

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter January 2023

Coffee and Chat!

Friday 6th January 10:30am to 12:30pm
at All Saints Church, Campton



Trugs & Trowels Gardening Club
Monday 9th January 7:30pm
at Campton Village Hall

Keep Warm in the Hall

Thursday 12th Jan 10:30am to 12:30pm
at Campton Village Hall



Peal attempt by visiting band

Thursday 19th January - 10am to 1pm approx
at All Saints Church, Campton

Welcome to the Campton & Chicksands Newsletter
published by the Parish Council
www.camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk
If you have any news or views you wish to share
please contact the Editor, Liz Bishop - details on back page



Thank you for supporting your 2022 Christmas Festival

The weather outside was truly frightful - cold, frosty, and foggy, but the village was beautifully decorated, with 12 households taking part. Many thanks to everyone who decorated a door, window or tree this year. You have done your part in helping to raise our community spirit, as well as **raising over £800**, to be **shared between All Saints Church and Motor Neurone Disease Association**.

The Church was a hive of activity and a slightly warmer refuge from the cold outside. Thank you to everyone who made cakes, refreshments, donated tombola prizes and items for the sealed bids. All were very much appreciated. And thanks go to those of you who ventured out in the freezing weather to make this event such a success.

The refreshments stall did a roaring trade. Mulled wine and cakes were especially well received. The Tombola stall, tucked into the Choir stalls, was a treasure trove of prizes and many people won.

Well done and thanks to all those involved, the organising group, and all the volunteers.



Image: Caroline Greet

Christmas Festival cont.



Images: Caroline Greet

Congratulations to the winners of the competition, who were:

Adult

- Door - 43 Rectory Road
- Window - 10 Greenway
- Tree – 59 Greenway

Child

- Door - Campton Academy
- Window - 19 Gravenhurst Rd
- Tree - 12 Greenway

Karen Mangold's beautiful painting, Penny Mitchell's rather nice bottle of champagne, Roger's Bakery Dundee cake, and Groove Armada's child's ski jacket, all raised funds through sealed bids. Thank you for your support.

Our **thanks for support and tombola prizes** go to:

Parrish's
The White Hart Pub
Campton Clinic
G&M Growers
White Rooms
Yoga with Rick

Kate Byrne pilates
Angela Pearls reiki/
yoga
Trugs and Trowels
Gardening Club

and all those in the
Community who gifted
prizes.

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

The Parish Council held their most recent meeting on 1st December 2022. We really hope that, after the previous two years, you have all managed to share a lovely and healthy Christmas with family and friends.

The Parish Council discussed and agreed the budget at the December meeting for the 2023/24 financial year. Due to an increase in charges by several of our service providers the Councillors have agreed that an increase in the precept was necessary. The increase in minimum wage, fuel and energy costs are unfortunately having an impact on everyone. We have also agreed a small increase to fund the Joint burial Board for the ongoing maintenance and works at the cemetery, agreeing to put any projects there on hold for the moment. Overall, the increase will be £4.10 per annum to the average band D property, this will cover the projected Parish Council budget for the year. The Parish Council do have reserves which will be used to progress a range of projects in the coming year.

The Parish Council have received the Hedgehog Highway surrounds and have started to distribute them to residents. If you would like one for your garden, please do contact me. Hedgehogs have been on the decline, and it is thought that they prefer villages gardens to open farmland and particularly like hedgerows, these Hedgehog Highways encourage them into your garden and allow free movement to neighbouring gardens or green spaces. Please be mindful when using pesticides or treatments in your garden to check there are no hedgehogs able to gain access and be careful when using strimmer's to ensure there are none hiding in long grass and dried leaves.

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) have been awarded £2.9million to improve energy efficiency in homes, money will be available to those on an income of less than £30,000 and to those on Income support or benefits.

The CBC website has been restructured to make it more user friendly and to allow residents access a wider range of services. The website also highlights support available for households struggling with the rise in the cost of living. CBC will continue to offer meals out of term time to those children eligible to free school meals. £400,000 is available to support the food banks across CBC. Additional funding has also been made available to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

The CBC New Homes grant funding has also been set aside from the main baseline budget as is being used to support those struggling with the cost of living.

CBC have been selected by Government to be involved with a Pathway Project with Community Energy South. CBC are now looking at ways to engage with Communities to identify potential projects.

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council cont.

CBC have installed new bike repair stations for residents to use in different locations across the area, as part of a project of wider improvements to cycling infrastructure.

Working in partnership with bicycle storage solution company Turvec, the first round of installations has been completed at the following locations:

The Dunstable Centre
Rushmere Park
Houghton Regis Leisure Centre
Houghton Hall Park
Tiddenfoot Leisure Centre (Leighton Buzzard)
Priory House (Chicksands)
Marston Forest Centre (Marston Moreteyne)

Each repair station contains a stand to mount a bike on, an integrated multi-valve pump and a series of tools, such as screwdrivers, spanners, hex keys, and tyre levers. These allow cyclists to make minor repairs on the go, such as inflating flat tyres, replacing inner tubes, raising seat heights and other adjustments, and are also available for users of wheelchairs and prams to use, if needed. More information can be found by visiting:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/news/article/859/new_bike_repair_stations_open_for_use

The Joint Burial Board recently had surveys carried out at the All Saints graveyard of the trees and the wall that runs along the boundary with the neighbouring property in Greenway. Both require some attention and signs will be placed along that boundary wall. Please be careful when visiting the graveyard until we can arrange for appropriate works to be completed.

One last request to dog owners. The Parish Council have recently been notified of an increase in dog fouling at the Recreation Ground. Can we please ask that owners walking dogs at the ground please be considerate of other users of the Rec. Thank you.

The Parish Council wish all our residents a very Happy New Year and would like to thank all those that organised and participated in the recent All Saints Christmas Festival. It was a really festive weekend.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 5th January 2023 7.00pm in Campton Village Hall.

Clerk to the Parish Council, Tammy Medley: Tel 01908 505558 / 07955 521174
tammy.medley@btinternet.com <https://camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk/>

News from the Pews

Thank you to everyone for joining us in our services and festivities as we approach Christmas.

The Christingle Service was a beautiful celebration of light, at which the congregation gave to a special collection for the Children's Society. The children's carol service, this year held at the school, because of the snow, was, as usual, delightful. And there were so many wonderful entries to the Christmas Festival, our very own special winter spectacle, which raised funds for Motor Neurone Disease Research as well as for the church. This giving, along with our brilliant Rockin' the Aisles (thanks to all who organised the event and took part), means our community continues to help to secure the future of our church building. Watch out for upcoming community events.

After Christmas we are resuming Coffee and Chat. The next will be from 10.30 till 12.00 on Friday 6th of January and continuing on the first Friday of every month, apart from August.

And as we remember, especially at this time, those who are suffering hardship or sorrow, we must also take care to cherish happiness for ourselves and those who are dear to us. Have a safe and loving New Year.

Beth Sullivan Ash 07523 079507 and Audrey Brand 01462 850001
Rector: The Revd Roni Goodman 01462 339962 / 07533 376880
The Rectory, Church Road, Meppershall, SG17 5NA ronigoodman@gmail.com
Website: <https://churchofallsaintscampton.com/>



Image: Dave Baker

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club



The first gardening club of 2023 will be Monday 9th January at 7:30pm for our new membership year and a mini quiz.

I look forward to welcoming you back for a new year filled with anticipation of great things to come. We shall be discussing your plans for planting and preparation we are putting in place.

Maryika, 01462 851729

News from the Tower

'RING FOR THE KING' is a national bellringing initiative aimed at securing and teaching more ringers. We want to develop our ringing team at Campton by teaching new ringers and involving local people to come forward to learn to ring. Remember that Coronation on May 6 2023! It takes 6-8 weekly sessions to learn to ring or we can fast track faster learners!

Bellringing is a popular hobby as well as a service to our village. It has been practiced for over 300 years in 5000 churches and by 30,000 bellringers in the UK. Anyone between the age of 10 and 80 can learn to ring and Campton's light and easy-to-ring bells are ideal to learn on. Bellringing is not done by 'other people' but by normal people like us!

If you'd like to learn more about learning to ring please join us on a Tuesday evening 7.30pm to 9.00pm at All Saints Church, Campton or contact me, John Loveless, on 07803 206161 or email jlloveless5040@outlook.com

There will be a peal attempt at All Saints, Campton on Thursday January 19, 10am to 1pm approx.

Campton Village Hall

Following feedback from hall users we are offering further Warm Spaces dates in 2023. Do come and join us for a drink, conversation, friendship and a warm space to relax. Our next date is Thursday 12th January between 10:30pm and 12:30pm.

We are still looking for a **new Bookings Secretary** for our Village Hall. If you feel you would like to take on this role or discuss it in further detail please do get in touch.

Please contact us by phone: 07526 797944 or by email: camptonvh@outlook.com
<https://camptonandchicksands-pc.gov.uk/village-hall/whats-on/>

Rock'n the Aisles



Thank you to everyone who came and supported our Annual "Rock'in the Aisles" on 26th November at All Saints Church, but most especially RF2 who were brilliant and got everyone up and dancing in the aisles. A fantastic £1,663 was raised to fund the upkeep of our 13th church.
Joy & Steve Curtis



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DECEMBER WINNERS:

1st (£35) - No. 70 - J Westgarth

2nd (£25) - No. 49 - C Brown

3rd (£15) - No. 44 - D Maggs

DECEMBER BONUS (£60) - No. 71 - S Hayhurst

Items for the next Newsletter must be submitted to the Editor, Liz Bishop no later than 15th January 2023
Email: candcnewsletter@gmail.com Tel: 01462 819058