social enterprise Hey Girls to distribute free packs of reusable period products.

The scheme will relaunch during Environmenstrual Week from 20-24 October. Details will be on the Council website at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/>

Alternatively, residents can obtain a mooncup menstrual cap for just £5 including delivery (usual cost £23.50). Find out more at www.recap.co.uk

**Afternoon
Tea**

Longstowe Village Hall
everyone welcome

following Fridays: 2.00 to 4.00

31 Oct '25

NO Tea in November



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Appointments: 01954 719469

Emergencies: 01954 719313

Dispensary

Mon-Fri 8:30-1:00 & 2:00-6:00

01954 718101

www.bournsurgery.nhs.uk

Out of Hours NHS 111

Comberton Surgery Opening Times

tel. 01223 262500

Reception

Mon-Fri 8:00-12:30 & 1:30-6:30

(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: £10 (£90 for 12 issues)
- Half page: £7 (£70 for 12 issues)
- Quarter page: £5 (£50 for 12 issues)

Other sizes by arrangement. Reduced rates for Kingston residents

Telephone numbers

Addenbrooke's A&E		01223 217118
Addenbrooke's switchboard	01223 805000 /	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
Bourn Surgery	Appointments	01954 719469
	Emergencies	01954 719313
Cambridge Rail Station general inquiries		0845 7484950
Cambridge Water		01223 706050
Councillor Christopher Morris (Cambridgeshire County Council)		
	christopher.morris@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	
Councillor Tumi Hawkins (SC District Council)		01954 210840
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
Comberton Surgery		
58 Green End, Comberton	Appointments	01223 262500
	Prescriptions	01223 262399
Electricity (emergency)		0800 3163 105
Health-Child & Family Team (Community Health Office)		
Comberton Road, Toft		01223 264460
Indian , The Hoops Gt.Eversden		01223 264443
Italian , The Pergola, Harlton		01223 260005
Jetlink (to Stansted, Heathrow, Luton, Gatwick)		08705 747757
Magazine Editor (Miki Ellar)		01223 262887
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		07385 906637
Parish Council Clerk (Sue Dalgleish)	kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com	
Park and Ride		01223 845561
Police non-emergency (our PCSO)		101
Road repair		01223 833717
Rosie Maternity Hospital		01223 217617
Samaritans		01223 364455
South Cambridgeshire District Council		01954 713000
Stagecoach (Cambus) information 8am to 8pm		0870 6082608
Stansted Airport		0870 000303
Streetlight failure reporting		0800 7838247

Papworth Team

Revd Matt Phillips (Team Rector) 01954 604889
matt@papworth.team
Rev Nigel Pearson (First contact minister) 01954 719637

Churchwarden

PCC **Peter Reynolds** (Secretary) 01223 262094
peterreynolds299@btinternet.com
Christine Allison
Janet Clear
Monica O'Donnell
Linda Rimmer
Lee Steele

PCC Treasurer **Jane Coutts** hello@janecoutts.me

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Village Hall Management Committee representative)
Mark Nicholls (Councillor, Open Spaces)

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kingstonpc.cambridge@gmail.com

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Chris Reid (Treasurer)

Sarah Wright (Vice Chair and Secretary) 01223 263500
kingstonvillagehall@gmail.com 07879 991068

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Mark Stalham, Peter Stokes, Suzy Stokes.

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