

# June 2020

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AND DIARY OF EVENTS

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This magazine is produced by volunteers. Running costs are met by donations from organisations, generous readers and advertising revenue. The Management and Editorial Committee do not necessarily agree with, or support, the views expressed in this magazine.

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**Contributions for every edition must reach the Editors by the 15th of the previous month, e.g 15th February for March issue *UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED***

Handwritten/typed contributions are acceptable but emails are preferred (see above). Please send content to BOTH editors.

**Contact either editor to seek advice on the suitability of your input.**

### ADVERTISING

Email either Editor for advertising enquiries/ quotes

**MONDAY TO FRIDAY**

**between 9.30am—5.30pm**



# Dates for your Diary



## Future events

*Saturday August 29th* : Gt. Staughton Hort Soc Show

*Saturday September 19th* : St Andrews Church Fete (Page 12)

At the moment, there are no immediate dates for our diaries because we're all staying at home, protecting the NHS, and saving lives



### **Mobile Library Dates 2020 - every fourth Wednesday of the month**

24th June, 22nd July, 26th August, 23rd September, 28th October, 25th November, 23rd December (TBC)

### **Great Staughton Parish Council Meetings 2020:**

Parish Assembly 7 May (postponed), AGM 21 May (postponed), 2 July, 17 September, 19 November

**GREAT STAUGHTON PAVILION** : Ideal for children's parties, small committee meetings etc. Use of kitchen facilities. Direct access on to playing field in summer. Children's parties/meetings: £15 for a 3 hour session. Sports' use - cricket club & football club - £26 per session.

For information and booking, contact **Giles Britain –07740 647322**

**GREAT STAUGHTON VILLAGE HALL** : Need a venue for that special event:- parties, weddings, bring & buy sales? Modest rates, good facilities, easy parking.

For details, ring **Vicky Goldsmith : 07739 469243/01480 860005**

# Editorial Natter...

*Howdy,*

Can anyone actually keep up with what day it is? I know I'm struggling. For the first time ever I nearly missed the print deadline for the magazine, time really does seem to mean nothing during this lockdown.



The cover this month is a Social Distancing Street Party held in Manor Close in May, lovely community spirit. This edition is much smaller than usual, obviously there isn't much happening in or around the villages but we still do very much appreciate any content you can send in. We have an update about the St Andrews Church Fete which has had a date confirmed (Page 12) and it's really refreshing to see some dates being pencilled into the diary. Our treasurer Helen has sent in her Quarantine Routine this month, worth a read on Page 22.

I'd like to thank all our delivery volunteers for persevering through this pandemic and shoving us through your doors, your commitment is highly appreciated. Enough waffling from me, I'll see you all (perhaps out of lockdown, hopefully) in August.

*This issue was edited by Shaun*

## Great Staughton Parish Councillors

Robert Jewell (Chairman).....861259  
 Nicole Yates (Vice Chair).....860616  
 Helen Glanville.....07745 920214  
 Lorraine Goody.....07855 826096  
 Andrea Gilbert.....07818 453263  
 Giles Brittain.....07740 647322  
 Will Mumford.....07741 645345  
 Janet Bowen.....860472  
 David Moore.....861195  
 Jo Russel (Clerk).....860247  
 Email: [GtStaughtonParishClerk@outlook.com](mailto:GtStaughtonParishClerk@outlook.com)

**Minutes of meetings plus other useful information can be found on the village website:**  
**[greatstaughtonpc.org.uk](http://greatstaughtonpc.org.uk)**

## Perry Parish Councillors

Nigel Noon (Chairman).....810368  
 Sheila Brighton (Vice Chair).....819242  
 Emma Prew.....700952  
 Jason Harper.....07779 123125  
 Mark Fowler.....819312  
 Kay Darby (Clerk).....07899 000026  
 Clerk Email:

[clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk)

**Minutes of meetings can be found on the village website:**  
**[www.perryparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.perryparishcouncil.org.uk)**

### ***Small and medium sized businesses***

are invited to book a fully funded energy efficiency audit to help save money on their business energy bills.

The audits will look at current energy usage, which is a very real and rising cost within businesses, and make recommendations for how to cut this usage. Just 30 free audits are available on a first come-first served basis, and visits need to be undertaken by the end of February 2020. *The free audits have been made possible through funding from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).*

Businesses can sign up at [www.beecp.org/sign-up](http://www.beecp.org/sign-up) or call 01733 882549 to check eligibility and for further information

## **Monthly Coffee Mornings**



Great Staughton Village  
Hall 0:30 - midday

Sadly, because of the current health crisis and to comply with Church of England directives, we are obliged to suspend the monthly Tuesday coffee mornings for now.

We shall miss seeing all our friends but it is important that we all stay safe and well, and play our part in not spreading the virus. As soon as we can resume our meetings safely, we shall let you know!!

## ***Treasurers Corner***

*Hello,*



Obviously no Pots as I cannot go into the Post Office but hopefully it is receiving some donations in there for when I can. Stay safe everyone and keep clapping on Thursdays!

*Helen*

## **Did you know Great Staughton has a defibrillator?**

It's outside the village hall entrance. There is a towel to dry your patient and a razor to shave where the contact pads go.

It is alarmed which you need to ignore when you open it in an emergency. There is no code, it's always open (most have a code which you register with 999 so they can give it to a caller).

If in doubt, use it, it tells you exactly what to do, very clearly, it won't deliver a shock if one is not required.





## COMPUTING PROBLEMS?

Bytes Café is open 10am to 12-30pm on Mondays and Fridays in the Small Hall behind the Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton.

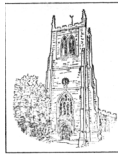
Our volunteers can help with your computing problems from the simplest to the more challenging.

We also print colour and black and white, enlarge A4 to A3 and laminate documents or posters at a reasonable price.

Drop by, have a coffee or tea, and see what is available.

### ***Sharnbrook Villager Minibus***

provides a service every 3rd Monday except bank holidays to Huntingdon & St.Ives via Kimbolton (09:48), Stonely (09:50), Gt Staughton (The Snooty Tavern 09:53) & Perry (The Wheatsheaf 09:56). Full details on website [www.sharnbrookvillagerminibus.co.uk](http://www.sharnbrookvillagerminibus.co.uk)  
Travel is free with bus pass.



## St Andrew's Church

100 Club Draw

### ***April 2020***

Prize	No	Name
£50.....	56.....	Geoff Gilbert
£25.....	8.....	Mrs Shelagh Doyle
£15.....	12.....	Mrs Jackie Wilkie
£10.....	34.....	Mrs L Rowe

***Congratulations to all the winners!***

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## Kym Valley Carpet Bowls

Gt Staughton Village Hall  
Club Nights - Tuesday and  
Friday - 7pm to 9.30pm

It seems likely that it will be several months before there is any action on the bowls carpets. So we just have to be patient and keep safe.

For more information call :  
**Anthony Withers - 01480 861224**  
**aw.staughton@gmail.com**



Great Staughton  
Family Play Time

Suggested  
donation  
£1 per child

## Friday

St Andrews Church, The  
Town, Gt Staughton

**9am - 10.30am**

Term-time only

## Playgroup

A fun, family-orientated  
playgroup run by St Andrew's  
Church and Piglets Preschool for  
children aged 0-5 years.

Join us for refreshments whilst the little ones play.

**Free-Play  
Stories**

**Activities  
Songs**



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OF ENGLAND



www.pigletspreschool.org.uk | www.greatstaughton.com/religion/church-of-st-andrews-great-staughton/

## Perry Coffee Morning

We meet in the Harbour  
View Restaurant at  
**10am every Tuesday**  
for tea, coffee, soft drinks  
and good chat.



We also play Bingo and have a raffle  
and usually finish around midday.

We have cars available if walking is  
too much We would love to see more  
people come. **Call Marjorie Smith**  
**on 01480 812243 or 07753 426**  
**823** for more details.

We aren't meeting at the moment  
due to the coronavirus lockdown but  
we'll keep you updated.

## West Hunts Friendship Club

**100 Club winners**

**May 2020**

No.	Name	Prize
33	Lesley Hynes	£50
3	Annabelle Blackham	£25
45	Ethel Puttock	£15
61	Margaret Emeleus	£10

***Congratulations to all the  
winners!***



## **An update from the Chair of Great Staughton Parish Council**

I am writing this in mid May to meet the Life magazine deadline and you will be reading it in late May or early in June. We know how quickly things change and so if any of this seems out of date that is the reason.

I wrote last month about the community spirit, the help from our local volunteers and I know you all would want to me to thank them again for their continuing support. Whilst there are now signs of an easing in the lockdown I know we also would like to continue to pay tribute to our magnificent health and social care workers, and also to other essential workers across many sectors

I am sure many of you like me will have learnt the benefits of online meetings with friends and families and the Parish Council will have held its first virtual meeting via Zoom on 21<sup>st</sup> May. This may make it more difficult for residents to attend in the future but we will make it possible for you to join virtually if you have a special issue. We do though hope it will be possible to resume normal meetings by the time of our next Parish Council meeting. We will need to review when it will be possible and safe to hold a Parish Assembly.

- The Community Land Trust Board has also met via an online meeting and is now dealing with the detailed aspects of the land transaction to facilitate the affordable housing development on the Green. As I write legal agreements have not yet been signed but it is very close and various surveys and searches on land issues have been conducted in relation to the field. I hope I can give you more certain news by next months Life magazine.
- I have no more news on the Highways scheme through the Town
- The proposal for a possible Parish wide heating scheme is now being explored with neighbouring Parishes and you will see a separate article on it in the magazine.

If there are any issues you wish to raise with the Parish Council please contact me or the Clerk details are in the magazine.  
In the meantime I sincerely hope everyone is and continues to stay well.

Bob Jewell  
Chair Great Staughton Parish Council

**GREAT  
STAUGHTON  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY**



little feathery stems which apparently self pollenate! So is it wheat or barley? There seems to be quite a lot of whiskers and I always thought that meant it was barley. Still ignorant!

**F**rost in mid May should not be a problem for those with any sense. But it's been so summer like and everything has been growing so well that some of us have been lulled into a false sense of security. I thought I'd protected my potatoes quite well. They'd been earthed up a couple of times but the foliage was unstoppable. I covered some with fleece, some with netting and the rest with plastic cloches. Only the cloches worked. Hopefully the plants will recover but no doubt with reduced vigour.

It doesn't really matter to me whether I crop my potatoes or not but it brings home the fragility of a living dependent on weather conditions. I was in France one year when there was a late frost after a prolonged warm spell. The vineyards and other fruit crops were devastated. I suppose growers just have to factor in that risk.

Another month of lockdown gone. It's amazing how normal it has become. I'm not nearly as excited to hear the bird song on my morning walks or to spot hares or wild flowers although I saw my first oxeye daisy today - 15th May and I came across some wonderful guinea fowl on Agden Hill yesterday.

I have become intrigued by the wheat fields - at least I think it's wheat. One day the field is sort of blue green with sectioned grass stems then magically it's transformed and has a hazy golden green shimmer and the seed seems to have set. Where were the flowers? And what pollinated them? I had to resort to google because I was so confused. Once I knew what to look for, of course it was there -

One of the hazards of being outside is insect activity. I witnessed a red ant bite me on the wrist and you wouldn't believe the swelling and itch that such a tiny creature could cause. But that was nothing to the itch that I'm assuming was inflicted by chiggers, also known as berry bugs, or aoutats. I had multiple bites and now take the precaution of putting on perfumed body lotion before I go out. The blighters are not supposed to like that.

I picked up some other bug info from Gardener's Question Time. Vine weevils can't swim and they can't fly so if you are concerned that one of your pot plants might have weevils in it give it a moat. If you prop up the pot on a stand or on feet so that it's not sitting in the water then you'll confine the weevils without drowning your plant. Beware of potted herbs. I'm convinced that a pot of basil from a supermarket introduced a couple of vine weevils into my kitchen. One was on the ceiling above the plant and the other was under one of the leaves!

Don't forget the scarecrow festival at the end of the month - from 27th June till 11th July. The Olympics theme should give plenty of ideas.

***Happy gardening!***

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Enquires:  
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Email: [oil@cambsacre.org.uk](mailto:oil@cambsacre.org.uk)



**Perry Parish  
Council**



Perry Parish Council would like to offer tribute to the Great Staughton and Perry Support Group for all the work that the Volunteers have undertaken at this difficult time. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for your support to all the vulnerable residents of both Perry and Great Staughton who have benefitted from your kindness and your willingness to give up your time to help others.  
Thank You.

Nigel Noon

Perry Parish Council currently has vacancies for new Councillors.

If you are interested in joining our small dedicated team of Parish Councillors, please contact the Parish Clerk,  
[clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk) or call 07899000026 and we would be happy to give you any further information you might require.

**GARAGE SALE**

Due to the current Covid-19 Pandemic the Parish Council has decided to cancel the proposed Garage Sales in June. When the opportunity arises we will look into promoting this event again.

[clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk)

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH Fete**  
**Great Staughton**

# **CHURCH FETE**

## **We are Back**

### **September 19<sup>th</sup> 2020**

**The Vicar, Church Wardens and PCC are pleased to announce that the Annual Church fete has been rescheduled.**

**Please put the dates in your diaries now.**

**If you are having a late spring clean, need to re-gift unwanted presents reorganising or thinking of dividing plants in the garden, please remember we need all sorts of things for the produce and white elephant stalls.**

**We are again running the bottle stall (soft drinks & alcoholic) so any contributions large or small would be gratefully received.**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT WE CANNOT ACCEPT CLOTHES OR SHOES.**

**Storage can be provided if you want to get rid of stuff well before fete day. Please contact Bill Wetzel 811580, Martin Macfarlane or any PPC Member**

### **Renewable Energy Heating for Villages around Grafham Water**

Parish Council representatives from Grafham, Perry, and Great Staughton have come together to explore the possibility of providing a renewable energy alternative to the oil central heating that most residents use to heat their homes. The objective of the project, supported by Cambridgeshire County Council, is to provide an affordable heating solution that will reduce the carbon "footprint" of our villages and contribute to controlling climate change.

The first step is to apply for funding from the Rural Communities Energy Fund for an initial feasibility study that will help define the project and identify an appropriate technology. A variety of solutions will be reviewed, but one interesting option is the development of district heating using central ground source heat pumps or possibly extracting heat from Grafham Water.

Swaffham Prior is already in the advanced stages of developing a ground source heating project, details of which can be seen on <https://heatingswaffhamprior.co.uk/>.

It is important to understand the level of community support for the project. In normal times we would have held a village meeting and perhaps surveyed residents. The Parish Councils are supporting the project on the assumption that villagers will be interested in finding out more. The intention is to establish a project website for the three villages for this purpose.

If you have any comments both for or against, please could you contact your Parish Clerk as listed below.

The Parish Councils of Grafham, Great Staughton and Perry.

Grafham: Parish Clerk, Margaret Life:  
[Clerk@GrafhamPC.org](mailto:Clerk@GrafhamPC.org) 07780 119311  
Great Staughton: Parish Clerk, Jo Russell:  
[gtstaughtonparishclerk@outlook.com](mailto:gtstaughtonparishclerk@outlook.com) 01480 860247

Perry: Parish Clerk, Kay Darby:  
[clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk) 07899 000026

## **Closed for Massage**

Although I cannot provide  
massage during the Covid-19 crisis,  
I can provide tips to help  
to relieve some of  
your aches and pains.

For example, did you know that moving  
your eyes can help a stiff neck?

It is probably easier  
to ask me in an e-mail.

## **Touch Point Therapy**

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[www.massagehuntingdon.com](http://www.massagehuntingdon.com)

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## GREAT STAUGHTON VILLAGE BOOK CLUB

With over 600 pages, 'Dominion' by C J Sansom, our book for April would have tested even the quickest of readers. Whilst some gave up on reading upon realizing its length, others gave it a solid try but, at the time of our Zoom meeting, only one person had managed to get to the end.

It is difficult to review a book that was too long for the task we had set ourselves but I shall give it a try. Firstly, it irked me that it was so long since much of the descriptive passages were dull. Written almost like a 'Boy's Own' adventure thriller, the plot, it seemed to me, was lost in some of the verbosity. The premise of the plot, though, was interesting: Churchill didn't become Prime Minister after Chamberlain resigned, the post going instead to Lord Halifax, a Nazi appeaser; Britain waved the white flag after Dunkirk thus becoming a nation under SS rule. The main narrative kicks off in 1952 with the Resistance trying to both support Russia, who have continued the fight against Germany, and protect a rather fearful secret held by a rather frightened man.

I quite like thrillers and have enjoyed many alternative history novels. I didn't like this one though. There were parts that were excellent: the prologue was wonderful; there were some sympathetic characters. However, as a whole, it failed to impress. I suspect, what I disliked most, was that the author made real, historical people into characterisations of themselves to fit his idea of 'good' and 'evil' and, nothing, ever, is that simple. Give me Len Deighton's 'SS - GB' anytime!

Our books for the rest of the year are:

June - 'The Great Lover' by Jill Dawson

July - 'The Beekeeper's Promise' by Fiona Valpy

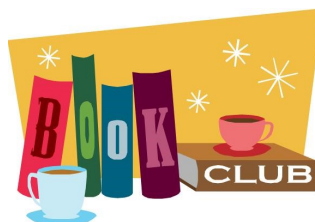
August - 'Human Voices' by Penelope Fitzgerald

September - 'My Sister, the Serial Killer' by Oyinkan Fitzgerald

October - 'Conclave' by Robert Harris

November - 'The thousand Autumns of Jacob De Zoet' by David Mitchell

If you would like to join us for nibbles, wine and a natter, please contact **Margaret Sare on 01480 860963.**







## **Gt Staughton Rainbows are looking for new leaders**

It is with sadness that our current leaders announce that they will be leaving this small but thriving unit in the not so distant future, so we are now looking for new volunteer leaders to replace them. Our girls are enthusiastic and fun to be with and make volunteering all the worthwhile.

You do not have to have previously been a member of Girlguiding and full training and support is available.

If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a volunteer leader then go to:

<https://go.girlguiding.org.uk/join-us/join-as-volunteer/>

and fill in the online form. Once completed, one of our local leaders will contact you.



## **SPEEDWATCH**

Perry Parish Council is looking for volunteers to be trained and become part of a Speedwatch initiative in the Village.

If you think you would be interested in participating please let us know by email:

[clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@perryparishcouncil.org.uk),

or

Telephone: 07899000026

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**Do you have cats?  
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someone to feed them  
while you're away?**



We're a group of Staughton cat owners who'll come to your house once a day while you're away, feed your cats, water your plants and put out your bins. If you would like to join us please email me at:  
**[lupin15.08.70@gmail.com](mailto:lupin15.08.70@gmail.com)**

***Gill Broome***

## PERRY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
at 7.30 pm at Grafham Water Centre

### **Present:**

Councillor Nigel Noon (NN) Chairman  
Councillor Sheila Brighton (SB) Vice Chair  
Councillor Jason Harper (JH)  
Councillor Emma Prew

Kay Darby (KD) – Clerk

### **County Councillor:**

**District Councillor:** Darren Tysoe

### **Members of the public:** Two

The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Nigel Noon, at 7.30 p.m.

**19/178** Apologies for Absence: Ian Gardener, Mark Fowler

**19/179** Members Declaration of Interest on Agenda Items: None

### **19/180** County/District Councillor Update

IG sent his report as he was unable to attend the meeting:

The report updated the meeting on LHI bids, the Council's budget, its proposed increase in Council Tax of 1.59% and 2% for Adult Social Care, for which a Band D property is £1359.18 per annum and the Council's shift to electric vehicles. He also informed us of the additional £6.366m being allocated towards highways maintenance, the consultation with regard to Cam Metro and the preferred route from East West rail from Bedford to Cambridge being via an interchange station on the East Coast Main Line between Sandy and St Neots (which would be a major hub) then to Cambridge via Cambourne

DT spoke of Huntingdonshire Districts Council's Litter minimisation pilot with St Neots being chosen as the first market town to have recycling 'on the go' bins installed in the town centre to improve recycling and car parking with the supermarket car parks making up the final phase to be upgraded to the new technology.

He also talked of HDC's budget for 2020/21, their support for vulnerable people, regeneration of market towns, One Leisure centres, parking issues, and the Council's investment in Hinchbrook Country Park and the delivery of a new public park in St. Ives.

The full reports can be seen on our website..

**19/181** Public Forum on Agenda items:

**19/182** To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Wednesday 5th February 2020

The Minutes were proposed for approval by JH and seconded by SB

**19/183** Matters Arising (not covered by Agenda Items):

SB brought the GO Adventure Club at Grafham Water Centre to the notice of the meeting. Running Term Time only the activities include Archery, High Ropes, Windsurfing and Stand up Paddleboards. Water based activities will be predominantly through the Spring and Summer months. There is a 10% discount for Perry residents. For further information call 01480 810521.

The Council thanked the member of public who had taken photos of the parking around the village. This is to be looked at again when the new parking fees come into operation.

### **19/184** Police Update:

PCSO Richard Braddick (RB), from St Neots Police Station, attended our meeting. Although Perry comes under Huntingdon Police Station there is no Officer responsible for Perry currently available and RB kindly offered to update us and check in on the Village whilst working his normal area. He currently looks after 44 villages/17 parishes.

He informed the meeting that many Councils were going back to using Traffic Wardens and not the local constabulary for monitoring parking and the Police were seeking for local councils to de-criminalise parking.

He informed the meeting that whilst there had been two burglaries in the village, which were still under investigation, Perry had very few incidents called into the Police since 1st January this year. Incidents that had been reported were involving drugs. He informed the meeting that information on drug offences was very poor and requested that anyone who could help the police should call the 101 telephone line or use the Cambridgeshire Constabulary website. Any information they receive can help build up a bigger and better picture for them of what is happening locally. The use of cannabis has become very common and this can lead to other serious crimes, such as drug driving.

There have also been incidents in local villages of opportunistic crimes involving theft from works vehicles that have been left unlocked. These criminals tend to use roads not covered by CCTV as do county lines drug dealers. Kimbolton has cameras and RB was asked if these were of assistance. He responded that the Police do not have access them but can request it if they need to.

RB spoke about the Rural Watch Scheme in the area which is proving very helpful. Volunteers from the local community go out with the Police on dedicated Rural Watch Operations. The Volunteers are vetted before they can join. After an evening briefing, 5 or 6 Police cars with up to 7 or 8 volunteers (all vehicles are double-crewed) will go out on operations and over the last year there have been 6 arrests from these operations. Nearly 50 volunteers are involved in the Scheme. The police are dedicated to this Scheme when it is operating. More volunteers are always required. The scheme has improved community trust and relationships with the Police and if anyone would like to join they should contact Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

RB emphasised that residents should not hesitate to call the police on 101 or 999 for any serious incident, but was happy for anyone to contact him with other queries. If residents would like the Police to come and talk about security and scams they would be happy to do so.

RB informed the meeting that should anyone notice Door to Door Rogue Traders they should notify the police and if anyone is really distressed by the callers they should call 101 or 999 Police will come out. Many elderly people do not have access to the internet and RB emphasised the need to keep older residents informed of events.

RB's contact details are: PCSO 7101 Richard Braddick  
St Neots Rurals Safer Neighbourhood Team  
St. Neots Police Station | Dovehouse Close | St. Neots | Cambridgeshire | PE19 1DS  
Mobile: 07921-094801 | Call: 101  
[Richard.braddick@cambs.pnn.police.uk](mailto:Richard.braddick@cambs.pnn.police.uk)

### 19/185 Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro:

The metro was discussed and there were queries as to cost of travel and, for those living rurally, whether it is more cost effective to drive to Cambridge. These and any other comments to be put on the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro survey.

### 19/186 Parish/Village Matters:

- Buckden Court Pond : No update
- Perry in Bloom: So far 11 residents to date have confirmed they wish to participate in this scheme again
- Potential Sale of Perry Water Tower Site: No update
- Parking Signs: No update
- Speeding in the Village: 6 previous participants have agreed to help with this again. Advert to be placed in Life & Diaries for more volunteers
- Garage Sales: 14 and 21 June to be

suggested and interest checked

- Playground4Perry: No update
- Work Parties: No update
- Overhanging trees and vegetation on footpaths: An advert was placed in Life & Diaries last month regarding this issue and SB and JH will undertake a walk around Village and note any problem areas

**19/187 Heat Source Pump/Climate Change:** Helen Glanville (HG) from Gt Staughton Parish Council has carried out a lot of research into heat pumps. A water source heat pump at Grafham would be very good for Perry, but be too far away for use in Gt Staughton. They could, however, use a ground source heat pump and HG is currently applying for a grant for a feasibility study to be carried out. She has also organised a meeting with Cambridgeshire County Council and Anglian Water to discuss the project, on 30th March to which we have been invited. EP will attend.

### 19/188 Clerks Report:

Scams: We now have a small supply of The Little Book of Big Scams which will be made available to residents via Perry Shop, the Baptist Church and local groups. KD to invite Charlotte Homent, Community Protection Manager from Cambridgeshire County Council to give a presentation at one of our meetings.

Website: Parish Council Website are in the process of producing the 'black page' for the website required on the death of any senior member of the Royal Family.

Councillor Vacancy: So far there has been no response to the advert in Life Magazine. JH carried out his own survey, via Nextdoor, to see what interest there might be. 32 people responded, and 26 surveys were fully completed. From these 26: 58% said they were unaware of the vacancy prior to seeing the survey. Of those that were aware they had seen in the information in the following places, firstly Life Magazine, followed by word of mouth, then Parish Council Website. No one had read the vacancy notice on the Parish Notice Board. The responses were received from people living on over half the roads in Perry with a wide age range.

Comments were also received, some positive statements about the Council's current performance and a criticism of, on one occasion, historical meeting conduct. It was noted that some residents of Gaynes Hall have various concerns and felt that the Parish Council could make it more publicly known the efforts that have been made to try to remedy these.

Finance: The overhead report was handed out along with the cashflow and bank statements were available to view.

Events booked in March: Planning Forum, (KD),

Huntingdon Town and Parish Council Annual Conference (JH and KD), Cambridgeshire Local Councils Peer Learning and Networking Event (KD)

### **19/189** Operation London Bridge:

NN and KD met with Rev Magee to discuss this event and have agreed certain procedures to be carried out by the Parish Council and the Baptist Church.

A document detailing the procedures for the Parish Council in the event of a death of a Senior Member of the Royal Family was handed out and it was agreed that the Council would have a budget of up to £275 for any necessary costs for this occasion.

The adoption of the procedures and the budget were proposed by SB and seconded by EP

### **19/190** Correspondence received:

A letter has been received from The Co-ordinator for the Highway Community Car Scheme requesting funding for 10,000 flyers to distribute around the local villages, doctors' surgeries and hospitals in the area they cover. There are currently 20 local residents who rely on this service which enables people to get to the doctors, hospitals, shopping etc.

Email regarding Highways Training. This was not taken up.

### **19/192** Finance and Legal Matters:

To agree payments for sanction:

HMRC tax	£ 79.20
Clerk's salary	£317.18
Postage stamps	£ 8.40
Room hire GWC for 05/02/20	£ 15.00
CAPALC Affiliation fee	£306.35

The above payments were proposed for payment by EP and seconded by JH

The invoice for Data Protection Officer Membership scheme is being held awaiting further information from CAPALC.

S137: The following payments were agreed.

Life & Diaries	£550.00
EAAA	£250.00
MAGPAS	£250.00
The Highway Community Car Scheme	£120.00
The Woodland Centre	80.00

These payments were proposed by SB and seconded by SP

It was decided that under present legislation the Council was unable to make a donation to St Andrews Churchyard this year but that we would

lobby CAPALC in an effort to get this legislation clarified or, if necessary, amended to enable these donations to be made.

CIL payment: HDC to be informed that part of this payment will be used for the bus shelter repairs. Proposed EP Seconded: JH

KD to check with Handyman regarding state of repair of gardening equipment.

Bank Account: New mandate now in force. Internet banking to be investigated

Grass Cutting Quotes: Three quotes were obtained and it was unanimously agreed to take up that of Four Seasons. Proposed SB Seconded JH

A Abbs to be asked for advice on how to prevent parking on Village green

Accessibility statement, website privacy policy, email privacy, privacy policy. In essence these were agreed but with some minor alterations/ amendments from JH. To be presented again at the next meeting. Proposed JH seconded SB  
**19/193** Meetings Attended: None

**19/194** Planning Applications: Gaynes Hall and Paxton Cottages. There were no comments from the Councillors

**19/195** Neighbourhood Watch: JH informed the meeting that someone has volunteered to assist him if he carries on as Co-ordinator. He will follow this up. JH

**19/196** Social Media: Facebook and Nextdoor pages have now been sent up and will be populated in the near future.

**19/197** Village Plan: to be discussed later

Matters for the next meeting, to be held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 6 May 2020 at Perry Baptist Church  
Garage Sales, Scribe Accounts, CIL payment, Accessibility and Privacy Policies

The meeting closed at 21.45 p.m

## To all our Great Staughton and Perry Residents

The Great Staughton & Perry Community Support Group are here to help during these times of isolation. We have an army of volunteers who are prepared to:

- Pick up shopping / medication
- Have a chat or play online Word games
- Cook a meal for you / provide a frozen meal
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### Great Staughton Primary Contacts

Margaret – 01480 860963  
 Nicki – 01480 869485  
 Lorraine – 07855 826096  
 Elizabeth Ann – 07741 830102  
 Mandy – 07974 377681

### Perry Primary Contacts

Jon – 01480 700810  
 Kerry – 07901 078361

### Email

staughton.perry@outlook.com  
 Helen – me@helencritchell.co.uk

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 • Tuesday 19 May – St Ives  
 • Wednesday 1 July – St Neots

All the above workshops are held at:

- St Ives Corn Exchange, The Pavement, St Ives, Cambs. PE27 5AD • 10am to 3pm
- Priory Centre, Priory Lane, St Neots PE19 2BH • 10am to 3pm

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## **A Note From the Editors**

Just a friendly reminder that if you're sending content to be published, please email it to both editors to ensure it will be included in future issues. Send all content to both

**[lifemagazine@outlook.com](mailto:lifemagazine@outlook.com)**  
&  
**[rj.young@live.co.uk](mailto:rj.young@live.co.uk)**

And if you're placing a small 'For Sale' ad in the magazine, do let both of us know when the items have been sold, so the ad can be removed for the next magazine.

**Thanks,  
Shaun & Rob**



## **A book about Staughton**

**June 2020**

Once war had been declared against Germany, a major component of the country's domestic defences was the formation of Home Guard units and Huntingdonshire was no exception. Amongst the Great Staughton members of the Home Guard were Leonard Button, John Davison, Thomas Henry Davison, Charles Dawkes, John William Dawkes, Stephen Gordon Dawkes, EHJ Duberly, Richard Montague Duberly, Red House, Buckden, Sidney George Erridge, John William Foulds, Cyril Steven Franklin, Aimable John Hackett, Frederick Ernest Hackett, John William Hackett, Ronald George Hackett, Walter Herdman, Frederick Holyoak, Arthur Jakins, Herbert and John Leflay, Montfort Newman, Henry John Parker, Edward Stanley Peck, Cecil James Pell, George Phillips, Frederick John Reeve, Jack Seamark, James Alec Stewart, Harry Sturgeon, Herbert Walter Acland-Troyte, John Russell Wilmer, Herbert Walter Acland-Troyte. Major HW Acland-Troyte MC was second-in-command of C company from 1 January 1941, until he took over command of that company on 16 February 1943. His death on 24 November 1943 was deeply regretted. Captain EHJ Duberly was appointed Commanding Officer responsible for the western and southern areas of the county. He provided a detailed and entertaining account of their activities now familiar to a wide audience thanks to the popularity of the endlessly re-run Dad's Army. The prospect of a German invasion was very real and the Home Guard were put through rigorous training to combat the threat. Instruction was given in counter action against enemy parachutists, detection and prevention of espionage by enemy agents, as well as how to obtain

accurate information and transmit it to HQ. Many of the Home Guard were veterans of the First World War, including Captain Duberly. By July 1940 training became more intensified as the threat of a German invasion increased. A tank destruction and road block demonstration was given. Tactical exercises were held. The invasion stand-to code word was 'Cromwell.' Courses were started in ammunition, weapons, camouflage, fieldcraft, signals, anti-gas and street fighting. Often these courses lasted a weekend or longer. The rifle range was a popular destination and competitions were held amongst local Home Guard units. Carrier pigeons were used to improve communications.

An impressive exercise codenamed Scorch was held on the night of 6 and 7 December 1941 involving a combined force of Home Guard units, regular army, police and civil defence. Its aim was to resist a large invasion force that had landed on the east coast supported by enemy paratroops. Captain Duberly expressed satisfaction with the result of the exercise 'a very strenuous one and a great deal was learnt from it.' Another successful exercise, code-named Speedy, involved attacking an aerodrome which had just been taken over by 'our friends' of the US airforce. The exercise went off very successfully with a good deal of enterprise being shown by various individuals, one of whom borrowed a match from a GI to light the fuse of his explosive to 'blow up' the main power station. Less fortunate was the fate of one of the Home Guard who, in his eagerness to engage with the enemy, fell into a sewage pit. It was said that 'he was not at all popular with his colleagues on the way home.'

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## My Quarantine Routine

*Seeing as we are all currently in lockdown I am keen to find out how you are all keeping yourselves busy.*

*Are you now working from home? Are you home-schooling your children? Are you a vital key worker? Perhaps you run a business in the villages and you've adapted how you work. Or maybe you've rediscovered an old hobby.*

*If you'd like to tell us all about your 'Quarantine Routine' please do email myself and Shaun and we'll include you in a future issue.*

~~~~~

My family and I have enjoyed baking something new everyday (when we have flour!). Russian brownie (with Kahlua and nuts!) was divine. Also main meals, just shove an ingredient into BBC Good Food App and then cook what turns up. Spicy thai mushroom soup was yummy! Best though is 'Cocktail du jour'! Just googling that dodgy bottle of alcohol at the back of the cupboard and seeing what cocktail it throws out is fun. Let's just say that whatever you do with Benedictine does not improve it at all! Stay safe everyone!

***Helen Glanville***

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## COVID-19

### Your survival guide for working from home



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Wow, hasn't the world become a very strange place since I last wrote to you? I hope this latest blog finds you and your family fit and well. It is likely that you are working from home, which can bring its joys, perks (and frustrations!) But I'm here to help – with your broadband speed, the best remote software tools and virus protection.

### Broadband speed

Is your poor old broadband feeling the strain? Perhaps your partner is streaming the latest box set on Netflix, Little Darcy is watching Peppa Pig on YouTube on her iPad, and little Jonny is playing an online game with his friends on Xbox Live – All whilst you're trying to download an important work file? Grrrr!

Time to blame your broadband provider? Actually, your computer settings, poor wiring or the location of your router can all have an impact on your broadband speed. But thankfully, there are things you can do to improve your broadband speed:

Firstly, try **moving your router**. Ideally, it should be positioned high up (on top of a bookshelf or mounted on a wall) and away from interference from baby monitors and microwaves.

**Shut down applications** that you're not actively using including any bandwidth-heavy streaming services, **delete old files** and **clear your browser history**.

If there are rooms in your house with weak signal, consider ordering a **Powerline adapter** online – it uses the electricity power lines in your house to boost your signal from room to room.

If you're on a work deadline and are getting really frustrated with the speed of your broadband, as a short term fix you **could connect your computer directly to your router with an ethernet cable**.

**Broadband accelerators** boost broadband speeds by filtering out interference from home phone wiring.

If you have a large home, or if your home is over multi storeys, a **mesh router** network works really well by replacing a single router with a several, which are placed around the home.

Still struggling? Get in touch! By diagnosing if the fault is with you or your Internet Service Provider (ISP), I can identify the necessary actions to help you can back online. I am happy to provide internet, email and Wifi support to both business and residential customers in need. I can assess your Wifi network, supply and install modern wireless extenders to offer you a seamless Wifi connection.

### Clean your mouse and keyboard

The World Health Organisation have emphasised that disinfecting frequently touched surfaces daily are key in preventing the spread of COVID-19, as well of course frequently washing hands.

The average keyboard harbours 3,295 germs per square inch (more bacteria than on the average toilet seat apparently!) 1,676 on a mouse and a staggering 25,127 on a phone! Gross. Sanitise your keyboard, mouse, landline phone and mobile phone using a disinfectant wipe or a soft, linen-free cloth dipped in isopropyl alcohol.

If you are guilty of eating at your desk, you could be dropping food particles, spilling drinks and leaving food wrappers behind. This mess attracts bacteria, insects and even rodents! Yuck! Eat and drink away from your desk (it's the perfect opportunity to take your eyes off the screen and give your body a stretch)

### Software to use to work remotely

Despite the odd distraction from your partner and children, working from home can actually boost productivity if you use the right set of tools available to you online.

If you want to stay on top of tasks, receive updates on projects and encourage team collaboration, consider using Asana or **Bitrix24**.

**When you want to organise your stuff**, cloud storage and file organisers such as Google Drive, One Drive and Dropbox will do the job nicely. If you want to manage your team, track time or expenses, try Time Doctor, Harvest or iDoneThis. Video conferencing software such as Zoom, Skype, Jabber, Join.me, GoToMeeting and Google Hangouts Meet enable online communication for audio meetings, video meetings and seminars. Some even have built-in features such as chat, screen sharing and recording. Bonus!

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St Andrew's Vicarage, The Causeway, Great Staughton



**CHURCH WARDENS:** Mr Bryan Kitchen  
Mrs Janet Perrett, 38, Beachampstead Road, Gt. St. 860703

*Dear Friends,*

**A**s I write this in the middle of May it is difficult to know where we will be in June, whether we will be allowed to socialise with our friends and loved ones, whether we will be back in lockdown.

I am very grateful for the team of people from all three churches in the Benefice who have worked tirelessly and continue to work persistently to make sure that we have delivered, via zoom, all sorts of services and activities to keep our congregations worshipping and enjoying virtual time together.

The log in ID for all our Zoom meetings is 712447549 and the password is 022067. There is always someone letting you in through the waiting room for security. Also, there is a weekly newsletter informing you of what is happening and that varies from week to week. If you think you should have been receiving the newsletter and have not done so, please check in your junk mail because many people have found that it has gone in there. If you would like to receive the newsletter and have an email, please send your email to me at [revlesnicki@gmail.com](mailto:revlesnicki@gmail.com) or if you don't have an email give me a ring and we will arrange to bring one round to you.

These verses from the poem from A.A.Milne 'Now We are Six' remind me of how it was before the Lockdown when we would be socialising with a friend or neighbour

Wherever I am, there's always Pooh,  
There's always Pooh and Me.  
Whatever I do, he wants to do,  
"Where are you going today?" says Pooh:  
"Well, that's very odd 'cos I was too.  
Let's go together," says Pooh, says he.  
"Let's go together," says Pooh.

So wherever I am, there's always Pooh,  
There's always Pooh and Me.  
"What would I do?" I said to Pooh,  
"If it wasn't for you," and Pooh said:  
"True,  
It isn't much fun for One, but Two,  
Can stick together, says Pooh, says he.  
"That's how it is," says Pooh.

And lets hope that is how it will be soon.  
Christians believe that they are never on their own, that God is always with them.  
We are people of hope.  
Matthew's Gospel finishes with these words  
'And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

*With love and prayers,  
Revd Nicki Bland*

Mobile: 07805078992  
Parish email: [revlesnicki@gmail.com](mailto:revlesnicki@gmail.com)





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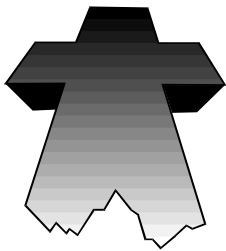


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## Perry Baptist Church

Secretary Tony Whitlock 01480 810906

Minister: Rev Jon Magee 01480 700810

Services at Perry Baptist have been suspended until further notice. There are services online on our website and Facebook page.

Website [www.perrybaptist.org.uk](http://www.perrybaptist.org.uk)

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### *My dear friends,*

**S**ome years ago, in the 1960's, a group by the name of Hedgehoppers Anonymous sang a song called "Its good news week". Its always good to know we have good news, something to celebrate and to raise our spirits. I am not so sure that hedgehoppers Anonymous quite got the good news right however. Taking a look at the lyrics the "good news" was far from good.

"It's good news week  
Someone's dropped a bomb somewhere  
Contaminating atmosphere  
And blackening the sky"

That is certainly not good news! As we check out the news at the moment we will all be hard pressed to find good news being presented in the year 2020. If someone was to declare good news we could be forgiven for thinking that it must be a modern version of the Hedgehoppers song. Yet irrespective of the circumstances the church of every generation stands ready to declare the good news. Jesus said "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel (or the good news) to the whole creation." (Mark 16 verse 15)

Good news? Yes, we have a Lord who

promised to walk with us every step of the way in all circumstances even to the end of the age. He is no "fair weather friend", in the midst of the trials of life we will not walk alone. And on an eternal perspective we will always have hope as we trust Jesus as Saviour and Lord. That was the essence of our recent Easter message, and in Pentecost we are also reminded that we were promised power to present good news to the world. The early church did during tough times and we too are promised the same power.

Do keep in touch with each other even if it is by phone. Church services are continuing in a different form. Sunday services are being recorded and circulated on the church web site, facebook, and youtube. For those with the internet facility check the church out at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxdghslFLULGCblekWCQ4pg> You are all welcome to join us at any time through this means.

If we can be of help to any of you please call me or email [perrybaptistpastor@gmail.com](mailto:perrybaptistpastor@gmail.com)

**Love and Blessings,**  
*Jon Magee*

## **Clubs & Activities :**

**Telephone Prefix: 01480**

|                                                       |                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Great Staughton W.I.....                              | Margaret Sare: 860963              |
| Perry WI: .....                                       | Liz Dive: 811636                   |
| West Hunts Friendship Club.....                       | Annabelle Blackham: 07527 741495   |
| (Mondays 10:00am - 3:00pm Gt. Staughton Village Hall) | Phil Yates: 860616                 |
| St. Andrew's Church Bell Ringers (Mondays 7.30).....  | David Cope: 869322                 |
| Perry Friendship Circle.....                          | Cilla Whitlock: 810906             |
| Great Staughton Book Club.....                        | Margaret Sare: 860963              |
| Horticultural Society.....                            | Mike Keeble: 860855                |
| Email: m.keeble855@btinternet.com                     |                                    |
| Lions Club (Hunts Grafham Water Branch).....          | Bernard Dable: 810704/07969 207227 |
| Kimbolton Flower Club.....                            | Carol Grundy: 01832 710339         |
| Perry Photographic Club.....                          | Adrian Arnett: 07788 409301        |
| Rotary Club: Kimbolton Castle.....                    | Phil Howard: 861201                |

## **CHILDREN'S CLUBS/SCHOOLS**

Gt. Staughton Brownies/Rainbow Guides/Guides.: Go to:

enquiryym.girlguiding.org.uk and register your interest.

Gt. Staughton Primary Academy.....Head Teacher's Office: 860324

Gt Staughton Youth Club.....gsyc2014@gmail.com

Kimbolton Beavers, Cubs and Scouts.....1stkimboltonscouts@gmail.com

Piglets Pre-School.....Suzanne Worrall: 07759 382575

**Great Staughton Family Playtime.....**manager@pigletspreschool.org.uk

**Every Friday during term time 9-10.30am at St Andrews Church, Gt Staughton**

## **SPORTS CLUBS**

Great Staughton Badminton Club .....David Giddings: 07926 135455

Kimbolton Cricket Club.....Kevin Fisk: 07875 602919

Gt. Staughton Tennis Club Committee.....Nicole & Phil Yates: 860616

Kym Valley Carpet Bowls.....Doris Dainty: 812006

Email: dainty.doris@yahoo.co.uk

Grafham Water Sailing Club.....Club Office: 810478

## **VILLAGE GROUPS/SERVICES**

Grafham Wildlife Group.....Sam Malt: Day:810844 / Eve: 811654

The Highway Community Car Scheme .....07786 520540 4-7pm weekdays

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Parent Teacher Association (PTA).....Dawn Auton: 07985 925761

Patient Participation Group Gt St).....Melanie Dingemans: 01480 860770

Email: greatstaughton@nhs.net

Village Hall .....Vicky Goldsmith: 860005 / 07739 469243

Pavilion .....Giles Brittain: 07740 647322

**USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS: Telephone Prefix 01480 unless otherwise shown**

**POLICE NON-EMERGENCY 101**      **POLICE EMERGENCY 999;**  
**Crime Watch Management 456 111. VICTIM SUPPORT: [www.victimsupport.org.uk](http://www.victimsupport.org.uk) :**  
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**Support services: 0845 389 9523    To volunteer: ring 01480 4553000**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**

**PERRY : Sue Astle 811121, Jason Harper 07779 123125**

**Gt. Staughton Surgery: 860 770**  
**Buckden Surgery: 810 216**

**Kimbolton Surgery: 860 205**  
**HINCHINGBROOKE HOSPITAL: 416 416**

**NHS NON-EMERGENCY: 111**

**PALS: [Patient Advice & Liaison Service]:**  
**0800 279 2535**

**AGE UK CAMBRIDGESHIRE offer a range of information and services on matters of concern to older people and their carers e.g. issues on benefits, home care, aids and adaptations, safeguarding and going into a care home. Also practical help: home help, visiting schemes, day centres and warden schemes. The advocacy service can offer support to represent the interests of those over 65 years, & help to obtain the services they need.**

**We are available 9am - 3pm Monday to 'Friday on 0300 666 9860**

**CONSUMER DIRECT : [www.consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk) - Practical help and advice for consumers with queries/problems with goods/services. Telephone : 08454 04 05 06 - Charge 4p pm.  
**Minicom users: 08451 28 13 84: Mon to Fri - 8.00 am to 6.30 pm. Sat. 9.00 am to 1.00 pm****

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**DISABILITY CAMBRIDGESHIRE.    [www.disabilitycambridgeshire.org.uk](http://www.disabilitycambridgeshire.org.uk)**

**Adviceline: 01223 569 600—charity for disabled/older people and carers in Cambridgeshire. Provides free, confidential and impartial information and advice on disability and access issues.**

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