

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter February 2023

Coffee and Chat!

Friday 3rd February 10:30am to 12:00pm
at All Saints Church, Campton



Trugs & Trowels Gardening Club
Monday 6th February 7:30pm
at Campton Village Hall

"Ring for the King"

Details on page 8
at All Saints Church, Campton



Peal attempt by visiting band
Friday 10th February - 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

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council

The Parish Council held their most recent meeting on 5th January.

Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) are looking to make a nil increase on the Council Tax for the forthcoming financial year. They are planning an additional £5 million for Childcare, Special Educational Needs (SEN) provision and Children's Services. £1 million for leisure centres. £475 million will be spent on services, including 315 million on Highways. By increasing efficiency CBC have reduced costs by £9.5 million to allow for a nil increase. CBC have started the proposed Budget Consultation process, details available online:

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/141/budget/1304/budget_2023-2024

Clerk has hard copies of the CBC Budget proposals, which Cllr Booton will place in the church. The Police and Crime Commissioner is suggesting an increase to the precept of £15 a year, this will amount to 28p per week for a Band D property.

A contractor has been appointed for construction of the new the Steppingley Crematorium; it will be built on the old hospital site.

The Ward Cllrs have granted some of their additional funding to the Shefford Warm Places scheme, offering residents a hot drink, biscuits and a warm place to go, this is open to residents of Campton and Chicksands. £2000 was awarded to support this scheme and to give out comfort bags. The warm places are open to all residents of Campton and Chicksands and details can be found on the Parish Council noticeboards, Facebook and on the website.

The underpass to Shefford has recently been flooded, this has been caused by leaves blocking the drains, CBC have now cleared the drains and hopefully this will resolve the problem. If you spot a Highways issue when you are out,

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council cont.

then they can be reported via Fix My Street on the CBC website or forward the details to me, and I can look into it.

<https://fixmystreet.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/>

The Campton & Shefford Joint Burial Board are obtaining quotes and advice from planning officers at Central Bedfordshire Council for repairs to the wall that runs along the All Saints Church boundary. Orange netting and warning signs have been placed on the boundary wall, please be careful when visiting this part of the graveyard until we can arrange the necessary works.

The Parish Council have agreed on a quote for a new climbing wall at the Campton Recreation ground and hope that the contractor will be able to install the equipment in the next couple of months. I am sure the children of the parish will be excited to play on this new equipment. Our Ward Councillors, Cllr Tony Brown and Cllr Mark Liddiard have both donated £500 from their Ward Councillor Grant monies towards the project, we are very grateful for their donation. The remainder of the project has been funded by S106 money and by the Parish Council.

A recent request went out via the Newsletter for volunteers to help in planning local arrangements to celebrate the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing commitments of our Parish Councillors, and a lack of residents available to help, it was agreed that there will be no celebrations planned by the Parish Council.

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 2nd February 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/>

Campton Village Hall

Our first Warm Space session was well attended however our second was quieter. If you would like to see these sessions continue please do get in touch to suggest timings that would suit you. Perhaps a weekend at 4pm is a better suggestion? We would be happy to hear your ideas!

Bookings are continuing to increase for weekdays which is wonderful news however there are still spaces for you to hold your weekend parties and family get-togethers so please do get in touch and use your local village hall and the fabulous space available.



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/>



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

JANUARY WINNERS:

1st (£35) - No. 91 - D Addison
2nd (£25) - No. 145 - G Parrish
3rd (£15) - No. 60 - J Humphrys

News from the Pews

We hope everyone had a Healthy and Holy Christmas and New Year. Thanks to everyone who supported our services in December. We had over 110 children and adults attend our Nine Lessons and Carols Service on Christmas Eve. Thank you especially to the choir who helped raise the roof with their joyous singing! It was wonderful to resume services after a two year absence due to lock down.

A very big thank you to you all for your very generous donations to the Need Project over Christmas. You have donated ten reverse advent calendar boxes, now being distributed by the Project. We still deliver our regular weekly donations to the Project on Wednesdays, so if you would like to donate there is a box in the church porch from which there is a regular collection. We are in need of volunteers to assist in this during 2023, so if you can help please contact us.

Our monthly Coffee and Chat was held on Friday 6th January, and a healthy number attended despite the weather. It is held on the first Friday of the month (except for August), between 10.30-12, and we hope to see you on Friday 3rd February. Huge thanks to the 2022 volunteers, whose splendid work raised funds for a variety of charities and for the church. If you would like to make new friends or meet up with old friends then do come along. And if you can help, we still need volunteers to ensure it continues.

Our church services are on Sundays at 11.15, but a reminder that the service on 29th January is a Benefice Service at St Mary's, Meppershall at 10.30 am.

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/>

News from the Tower

Please see the "Ring for the King" feature on the back page - this is a national bellringing recruiting initiative associated with the Coronation of King Charles the III on May 6th 2023, little more than three months away, aimed at teaching more ringers for the future beyond May 2023. At Campton we want to develop our ringing team by teaching new ringers from the local area.

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 jloveless5040@outlook.com

There will be a peal attempt by a local Bedfordshire band at All Saints, Campton on Friday February 10, 10am to 1pm approx. This will mark 50 years as a bellringer for one of the band!

CAMPTON - WANDERBUS



Revised Timetable - valid from 5th March 2023

Bookings & Info Tel: 0300-123-3023

www.wanderbus.org.uk e-mail : thewanderbus@gmail.com

A regular bus service open to all. Cash Fares & Travel Passes accepted on all routes.

As from 5th March 2023

W3S BIGGLESWADE

"Stops at all Bus Stops on Request"

- Every Monday OUT RETURN

Greenway – all stops 09.16 RR

Opp Church 09.17 RR

A1 Retail Park 10.05 12.10

Station / High St., Town Centre 10.10

Sainsbury's – on request only 10.15 12.00

Pick Up – Church St – bus stop o/s Asda 12.05

W6 CAMBRIDGE

- 4th Wednesday of Month

o/s Church 08.45 RR

Greenway – all stops 08.46 RR

Downing St – o/s John Lewis 10.05 14.05

W12B HITCHIN

- Every Tuesday OUT RETURN

Greenway – all stops 09.18 RR

Opp Church 09.19 RR

Hitchin - Bancroft 10.05 12.10

W14 WELWYN GARDEN CITY

- 1st Thursday of Month OUT RETURN

Greenway – all stops 08.48 RR

Opp Church 08.49 RR

Welwyn – Bus Station 10.00 12.15

Drivers will stop at all recognised bus stops and also will stop wherever it is safe and legal to do so. Please give a clear signal to the driver as the bus approaches.

EXCURSIONS – BOOKINGS ONLY

4TH THURSDAY OF MONTH - RING FOR DESTINATION DETAILS & BOOKINGS or EMAIL

thewanderbus@gmail.com

Only Cash Fares for excursions - no travel passes can be accepted for excursions

16 Seater Buses available for PRIVATE HIRE to schools, clubs etc. Call for details for details

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club

January gardening club was a great start to 2023 and a test for the memory with the collective nouns and also welcome for our newest member. Although the winters weather has now arrived it's not all doom and gloom.

Astronomically the first day of spring is marked by the spring Equinox, which falls on the 19th, 20th or 21st of March every year. The word Equinox comes from the Latin words for "equal night" on this day the two halves day and night are near equal. It is encouraging to think spring is only 2 months away and we welcome longer days again.

Meanwhile there are lots of jobs to be getting on with:

- Ordering your seeds is a must before the popular ones sell out being mindful of hotter dry summers.
- Getting your sweet peas started and remember to soak your seed overnight.
- Top dress your roses and dig in lots of manure throughout your garden.
- Pruning wisteria, fruit trees like apple and pear, and roses.
- Avoid pruning Deutzia, Star Magnolias and plum trees.
- It can be very windy so secure and stake tender plants and trees.
- Chit your first early potatoes, sow chillies, aubergines, and a variety of flower seeds remembering what's well suited to hot summers. Nice clean pots, good compost and the three most important things - give them the right amount of heat, light and moisture and your onto a winner!

RSPB birdwatch details are on their website, get yourself involved. Remember to break ice and provide water, clean seed feeders and enjoy your visitors.

At our next gardening club held on February 6th we welcome a Campton resident as speaker talking about, "my childhood on a private estate, Ayot St.Peters Hertfordshire.

I look forward to seeing you all at Trugs and Trowels 6th February 7.30pm at Campton Village Hall. We shall also have the monthly raffle and a free and swap table.

Maryika,
01462 851729

Wintering

You may think yourself lazy, or flawed. Yet your body is made of almost exactly the same elements as the stars. Your bone composition matches the coral in the seas and you, my friend, are ruled by the moon and the sun. Whether you like it or not. So no, you are not lazy, Nature is simply pulling you to slow, like the life, floral and fauna around you. It is not your moment to rise. It is winter, you are **wintering**. And you are right on time.



Donna Ashworth



Could this be the perfect activity for you?

Bell Ringing at Campton is **fun** and ...

- ❖ for **young people** (10yrs+) and **adults** of all ages
- for individuals, couples or the whole family! It's for people of all faiths or none, and you don't need to be musical, mathematical or strong
- ❖ a gentle **workout** - physical exercise with mental stimulation, burns calories, tones muscles and relieves stress
- ❖ an easy way to make **friends** - enjoy social activities and be part of a team and community
- ❖ full of **variety** - a centuries old skill using new technology, with endless options and places to visit
- ❖ part of our **community's soundscape** - ringing on Sunday mornings and for weddings and national events
- ❖ the ultimate **Heavy Metal** - church bells are the loudest and heaviest musical instruments in the world ... and they're metal!

Come and join **Campton's friendly team of bellringers** and **learn to ring with experienced tutors**

at **All Saints, Campton**
on **Tuesday evenings, 19:00-21:00**

Or for **more information** contact
John Loveless jloveless5040@outlook.com
07803206161



Now is the ideal time to learn to ring
(or to come back to ringing, if you've rung before!)
so that you can be one of the 20,000 bell ringers across the country
ringing for the coronation of King Charles III

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