

SouthCambs

Magazine

www.scambs.gov.uk

Spring 2022

Action on climate change

See pages 8, 9, 14, 15, 16 & 17

Boosting biodiversity

See page 31

Explaining the planning process

See page 36



WIN

A luxurious hamper of goodies worth £125 from Bury Lane Farm Shop

See page 46

Find inspiration for days out this spring on page 12
Pictured: Wandlebury Country Park

Plus: News in brief | Your council | Things to do in South Cambs | Funding for your community | Recycling and waste | Housing | Summer safety | New communities | Working at the Council | Home safety



Remember to recycle in your blue bin when finished



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Hello

Welcome to the spring issue of South Cambs Magazine

In this issue, we feature a key piece of work that our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning team has recently completed. In line with our Doubling Nature aspirations, our comprehensive new biodiversity planning guidance sets out how we expect new developments to better protect and enhance biodiversity. I'm incredibly proud of this document as, for the first time, we are clearly setting out what developers need to do to leave the natural area in a better state than they found it. Turn to page 31 for full details on what we expect to see in new homes, such as bird boxes, green roofs and hedgehog highways.

Elsewhere, we profile a brilliant initiative in my village of Gamlingay that is saving tonnes of food from landfill. Head to page 16 for information on this. I hope that this super scheme is an inspiration to other villages who would like to set up something similar.

I also want to remind you that we have our popular Community Chest grants available to bid for. If you go to page 19, you'll be able to read details of this funding for groups wishing to improve quality of life in South Cambridgeshire. Also, parish councils and community groups can apply for one-off funding to mark Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

On pages 26 and 27, you'll find a scrapbook of the latest Council homes we have built, increasing the number of local homes that are genuinely affordable to live in. I'm thrilled we have achieved our ambition to double the number of new Council homes we are building.

Enjoy reading.

Cllr Bridget Smith
Leader
South Cambridgeshire
District Council



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What works, and what doesn't?

We have recently introduced feedback surveys for customers who have contacted us about Benefits. If you have feedback for us, please visit the relevant section on our website at www.scambs.gov.uk to find a link to complete our feedback survey. More feedback surveys will be launched in the coming months to seek your feedback on other Council services.

The next issue will be delivered between 23 May and 4 June.

Contact Smart Distribution for delivery enquiries.

✉ scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk
☎ 0800 6444 011

Contact us

It's easier to contact us online

You can do more online at a time to suit you. Did you know you can complete a short form to update your Council Tax bill if you've moved; report a change in your circumstances related to your Benefits; or report a missed bin collection?

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk

You can also create a My South Cambs account, to see personalised information – such as your Council Tax payments or your Benefits account.

➔ <https://mysouthcambs.scambs.gov.uk>

Or you can email us, phone us, write to us, or get in touch using our social media channels.

✉ scdc@scambs.gov.uk

☎ 01954 713 000

✍ South Cambridgeshire District Council, South Cambs Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne, CB23 6EA

📘 [South Cambridgeshire](#)

🐦 [@SouthCambs](#)

Request a large print copy ✉ communications@scambs.gov.uk

News in brief

Putting residents first

If you phone us we will:

- resolve your enquiry as quickly as possible
- provide voicemail if the person you need is unavailable
- answer your phone message within three working days.

If you write to us we will:

- reply to your letter or email within 10 working days.

If we write to you we will:

- write in plain language
- arrange for translation, large type, braille or audio tapes upon request.

If we visit you we will:

- carry identification that you can check with a phone call to us
- arrive at the time we say we will, or give you as much notice as possible if we have to change the time.

If we get it wrong we will:

- apologise if we have made a mistake or failed to meet our standards
- acknowledge your written complaint within three working days
- reply in full to your complaint within 10 working days.

Tell us how we're doing

We're proud of what we are trying to achieve and recognise we can always do better. To help improve our services, we need your feedback. Whether it's a compliment, a general comment or a complaint, we want to hear from you.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/contact-us

The Cambridgeshire Local Heritage List project needs your support!

Help protect our local heritage through Cambridgeshire County Council's Local Heritage List project. By adding locally important heritage features (like archaeological remains, buildings, gardens, parks or public art) to the Local Heritage List, their importance will be officially recognised in the planning process. Which do you think should be added?

➔ www.local-heritage-list.org.uk/cambridgeshire



Cambridgeshire County Day: 23 June

The first Cambridgeshire County Day takes place on Thursday 23 June at the July Course, Newmarket. It will celebrate the best of Cambridgeshire, and inspire future generations to be the best they can be, while also showcasing key achievements in Cambridgeshire during the 70 years of Her Majesty The Queen's reign. Find out more on the Cambridgeshire County Day website.

➔ www.cambridgeshirecountyday.org

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet

Want to keep updated with the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet upgrade? Find out more about the plans or track the scheme's progress online.

➔ www.nationalhighways.co.uk/A428

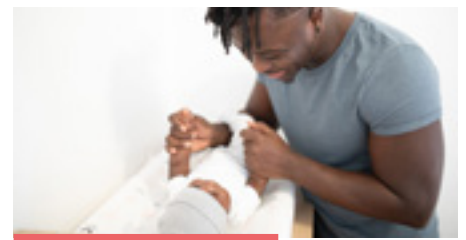
🐦 @A428Cat

📘 @A428BlackCat

Time for a spring clean?

If you're getting rid of large items like furniture, have you considered all the options to avoid them going to landfill? Items in good condition with fire safety labels can be offered to charities, some of which can collect them from your home. If you are buying a new item, many retailers will take the old one away for you. You can also give away or sell items through local Facebook groups, Freecycle, Freegle or Gumtree. Or, if you can move it yourself you can take it to a Household Recycling Centre. If none of the above options suit you, we can collect and dispose of bulky items, for a fee.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/bins



Every nappy change counts

Nappy changes add up to a lot of waste, and modern washable nappies are a great waste-saving alternative. We know it can be daunting to make the switch – but every change counts! More nappy retailers have joined our discount scheme, offering between 10% and 20% off the cost of washable nappies and washable wipes (as well as period and incontinence products too).

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/nappies

View your Council Tax bill online

Register to receive your Council Tax bill online. This means you will receive your bill as soon as it's ready, rather than waiting for it in the post. It also saves paper and taxpayers' money. Visit our website to register for an OPENPortal account.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-tax



School holiday sports camps: book now for Easter

Our school holiday sports camps run for children in school Year 3 to Year 9, from 10am to 3:30pm. Children can attend either a netball or athletics camp, or both. It costs £25 per child per day, or £22 per child per day if more than one child is attending, or for a child attending multiple days. Athletics is at Wilberforce Road Athletics Track, Cambridge, CB3 9AD. Netball is at Impington Sports Centre, Impington, CB24 9LX.

➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/sportscamps

Easter 2022

Athletics

Monday 4 April and/or
Tuesday 5 April

Netball

Wednesday 6 April and/or
Thursday 7 April

May half term

(bookings will open in April)

Athletics

Tuesday 31 May

Netball

Wednesday 1 June

Summer

Athletics

Monday 25 July and/or
Tuesday 26 July

Netball

Wednesday 27 July and/or
Thursday 28 July



Wild Minds expands to Wandlebury

Wild Minds is our programme of outdoor activities to support young people's wellbeing. Initially developed in partnership with Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust and run at Milton Country Park, we are running three courses this spring, including two new courses at Wandlebury Country Park in partnership with Find Your Wild.

The eight-week courses support young people aged 12 to 14 and 15 to 17 with mild to moderate mental health worries, through a programme of small group sessions focused on outdoor activities and nature.

Register online now for our upcoming course dates:

- From Sunday 20 March, 3pm to 4:30pm, Milton Country Park (age 15 to 17)
- From Tuesday 22 March, 4pm to 5:30pm, Wandlebury Country Park (age 12 to 14)
- From Wednesday 23 March, 4pm to 5:30pm, Wandlebury Country Park (age 12 to 14)

➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/wildminds

What do you know about PREVENTing terrorism?

PREVENT is part of the Government's counter-terrorism strategy, previously managed by the Police but now managed by the Council. We work with police and health partners to prevent terrorism and safeguard people at risk of becoming radicalised. In the coming months we will be raising awareness in our communities, to help people spot the signs of radicalisation and know what to do. In the meantime, find out more from 'ACT early', or on our website.

➤ www.actearly.uk

➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/PREVENT



Create a positive change through exercise

Adults with certain health conditions struggling to exercise regularly may be eligible for our discounted exercise referral scheme, which offers gym access with a tailored exercise plan for £20/month (for four months).

An instructor will create a personal exercise programme to suit you. Participants are encouraged to do sessions at least twice weekly, and benefit from access to additional activities at the gym. The scheme runs at sports centres in Cambourne, Comberton, Cottenham, Impington, Linton, Melbourn, Sawston and Swavesey.

➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/active

South Cambs Magazine

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FIRST CARE HOMES
WHERE CARE COMES FIRST

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE CARE HOME

Dementia, Residential and Nursing Care

The Cambridgeshire Care Home situated in Great Shelford is the premier choice for a boutique care home in historic Cambridge.

With a dedication to providing unrivalled care for each of our residents. We have introduced the latest technology with our large screen Yeti tablet and OMI interactive dementia table. Complimenting our PIR lighting sensory falls reduction equipment and person-centred electronic care plan system linked to every team member's smart phone. With this in place alongside our devoted care team we aim to provide the highest standards of wellbeing available.

Through these challenging times we recognise that care and support is more important than ever before. At The Cambridgeshire Care Home we have embraced this different world by offering a variety of contact for our residents with their loved ones by using a number of devices including iPad, Yeti Tablet, mobile phones and garden visits.

With easy access from the M11 the home situated just three miles south of the city centre The Cambridgeshire Care Home is a must visit when looking towards the next steps with your loved one.

- Dementia, Residential & Nursing Care
- State of the Art Facilities
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- Sky+ availability on request
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- Hospitality Service with Every Meal
- Beautifully Landscaped Gardens with Scenic Lift
- All Inclusive Package Featuring;
 - Internet / Wi-Fi
 - Telephone Calls
 - Communal Newspapers
 - Hairdressing, Nail Treatments & Chiropody
- Regular Themed Events / Entertainment
- Weekly Wellbeing Classes & Film Screenings in our Cinema

Freephone 0808 1969750

To find out more about The Cambridgeshire Care Home, contact Yvonne Quigley, and Customer Relations Manager

Your vote in May

On 5 May 2022, elections will take place across South Cambridgeshire



Elections are happening for 45 district seats across 26 district council wards. Elections are also scheduled for all the parish and town councils in South Cambridgeshire, except for Longstanton and Willingham.

These are important elections where residents will be casting their vote for their local district councillors and, in many places, their local parish or town councillors as well. We, as the district council, are responsible for delivering an essential range of services, including recycling and bin collections, making decisions on planning applications and supporting residents' housing needs.

You must be registered in order to vote.

All registered voters will be sent a poll card towards the end of March, which will tell you where you will need to go to vote. If you are not already registered to vote, you can register quickly and easily online.

➔ www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

You are less likely to be registered if you have recently moved house. If you are a student, you may register to vote at home and at your term time address. Please remember that you don't need to re-register if you know you are already registered.

The deadline to register to vote in this election is 14 April 2022.

If you think you might be away at the time of the election, you may register to vote by post or by proxy.

If you register to vote by post, your ballot paper will be posted to you two weeks before election day. If you choose to vote by proxy, you will need to appoint someone to visit your polling station to vote on your behalf. You can find full instructions and application forms on our website.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/elections

The deadline to apply for a postal vote is 5pm on 19 April 2022, with the proxy application deadline being one week later at 5pm on 26 April 2022.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept your application if we receive it after the deadline.

If you are interested in standing as a candidate for district or parish council elections, you need to submit a nomination paper between 28 March and 5 April 2022.

Please get in touch with our elections team if you would like any more information.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/elections

✉ elections@scambs.gov.uk



Delivering your priorities

Back in 2019, we agreed an ambitious business plan that was focused on the things you said were important to you. Three years on, here's an update on the progress we've made.

Growing local businesses and economies

- Since the start of the pandemic, we have distributed around £45 million in Government business support grants to more than 5,000 South Cambridgeshire businesses.
- We created Visit South Cambs, www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk, the first website dedicated to promoting our district's tourism sector businesses, making it easier for people to have more fun and discover hidden gems closer to home and, by doing so, support local jobs and economies.
- We have interacted with more than 3,000 local businesses since our Business Support and Development Team was established.



The new Visit South Cambs website

Housing that is truly affordable for everyone to live in

- We have met our target of doubling the number of new energy-efficient council homes we build, by 2024. In 2019/20, 36 were built; this financial year, the number was 89. Read more about our new council homes on pages 26 and 27.
- We supported seven refugee families that were re-locating from Afghanistan.
- Our Shire Homes Lettings scheme now has 60 properties, with all tenants having a link to South Cambridgeshire and in immediate housing need.



Food waste campaign gets underway



New council homes



Being green to our core

- We have adopted a new Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document which provides up to date and clear guidance to developers on what they must do to better protect and enhance local biodiversity affected by development. Read more about this on page 31.
- We progressed our Greater Cambridge Local Plan with Cambridge City Council. It's an ambitious vision for minimising carbon emissions alongside improving the quality of life for existing and future residents across the area, with all new homes to be carbon-neutral.
- Since launching in 2019, £310,000 has been allocated to 51 different community groups through our Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme.
- Our project to retrofit our main Cambourne office, funded through our renewables reserve, will be completed soon, almost halving the building's carbon emissions during the first year following completion.
- We ran a campaign to help reduce the amount of food waste in residents' black bins.

“We’re extremely proud of our latest budget; it puts climate change firmly at the centre of our ambitious plans to work towards a net-zero carbon South Cambridgeshire.”

Lead Cabinet Member for Finance, Cllr John Williams



A modern and caring Council

- We continue to make it easier for residents to access and carry out transactions online, with more than 40 new online forms created in 2021.
- Over 800 people were helped to take up their COVID vaccinations at sessions we ran with health colleagues.
- Our Wild Minds project supported around 50 teenagers’ mental health in 2021. See page 5 for the latest updates on this project, including dates for spring 2022.
- In the past 12 months, we’ve distributed more than £26,700 in Community Chest Grant funding, to voluntary and community sector groups, charities and public sector bodies wishing to further improve quality of life locally.



A budget to prioritise tackling climate change

Our latest budget plans, agreed at our Full Council meeting in February, allocate £6.83 million to tackling climate change in the district during the upcoming year (April 2022 to March 2023). Our total spend on providing services for the next 12 months is expected to be around £70 million. Included in our latest budget plans are:

- £1.3 million towards equipment and activities to help tackle climate change at Greater Cambridge Shared Waste, such as through the purchase of new electric bin lorries
- £667,000 towards initiatives to improve and adapt waste services, encourage recycling and minimise waste
- £500,000 towards land drainage and maintenance of the 275 kilometres of awarded watercourses that we are responsible for maintaining
- £150,000 for more electric vehicle charging points in the district.

There are also more grants for community groups to tackle climate change in their villages and funds to install a solar farm to power electric bin lorries. Extra funding was also put into the creation of two new staff roles to focus on providing money and housing advice. They will be a source of support to residents who continue to face pressures on household budgets – particularly due to the impact of COVID and the rising cost of living.

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Finance, Cllr John Williams, said:

“We’re extremely proud of our latest budget; it puts climate change firmly at the centre of our ambitious plans to work towards a net-zero carbon South Cambridgeshire.

“Alongside this, it shows we have a firm financial footing with which to continue delivering vital frontline services that residents rely on – covering everything from emptying your bins to ensuring we provide homes for those most in need, carefully planning for the future of our area, plus so much more.”

Around 40% of our net annual budget is funded from local Council Tax. The rest comes from sources outside of our control, including Business Rates and grants. A £5 per year increase in our portion of Council Tax for the average band D home was agreed, to ensure essential frontline services continue to be delivered effectively and action can keep being taken to tackle climate change in South Cambridgeshire.

The majority of Council Tax we collect is passed to Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police, Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and parish or town councils.

Find out more about our Business Plan on our website.

➔ www.scams.gov.uk/businessplan

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A DAY MAKES

"It's the best home improvement we have ever made. Our conservatory is now our dining room in the garden."

Mike Millis,
Middleton On Sea

**SUBSIDIES
AVAILABLE**

*Quote Ref
SCB0322

There are many reasons to change your conservatory roof with Green Space UK



INSTALLED IN 1 DAY

"What a difference a day makes as the saying goes, and yes, that's all it took to install."

Mr & Mrs Barber, *Wells*

WARMER IN WINTER

"There is no doubt that the conservatory is much warmer than previously, and no, the room is not darker either!"

David Birch, *Chichester*

USABLE ALL YEAR ROUND

"The conservatory is now used throughout all seasons of the year and is far more comfortable to sit in whatever the weather outside."

Mr & Mrs Gibson, *Portishead*

MOULD & CONDENSATION

"This is the best thing we have done in this house. Used to run with condensation and now zero."

Karen Thomas, *Chippenham*

COOLER IN SUMMER

"You could have fried an egg on the table in there in the summer, I now look upon the conservatory as a new room. It is quiet, restful and cosy."

Carol Doyle, *Surrey*

REDUCES ENERGY BILLS

"I've already turned the underfloor heating down. Lovely job guys, thank you!"

Anne Bird, *Bristol*

QUIETER IN BAD WEATHER

"For the first time in 10 years we do not have to close the door to the conservatory when it rains, as the noise is minimal and before I found it difficult to hear the TV over the loudness of the rain on the old roof."

Mr & Mrs Bailey-Webb, *Warsash*

CONTACT-FREE

We can offer **contact-free** installations, and perform these in less than a day!



Get a price for your conservatory roof

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www.greenspaceconservatories.co.uk



*Finance subject to status, T&C's apply. Subsidies are limited by area and not guaranteed. Putting off your enquiry could reduce the potential subsidy available to you



Access Equity
Release Cambridge

Busting The Myths of Later Life Lending

A lifetime mortgage is a form of equity release. Equity release is about giving people the flexibility and choice to unlock cash from their home in later life. But a lifetime mortgage is a big financial decision – and a lot of myths still remain about how they work.

We've busted some of the biggest myths around lifetime mortgages.

Contact your local qualified specialist

George Diamond B.A. (Hon) Dip PFS CEMAP CeRER

Gdiamond@accessequityrelease.com

01954 710 540

www.accessequityrelease.com

MYTH

"I won't own my own home anymore."

FACT

Having a lifetime mortgage does not mean you are selling your home to the lender. It's a loan secured against your home that will be repaid when you die or move out of your home and into long term care.

MYTH

"I'll end up paying more than the value of my home — my children will inherit my debt."

FACT

Lifetime mortgages are protected by the Equity Release Council's "no negative equity" guarantee; you, or your estate, will never owe more than the value of your home. This means you will never have to pay back more than the amount your property is sold for.

MYTH

"I won't be able to move house."

FACT

You can transfer the lifetime mortgage to a new property, providing the property is suitable. Get in touch with your adviser if you want to check property suitability.

MYTH

"I already have an outstanding mortgage — I can't release equity."

FACT

Even if you have an outstanding residential mortgage, you can still release equity — providing you use the lifetime mortgage to repay the interest-only mortgage first. This is dependent on the equity available and the terms and conditions of the mortgage.

MYTH

"I'll have to make monthly repayments with a lifetime mortgage."

FACT

Some products do offer the option to pay off interest, but you are not obliged to make repayments at all. You may prefer to allow the interest to roll up and be repaid when you die, or move into long term care. There are a range of products to suit your needs.

MYTH

"Equity release is just a last resort for people desperate for money."

FACT

People say they have or would take out a lifetime mortgage for many reasons. More than a third use the money to refurbish and renovate their home. 17% use the money for a dream holiday and 13% use the money to help buy a new vehicle.

We will take you through the Equity Release journey from start to finish, helping you understand how the products work, what the risks and benefits are and how to find the right solution for you.

We provide you with a friendly, professional advice service. We will make a recommendation to you once we fully understand your needs. If Equity Release is right for you, we will then help you through the application process and make sure you remain completely in control.

Other Important Information

- Interest is added to the amount you owe each month, and the amount owed will increase quickly over time.
- If you're considering repaying debts, you should think carefully before securing debts against your home.
- Arrangement fee applies
- There may be cheaper ways to borrow.
- A lifetime mortgage will reduce an inheritance.

Access Equity Release is a trading name of Your Mortgage Decisions Ltd who are authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority FRN 459763. Registered in England & Wales No 05909047 and whose Registered Address is 19, Eventus, Sunderland Road, Market Deeping, PE6 8FD. We provide an initial consultation free of charge and without obligation. We will advise you and make a recommendation to you. If you decide to go ahead with our recommendation, we charge an application fee of £99 and advice fee of £1495, which is payable on completion.

WARNING: Equity release reduces your estate's value and may affect any means-tested benefits you're eligible for. A lifetime mortgage, which is a loan secured against your home, is the most popular form of equity release and you will still own your home. Think carefully before releasing equity and make sure it's right for you.

Getting out and about this spring

With Easter weekend and school holidays fast approaching, now's the perfect time to start planning what to do with friends and family this spring. South Cambridgeshire offers a host of activities and days out, right on your doorstep.

Have you seen our website dedicated to helping local people find new attractions to explore, places to eat and meet up, walks through the countryside, and more?

Since launching in September 2021, we've listed more than 200 local businesses, attractions and events.

Make sure to make our website your first stop when you start planning your days out this spring.

👉 www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk

Searching for inspiration for 'Days out with the kids', 'Outdoor dining', or 'Getting outdoors'?

If any of these sound familiar, why not follow us on Instagram and discover our eight local 'Guides'?

We have eight Instagram guides to help you find the information you need to support local businesses in a way that suits you.

Looking for the best Sunday roast? Want a preview of historical and cultural attractions in our area? Unsure of what weekly markets take place in villages near you? Perhaps you want to try out a refill shop, or find the best local bakery. We have an Instagram guide for each of these. Follow us on Instagram for hyper-local information from local businesses.

📷 www.instagram.com/southcambs/guides

These projects have been made possible thanks to funding from the European Regional Development Fund's Welcome Back Fund.

Visit South Cambridgeshire's village markets

Did you know that many of our villages host regular markets on a weekly, bi-weekly or monthly basis?

Markets are an age-old English tradition with many of them previously held on a Sunday to entice patronage from those going to church. A surge in the 13th century saw some 2,400 markets emerge as English monarchs awarded a charter to local lords to create markets and fairs for towns and villages.

Nowadays our markets still form an important part of our communities, often taking place at the weekend, and offering the opportunity to engage in friendly chat whilst browsing stalls selling everything

from local or home-made produce to hand-crafted gifts and personal care products – often including eco-friendly and sustainably sourced items.

If you'd like to find out which villages near you have a regular market, take a look at the Visit South Cambs website or social channels.

👉 www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk

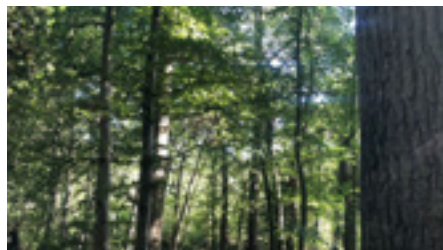
📷 📺 📱 @VisitSouthCambs



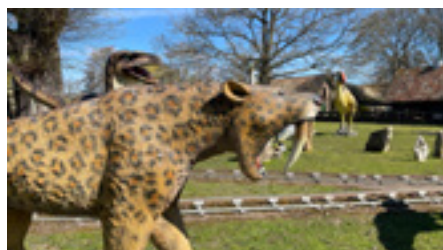
Bicycle Bakes at Histon Country Market



Crafty Sue at Orwell Pannier Market



Fulbourn Fen forest



Shepreth Wildlife Park



Wandlebury Country Park



Scimitar Care Hotels

*First Class Residential Care for Senior Citizens
in North London, Stansted & Cambridge*

We provide
long and
short-term care
so that carers
can take a
break



SCIMITAR CARE HOTELS PLC

The Lodge, Coopers Lane Road
Potters Bar, EN6 4AD | 01707 665515
ContactUs@ScimitarCare.co.uk

Being green to our core

With the need for action in the face of the climate emergency more pressing than ever, we wanted to share some of the things that we have been doing to promote green initiatives in the district.



We have one electric bin lorry as part of our Greater Cambridge Shared Waste fleet with Cambridge City Council, along with several electric vans. This includes an electric van for our Dog Warden and Envirocrime teams. Electric vehicles help to reduce our fleet's emissions.



We are nearing the completion of our project to upgrade 1,800 streetlights to LEDs to save both electricity and money for parish councils.



Our Six Free Trees project last year encouraged the successful planting of 227 trees around South Cambridgeshire, bringing volunteers together to help increase canopy cover around the district.



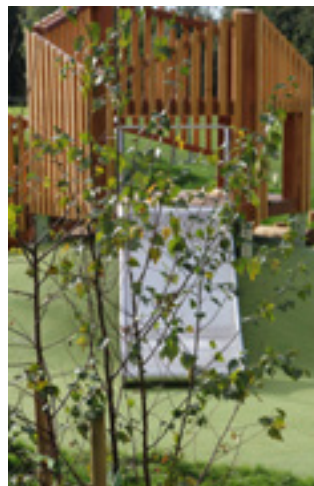
Our Green Connect community networking events have engaged 132 residents, bringing them together to share inspiration and ideas on how to tackle climate change.



We have seen the successful completion of more of our Zero Carbon Communities Grant Scheme projects including a wildflower meadow in Foxton, a conversion to infrared heating at the Ploughman Hall in Willingham and the delivery of multiple climate diet campaigns through Cambridge Sustainable Food.



We have worked with the Solar Together Cambridgeshire scheme to promote the installation of 1.93MW of Solar PV panels in homes across the district, saving 384 tonnes of carbon dioxide!



Our project to make our main office much greener (by retrofitting energy efficiency measures and installing renewable energy systems) is nearing completion. Our bold early actions mean that our carbon footprint will be drastically reduced and we will save even more money than originally planned.

Find out more about these projects and other schemes we are involved in.

🖱 www.scambs.gov.uk/zero-carbon ✉ ZCC@scambs.gov.uk



Zero Carbon Communities

Supporting local climate action



If you are interested in green initiatives locally, you may have come across our Zero Carbon Communities programme, which puts on events and runs schemes to allow residents, businesses and parish councils to get involved in climate action in their area and help us meet our net-zero targets across the district.

These include our Six Free Trees project, our Climate and Environment Fortnight every February, and our Green Connect community networking events.

Chair of our Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, Cllr Pippa Heylings, said:

“Being green to our core has been a priority for us for several years. Central to our programme is our Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme, which offers grants of up to £15,000 for projects which reduce carbon emissions or engage

the community in climate change.”
“Previous projects have included upgrades to LED lighting, setting up electric bike schemes and planting a forest garden; grassroots initiatives to tackle climate change on a very local level.”



Applications for the 2022 grant will open in the spring. Keep an eye on our website for information on how to apply, or sign up to our quarterly Zero Carbon Communities newsletter by email.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/zero-carbon-grant

✉ zcc@scambs.gov.uk

Six Inches of Soil

For our first Climate and Environment Fortnight, we supported the production of locally produced film ‘From the Ground



Up’, which features farmers in South Cambridgeshire who are working to regenerate their soil and to boost biodiversity on their farms.

Through correct land management, farming can help to address climate change by taking up and storing more carbon in soils. Find out more or watch the short film on Carbon Neutral Cambridge’s website.

➔ www.carbonneutralcambridge.org/from-the-ground-up

The film was so well received that the production team has begun work on a national version of the film, ‘Six Inches of Soil’. Find out more or support the project online.

➔ www.sixinchesofsoil.org

Apply for energy improvements to your home

An estimated 80 households in South Cambridgeshire are set to benefit from energy improvements to make their homes easier to keep warm, thanks to £6.5 million of funding from central Government.

Through Action on Energy Cambridgeshire (a collaboration between Cambridgeshire councils), work to improve the energy efficiency of privately owned homes in Cambridgeshire can be funded.

To be eligible, households will need to:

- have an annual income below £30,000
- live in a property with an Energy Performance Certificate rating of D, E, F or G.

People who are owner-occupiers of their homes will be able to access full grant funding, whereas landlords with eligible tenants will be able to access up to two thirds of the total costs of works.

The funding will be awarded on a first come first served basis to eligible applicants within South Cambridgeshire. Register your interest online or by contacting us.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/action-on-energy



A win-win for food hubs and food waste

Food hubs are a great way of distributing food to people in need, whilst also cutting back on the food waste that can be created by businesses and households.

Food waste is a serious issue. According to the Waste and Resource Action Programme we waste about a third of all food produced for human consumption, which would be associated with 36 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions. 25% to 30% of greenhouse gases are created by the production of food alone.

Through its production, the wasted food has used a lot of fresh water, land, labour and energy. For it to go to waste is a waste of these resources, as well as a waste of money. Yet at the same time, food prices are going up and up, and there are residents across the region who are struggling to afford to buy food. The challenge is to ensure people who need food can access this excess food while it is still of good quality, to reduce both food waste and food poverty.

Gamlingay Food Hub

Gamlingay recently set up a food hub, which is already a well-used community centre. Food is donated from the Co-op, M&S, the village shop and the local allotment society, and the service is advertised through Facebook and in the Community Centre.

The hub is also supported by Cambridge Sustainable Food, The Need Project, us at South Cambridgeshire District Council and the local Baptist church, with a large number of volunteers working on the project five days per week.

Council Leader and District Councillor for Gamlingay, Cllr Bridget Smith, said:

“This is a tremendous scheme to save perfectly good food from being wasted. Every day, all food that is available will be distributed or handed out, ensuring nothing is thrown away. In December, 90 turkeys were destined for waste, until Gamlingay Food Hub matched the turkeys with grateful recipients. Since its launch in September, the food hub has diverted over 3 tonnes of food from landfill.”

Does your community need a food hub?

If you are thinking about setting up a food hub in your community, the following tips are a good place to start.

Tips to get started

- What kind of food hub do you want to set up? A closed food bank where people need to go through a screening process to collect food? Is it only for people in food poverty? Or do you want to set
- up a food hub that anyone can access, where people can browse and pick up surplus food? Will you offer both perishable and non-perishable items?
- What sort of location could you operate the food hub from? A centrally located space that's readily accessible to the local community will work best, by making it easier for people to get to
- Do you have a dedicated person to take leadership of the idea, who can oversee the project and coordinate the initial stages of setting up the food hub?
- Can you gather a dedicated volunteer group with people who are regularly able to work as drivers, packers, distributors and so on?
- Are your local shops, supermarkets, farm shops, or allotments willing to regularly donate food items?
- Can you access sufficient funds to cover costs such as a community fridge/freezer, or rent of the premises?
- Have you thought about aspects such as food hygiene certificates?



Left to right: Bode Esan, Head of Climate, Environment and Waste; Councillor Bridget Smith, Leader; Rev Adrian Semerene, Lead Pastor of Gamlingay Baptist Church

Where can I find a food hub?

Pictured you can see the locations of food hubs and food banks across Greater Cambridge. Find out more about any of the food hubs or food banks online.

➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/food-hubs



For support in setting up a food hub in your community please contact Cambridge Sustainable Food.

➤ www.cambridgesustainablefood.org ✉ info@cambridgesustainablefood.org

Funding may also be available for your project. Please visit the Council's website for information about grants you may be eligible for. ➤ www.scambs.gov.uk/community-action

Food Waste Action Week: dates for your diary

We've made a date with Food Waste Action Week on 7 to 13 March. We know that wasting food feeds climate change, and we can all take action to waste less food at home.

Keeping on top of food dates can help to keep your food out of the bin:

- Best Before dates are about the quality of your food. You can safely use food after this date by checking how it looks and smells.
- Use-by dates are for safety. You shouldn't use food that has gone past it, but it's still fine to eat on the use-by date itself.

By checking your fridge regularly for food coming up to its use-by date, you can plan how to use it up. Or, if you can't, most foods can be frozen up to and on their use-by date, so you can use them up later.

Find more tips to reduce food waste online.

➤ www.lovefoodhatewaste.com





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Community Chest Grant funding increases

Apply for up to £2,000 for projects that leave a legacy in South Cambridgeshire – up from the £1,000 maximum award previously available.

A few other changes have also been made to the criteria. Of the £91,000 total fund, community groups and parish councils of any size can now apply for funding falling into the following three categories:

- £50,000 will be reserved for communities wishing to produce a community-led plan (sometimes also called a parish plan). This includes updating an existing plan, or creating a new plan
- £10,000 is ring-fenced for biodiversity projects to enhance the natural environment and deliver a sustainable increase in local biodiversity
- and, until 12 April 2022, the eligibility criteria have been revised to allow applications for up to £700 to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, for instance through purchasing a commemorative bench or planting a tree in honour of the Jubilee.

Recent recipients

- St Mary's Church in Fen Drayton received £888 for repairs to their church bell, enabling it to chime again after a period of two years.
- Cottenham United Colts FC received funding for much needed sports equipment.
- Arthur Rank Hospice received funding to create an area of the hospice garden dedicated to scent.
- Sawston Boys' & Girls' Brigades received funding for new basketball hoops.

If you are not a parish council, your community group needs to be non-profit making to be eligible for funding. If you are unsure of eligibility or would value support in the application process, please get in touch.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest



Repairs were made to the church bell at St Mary's Church, Fen Drayton



£77,920 granted to projects supporting young people impacted by the pandemic

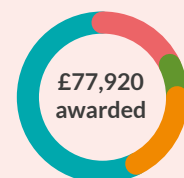
In winter 2021, a one-off grant was set up to invite groups and organisations to apply to fund projects which would help children and young people who have lost social connection and experienced two years of disrupted education as a result of the pandemic.

The £4,000 to £8,000 grants per project could be used to support communities to develop new initiatives to build resilience and wellbeing; to motivate and

empower young people; to provide opportunities for young people and their families to engage in positive activities which would benefit physical health and mental wellbeing; or to address social disadvantage and inequality.

13 groups were successful, each receiving between £4,158 and £8,000, with a total of £77,920 awarded.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/young-people-grants



Tackling anti-social behaviour
£15,000



Environmental groups
£4,860



Cooking and nutrition workshops
£13,290



Mental health support
£44,770

BRACKENBURY MANOR, HISTON

This delightful development is situated close to the Village Centre of Histon. Built to a high standard by Bovis Homes Ltd in 2007, it comprises of 46 one and two bedroom lifestyle apartments. It is surrounded by landscaped gardens and has ample car parking. The owners enjoy an active social calendar. The Manager who is on duty between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday, welcomes visitors to view the development.

Please contact Rose Woodley on 01223 232 330 for further information.



DARWIN MANOR, CAMBOURNE

Ideally positioned in the Centre of Cambourne, with excellent access to all shops and local amenities, including the Health Centre and Library. Darwin Manor has 32 one and two bedroom apartments surrounded by gardens and gated car parking.

The Managers are available Monday to Friday between 9am and 1pm and would be pleased to show visitors the spacious owners' lounge, guest suite, grounds and available apartments.

Please contact Suzanne Lane or Elaine Russell on 01954 710 020 for further information.



CAVENDISH COURT, CAMBOURNE

This full service development benefits from a central location in Cambourne. It was built to a high quality by Bovis Homes Ltd in 2003 and comprises of a mixture of 48 one and two bedroom apartments.

It is staffed 24 hours 7 days a week and owners enjoy a range of services including a restaurant, owners' lounge, hobbies room, guest suite, lovely gardens and gated parking.

The Management Team welcome viewings.

Please contact Chris Morris or a Duty Manager on 01954 714 406 for further information.





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Do you lead fitness or wellbeing activities?

You could be eligible for £300 funding

Instructors are invited to apply for up to £300 to lead fitness and wellbeing activities in South Cambridgeshire.

If you lead an existing group, or want to set up a new initiative, you could be eligible for the £300 grant funded by Cambridgeshire County Council. Providers running multiple groups can apply to fund multiple programmes.

The grant is designed to cover costs such as venue hire for up to six weeks, with new participants being entitled to four free sessions. Once the free sessions are complete, participants would be expected to begin paying a small fee to continue participation, meaning that the initiative should become a sustainable source of income for the instructor.

If you're interested in applying for the £300 grant, you will need to demonstrate that there is need for your proposed programme in the local area. You could liaise with the parish council or Primary Care Network to check whether there is a gap in provision in the community, or whether your programme will address a specific health need that isn't catered to.

Individual instructors, Primary Care Networks, or people running community facilities or leisure centres are all eligible to apply. Applications will be invited throughout 2022.



Find out more or apply online.

👉 www.scambs.gov.uk/lga-grant ✉ duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk

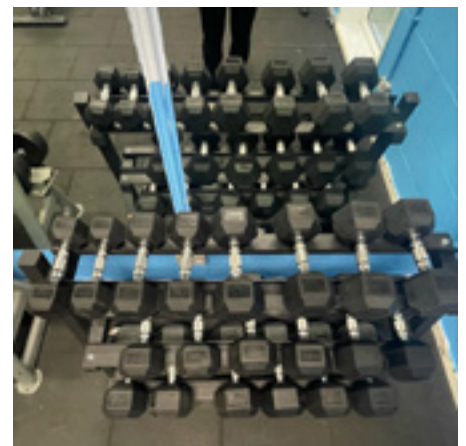
£50,000 funding helps community leisure centres back on their feet

In the second half of 2021, the Council awarded seven community-run leisure centres a share of £50,000 Government funding, to help them encourage previous gym-goers to return, and to attract new members. The local gyms make it possible for people to access facilities close to home, and play a key part in our Active and Healthy 4 Life exercise referral programme, which supports rehabilitation from a range of conditions and helps people to remain healthy while awaiting surgery.

- £2,666.57 for Bottisham Leisure Centre to promote and run our exercise referral scheme, with extended opening hours and staff training.

- £7,454 for Gamlingay Community Gym to support leasing arrangements, buy equipment and help the community to run the gym.
- £8,589.63 for Impington Leisure Centre to buy equipment and attract people who don't currently exercise.
- £3,372 for Linton Leisure Centre for new equipment and to train the duty manager in GP referrals.
- £8,000 for Melbourn Leisure Centre to refurbish and buy treadmills and repair the trampoline and fitness suite floor.
- £5,817.80 for Sawston Leisure Centre to become a pilot project for a modified version of our exercise referral scheme.

- £14,100 for Swavesey Sports Centre to introduce chair-based exercise programmes and Nordic walking and to update the centre with new gym equipment and outdoor work-out stations.



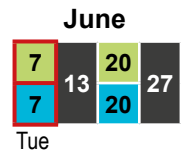
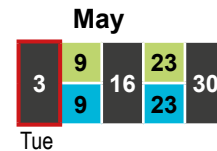
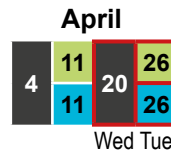
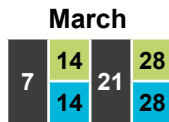
Bin collection calendar

Bins must be put out by 6am on your collection day. Close lids fully. Please report missed collections between 3:30pm on collection day and 3:30pm the next working day. For advice on how to leave out extra recycling for collection and other policies, see www.scams.gov.uk/bins

● Green bin
 ● Black bin
 ● Blue bin
 ○ Change of date

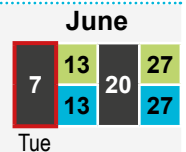
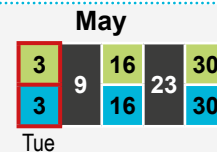
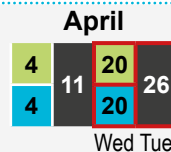
MONDAY A -

Balsham, Carlton, Cherry Hinton, Fulbourn, Great Wilbraham, Horseheath, Little Wilbraham, Six Mile Bottom, Stow-cum-Quy, Teversham, West Wickham, West Wrating, Weston Colville



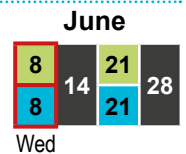
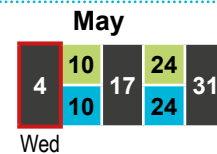
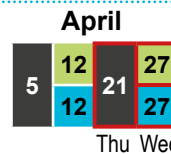
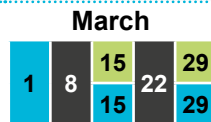
MONDAY B -

Babraham, Bartlow, Castle Camps, Great Abington, Hildersham, Linton, Little Abington, Pampisford, Sawston, Shudy Camps, Whittlesford



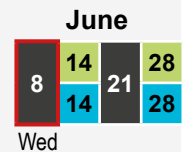
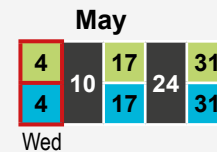
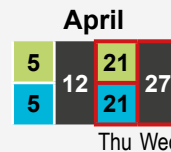
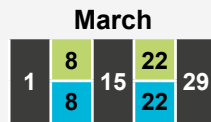
TUESDAY A -

Duxford, Fowlmere, Great Chishill, Great Shelford, Harston, Hauxton, Heydon, Hinnton, Ickleton, Little Chishill, Little Shelford, Newton, South Trimpington, Stapleford, Thriplow & Heathfield



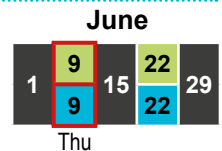
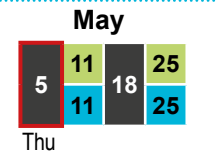
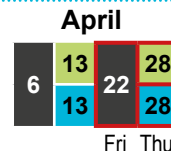
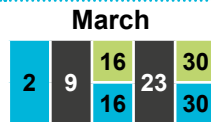
TUESDAY B -

Barrington, Foxton, Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth



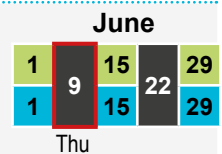
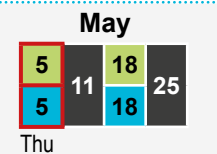
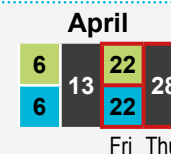
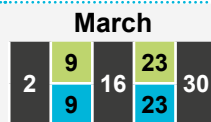
WEDNESDAY A -

Abington Pigotts, Barton, Bassingbourn, Grantchester, Guilden Morden, Harlton, Haslingfield, Litlington, Orwell, Shingay-Cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden, Whaddon, Wimpole



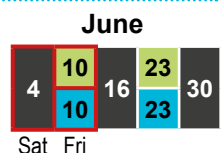
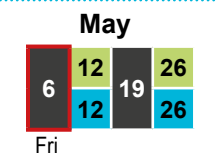
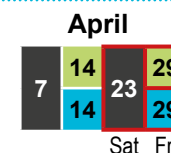
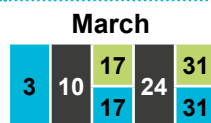
WEDNESDAY B -

Arrington, Caldecote, Comberton, Coton, Croydon, Gamlingay, Great Eversden, Hardwick, Hatley, Kingston, Little Eversden, Little Gransden, Longstowe, Madingley, Tadlow, Toft



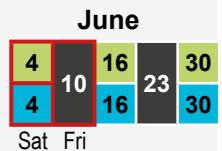
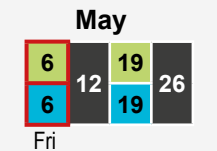
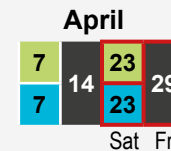
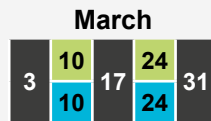
THURSDAY A -

Bourn, Boxworth, Cambourne, Caxton, Childerley, Conington, Croxton, Elsworth, Eltisley, Graveley, Knapwell, Papworth Everard, Papworth St Agnes



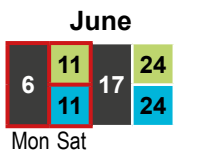
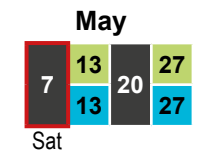
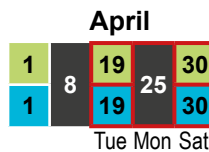
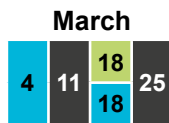
THURSDAY B -

Bar Hill, Dry Drayton, Fen Drayton, Girton, Lolworth, Longstanton, Northstowe, Oakington, Over, Swavesey, Westwick



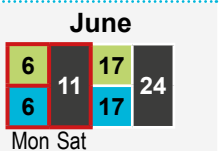
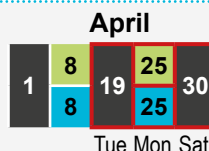
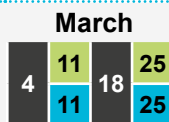
FRIDAY A -

Cottenham, Histon, Impington, Landbeach, Orchard Park, Rampton, Willingham



FRIDAY B -

Chesterton Fen, Chittering, Fen Ditton, Horningsea, Milton, Waterbeach



What goes in your blue bin?

Yes

No

Recycle ✓ Clean ✓ Empty ✓ Don't bag it



Cardboard



Paper & magazines



Tins, cans & foil



Aerosol cans



Wrapping paper
(except foil/plastic)



Glass bottles & jars



Cartons



Plastic pots, tubs, trays & bags



Plastic bottles



Shredded paper
(in envelope or clear sack)

- ✗ Black bin bags or rubbish
- ✗ Nappies, tissues, kitchen paper, wipes & sanitary waste
- ✗ Polystyrene
- ✗ Glasses, flat glass or glass dishes
- ✗ Mirrors, Pyrex, plates/crockery

The following can be recycled elsewhere – check our website.

- ✗ Clothing and textiles
- ✗ Food, liquid or garden waste
- ✗ Wood, plasterboard & DIY waste
- ✗ Furniture or electricals
- ✗ Scrap metal e.g. pans
- ✗ Hard plastics e.g. bucket
- ✗ Crisp packets

Please put used batteries in a clear plastic bag and NOT in your bin. Tie the bag to the handle of the blue bin. Batteries must not be put inside the bin. Small portable household batteries can be put in the clear bag - e.g. AA, AAA, 6v, 9v, D, C, button, laptop and mobile phone batteries.



What goes in your green bin?

Yes

No

Compost



Untreated wood and sawdust



Garden waste



Cooked/uncooked food waste (including meat, fish and dairy)



Used paper tissues and kitchen paper

- ✗ Plastic & plastic bags
- ✗ Compostable bags e.g. Biobags
- ✗ Nappies, wipes and sanitary waste
- ✗ Soil or stones
- ✗ Painted or treated wood
- ✗ Cat or dog waste
- ✗ Plant pots and seedling trays
- ✗ Loose ash (wood ash CAN go in the green bin, but only if enclosed in paper bags)

What goes in your black bin?

Yes

No

Reduce

Please try to reduce other rubbish that cannot be recycled or composted



General rubbish including nappies, wipes, sanitary waste, polystyrene, broken crockery or glassware (wrapped).

- ✗ Rubble/bricks
- ✗ Soil
- ✗ Very heavy items
- ✗ Electrical items
- ✗ Batteries
- ✗ Loose ash (any ash can go in the black bin, but must be bagged, not loose)

Housing that is truly affordable for everyone to live in

Our housing colleagues have been remarkably busy over the last few years delivering much-needed new affordable homes.

To meet the increasing demand, we have built a mix of one- and two-bed apartments and maisonettes, and two- to four-bed houses in villages such as Great Abington, Hardwick, Impington and Sawston.

Cllr John Batchelor, our Lead Cabinet Member for Housing, said:

“We have worked extremely hard to achieve our Business Plan target of doubling the number of new council homes being built ahead of schedule. In 2021-2022 alone, the team have delivered 89 new council homes. This compares to 36 being built in 2019-2021 and 64 in 2020-2021. This shows we are committed to providing housing that is truly affordable for everyone to live in.”



Find out more about our council homes on our website. www.scambs.gov.uk/housing

“We are committed to providing housing that is truly affordable for everyone to live in.”

Cllr John Batchelor, our Lead Cabinet Member for Housing



Apartment living

We are now delivering more one- and two-bed apartments. While this kind of living may not be what you expect to find in our villages, there are huge benefits to these new homes.

Our homes are warm

All our new properties are built to high energy efficiency standards.

Our homes are affordable

All our new homes have rents capped at the Local Housing Allowance rate. The high levels of energy performance mean that energy bills are lower, giving tenants more certainty at a time when prices are rising.

Our homes are green

Our energy efficient homes have a lower carbon footprint. Many of our new homes also include other green features like solar panels, air-source heat pumps and green roofs, helping to tackle climate change.

Our homes are modern

Our new build homes are bright, spacious and open-plan, with hard-wearing flooring, and contemporary kitchens and bathrooms.

Our homes have great access to outdoor space

Most of our modern apartments have private balconies, as well as shared gardens and good connections to wider development features like playgrounds.

If you are interested in one of our Affordable Rent properties, please register with Home-Link.

➡ www.home-link.org.uk



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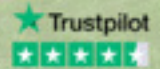
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Support to run safe public events

Our Safety Advisory Group (SAG) is made up of representatives from the Council, emergency services, other relevant bodies and event organisers, to help people run events safely.

Our aim is to help organisers to ensure their events are safe and well-managed in accordance with best practice and legal compliance, involving cooperation and coordination between all relevant agencies.

Typical areas covered can be COVID risk assessments, health and safety, crowd and traffic management, food safety, noise, security, fire, first aid and welfare. The Safety Advisory Group has supported events ranging from air shows and music and sporting events, to firework displays, charity fêtes and fairs.

Executive Director at the Imperial War Museum Duxford, John Brown, explained regular meetings are held on behalf of events at the Museum:

“These are opportunities for our event planning to be tested with all local authority departments and the emergency services, both in theory and with practical multi-agency exercises.

“The SAG is our critical friend that helps refine and coordinate our work and ensures that all agencies work together effectively on the day.

“The atmosphere is professional and helpful and leads to much closer working throughout the year, not just on major events. The network locally is excellent and really positive.”



Find out more or contact us to discuss your planned event.
👉 www.scambs.gov.uk/SAG

How to check ahead on food hygiene before eating out

Ever had an upset tummy after eating out and wondered all too late about an establishment's hygiene rating?

Checking ahead online is very easy on the Food Standards Agency website.

👉 <https://ratings.food.gov.uk>

The National Food Hygiene Rating Scheme runs in partnership with local authorities and helps you choose where to eat out or shop for food, by giving clear information about a business's hygiene standards with a rating displayed at their premises and online.

The ratings span from 5 stars, where hygiene standards are very good, down to 0 stars, when urgent improvement is needed. The ratings give a snapshot of food hygiene standards found during inspections in restaurants, pubs, cafés, takeaways, food vans and stalls, canteens, hotels, schools, hospitals, care homes, supermarkets and other food shops.

It is the responsibility of the business to comply with food hygiene laws related to handling, storage and preparation of food, cleanliness of facilities and how food safety is managed. The

rating does not cover the quality or presentation of the food, or standard of customer service.

Next time you eat out, why not look out for the establishment's rating at the entrance? Businesses with a 5 star rating will proudly display this for customers to see.



A boost for biodiversity

New planning guidance has been created to help developers better protect and enhance biodiversity when development takes place in our area.

What is in the guidance?

- 100% of all new homes will require an integrated nest box for species such as swifts
- 25% of new homes on housing developments will need to include bat boxes
- Fences will need to feature gaps for hedgehogs and other species to roam more freely
- Green roofs will be encouraged, to create valuable habitats of flowering plants and grasses for wildlife in urban settings
- A reduction in artificial lighting – which harms nocturnal species in their habitats, woodland edges, hedgerows and wetlands – will be required
- Advice related to provisions in the Environment Act that give developers a two year window to transition from current rules around biodiversity to new rules that will require a 10% increase in biodiversity as a result of development.

The guidance comes in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This is a technical planning document which will now be a “material consideration” in planning decisions, meaning that the guidance must be considered and applied, alongside other existing planning policies and considerations.

Find out more about these projects on the website.
➔ www.greatercambridgeplanning.org

Cllr Dr. Tumi Hawkins, our Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, said:

“This document is going to be invaluable to developers, and will positively impact all of our surroundings in Greater Cambridge.

“Greater Cambridge has well below average tree cover and relatively little nature-rich land – and we are committed to changing this.

“By setting out easy-to-read guidance to assist developers in meeting obligations, the SPD will help support our Doubling Nature Strategy, and ensure that every new development plays its part in increasing biodiversity in our area.

“The guidance will enable developers to ensure early on in the planning process

that biodiversity is protected and enhanced through their building projects. One of the key things outlined in the SPD is a mandatory 10% net gain in biodiversity, meaning that developers must leave more habitat than they take, in line with the Environment Act.”

The Knights Park residential scheme at Eddington (pictured below) is a positive example of new development placing biodiversity at the forefront. The development recently won the 'Building with Nature Award' at the Housing Design Awards in September 2021. The development provides integrated habitats to support biodiversity as well as sustainable drainage features that capture downpours to alleviate flooding, while also providing water to the habitat areas.





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Northstowe: a growing new community

The new town of Northstowe is being built alongside the guided busway in South Cambridgeshire on the site of the former RAF Oakington base and surrounding farmland northwest of Cambridge.

It will eventually consist of 10,000 new homes and an anticipated population of around 26,000 people.

The first resident moved into their home on 11 May 2017. By January 2018 there were 56 homes occupied; 279 were occupied by January 2019; 529 by January 2020; 741 by February 2021; and, by January 2022, 984 homes were occupied.

The first Northstowe Town Council elections were held in May 2021 and 15 councillors were elected to serve for a single year. In May 2022, a new election will be held, in line with the rest of the district's parish or town council, and district council, elections.

We employ two Community Development Officers for Northstowe whose roles are to help residents become part of their new community, feel integrated, and be proud to call Northstowe home. Our Community Development Officers work with the community to help residents establish new groups, such as Sustainable Northstowe and Northstowe Sports and Wellbeing.



Residents are now enjoying newly created open spaces, including the Water Park in Phase 1, the backdrop for the successful Northstowe Running Festival in September last year. Given its success the organisers, Northstowe Running Festival Events, are planning further events this year including the first Northstowe Half Marathon on 24 April.



✉ Northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk 📍 www.scambs.gov.uk/northstowe

North East Cambridge Area Action Plan

The North East Cambridge Area Action Plan has been recently approved by South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City councils for future consultation.

The Plan has undergone a number of changes following an earlier round of public engagement, in summer 2020. This includes reducing building heights and densities, providing more open space and children's play areas close to homes, and identifying the types of community and cultural facilities which will support the residents living within and around this new city district on the edge of Cambridge.

The proposals for this brownfield site now include five new centres, where people will be able to shop locally; an indoor sports hall and outdoor sports courts for recreation; as well as a requirement to deliver biodiversity enhancements and low water usage exceeding national standards.

The development will not be car free, but parking provision will be lower than most new developments to help manage the impact of congestion and to make the most of the public transport and new walking and cycle links planned.

Consultation on the Plan will take place once the outcome of Anglian Water's application to build a new waste water treatment plant is known. The new facility will be located on a site area north of the A14 between Fen Ditton and Horningsea within the Cambridge drainage catchment area, to replace the existing plant on Cowley Road. If Anglian Water's project is approved by Government (the decision on which is anticipated within the next two years), we expect consultation on the Area Action Plan will follow. After that, the public comments and the Plan will be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate for a public examination.

📍 www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/NEC

2022 community forums

Community forums are public meetings that take place for major new developments around South Cambridgeshire and on the edge of Cambridge. They bring together residents, developers, planners, councils and other partners to discuss new developments.

Each forum meets three times a year, except for developments that are more mature, which may meet more frequently. Forums are open to everyone.

Historically, meetings took place in person at a suitable venue within each development, however, during the pandemic, meetings have moved online using Zoom Webinar.

Forums are chaired by Councillors, with assistance from Council staff. The forums consist of a mixture of formal presentations as well as time for questions and answers.

Each meeting is recorded and, together with materials from the meeting, posted online as a public record for the previous six meetings. Older material can be provided by request using the contact details below.

If you would like to send a question for discussion, or simply would like to know more about a new development, please visit our website.

You can find contact details for each forum, and sign up to a mailing list to receive alerts for the forums you are interested in.

Cllr Bill Handley, Lead Cabinet Member for Community Resilience, Health and Wellbeing at South Cambridgeshire District Council, said:

“Our community forums are a great way for residents to get involved and find out more about new developments. Help us to shape discussions which are of interest to our residents by sending us questions in advance.”



Forum dates for 2022

Generally, all forums are held on a Wednesday evening, starting at either 6pm or 7pm. Full information and agendas are available online in the week before the event.

Forum	Spring	Summer	Autumn
Northstowe	23 March	13 July	12 October
North East Cambridge	9 February	29 June	5 October
East Cambridge	23 February	22 June	19 October
Waterbeach	2 March	15 June	16 November
North West and West Cambridge	16 March	20 July	9 November
A428 Cluster: Bourn Airfield	9 March	6 July	2 November
A428 Cluster: Cambourne	9 March	6 July	2 November

👉 www.scambs.gov.uk/communityforums

✉ duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk

Getting involved in the planning process

Our Greater Cambridge Shared Planning service processes more than 6,000 planning applications a year, across a huge range of projects and sites in South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City.

When each planning application is submitted, it begins a journey involving several key dates – and there are opportunities to get involved along the way.

We aim to decide on smaller applications within eight weeks, or 13 weeks for major ones. In certain circumstances these timelines can be extended.

When we receive an application, it is reviewed to check it is valid and meets national and local requirements. Once we have confirmed it is valid, we send out an acknowledgement letter to the applicant. The application then appears within the online planning portal.

➔ www.greatercambridgeplanning.org

At this point, we will send out notification letters to people who live next to the site that the planning application covers. In some cases, we will also put up a notice at the site. A 21-day public consultation period will follow either from the date that letters are sent out to neighbours, or from the date that a notice is put up at the site; whichever is later.

At the end of the consultation period, all relevant views are considered, and the application will be 'determined' (decided). The online planning portal will show when an application has been determined, along with the decision that has been made, and a report written by the planning officer who has been dealing with the application.

However, some applications won't be determined by planning officers; instead, these applications will be sent to our Planning Committee to be determined. The Planning Committee is a group of elected Councillors, rather than Council staff. The Planning Committee concentrates on the most contentious and significant proposals.

Our Planning Committee meetings are broadcast live online. They usually take place monthly. You can watch them, along with many of our other meetings, by following the links to the events calendar on our website.

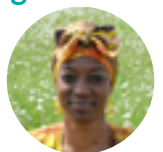
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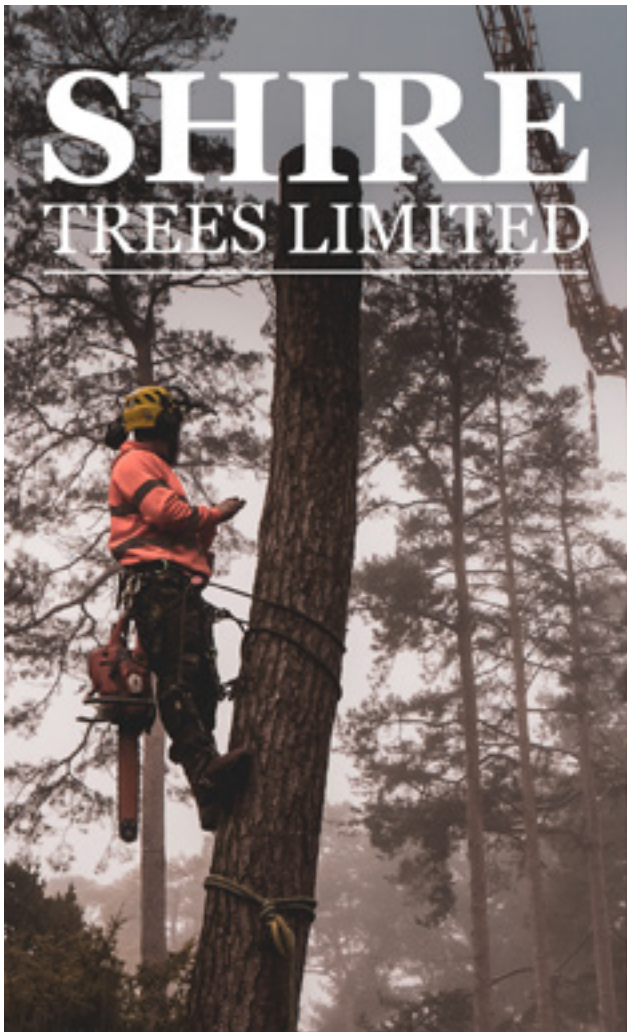
The Planning Committee will work through planning applications within the agenda. Residents and members of the Planning Committee present their views, both for and against, for each application. There will then be a debate and a vote on whether to approve, refuse or defer the planning application.

Our Lead Cabinet Member for Planning, Cllr Dr. Tumi Hawkins, said:

“There is a real opportunity for all of us to get involved with the planning process, each time an application is submitted.

“Having your say can often lead to improvements in plans, along with what is eventually built and where; so I'd encourage you to contribute to the debate.”





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What's it like working at the Council?

Spotlight on the crews collecting your bins

Having our bins emptied each week is something we all appreciate, and it wouldn't be possible without our team of 77 loaders and 53 drivers.

They empty just over 165,000 bins each week from 127,000 households within South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City, and one crew can empty as many as 1,400 bins in one day. The bin lorries are also put through their paces – each of the 47 vehicles are driven around 300 miles each week and can carry a maximum of 15 tonnes (the weight of three elephants).

The job is quite physical, walking up to 12 miles each day, but this is one aspect of the job that refuse loader Matt says he enjoys: "Being outside and able to keep fit with all the walking, moving the bins and getting in and out of the truck is a bonus when being at work as it saves going to the gym."

Each crew is assigned to a particular type of bin (black, blue or green household bins, or the business collections), and they will do the same set of rounds, which repeat on a fortnightly basis. Developing a work pattern also helps reduce the number of individual missed bins reported.

Steve, one of our lorry drivers, says:

“Doing the same rounds means we can become more efficient with emptying the bins; we can finish the rounds quicker, and also get a chance to build relationships with residents and customers.”



Gary, Matt and Steve, three of our crew

If there are sicknesses or absences, these are covered by back-up crews and if it is the case that a whole street is missed because of the non-regular crew, we'll return to empty these the following day if it is reported to us.

Being a refuse driver or loader means early starts. Crews begin their rounds as early as 5:30am, but that means that the working day is over no later than 2pm.

Another of our lorry drivers, Gary, says: "Having a good work-life balance and being able to make the most of my afternoons by picking up my kids from school and spending time with them is something that I really appreciate."

There are also ways to progress and move into different roles within the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service. Both Steve and Gary started out as loaders, before beginning their driver training qualifications, which the Council covered the cost of. Another colleague, Jason, was a loader who had previous experience in computer studies and programming.

As the service became aware of Jason's skills, he was able to take a role in the data team, where he has now been for eight years maintaining the database which feeds into the driver's display units, as well as assisting with all other waste data projects.

Jason said: "I was really happy when my previous qualification and skills were recognised, so that I could use them to benefit the Council. I felt privileged to be offered the opportunity and I've always used the move to improve crews' digital information, helping out the teams I used to work with."

There's a space here for you

If you like the sound of a job that gets you out and about, with an early start and early finish and good opportunities for progression, take a look at our current vacancies online.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk/jobs

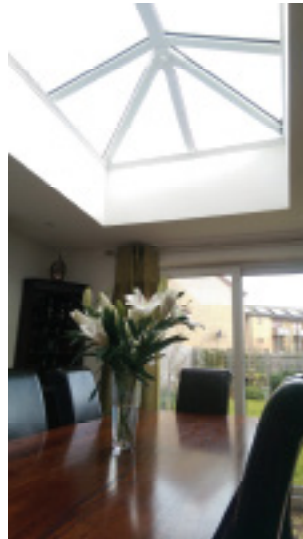
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STAY COOL

'Green' Building Regulations will take effect in June 2022

Are you affected?

What are Building Regulations?

Building Regulations are minimum technical standards set by the Government which regulate the construction, extension, and alteration of most buildings. They are designed to protect people's safety, health and welfare in and around buildings. Building Control professionals such as 3C Building Control carry out independent checks to make sure this happens.

Building a new home?

From 15 June 2022:

- there will be a limit on the number of windows you can have to stop your home from becoming too hot
- you will have to consider how you are going to make sure your new home has enough fresh air, and
- you will need to increase your insulation so that your new home does not lose heat; this will also help to reduce your heating costs.

Altering, extending or refurbishing your home?

From 15 June 2022:

- if you are replacing your heating system, you will have to make sure that it is capable of being extended to include any new technology that is developed in the future
- if you have an extension on your home, it will need to be insulated to keep you warm
- if you have an extension on your home or are replacing windows, then you will need to have appropriate ventilation.

Building a new home, converting a building into a new home, or undertaking major renovation to an existing apartment block?

From 15 June 2022:

- you may have to install provisions for electric vehicle charging.

If you are affected, what should you do next?

If you are planning building work, our team at 3CBC can help you in the early stages of your project by giving expert technical advice to you and your builder.

A qualified Building Control Surveyor can assess your proposed scheme and recommend improvements to make energy efficiencies as part of this work.

In spring 2022, 3CBC will be hosting online awareness sessions for residents on Building Control, Fire Safety and Sustainability. Contact us to find out more.



🖱️ www.3csharedservices.org

✉️ buildingcontrol@3csharedservices.org ☎️ 0300 772 9622



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A luxurious hamper of goodies worth £125

Read on for your chance to win a luxurious hamper of goodies worth £125 from Bury Lane Farm Shop, Café and Fun Barn, a family-run farm shop just north of Royston, on the A10 Melbourn bypass to Cambridge.

Established over 30 years ago and now a unique destination in the South Cambridgeshire area, this large farm shop has something for everyone.

Situated on the edge of their flower, houseplant and asparagus farm that is the wholesale side of Bury Lane, the retail space has an amazing selection of quality gourmet products and ingredients for food lovers including a traditional in-house butcher, fresh fish from Thursday to Sunday, an all-British artisan cheese counter and a cellar department with a selection of wines, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages.

There is also a fabulous Gift Hall where you can pick up toys, games and puzzles, fashion accessories, stationery, gift toiletries, candles, kitchenware, cards and wrapping. Plus there's a large garden shop stocking tools, garden accessories, barbeques, garden furniture, seeds and a plant area.

After all that retail therapy you can relax in the Farm Shop Café with home cooked food, quality sweet treats and hand-crafted drinks. Or take the children to the purpose built indoor soft-play Fun Barn, which also has a fantastic outdoor play area, 'The Beach @ Bury Lane', which opens for the warmer months from April to October.

Looking further ahead to the autumn, from October to December the garden shop transforms into a winter wonderland of Christmas decorations, trees, fairy lights and magic!

Whenever you choose to visit, expect a warm and friendly welcome, great customer service and an exceptional shopping experience.

Look up Bury Lane online for more information and up to date opening hours.

➔ www.burylanefarmshop.co.uk

📍 Bury Lane

📷 @BuryLaneFarmShop

To enter

To be in with a chance of winning, just answer this question:

How many Council homes were built in the last financial year?

a) 29

b) 69

c) 89

You can enter the competition online.

➔ www.scambs.gov.uk

Click 'Apply' and then 'Reader's competition'.

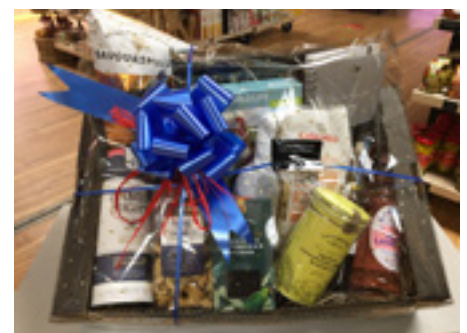
Don't have Internet access?

You can enter by post. Send your name, address and telephone number, along with your answer to the question, to:

✍ South Cambs Magazine Competition,
South Cambridgeshire District Council,
Cambourne Business Park,
Cambourne, CB23 6EA

Closing date for entries is 5pm on Monday 18 April 2022.

Terms and conditions are available at www.scambs.gov.uk/t-c or can be requested by calling the Council. Winners will be notified by Friday 22 April and announced in the summer issue of South Cambs Magazine.



Winner's spotlight

After correctly answering the question in the winter 2021 issue of South Cambs Magazine, Mrs Human won tickets to a show of her choice at the Cambridge Corn Exchange. She said: "I am delighted to have won two tickets to a show at the Cambridge Corn Exchange. I don't normally enter competitions, I just happened to see this in the magazine and thought I would give it a try. I was surprised and happy to receive the news that I had won and thank those involved for giving away such a lovely prize."

adc theatre corpus playroom

Photo: KIPPS: the New Half a Sixpence Musical, January 2022

Credit: Liv Clark



Marlowe Society

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

by William Shakespeare

A play about two vastly different couples who fall into a world of love and deceit, pride and dishonour, tension and resolve, with a cacophony of wildly funny interferences.

TUE 8 - SAT 12 MARCH AT 7.45PM
TICKETS: £11.50-£14

Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

by Betty Comden, Adolph Green, Arthur Freed, Nacio Herb Brown

Singin' in the Rain brings to you the classic, golden-age movie musical adapted for the stage, originally starring Debbie Reynolds and Gene Kelly.

WED 16 - SAT 26 MARCH AT 7.45PM
MATINÉES SAT 19, THU 24 & SAT 26
MARCH AT 2.30PM
TICKETS: £13.50-£16

Avalon

LUKE KEMPNER: MACHO MACHO MAN

With a hilariously razor sharp roster of contemporary impressions ranging from Piers Morgan and Bojo to Ru Paul, Luke has become a household name and is bringing his highly anticipated brand-new show, **Macho Macho Man** on the road.

SUN 20 MARCH AT 7.30PM
TICKETS: £15

Combined Actors of Cambridge

OUR COUNTRY'S GOOD

by Timberlake Wertenbaker

May 1789 - a fleet of eleven ships containing 759 convicts set sail for the other side of the world. The convicts are allowed to perform the first British play ever to be staged in Australia to celebrate George III's birthday.

TUE 29 MAR - SAT 2 APRIL AT 7.45PM
TICKETS: £11.50-£14

Avalon

JONNY PELHAM: OFF LIMITS

Jonny has something to say that's usually off-limits for dating, family gatherings, hanging out with mates and most social situations really...

So what better place to talk about it than in a comedy show with a bunch of strangers? **Off Limits** is a personal, provocative and hilarious hour that should not be missed.

CORPUS PLAYROOM
SUN 3 APRIL AT 7PM
TICKETS: £12

Between the Bars

ONCE

Book by Enda Walsh; Music and Lyrics by Glen Hansard and Markéta Irglová; Based on the Motion Picture by John Carney

Winner of eight Tony Awards, **Once** tells the unforgettable story of a Dublin street musician and a piano-playing Czech immigrant drawn together by their shared love of music.

TUE 5 - SAT 9 APRIL AT 7.45PM
MATINÉE SAT 9 APRIL AT 2.30PM
TICKETS: £11.50-£14

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FRI 15 - SAT 16 APRIL AT 7.45PM
TICKETS: £11.50-£14

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