

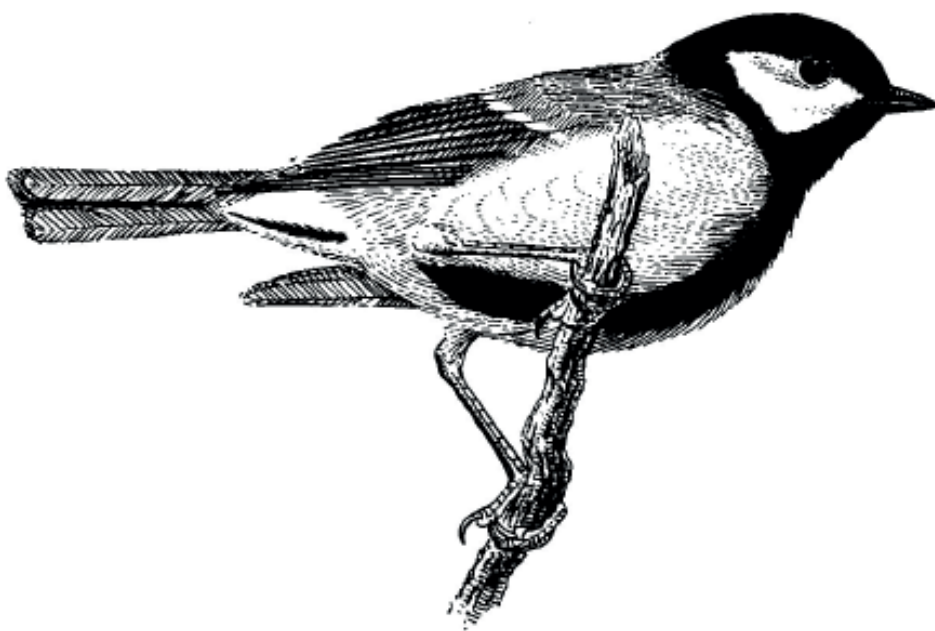
DRY DRAYTON NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2024

ISSUE NUMBER 476



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DRY DRAYTON VILLAGE CONTACTS

DRY DRAYTON LOCALS FACEBOOK GROUP <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1886158478428662>

DRY DRAYTON WEBSITE www.drydrayton.net

CHURCH OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

<https://drydraytonchurch.co.uk/>

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Email: clarecoates@lordsbridge.org

Church Warden

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TRUE JESUS CHURCH

<https://uk.tjc.org/cambridge>

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Michael Clydesdale. Tel: 780 957

Pilates

Pat Carter. Tel: 780917

Body Tone

Pat Carter. Tel: 780917

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Tel: 780442 <https://www.maplebarhill.co.uk/>

Comberton Surgery

Tel: 01223 262 500

<https://www.combertonandeversdensurgery.nhs.uk/>

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Manager Margot Wolton-Carr

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Email: drydraytonsva@gmail.com

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Neil Harris Tel: 789049

Treasurer: Roger Swain Tel: 780409

VILLAGE SPEEDWATCH

Coordinator Chris Turner. Tel 07766 255637

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www.drydraytonvillagehall.org.uk

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Bookings: Sue Carlisle

Email: drydraytonhallbookings@gmail.com

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Gillian Stott: 07464 069483

Derek Evans: 07464 052521

Lizzie Coe: 07387 395296

(for queries / emergencies only)

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Dry Drayton Village Newsletter is published on behalf of Dry Drayton School and Village Association (a registered charity, number 269765). Copies are delivered to houses in the village and the Newsletter is also published on the Dry Drayton website newsletter page: www.drydrayton.net/newsletter.asp Please note, the Editor reserves the right to accept, edit or reject any material for publication and to exclude from publication any remarks which may be construed as personal criticism of other residents. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team of the School & Village Association, or of Victoire Press, the printers.

Spring greetings to you all!

This is the first of four issues of the 'Dry Drayton Newsletter' to be published this year. Firstly, we would like to say very many thanks to Rachel Gardener who has edited the Newsletter for six and a half years and has put in an enormous amount of work to ensure that it is published on time every month, delivering the latest news and information to support the local community. Also we would like to thank Seunghee Hill, who is stepping down in March, she has been a huge help in managing the layout of the Newsletter.

Now Rachel has stood down we are trialling a new version of the Newsletter, with a series of Guest Editors, which will be published on a quarterly basis. Do send any comments or suggestions to: drydraytonnews@gmail.com

Thanks are also due to the many other people in the village who also give so much time to support the local community in different ways: from our Councillors; those organising social and fundraising events and activities, including the Marquee Team; to traffic monitoring, litterpicking, and generally working to improve the environment in Dry Drayton. Recently we have been fortunate to receive a number of new benches dotted around the village and in this issue

have a special page with news from the Edwards Woodland which is a wonderful community resource for everyone to enjoy.

We are sorry to hear that the Friendship Group has had to close but hope that people may come up with new ideas. We have heard suggestions of a board games group and other activities which might help bring people together.

Keeping up to date with local news and information. With the reduced frequency of the Newsletter, there are a number of different ways to keep a finger on the pulse of the village:

- The village Website www.drydrayton.net was established following the Dry Drayton 2000 Project
- If you are a Facebook user, you can join the "Dry Drayton Locals" Group. This has over 400 members and contains news and information together with personal and business adverts
- If you prefer to receive local news and information by e-mail, sign up at www.drydrayton.net Or, you can visit one or more of the key websites serving the village which are listed on the inside cover of the Newsletter..

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Dry Drayton Bus Services

A2B Service 8: Mondays to Saturdays

Outgoing: From Dry Drayton High Street: 9:59, 11:29, 14:59
Arrives Cambridge Drummer St. (Bay 3): 10:25, 11:55, 15:25

Returning:

From Cambridge Drummer St (Bay 3): 10:30, 13:00, 16:30
Arrives Dry Drayton High Street: 10:54, 13:24, 16:54

Bar Hill – Stagecoach No. 5

Bus services roughly twice per hour to and from Cambridge. Full schedule available at <https://stagecoachbus.com/timetables>

Park & Ride 1 does an early morning pick up in the village at around 7.00 a.m. and does an evening drop off in Dry Drayton, leaving at 6.00 p.m. from St Andrew's Street.

<https://bustimes.org/services/pr1-cambridge-city-centre-madingley-road-parkride>

Dry Drayton School & Village Association

Mark your calendar now for the exciting events being organised in the village this year. Here's a brief list, but please keep an eye out in the newsletter and on Dry Drayton Facebook locals for additions or changes! For further information on any of these events, or to add your own events, please contact Diane Harris at da_harris_2000@yahoo.co.uk.

MARCH

- Spring newsletter.
- 23 or 24 March TBC: 10.00–12.00. Woodland working party. All welcome.

APRIL

- 6 April: 8pm – 10pm: Music evening, 69 Park Street, CB23 8DA. Wine and nibbles, donations will be requested.
- 14 April: 4pm Pub Quiz at The Black Horse.
- Village Litterpick: Date TBC.
- Village Hall AGM will be held on Tuesday 23rd April at 7.30pm

MAY

- 4 May: Come and Sing in the Church.
- 18 May 7:30 – 9:30pm: Quiz night in the Church.
- 20 May: Summer newsletter deadline.

JUNE

- Summer newsletter.
- 22 June: Parish Boundary Walk
- Feast week returns!
 - 1 Tuesday 25 June 6pm: Fun Run and Walk starting on the school field, entry fee £2.50.
 - 2 Date TBC: School summer concert, in marquee on the school field.

3 Thursday 27 June 7 – 8pm (TBC): Cambridge Early Music Consort in the Church, offering a programme of English and continental madrigals.

4 Friday 28 June after school and into the evening: Summer Sizzler in the marquee and on the school field, with bouncy castle, BBQ, stalls and fun!

5 Saturday 29 June: Feast Day. Activities TBC.

6 30 June: Little Owl disco in the marquee on the school field (time and price TBC).

JULY

- 8, 9 & 10 July: School play in the school hall.
- Date TBC: Summer Music Concert in the Church.

AUGUST

- 20 August: Autumn newsletter deadline.

SEPTEMBER

- Autumn newsletter.
- Date TBC: Chamber concert in the Church.

OCTOBER

- No events planned.

NOVEMBER

- 20 November: Winter newsletter deadline.
- Date TBC: Little Owl Christmas Fair in the Church.

DECEMBER

- Winter newsletter.
- 1 December – 24 December: Advent trail through the village.
- Date TBC: Peterhouse Choir concert in the Church.



Advent Trail brings light to the village

Thank you so much to all those who took part in the village Advent Trail, and for the many positive comments we received from people who followed the trail over the Christmas period. The variety of the 29 windows was impressive, and each one was creative and imaginative in a different way.

We would love to hear your thoughts and any suggestions for this year's Trail. Please help us by completing this short survey at <https://forms.gle/tfeeycjocmp8u7PF8>. If you would prefer a paper version please contact Hilary Smith (hilary.smith@xtranex.co.uk) and we will get a copy to you.

Diane Harris and Hilary Smith

Sunday Services

St Peter & St Paul

St Peter & St Paul is part of the Lordsbridge Team of Churches and the Diocese of Ely.

<https://drydraytonchurch.co.uk/>

Lead Minister: Revd Clare Coates

Lead Minister for Dry Drayton, Caldecote with Childerley and Hardwick

Tel: 07818 618795. Email: clarecoates@lordsbridge.org

Assistant Minister: Revd Canon Sue Wyatt

Tel: 01954 780775. Email: sue.e.wyatt@btinternet.com

MARCH

Sunday 3 March

5:30pm Evensong with Revd Clare. All welcome.

Sunday 10 March – Mothering Sunday

9:30am Holy Communion with Canon Sue and Gabrielle Clarke. All welcome

Sunday 17 March

11am Morning Worship for all ages with Revd Clare. All welcome.

The service will be followed by our APCM, starting at 12 noon prompt.

Sunday 24 March Palm Sunday

9:30am Holy Communion with Revd Clare. All welcome

3–4pm Forest Church. A short, informal outdoor service suitable for all ages. All welcome.

Friday 29 March Good Friday

12–1pm At the foot of the Cross. A quiet, reflective service with music, led by Revd Clare. All welcome.

Sunday 31 March Easter Day

9:30am Holy Communion with Canon Sue. All welcome.

What's on in March...

Saturday 2 March Quiet Morning

10am–12:30pm with Revd Priscilla. All welcome.

Thursday 28 March

9am Dry Drayton Primary School Easter Service.

APRIL

Sunday 7 April

5:30pm Evening Prayer with John Harding. All welcome.

Sunday 14 April

9:30am Morning Prayer with Revd Barnabas, Team Curate. All welcome.

Sunday 21 April

11am Holy Communion for all ages with Revd Clare. All welcome.

Sunday 28 April

9:30am Holy Communion with Revd Clare. All welcome.

3–4pm Forest Church. A short, informal outdoor service suitable for all ages. All welcome.

MAY

Sunday 5 May

5:30pm Choral Evensong with Revd Clare and Nigel Taylor preaching. All welcome.

Thursday 9 May Ascension Day

7pm Lordsbridge Team service at Barton with Revd Claire and Revd Clare preaching. All welcome.

Sunday 12 May

9:30am Holy Communion with Canon Sue. All welcome.

Sunday 19 May Pentecost

11am Morning Worship for all ages with Revd Clare. All welcome.

Sunday 26 May Trinity Sunday

9:30am Holy Communion with Revd Clare. All welcome.

3–4pm Forest Church. A short, informal outdoor service suitable for all ages. All welcome.

What's on in May...

Saturday 4 May Come and Sing Faure's Requiem, 4–6pm

Calling all singers! A chance to enjoy Faure's beautiful Requiem in an informal, 'Come and Sing' session directed by Dr Edward Wickham (Director of Music at St Catharine's College, Cambridge). The session will include refreshments and there will be a final sing-through (supporters welcome) at 6 pm. Bring your

own copy of the music (Novello edition) if you have it. Suggested donation: £10 (on the door). Tickets reservations at <https://come-and-sing-faure.eventbrite.co.uk>

Friday 17 May The Lordsbridge Pilgrimage

All are welcome to join us for all (or some of!) this year's pilgrimage on Friday 17 May, starting at 7:30am prompt at Coton and finishing approximately at 5:30pm in Dry Drayton with a short service of prayer. The full route is approximately 20 miles and we hope to walk to all the churches in the Lordsbridge Team. Please join us for as much or as little as you would like! For more information, please visit www.lordsbridge.org.uk – more details will be put on the website from the beginning of April. Alternatively, email revdclare.coates@gmail.com for more information.

Saturday 18 May Quiz night in the Church 7:30-9:30pm

7:30pm prompt start. Teams of 6, £10 per person, to include a light supper of cheese and biscuits and grapes and one glass of wine/juice. If you cannot make up a team but would like to take part, we will find you a team to join. Contact Revd Clare revdclare.coates@gmail.com to book a place or for more information by Monday May 13.

Zoom Services

Worship at Home – All Lordsbridge Zoom Service Every Sunday, 11.00am. Join any time from 10.50am: <https://zoom.us/j/82311473640>

COME and SING

Fauré's Requiem
at Dry Drayton Parish Church

led by
Edward
Wickham
*St Catharine's
College,
Cambridge*



Ticket reservations at
<https://come-and-sing-faure.eventbrite.co.uk>
or on the door:
Suggested donation £10
to include tea

Bring a copy (Novello edition) if you have one.

Saturday 4 May 4 pm
final 'performance' at 6 pm

Dear Friends, We are immensely grateful for all the support we have received from so many in our village. Rather than ending the year with the predicted loss, we had a surplus of just over £2,000. Our Fundraising Appeal, which we launched in November last year, contributed to this in a meaningful way. Your help, continuing support and generosity are greatly appreciated. There is, however, a continuing need to work hard to keep the Church open and well maintained and we are determined to do this so that the Church remains a welcoming space for the whole village.

A message from our Minister

We are planning several fundraising events in the coming year, and we do hope you can join us! Coming up this Spring, we are holding another 'Come and Sing' afternoon, led by Dr Edward Wickham of St Catherine's College, Cambridge, on May 4 from 4pm, and will be singing Faure's Requiem. On 18 May we will be holding a Quiz in the Church, with a light supper and a glass of wine included in the ticket price. For more details of both events, please see 'What's on in May' below or visit our church website where more details will be found from the middle of April: <https://drydraytonchurch.co.uk/>

As a Church community, we have entered the time of Lent, and as we quietly reflect over the next few weeks, we will be thinking of Easter and the hope Jesus's life and death and resurrection brings us all. Regardless of who we are; what we have done or not done; what has happened in our life; and whatever we believe in, or don't: God's promise of life and love is for all. You are most welcome to come and join us at any of our services during this Spring season – please see below for further details of all our services in March, April and May.

I hope you have a wonderful Spring and I look forward to seeing you soon.

God Bless,

Clare

Revd Clare Coates,

*Lead Minister for Dry Drayton, Caldecote with
Childerley and Hardwick*

*clarecoates@lordsbridge.org – 07818 618 795 –
<https://drydraytonchurch.co.uk/>*

District & County Councillors' Reports for Dry Drayton

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Action on Energy is a partnership made up of the six councils across Cambridgeshire - helping to support people to create more energy efficient homes. The partnership offers advice on a number of grants including:

- The Home Upgrade Grant 2 can provide home energy efficiency improvements for PEOPLE ON LOW INCOMES WITH PROPERTIES NOT HEATED BY GAS.
Boiler upgrade scheme. Government grants are available to replace gas boilers with cleaner heating systems.
- The ECO4 and Great British Insulation schemes <https://www.actiononenergycambs.org/>
Local food banks are listed on the Council's website. Residents don't need a voucher to use most of them.
- Visit www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living to find out more.

Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy: Your comments are requested

Working with Cambridge City Council, South Cambs District Council hopes to build strong, healthy communities for both existing and new residents.

Please could everyone comment on the draft housing strategy, so the Council can hear first-hand whether you agree that they are on the right track. They will listen, and your comments will influence how they meet South Cambridgeshire's housing challenges. To comment on the draft Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy, visit <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/Housing/The-Greater-Cambridge-Housing-Strategy-2024-2029> or <https://engage.cambridge.gov.uk/en-GB/projects/housing-strategy-2024-29> Closes 3rd March

Police Community Engagement

These meetings are quarterly and held online from 7pm–8pm. They allow members of the public to meet their neighbourhood officers and hear about recent activity. Attendees will also get the opportunity to raise any concerns they have and help shape future priorities. The next is on 28th February. To attend, please visit the neighbourhood page and click the link on the date. You will be sent to Eventbrite to register for free and will be sent a meeting

link <https://www.cambs.police.uk/police-forces/cambridgeshire-constabulary/areas/campaigns/nhp/neighbourhood-policing/South-Cambridgeshire/>.

COUNTY COUNCIL

At the time of writing we are about to propose and debate our budget for 2024-25 and set the Council Tax. There will be a great deal of discussion about it as it is a tough budget and we have been through many rounds looking at savings as well as trying to 'invest to save' i.e. initiatives that could result in efficiencies or improvements (or both) but require initial effort.

At the start of the budgeting process we were looking at an enormous deficit, but this has gradually been closed over the last few months. We have had significant inflationary pressures as many costs (e.g. materials) have increased much faster than the general rate of inflation. We have had to apply an extra £37m to offset the additional inflationary pressures caused by economic turmoil, and also have had to add £17m for Adults' and Childrens' social care where there is increasing demand. We have had some additional funding from the Government, £4.8m, which is welcome but only a fraction of what is needed. It is for use on social care. We are using it to help find a better way to deal with the difficulties we and other councils face in placing children in high-cost care facilities, and also to make improvements in how we are dealing with home to school transport.

District Councillors :

Cllr Corinne Garvie
07780 932267
cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk
Cllr Richard Stobart
07950 934793
cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk

County Councillor :

Edna Murphy
01223577005
edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Dry Drayton Primary School

We have been very busy in School since Christmas and many children have been awarded their Bronze House Point certificate for achieving 100 house points. Points are awarded for effort, improvement, excellent work and behaviour and are presented at our Friday Celebration Collective Worship to which parents are always invited. Over half the school have received their Bronze award and our first Silver award has been awarded.

Sport

Mrs Scarrow was incredibly proud of the Year 5/6 girls football team who participated in the CB23 competition at Cambourne Village College. They showed such grit and determination in each game, excelled in their teamwork and finished in the top third which was fantastic!

Young Voices Concert

A group of children travelled to the O2 Arena in London to participate in the Young Voices school choir concert on 30th January.

Ava-Mae reports: "When I first stepped into the O2 my heart stopped ... To know that I was in London for the first time ever, it was amazing".

Lois writes: "Young Voices in one word is AMAZING, the atmosphere, the music ... The O2 is colossal and they make a dream come true. When I went in and the lights went down, it felt unreal."

Art & History

Reception and KS1 have been studying the Great Fire of London and writing recounts from the rat's perspective. They also built lego houses to model just how close together the buildings were which helped to spread the fire.

KS1 have created gorgeous sock puppets which needed careful cutting and glueing. KS2 have studied and created miniature tin foil sculptures inspired by Alberto Giacometti.

Roman Day

History off the Page visited for a day as part of the KS2 Roman topic. The school was filled with Roman centurions and servants to extend their learning about this period in history. The children made miniature mosaics, clay pots, perfume and ink and spent the afternoon enjoying a Roman Banquet!

Trim Trail Update

We continue to fundraise for the replacement of the trim trail on the school field.

A funding application has been submitted to the Cambridgeshire Capital Priorities Fund, we will find out if we have been successful in April. In the meantime we are incredibly grateful for the support of the village community towards our total. We have had sizeable donations from The School and Village Association and Dry Drayton Parish Council. Over the Christmas period, donations from the wonderful Advent Trail and the New Year's Eve Black Horse quiz were very gratefully received.



Tasha Singh has been running GCSE maths booster classes in school on Saturday mornings, all proceeds from these sessions will be match funded by the Leys School and will directly benefit the trim trail fund, thank you! Please scan the QR code for a link to donate to :

[Just Giving Dry Drayton Trim Trail](#)





At the O₂ Arena



The girls' football team

Little Owl Pre-School

We have been having such a busy term: We've welcomed new children and families and learned about winter, weather, and how to stay safe and warm. We've played lots of listening games – associating sounds with pictures as a fun activity. Practising our numbers and letters has been lots of fun, some of the children are able to recognise the letters in their names!

We've ended the first half of term on a high, celebrating and learning about Chinese New Year. The pre-schoolers have made 2D/3D lanterns and dragons in all shapes and forms! We ate Chinese food and had a special visitor, Hailey, to tell stories, engage the children in dragon dancing and to make lucky red envelopes.



Parish Council News

Minutes of meetings available on the website provide details of the topics discussed, and so I think it is worthwhile to provide updates on the major issues affecting the village which include the NMUs (Non-Motorised User) Access, LHI (Local Highways Improvement) and Cambridge Road, Madingley.

Helping Out

Once again, Dry Drayton will get involved in the Great British Spring Clean and it would be good if as many people as possible could help. The date is likely to be either Saturday 27 April or 4 May. If you are able to join in tidying footpaths and greens of the village, please email: cllr.aldersley@drydraytonpc.org.uk, or message via WhatsApp (07728 855789) to let me know your preferred date. I look forward to a good turnout and a tidier village!

NMUs and Travel Hub

As was the case at the end of last year, there is nothing significant to report regarding either the Oakington Road or Scotland Farm NMUs, or the Travel Hub. I have been invited to a Teams meeting at the beginning of March to discuss the Oakington Road NMU, although I am awaiting details of the agenda. As may be recalled, one of the sticking points preventing progress on the route of the NMU was the fact that National Highways owned some of the land on which the NMU was to be constructed and this needed to be transferred to Cambridgeshire County Council before any further steps could be considered. We were advised that the County Council had to examine the cost implications of the transfer before agreeing and despite repeated requests over several months, I could not obtain an update on the situation. BBC News for Cambridgeshire obviously had more success as on 27 January 2024 it reported that National Highways have handed back the old A14 (now A1307) from Swavesey to Huntingdon to Cambridgeshire County Council along with £25m towards its upkeep. We do not know if the transfer included the areas involved with the Oakington Road NMU and Cllr. Stobart has agreed to investigate this further. The BBC news article can be found at: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk/uk-england-cambridgeshire-68107038>

Cllr. Edna Murphy shared an email which she had received from Peter Blake, Transport Director of Greater Cambridge Partnership, who confirmed that: *"The original plan for the NMU involved linking it with the Scotland Road Travel Hub as part of the Cambourne to Cambridge Scheme, which is to be delivered within a Transport and Works Act framework. However, on reflection that framework was considered to be not a good fit for an NMU, and so the NMU will be delivered outside of that framework, as for other non-motorised routes. For practical purposes there is no change in terms of GCP's intention to design and build an NMU connecting the Scotland Road travel hub to Dry Drayton village centre".* A feasibility study is being undertaken by Kerry Allen, Senior Project

Manager from Greater Cambridge Partnership, and this is expected to be made available to the Parish Council sometime over the next couple of months, despite it being promised for December.

Cambridge Road, Madingley

As was expected, there was no change to what had been implemented, despite strong objections to the scheme from Dry Drayton Parish Council and some residents of Madingley. Our frustration with the overall process has been shared with our County Councillor, Cllr. Edna Murphy. She appreciated our annoyance and has advised us that schemes of this type in the future will take account of the requirements of both Dry Drayton and Madingley, rather than treat each in isolation as has been the case until now. We shall see what happens.

Local Highways Improvement (LHI) applications

The Parish Council received designs for the proposed 40mph buffer zones and HGV advisory signage shortly before the December meeting. Feedback was provided after liaising with the Community Speedwatch team and a reply from the design team is awaited. An LHI application has been made to introduce Parking Restrictions outside the school, to improve safety outside the school in what, on occasions, can be a busy residential cul-de-sac. We are awaiting the outcome of the application. If successful, the school will work with a designer from Cambridgeshire County Council to determine the best solution to this issue.

Flooding in the village

A meeting was held with representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council in January to discuss the situation in Park Lane which is prone to flooding. It was agreed that:

- ° All drains in Park Lane will be cleaned and surveyed using CCTV. If the CCTV shows blockages, remedial measures will be taken (e.g root cutters)
- ° Additional actions will be taken to try to address the issues with the three affected areas Park Lane/ Madingley Road junction, Duck End Farmhouse, and Park Lane near the post box.
- ° Resolution of the issues will not be immediate as landowners need to be contacted, and CCTV work cannot commence until water levels have dropped. Unfortunately, there has been no action since the meeting, a point which Cllr. Murphy is taking further, and I sincerely hope that something is done before properties on Park Lane are affected further. Other areas of the village which are affected by flooding have also been reported and are under investigation: Park Street, close to the school; Oakington Road, by Trinity Stables; and Madingley Road.

The next meetings of the Parish Council will be Tuesday 5 March, Tuesday 9 April and Tuesday 7 May at 19.00 in the Village Hall.

Cllr. Stephen Aldersley – cllr.aldersley@drydraytonpc.org.uk

The Black Horse

As we head into Spring we look forward to brighter and longer days ahead. We will be spending a bit of time sprucing up the outdoor spaces and making them ready for you to sit outside again, it seems a very long time since you last enjoyed sitting out in good weather but hopefully those times are not too far away!

We have a few dates for things coming up, as follows:

Mother's Day

Come for lunch! On Sunday 10th March we will be cooking a Sunday Roast as usual and we would love to treat your family to some special desserts too. We are taking bookings between 12.30 and 2.30pm.

Pizza Passione

Pizza Passione will be with us on Saturday 23rd March, please pre-order directly with Sandro on Facebook Messenger to avoid disappointment. For Sandro's monthly visits in April and May, please keep an eye on our website and our notice boards as dates are yet to be confirmed.

EASTER

Our Easter opening hours will be as follows:

Thursday 28th March: 11am–3pm and 6–9pm (kitchen 12–2.30pm and 6–8pm)

Good Friday: 11am–3pm and 6–9pm (kitchen 12–2.30pm and 6–8pm)



Saturday 30th: 11am–3.30pm and 5.30–9pm (kitchen 12–2.30pm and 6–8pm)

Easter Sunday: 11am–5pm Easter Sunday Roast served from 12.30–2.30pm

Easter Monday: 11am–3pm (kitchen 12–2.30pm)

We will have an 'Easter menu' for these days - the menu will be posted up shortly.

On the counter there will be a variety of seasonal treats, and chocolate eggs, of course! Bookings in advance for all

times over Easter to guarantee your table.

Pub Quiz

The next Quiz will be on Sunday 14th April at 4pm.

Teams of up to six – £4 per person with all proceeds going to the charity chosen by the winning team.

Come along, give your grey matter a work-out, test your memory and have some fun!

Book your team in (essential as it will be held indoors and we often get to capacity).

Keep an eye on our website and our notice boards for other events coming up.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Colin and Amanda

Community Speedwatch

Many thanks to Dry Drayton's Speedwatch volunteers who are out beside the road for an hour most weeks, either in the village or at Scotland Farm. Over a million vehicles come through here each year and too many go too fast. At Scotland Farm we've seen 25% of vehicles doing over 35mph and some over 50. Oakington Road isn't much better!

New 40 mph zones are planned for each end of the village which we hope will help, but with the growth in house building, traffic volumes are increasing and bringing heavy lorries through the village on a road

that has barely changed in 50 years and was not designed for such use.

Owners of vehicles we see speeding receive a letter from the Police and persistent offenders are visited to give them advice. Moreover, the Police may spend some time here enforcing the speed limit. I'm told that this is more likely if people contact them about speeding so please report your concerns to:

Cambridgeshire Police at: <http://bit.ly/3Su28Ai>

If you can help with our Speedwatch please contact chris@turner-bilton.com

DRY DRAYTON VILLAGE HALL

MEET HERE!
LET US HOST YOUR NEXT EVENT

Full kitchen with utensils, crockery and more
Tables and chairs for up to 80 people
Sprung wood floor for dancing
State- of-the-art projector
Simple to use music system
Portable stage that can be set up in a variety of configurations

Check our website for current availability and pricing
drydraytonvillagehall.org.uk

Monthly Coffee Morning at the Village Hall

This popular event will continue at 10–12 on the first Wednesday of each month.

We have a selection of delicious homemade cakes including vegan and gluten free options and unlimited tea or coffee for just £3. We also sell cake to takeaway for you to enjoy another time. Cash or card payments are accepted.

Children are very welcome, with free juice and biscuits and toys to keep them entertained.

We're always on the look-out for more volunteer bakers. If interested please come along and speak to one of our wonderful volunteers or email una.sowerby@btinternet.com or hemyghislaine@gmail.com

The scheme aims to assist anyone who needs to be taken to essential destinations within a reasonable distance and who has no other means of transport.

We are a charity and the car scheme is run entirely by volunteers who give their time freely, with expenses covered. There are many aspects of the car scheme that need help and to keep this valuable service going to support those in need in our local community, we are continually looking for volunteers.

If you have some time in your week and enjoy engaging with people, then this friendly scheme may be of interest. Help is always needed with driving, which is crucial, and we would also welcome support

Caldecote, Dry Drayton & Hardwick
Community Car Scheme



with organising, fundraising or catering for the occasional events we hold.

If you feel like helping with this valuable local service, we would be delighted to hear from you. At present we are looking for a treasurer with computer knowledge.

CONTACT:

Gill Stott	07464 069 483
Lizzie Coe	07387 395 296
Derek Evans	07464 052 521

Please ring between 08.30am and 6.00pm Monday to Friday only

A Date for Your Diary Dry Drayton Parish Boundary Walk 2024

Based on the ancient custom of Beating the Bounds we plan to walk the Parish Boundaries on Saturday 22nd June. In England the tradition is centuries old, dating from at least Anglo-Saxon times. This will be the 6th Boundary Walk since we revived the tradition and this year we will go around the parish in a clockwise direction. The full walk is approximately 10 miles and there will be several rest stops and a place for a picnic lunch. There are also a few easy exit

points for those that wish to take a shorter route home.

More than half of the Parish Boundary falls on private land and we have permission from the relevant landowners that will allow us to follow the boundary as closely as possible. We will travel along paths and through woods normally closed to the public. We wish to thank Ben and Caroline Chivers and Messrs Jenkins and Peck for kindly granting this once in a year access to their private land. Anyone who would like more information or to register their wish to participate should send an email to: boundarywalk@gmail.com or text 07709 584207.

Dry Drayton Book Group

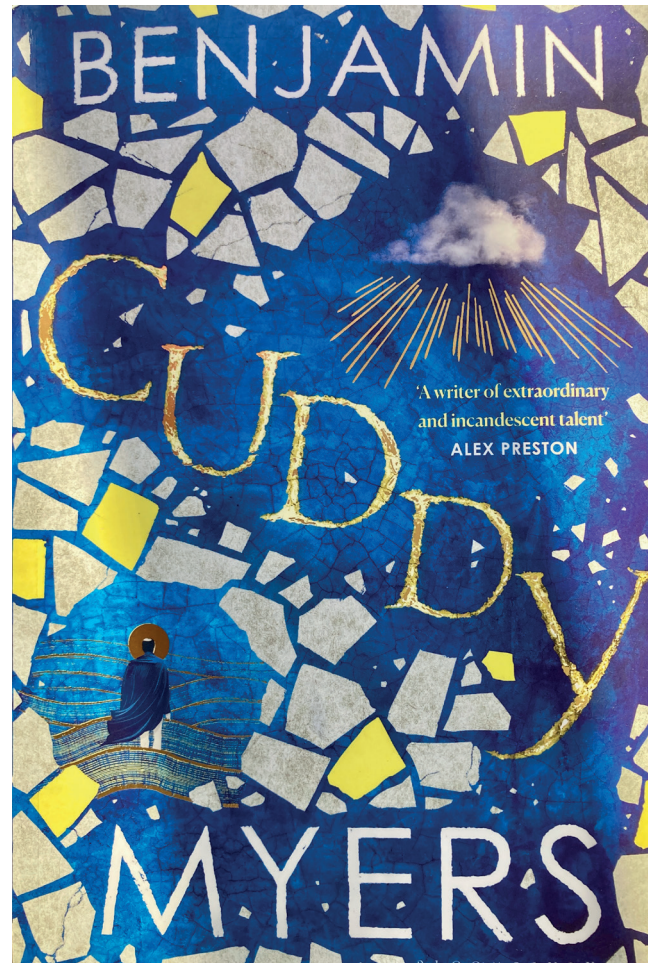
CUDDY

BY BENJAMIN MYERS

We met in January to review 'Cuddy' by Benjamin Myers (Goldsmiths Prize winner 2023). Cuddy tells the story of the hermit St. Cuthbert, unofficial patron saint of the North of England, a shepherd boy born in the Border country who rose to become Prior of Melrose Abbey and ended his life as a hermit on a tiny, inhospitable island off the coast of Northumbria. The novel is divided into four books which cover four significant centuries in the life and legacy of St Cuthbert and his final resting place, Durham Cathedral. The prologue and first book set in the 7th Century is told by Ediva, an orphan taken in by and travelling with the monks as healer, cook and helper. The second book, set in the 14th century when Durham Cathedral has been completed, focuses on Eda, wife of a champion archer and abusive husband, who meets one of the stonemasons working on the cathedral. The interlude depicts the cathedral's history as a prison for the Scottish PoWs in the 17th century. The third book is set in the 19th century when an Oxford history professor is asked to witness the exhumation of Cuthbert's tomb. This project has disastrous consequences for the historian who is haunted by many of the characters from earlier sections. The final book, set in the current day, follows Michael Cuthbert, a teenager living with his dying mother. He is offered work at the cathedral supporting a group of stonemasons repairing the tower. Here he finds a sense of connection with his personal history and unrecognised heritage which combine to reveal opportunities and experiences not previously realised by him.

The group recognised the excellent writing in this novel and the extensive research that the author had undertaken. The individual stories whilst self-contained are also linked by some interesting devices. For example, the narrative changed to reflect the era that the story had moved into; the character "owl eyes" appears throughout and each section featured a woman as a central character with a similar name and role. The 19th century historian's journal has been found, preserved and is referenced in the final story set in the 20th century.

Many of the group were irritated by some of the formatting gimmicks, particularly at the start which did not help provide coherence to this section. These formatting techniques also disadvantaged those who used non paper versions. The group agreed that this book was one that needed to be read in the paper version and given time and focus to appreciate the variety and styles of writing. As an introduction to St



Cuthbert and these periods of history, this was a delight to read. The novel also provided a positive view of the effect that working in a cathedral has on individuals and all members of the group recognised the beauty of Myers writing. It is a book which many of the group will return to and re-read in the future.

In February the Group will review Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus which tells the story of the chemist Elizabeth Zott. Set in the early 1960s she works as a research chemist and her all-male team take a very unscientific view of equality. The exception is Calvin Evans who falls in love with her but the relationship does not last and in a change of career she becomes the host of a cooking show on TV where she does more than just teach women to cook.

If you would like to find out more about the group please contact Hilary Smith
Email: hilary.smith@xtranex.co.uk
Mobile: 07786 073220

News from the Edwards Woodland



Visitors to the wood over the winter will have noticed that a certain amount of tree clearance has taken place in several areas. This work is part of our management plan to ensure the future healthy growth of the wood and is done under licence from the years ago was very successful, with virtually all the tree plantings having survived. The wood is now at the stage where some trees need to be thinned in order to promote the healthy full development of others. Unfortunately, large numbers of the ash have succumbed to ash dieback disease, so a lot of these have been felled, leaving some stumps and stacked logs and brash in piles for the benefit of insects and fungi. Some of the other tree species are also being taken out, especially where these are not doing well or are limited by overcrowding. All this will open up glades and allow more light to reach the ground, which in time will benefit from an improved flora too.

We are very grateful to our volunteers who have turned out for the work parties to assist in tidying up after the tree thinning and always welcome anyone who is willing to lend a hand at future work parties which will be advertised in advance.

As we move out of winter into early spring it is always a thrill to spot the first insects and flowers to emerge.

The winter parties of Fieldfares and Redwings (see front cover), which sometimes use the wood for roosting, will be returning to their Scandinavian lands for breeding. Listen out too for the first Chiffchaffs, which are one of the first returning birds, belting out their namesake calls from the tops of the trees, and also Great Tits (see front cover) and Blue Tits will be more noticeable as they call and flit through the canopy foraging for small insects and spiders.

Queen Buff-tailed Bumblebees will also be on the wing, flying low over the ground seeking out suitable nest sites in which to establish their new colonies. Although at present there are not a lot of spring flowers to be seen at the wood, the pale lilac flowers of Ground Ivy are one of the first to provide vital nectar and pollen sources for the early bees, appearing in March.

Do take a walk through the wood and let me know of any interesting wildlife sightings that you make. As the days lengthen, the numbers of visible wildlife will really ramp up!

Val Perrin
Trustee
(valperrin@aol.com)

Cambridge Festival Family Weekend

23–24 March 2024

Join Cambridge Festival for a free weekend of talks, workshops and hands-on activities for the whole family! From Amazing Animals to Romani storytelling, from bubble science to virtual reality; this is a weekend full of ideas to spark your curiosity and imagination.

<https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/events>

#WWND — What Would Nature Do?

An Imaginarium Takeover of King's College Sat 23 Mar 2–Sun 24 Mar 2024



NATURE has been regenerating itself over billions of years with ecosystems constantly recycling, reusing, repairing and adapting in a circular system. Our current ways of living however, depend on a linear model of consumption where we take → use → and dispose of precious resources. This, and our pursuit of endless growth are putting the natural world, upon which we all depend, under extreme stress.

Join us to:

REIMAGINE in a wondrous, creative space hosted by CCI (Cambridge Curiosity & Imagination) and community artist Hilary Cox Condron. You'll get hands-on and marvel at the balance in nature through art activities and soundscapes.

CONNECT in the sustainable living advice hub where we'll support you to root your hopes and ideas in practical action. Local experts promoting circular and sustainable living around Cambridgeshire will be on hand for 1:1 chats and activities. This Hub is supported by Cambridge City Council.

REGENERATE at our two Repair Cafes get your broken items fixed for free at events that match those with broken stuff with people that can fix it. From Mon 12th Feb you'll be able to book in your broken and worn toys and accessories, kid's bikes, clothes and dressing up costumes, electricals and all sorts of household items for repair. There will be some drop-ins available on the day. The Repair Cafes will run Sat 23rd 10am – 2pm and Sun 24th 1pm – 4pm.

PINK BIN DIVE a guided sessions for children to dismantle discarded electrical items, explore and repurpose their components. Drop in between 2.30pm – 4pm on Sat and 11am – 12:30pm Sunday. The 11am Pink Bin Dive on Sunday will be part of the Access Hour.

For more information: <https://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/events/cambridge-festival-repair-cafe/>



Extract from an online map showing key village landmarks which is maintained by the Parish Council. Footpaths on the map are not definitive, the online version will be updated over time.