

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council Newsletter

March 2024

Coffee and Chat

Friday 1st March 10:30am - 12 noon
at All Saints Church, Campton



Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club

Monday 4th March - 7:30pm
at Campton Village Hall



Parish Council Meeting - all welcome

Thursday 7th March 7:00pm
at Campton Village Hall



Campton Quiz - all welcome

Saturday 9th March 7:15pm
at All Saints Church, Campton



Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Ringers

Friday 22nd March - 2.30pm to 5.30pm 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 1st February 2024. The meeting was attended by Ward Councillor Mark Liddiard.

The Central Bedfordshire Council (CBC) consultation regarding the relocation of the 30mph sign/zone at the Gravenhurst Road approach to Campton village has now ended. Thank you to all residents that took the time to respond, all responses were supportive of the proposal and CBC have agreed that the 30mph zone should start by the entrance to Campton Court at the start of the village. We hope that this will slow down traffic before the sharp bend and help prevent accidents. CBC do not have a confirmed date for the works, but we are hoping that it will be in the next few months.

Public participation focused on parking issues on Gravenhurst Road and around the centre of the village; with queries also relating to local traffic surveys.

There is little news regarding the reserved matters application for the development on Greenway; the planning officer is still engaged in discussion with the developer, and there are no indications re: timescales on application outcomes.

The Joint Burial Board have agreed on a contractor to carry out the works to the cordoned off wall at the Churchyard in Campton; the contractor hopes to start work at the end of March/beginning of April. Once the works are complete the orange screening mesh and signs will be removed. Thank you for your patience whilst this renovation work is undertaken.

The Parish Council have recently been looking at improving accessibility on pavements in Campton village, particularly for wheelchair, mobility scooter and buggy users; some of our pavements are quite narrow. Cllrs would like to thank all those residents that regularly keep their roadside hedges trimmed back or have responded to recent Parish Council requests. It does make a difference in terms of accessibility. Cllrs will continue to monitor accessibility concerns.

Campton & Chicksands Parish Council cont.

The Parish Council have no further news on our plans to acquire some meadow land to the rear of the Recreation Ground to improve the availability of publicly accessible greenspace; we do however continue to explore several funding options with some urgency.

There is a growing local interest in the future of the military base at Chicksands and the Parish Council is keen to be involved in any early discussions regarding the future of the site as closure is planned. Our interest will relate to planning, housing and facilities, including sports facilities; and perhaps most importantly how the important heritage, kitchen garden and parklands of the site can best be protected for the future.

The dates of the next 2 meetings are Thursday 7th March and our Annual Parish Meeting on Thursday 4th April which will be followed by a full council meeting. Both meetings will start at 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/>



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

MARCH WINNERS:

1st (£35) - No. 113 - M Crawley
2nd (£25) - No. 72 - D Baker
3rd (£15) - No. 122 - M Carpenter

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

APRIL WINNERS:

1st (£35) - No. 83 - F Tribbeck
2nd (£25) - No. 63 - L Eckert
3rd (£15) - No. 108 - S Kitely

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SPRING BONUS WINNER:

No. 83 - F Tribbeck



Hedgehog Highway Project

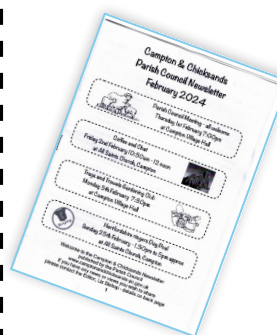
Do you have Hedgehogs in your garden? Would you like to help these Hedgehogs to flourish locally? The Parish Council is supporting Hedgehog conservation in our parish and has purchased several Hedgehog Highway Surrounds that are now available to residents on request.

What is a Hedgehog Highway? A Hedgehog Highway is a 5-inch gap in a fence or wall allowing access for Hedgehogs. These gaps are becoming essential in the battle to conserve our endangered spiky friends. A Hedgehog Highway allows hedgehogs to forage more widely for food, meet mates to breed and access more nesting sites.

Why should I install a Hedgehog Highway Surround? The Hedgehog Highway surrounds look super cute, they raise awareness to hedgehogs' struggle for survival, they create a talking point and encourage others to create a highway of their own and take part in the project.

Why not talk to your neighbours about creating a Hedgehog Highway? If you would like to obtain a Hedgehog Highway Surround with an information leaflet, please contact the Parish Clerk (Tel: 01908 505558) who will tell you when and where you may collect one. Initially, these surrounds will be limited to one per household until we have ascertained demand.

Could you deliver the Parish Council Newsletter to Chicksands Private?



The Parish Council is looking for one or two volunteers to deliver the Newsletter to homes at Chicksands, usually during the last week of each month. To find out more please contact the Newsletter Editor, Liz Bishop by email candnewsletter@gmail.com or our Parish Clerk, Tammy by phone 01908 505558.

Your help would be gratefully received.

Thank you.

Campton Quiz Night

Saturday 9 March

7.15pm for 7.30pm start

All Saints Church, Campton

Teams of 4/6 (£4 a person).

Bring your own drink and nibbles.

Tickets available from paulbooton10@btinternet.com or at the door!

News from the Tower

There is much training of new ringers learning to ring at Campton on Tuesday evenings. The February Bedfordshire Young Ringers practice was a little low on numbers but high on enthusiasm and cake eating ability! Their next practice will be at All Saints Church Campton on Sunday March 17, 2.30pm - 4.30pm.

We will be entering the National Youth Contest in London on Saturday July 6, a great day out for young ringers and their families. We would love to see some resident Campton youngsters (age 9+) coming forward to check out ringing with a view to getting selected in the team. Pop into a Sunday Young Ringers practice or Campton's Tuesday practice - see below.

There will be a peal attempt at Campton on Friday March 22, 2:30pm - 5:30pm approx. We will be hosting the Peterborough Diocesan Guild of Ringers, celebrating their centenary in 2024.

STILL YOUR TURN TO LEARN?

We still need to teach more ringers.

How about if it were YOU that came forward to learn? Bellringing is about acquiring a centuries old skill that's part of the fabric of our community and is it's loudest noise. Teamwork and fellowship goes with it and bellringers are part of the wide church community, performing in the oldest and most fantastic building in our village. People from age 8 to age 80 are bellringers!

To learn more please join us on a Tuesday evening 7.30pm to 9.00pm at All Saints Church Campton or contact any of our ringers or me, John Loveless, on 07803 206161 or email jloveless5040@outlook.com

Trugs and Trowels Gardening Club

Here we are at the end of February with multiple winter months behind us - hooray bright days full of promise ahead.

Flowers can lift everyone within seconds mood boosting and supercharge your happiness levels, you just have to see anyone receiving a bouquet to know that. A Japanese study pre-covid to test the effects on workers having flowers in the office, one office given a vase of roses and the other not exposed to flowers. The test results showed those exposed exhibited lower heart rates and were feeling more comfortable and relaxed. We all feel a little lifted by a glimpse of daffodils on the roadside and during the winter months the sight of a clutch of snowdrops alone shivering in the wind. Tiny heads held high are a reminder of how hard the world can be - and how tough we need to be to survive it.

Gardening for health, mind and body has been a part of life for thousands of years and has had influence worldwide in every aspect of life and death. Flowers giving wellbeing for thousands of years not just birthdays, valentines, get wells. The language of flowers never more evident than in Victorian times, etiquette, and secret silent messages; flowers held in the right hand means yes and left hand no being one of them. Carnation meaning I'll never forget you, peony for remembering and crimson roses for mourning. Birth flowers originated from Roman times, March being Daffodil. The belief was certain flowers bring love and protection. The Romans also presented and dressed alters of the gods, gave flowers as presents and many Roman floral designs are visible today in the arts such as religious decorations, paintings and decorative architecture.

Charles Darwin dedicated to his learnings lost himself in the living world. He talked about flowers and their rapid conquest being an "abominable mystery". Flowers evolved so late yet still able to take over from the more ancient seed bearing pines and cycads. Flowering plants today account for 9 out of every 10 plants, they far outnumber dominant seed plants which emerged millions of years ago. Enjoy and continue to be uplifted, we all benefit immensely from nature.

We welcome Peta from Saxongate Flowers at our 4th March gardening club talking Dalias. Please come along 7.30pm Campton Village Hall, all welcome. A few places are left for the brilliant Thriplow daffodil weekend trip on 17th March from church corner. Please contact me to book. Items always welcome for our free and swap table pots, plants, tools. Raffle also held!

Maryika Wilding
01462 851729

Village Hall Booking Secretary required

The Village Hall Management Committee are looking for a new Booking Secretary to start by December 2024.

The role involves responding to enquiries, maintaining the booking calendar, requesting & receiving payments and enabling access to the hall for one-off bookings. Our regular bookings have keys for ease of access. Over the last 6 years our current Booking Secretary has refined the role to be as easy for them and potential hirers. You would be welcome to make further improvements agreed by the committee. We hold a committee meeting every 2 months.

We would love to hear from you if you are keen to support your local community facility. If you would like more information or to discuss the role in more detail please contact us: camptonvh@outlook.com



A regular bus service open to everyone.

Cash fares and concessionary travel passes accepted. Travel to:

Biggleswade every Monday @09:16 Greenway - all stops

Hitchin every Tuesday @09:18 Greenway - all stops

Cambridge on the 4th Wednesday of the Month

@08:46 Greenway - all stops

Welwyn Garden City on the 1st Thursday of the Month

@08:48 Greenway - all stops

Monthly excursions take place on the 4th Thursday of the month, please contact Wanderbus for more details.

Forthcoming trips include:

25th April - Bury Lane Garden Centre

23rd May - Wimpole Hall and Gardens

27th June - Kelmarsh Hall and Gardens

25th July - Elton Hall and Gardens

22nd August - Stowe House and Gardens

Tel: 0300 123 3023

www.wanderbus.org.uk

e-mail: thewanderbus@gmail.com

News from the Pews

A big thank you to Audrey for running our monthly coffee morning in February! It had a Valentines theme! Charles and I will be running the next one on March 1st: 10.30-12.

Lent lasts from 14th February to 31st March for 2024. Our Easter Service will be as usual at 11.15 am.

If anyone would like to know more about this season in the church then The Church of England offers "Watch and Pray" where you can have daily reflections delivered free to you phone or other device.

"Watch and Pray challenges us to seek God in both familiar and unfamiliar places: in darkness and in quiet; in movement and migration; in the healing and transforming work of the Spirit; in the weeping of Holy Week and in the joy of Easter morning." Archbishops Justin Welby and Stephen Cottrell

<https://www.churchofengland.org/faith-calling/what-we-believe/lent-holy-week-and-easter/watch-and-pray-resources-lent-2024>

Please try and support our Campton Quiz night at church on Saturday 9 March. 7.15pm for 7.30pm start.

Teams of 4/6 (£4 a person). Bring your own drink and nibbles.

Tickets available from paulbooton10@btinternet.com or at the door!

Church Warden: Beth Sullivan Ash 07523 079507

Rector: The Revd Roni Goodman 01462 339962 / 07533 376880

The Rectory, Church Road, Meppershall, SG17 5NA ronigoodman@gmail.com

Website: <https://churchofallsaintscampton.com/>

Items for the next Newsletter must be submitted to the Editor, Liz Bishop no later than 15th March 2024
Email: candcnewsletter@gmail.com