

Seek



July & August 2025

The Church and Parish of St Mark Cambridge

www.stmarksnewnham.org

The Vicar's Letter



Dear Friends,

I was struck recently by a line in Mark's Gospel (chapter 6, verse 31):

'Jesus said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while". For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure'.

Given the context, it is not perhaps surprising that the disciples needed a break. After all they have just been promoted to being 'apostles,' that is, people who are sent out. Earlier in chapter 6, Jesus commissioned the 12 to go out on a mission, in pairs, and on foot, preaching and teaching. It is from this venture that they are described as just having returned.

And so he tells his busy new recruits to stop. To down tools and drift a little, to drag a toe in the cool waters and consider the clouds.

It is a basic principle of Bible teaching that there is a time for labour and a time for leisure. The Sabbath is commanded of us. The rhythm of the seasons is fashioned for us. And Jesus frequently, repeatably, took himself away, retreated to a quiet place, to be still.

And yet we need firm encouragement to do likewise. We live in a society of what the Catholic Philosopher Josef Pieper called despairingly 'total work.' A situation whereby labour is privileged over leisure.

As any holiday or luxury snack advert will tell you, leisure is a snatched moment of escape from the daily grind. But it is the daily grind which is the norm. It is our work which is the substance of our life. It is our labour, our productivity, which defines us and justifies us, and proves our worth. And we have come to assume an association between what is 'good' and what is the difficult, and the hard-earned.

So argued Pieper and I have to say it chimes with my own experience in ministry. I am sure I am not the only person here who cannot take time off without a twinge of guilt. And I cannot tell you how often I have heard

people who are too sick or elderly to work confess to feelings of worthlessness; of feeling like a spare part.

In his brilliant, little book 'Leisure, the basis of Culture,' Pieper spoke of how a truly Christian society combats this. He reminds us that the Latin for 'business' is *negotium* - which is, as it sounds, a negative term: it literally means 'not-leisure.' Leisure comes first. Leisure is primary, and industry is a momentary diversion from it; not the other way around. And this is because, for the Christian:

'Everything gained and everything claimed follows upon something given and comes after something gratuitous and unearned.'

This is not to say that effort and hard work are not good or necessary, or that it is impossible or bad to take pride in one's work.

But, if overvalued, if overpromoted as the only measure of human worth, it becomes like the cuckoo in the nest: forcing out those other parts of our humanity and leaving us unrecognisable from the creature Christ died to give birth to. One that, for all the trials of life, has tasted freedom in the soul.

Leisure is not an escape from reality, but an encounter with it, in the person and promises, the unconditional love and assurances, of Jesus Christ.

'Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.'

'Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.'

'The Lord is my shepherd...he makes me lie down.... he leads me beside *still waters* (literally translated, that phrase means 'waters of rest'), he restores my soul.'

If, both individually and collectively, we are to be not only saved but also sane, we must re-establish this connection between holiness and holiday. Between rest and worship. We mustn't lose hold on those things which the world might consider marginal, peripheral, inconsequential - the simple pleasures which frame our working lives: the un-diaried, unwaged realm of dreams, of silliness, of playfulness, of contemplation, creativity and companionship. The stuff that won't feature prominently in our CVs, or our obituaries, but through which we are blessed, restored, and find our rest, and meet our peace.

In friendship and faith

Parish Outing to Ely

on Tuesday 29th July



A visit to Ely Cathedral (including lunch in the Almonry) and a river cruise on the Liberty Bell.

Tickets cost £30 (which includes travel, a tour of the cathedral and the river cruise) and can be obtained from Sarah Perry (sarahperrywarden@gmail.com).

Itinerary

09.45	Pick up from Grantchester
10.00	Pick up from St Mark's
10.45	Coffee on arrival at Cathedral Almonry
11.15	Tour of the Cathedral
12.45	Lunch at the Almonry
14.00	Bus or walk to The Maltings
14.15 - 15.00	River Cruise on the Liberty Belle (30 minutes)
Tea Time	
16.00	Depart

Bring a Poem Evening

**Friday 4th July 7.30 pm
in the Community Centre**

We had an encouraging response to our invitation to come and read a poem of your own choice.

The evening will go ahead with some twenty readers covering a very wide range of poetry from Shakespeare to Carol Anne Duffy, via Kipling and Betjeman and many more.

We cannot fit in any other readers on this occasion, but you are welcome to come and listen to what looks like being an entertaining and fascinating evening .

. No charge for entry.

Any queries and further details from Derek Cummings and Nick Warburton.

Camsight : the July Charity



CamSight began life as the Cambridge Society for the Blind in 1912 and has served Cambridgeshire for over one hundred years. Two Cambridge ladies, Mrs Stace and Mrs Lilley, enjoyed the friendship of a blind neighbour, Mrs. Chandler. It was Mrs Chandler who suggested that a space should be made available for local blind people to come together for recreation and support.

From those beginnings it has grown into the organisation that it is today.

Mission, vision, and values

CamSight is a Cambridgeshire charity that supports local people of all ages living with low vision and blindness to live the lives they choose. We work to enhance independence, improve well-being, and improve inclusion. We work within our framework of five values, which are that we are person-centred, empowering, friendly, collaborative, and accountable.

Vision

A world of equality, in which people of all ages who are blind or have low vision achieve the possibilities they choose in life.

Values

At CamSight, we strive for a world of equality, in which people of all ages who have low vision and blindness achieve the possibilities they choose in life. In this mission, we aim to uphold the following values in all that we do:

Person-centred

Our beneficiaries are at the heart of everything we do at CamSight. We see individuals as whole people, not defined by one element of their lives.

Our work is holistic in approach. All are welcome at CamSight.

Empowering

We enable everyone to be able to reach their full potential. We provide the tools, information, and advice to allow people to live the lives they choose. We do not prescribe or dictate terms; we empower decision and action. We invest in our staff and volunteers to meet their aspirations and those of CamSight.

Friendly

We are caring and empathetic to all we work with. We are a friendly voice at the end of a telephone call or a friendly face to chat with over a cup of tea. We are responsive in our communication and in our work. We create a positive, professional environment in which to work.

Collaborative

We work well together and with others. We are flexible and adaptable in our approach, looking to build our partnerships and networks for the benefit of our beneficiaries.

Accountable

We are accountable to each other and to our beneficiaries. We monitor and report our impact, our finances, our progress, and our plans in an open and honest way. We build trust through transparency. We welcome feedback and we work to improve.

Registered charity number 201640.

Please support this charity generously on the 13th July.

Sue Payne

Parish Treasurer Needed

Do you have experience of working with finances?

Might you be able to fulfil this important role for the parish?

We'd love to hear from you.

For an informal chat or for more information please contact the vicar:

revjerobinson@gmail.com 01223 455 463.

Caring Together : the August Charity



Caring Together is a local charity supporting unpaid carers throughout our region. An unpaid carer is someone who looks after a family member or friend with an illness, disability or frailty due to age. Three in five of us will care for someone in our lifetime, and there are already over 150,000 carers across our region. That number will only increase in the years ahead. Despite how common caring is, many carers feel they are on their own.

Unpaid carers often find themselves plunged into a caring role with little warning and no end in view. They feel completely overwhelmed by the heavy responsibilities they shoulder. Many are exhausted from looking after their husband, wife, partner, parent, sibling, child or friend for hours every day. Sometimes that's in addition to trying to hold down a job, bring up children or attend school/college.

The plight of young carers is especially acute. Imagine being a child (some as young as five) looking after a mum, dad, brother or sister who is ill or disabled? You might come home from school and start the washing up, prepare the evening meal, do the online shop, help dad take his medicine, clean the house, help mum turn your brother over, or sit down to pay the bills. No hanging out with friends; no football club; no Brownies; no Xbox; and no watching TV. And it's even hard to get time to do homework or revise for exams. No wonder most young carers feel their education has been badly impacted.

Our vision is of a world with no unpaid carer in crisis, isolated or struggling alone. We provide information and advice, run services and provide support to make a caring role more manageable for the carer and the person they support. We can help with respite care. And 'What If' planning to manage unplanned emergencies. You can reach us on 0345 241 0954 or hello@caringtogether.org. Our website is full of useful information – www.caringtogether.org.

What unpaid carers do has never been more important for those they care for, and for the burden they remove from our hard-pressed health and social services. We work hard to secure funding from the NHS and our Local Authorities, which we supplement with grants and generous donations from our local community.

So donations from the St Mark's community are vital to enable more help and support to be available to unpaid carers. They will make a real difference to carers in our local community, and you can be sure they will be spent wisely and carefully.

Stuart Evans

Stuart Evans is Chair of Trustees at Caring Together. He and his wife moved to Newnham in 1984 to bring up their family and have been unpaid carers for many years.

The Church Fête

Despite the weather the fête on the 7th June went extremely well and the really heavy downpour only occurred as the last of the clearing up was being done. It raised over £16,000 which will be divided between the church and a nominated charity.

St Mark's Church Mission Statement

To be the people of God in this place and to work to make God more real for our community.

Sheila Harrison, Nonagenarian

Very many thanks to Sheila for agreeing to be interviewed for Seek. I had a wonderful time interviewing her. Jane Plows

Sheila was born in Cheshire on the 8th December 1934, the oldest of six children, including two sets of twins. Her father was manager of the Winnington Works of ICI and her mother a talented pianist who numbered all her children amongst her many other pupils. They were a lively family, highly competitive in sport and the many board and card games they played, who would gather round the piano to sing together from the Community Song Book. For holidays they would go camping in Cornwall or, during World War II when the Cornish beaches were inaccessible, Anglesey. Their home became vulnerable when war broke out as it was directly under the flight path of the bombing raids on Liverpool docks and so, at the early age of seven, Sheila was sent to boarding school.

Her teenage memories include the magical experience of singing Bach's B Minor Mass in the Albert Hall as part of the Massed Schools Choirs in 1948. This kindled her love of choral music which has lasted her entire life and she has sung in many choirs over the years. Her other abiding memory is of her French exchange when she stayed with a highly cultured Parisian family and Madame undertook her cultural education. This included introducing her to *Carmen* at the piano and then taking her to see it performed at L'Opéra. Her exchangee, Marie Claire, was to have as much of a culture shock when she was introduced to Cornish camping.

Sheila's first job, during what would now be described as a gap year before going to St Andrew's University, was as a Researcher for ICI. As an aspiring historian she was given the task of identifying disused rock salt pits which presented a risk of subsidence in that area of Cheshire. Her research eventually contributed to material in the Salt Museum in Northwich. (Sheila was delighted when in 1998 David, who had worked as director with the Salter's Institute charity, was elected to the Salters Livery Company, a fitting reconnection to salt after many years!)

She greatly enjoyed her time at St Andrew's which included singing in the Chapel Choir. To modern readers it will seem extraordinary that she did not have a career path mapped out but only when her father attended her graduation did he ask her how she planned to earn her living. By chance he had shared a compartment on the train travelling north with a man who worked for the BBC who had suggested that his daughter might find it a good place to work. When she asked who she should write to he replied, "Write to The BBC Presentation Department, W1. She duly applied and after three rounds of interviews was accepted as a trainee on a three year course to become a studio manager.



All broadcasting was live in those days and the training included providing sound effects for *The Archers* and working on the *Today Programme* and *Woman's Hour*, amongst others, and for the World Service. Her first job upon qualification was to manage a talk by Professor Charles Dodd, an elderly theologian involved in the translation of The New English Bible. The rehearsal went smoothly but at the actual broadcast she cued him in and nothing happened. She tried for a second time with no response. Extremely anxious, for this was a live broadcast, she advanced and touched him gently on the shoulder only to discover that he had fallen asleep. He roused himself and immediately delivered his talk perfectly.

Sheila found her natural home in Schools Broadcasting and started writing history scripts. In 1961, to develop her understanding of teaching and with the encouragement of the BBC, she signed up to do a PGCE (Post Graduate Certificate of Education) at Oxford. She completed the course but never returned to the BBC for during that year she attended a pre-skiing party in Cambridge and there she met David.



They were married in Selwyn College Chapel the following summer and she began life as a Tutor's wife, a role that was to develop over the years into Senior Tutor's wife, Vice Chancellor's wife and Master of Selwyn's wife as David's career progressed.

As a young university wife she quickly became aware of the plight of young women who accompanied their husbands coming to Cambridge as visiting scholars. Their husbands, and in those days it was almost exclusively men, were absorbed into their departments and sometimes colleges, their older children went to school, but the wives were isolated and in those pre-internet days had few social networks.

Sheila became part of the group of volunteers who set up the Visiting Scholars Programme which is still flourishing today. They divided the city up and were responsible for tracking down the women in their area. They took over space in the recently opened Grad Pad (Graduate Centre) providing coffee, a crèche, an information table and eventually English classes, for which she trained in 1975 at the Bell School as an EFL (English as a foreign language) teacher.

The next few years were busy with university life and a young family and included sabbatical years in the USA, where they arrived with three children under three and 13 pieces of luggage, and Australia before, in 1979, David became Vice Chancellor of Keele University, the first of the new universities, in Staffordshire.



Life was busy and included entertaining (they regularly hosted Princess Margaret who was very involved as the Chancellor of the University and took her role very seriously), formal and informal events and developing a Visiting Scholars programme, but much of her energy went into supporting the groups of Vietnamese boat people, as they were known, who were housed in a local disused army camp. They would come for three months during which time they were taught basic English, introduced to British culture and had their health problems addressed before being re-housed elsewhere in the country. With her EFL training Sheila was quickly drawn into teaching the untrained volunteer teachers how to teach English and became closely involved in the programme. Later the University Education Department invited her to teach the same skills to their students.

When the camp closed Sheila might have felt at a loose end but a friend encouraged her to visit the office for Home Tuition for Excluded Children in Newcastle under Lyme. She put her head round the door and was greeted with the question, "Would you prefer a girl with a brain tumour or a boy with two broken legs?" This became a new focus.

In 1984 David moved on to become Vice Chancellor of Exeter University where both Sheila and David worked hard to make their home a place of welcome for members of the University, for visitors and for the

local community. She once again initiated a Visiting Scholars programme and was moved to see the support the Iraqi and Iranian wives gave each other during the Iraq-Iran War which was raging at the time, and also taught in the English Department.

Then in 1993 David was invited to become Master of Selwyn College where he had been undergraduate and tutor and senior tutor.



And so the Harrisons returned to Cambridge where they had maintained their many friendships and where they had kept their house in Gough Way. In addition to being closely involved in all aspects of college life and the Visiting Scholars once more, Sheila returned to

and became active again in St Mark's where she and her family had attended Bill Loveless's Family Services many years before.

In 2000 David retired and they moved back to Gough Way where they had been among the first residents in 1964. Their many links with the College, the wider University and many other institutions and organisations as well as the couple's gift for friendship ensured that their life remained active and busy. When David died in 2023 it was the end of a long and happy partnership. We are fortunate that Sheila remains so closely involved in life in Newnham and at St Mark's.

Sheila tells me that one of her pleasures today is seeing the close relationship there is between Selwyn College and St Mark's now, with Arabella as Chaplain of the College and Jim as our Vicar.

Jane Plows

Save the Date - Parish Quiet Day

There will be a parish quiet day on Saturday 13th September
at Little Gidding Retreat House

Led by Canon James Shakespeare, Spirituality Advisor to the Bishop
More details to follow.



Dasha Tenditna
Photographer
portraits, events,
documentary, lifestyle

+44 777 131 2301
Instagram@dasha_tenditna
FB: dasha tenditna
Email: dasha.tenditna@gmail.com

Advertise in this magazine

11 editions each year and also online

Small advertisement £45 per annum, Large advertisement £80 per annum.

Contact the Editor
janemp@virginmedia.com



Do you need care visits at home?

Greenwood Homecare provides quality care in Cambridge and the surrounding areas

✓ FREE ASSESSMENT
✓ DAY, LIVE-IN OR NIGHT CARE AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Visit: greenwoodhomecare.co.uk
Email: bethane@greenwoodhomecare.co.uk
Call: **01223 850938**

The Gospel According to...

Why do we have four gospels in our bibles? And what is unique about each one as they tell us the good news about Jesus? We are delighted to announce a wonderful series of introductory talks at St Mark's by a line-up of four internationally respected scholars who are also excellent popular speakers. They will each present a talk at St Mark's on one of the four gospels. The talks will take place at the church on Sunday afternoons at 3pm once per month from this September to December. You'll want to mark your diary for these!

The first two speakers don't need much introduction as they are part of our own church community. Prof Richard Bauckham, retired Professor of New Testament studies at St Andrews University and senior scholar at Ridley Hall, will begin the series with Mark's gospel on September 7th. He will be followed on October 5th by Revd Dr Michael Thompson, retired former Vice Principal of Ridley Hall and Lecturer in the Cambridge Theological Federation, who will speak on Matthew.

For the next talk on Luke on November 2nd, we will welcome Revd Prof Steve Walton, Senior Research Fellow in New Testament at Trinity College, Bristol; Steve is currently writing a major commentary on

Acts. Finally, on December 7th, Professor David Ford OBE, Regius Professor of Divinity Emeritus in the University of Cambridge and author of a theological commentary on the fourth gospel will round off the series with a look at John's account.

So it's quite a line-up, as you can see! The format will be familiar to those who attended any of the Lent series of talks based on CS Lewis's book, *The Four Loves*, earlier this year. This time the speakers will be able to talk for a little longer (30 to 40 minutes) but, as before, there will then certainly be a chance to ask questions and for further discussion over tea.

With the prospect of such excellent speakers, it would be good to spread the word about the series. Perhaps you know someone who might be interested to attend one or more of the talks. The education and discipleship team at St Mark's which has planned the series is always keen to hear what it could usefully organise in the future, including informal gatherings like the church home groups, which combine study with the fun of meeting together. Ideas are most welcome!

Tim Verney

Replacement of the Narthex Doors

Update and Recommendation

1. The October PCC approved the manufacture of the replacement doors by Go Glass at a cost of £2,136 inclusive of VAT. Once the Faculty had been obtained the final cost including installation to be approved by the vicar, the churchwardens and the interim treasurer.
2. The Faculty has been obtained. Go Glass recommended that we use their approved installer Mark Green of MGS Services. Mark made an informal visit and quoted £2,010 inc. for a detailed examination of the doors, their remeasurement and the installation of the new doors. Mark has proved an invaluable expert.
3. The Findings: There is insufficient tolerance around the doors. It is as little as 1 mm at some points whereas it should be up to 4mm. This is why the doors stick. They have been made too large and one door is not a perfect rectangle. The bottom rail of each door needs to be shortened by 3mm. One door is mounted too high and one too low. It might have been possible to rectify this by the adjustment of the door closers, which lie below ground, but they have become rusted in. Mark has quoted £1,000 to replace them.
4. Options:
 - A. Replace the door closers without replacing the doors and ask Mark Green to make the best adjustments he can. Only a partial solution as the deficiencies in the doors themselves will remain and the centre patch lock will not be fitted. Cost: £1,800 inc.
 - B. Fit new identical doors with centre patch lock and new Dolma Spring Closers. Cost: Go Glass £2,442 inc. (increase as new drawings required), Mark Green £3,810 inc. Total £6,252 inc. Should last up to 10 years.
 - C. Redesign the whole front of the Narthex. A redesign would probably require a new framework of steel or similar on which to hang the doors. It is an awkward job which may not be attractive to an architect or engineer. It would require a new Faculty. It would take 2 to 3 years. At current prices it could cost £15,000. Meanwhile we would continue as now and face the prospect of only being able to use the righthand door.
5. Recommendation: That the Standing Committee authorise Option B.

Alan Jones 24th May 2025

WHIZZ KIDS WANTED. ANY AGE.



St Mark's Church is putting together a team to help backstage with its occasional arts and drama productions. You'd have to push a few buttons, flick a couple switches and sometimes wield a screwdriver - at the right time and ideally in the right order.



Experts preferred (!) but full training could be provided.
As well as a bit of fun.

Email: njw364@gmail.com to find out more.

C.S. MARTIN PAINTING & DECORATING

For a complete and reliable interior and exterior decorating service

Free estimates and advice
Over 25 years experience

Please contact Chris on 01223 233613 or 07778338437

csm.decorating@gmail.com



CHIROPODIST & PODIATRIST

BEECHWOOD PRACTICE

41 HILLS ROAD

Celia Kenney, B.Sc. (Hons) Podiatry,
M.Ch.S, S.R.Ch.

Available for home appointments

01223 315541 07939 227195



CHIMNEY SWEEP

Professional and insured
Certificates issued

Advice given and problems solved

edcleansweep@gmail.com

07919 888990

www.cleansweep.co.uk

Based in Haslingfield



ARE YOUR LOCKS BEHAVING BADLY?

Specialist in UPVC & Wooden Doors No Call Out Charge No Fix No Fee
All Work Fully Guaranteed 10% Senior Citizen Discount

For More Advice & Help Call Christopher: **07772 111 222**

www.christopherthelocksmith.co.uk

A Local Trusted Family Business Since 1989

We Value Old Fashioned Customer Service

We Service All Old And New Doors



Extra sockets to full re-wires Part P registered Inspections and Testing

07870 372788

www.ds-electricalservice.co.uk

Call for free friendly advice



Quick Turnaround
and Home Delivery Available

PROFESSIONAL RACKET STRINGING SERVICES

Find us at:
Cocks and Hens
Grantchester Road
Cambridge
CB3 9ED

Contact Us:
www.drivevolley.co.uk
07703 358660



Day trips by bus from Newnham

All the bus routes below are **free** to holders of a Senior bus pass. The 'not before 9.30am' restriction has been removed. Other passes are available and passengers without a pass are recommended to buy an All Day Ticket for Whippet services and/or a Day Rider from Stagecoach.

Details are in the *Universal Bus Times and Routes booklets* or on www.whippetcoaches.com. A Stagecoach route timetable can be found by typing into Google e.g. "Stagecoach Cambridge bus 7" for details of buses to Saffron Walden.

Before making a trip, it is a good idea to go to Whippet **Service updates** which has details of any cancellations that day and is updated throughout the day. Stagecoach has a similar service, but their national site is more complicated to navigate.

Direct destinations from Newnham

U1,18 and18a and 75 buses, plus 199 on Tuesdays and Fridays. On average there are three or four buses an hour in both directions in daytime; in addition, U2 buses run half hourly between U1 times from the University Library, Rugby Club and Queens' College.

Towards town

U buses: Fitzwilliam Museum, Botanic Gardens, Railway Station, Addenbrooke's Hospital and Medical Campus (**U2 only** Hills Road)

18 and 18A: Scott Antarctic Museum, Regent St (Downing College), City Centre (Drummer St)

75 follows the same route as the 18 and 18A to Drummer St

199 Gough Way, Pinehurst, Newnham village to Queens' College, Market Square

From town

U buses: Churchill College, Eddington (Sainsbury's) Girton (**U1** only)

18 and 18A Grantchester (not 18A), Barton, Comberton Cambourne and St Neots (18 only)

Destinations requiring two buses from Newnham

Catch a second bus from **D St** (Drummer St); **Emm St** (Emmanuel St); **St A St** (St Andrew's St); **R Stn**; **Add** (Medical Campus)

Anglesey Abbey 11 (Stephenson's) from **D St**

Bedford 905 from **D St** or Storeys Way

Bury St Edmunds 12 (Stephenson's) **D St**

Coton nr Garden Centre) 4, X3, 905 from **D St** or Storeys Way

Duxford Myalls Sundays only from **R Stn**

Ely Best by bus to **R Stn** and by train

Girton 5 and 6 from **D St**, **Bridge St**

Huntingdon A and B via busway **B** from **D St**, **A** from **Add**

Linton 113A from **D St** (Can walk to Zoo)

Mill Road 2 from **Emm St**

Milton Keynes 905 to Bedford and **X5** to MK Centre and Rail Station

Newmarket 11 and 12 (Stevensons)

Newmarket Rd 3 from **St A St**

Oakington 6 from **Emm St**

Saffron Walden 7 from **Emm St** or **R Stn**

St Neots 18 from Newnham or **905** from **D St** or Storeys Way

Trumpington PR3 from Downing St or **T3** From Grantchester (see below)

St Ives B D St and **A Add** or New Square

Wandlebury Country Park X13 from **D St**



Notes

PR buses provide a frequent service to the Park and Ride sites around Cambridge and make some stops en route. **PR1 and U1** can provide a link from Bridge St back to Newnham via Madingley P&R. **PR3** is a quick run from Downing St to Trumpington and can be joined at the Botanic Gardens/Leys School stop from U1.

Tiger buses (T1 to T5) are an innovation with some new routes which only started in June 2025. These are provided by three existing companies but are still a bit of an unknown quantity. The only one that comes close to Newnham is the **T3** new hourly service from Grantchester to Trumpington P&R and on to Addenbrooke's and Fulbourn. In theory this could connect with 18 buses and provide an extra link between Newnham and Trumpington. I await reports.

Have a good summer of local travel!

Derek Cummings

Wildlife Trust BCN Update: July 2025



**Wildlife Trust for
Beds, Cambs
& Northants**

Summer is peak time for hoverflies, and they can be found anywhere there are flowers. They are useful pollinators, and amazing mimics, having the warning colours and appearance of bees or wasps, (so predators leave them alone), but without a sting.

There are over 280 species in the UK, and an average suburban garden might have 40. Did you know there is a hornet mimic which is a big fly with brown and yellow patterns, and a (hairy) bumblebee mimic which actually comes in two varieties to match different bee species, one black with a red tail, and the other with yellow stripes and a white tail? There is even a hoverfly with the batman symbol on its thorax! One of the most common, called the marmalade fly, has yellow and black stripes with little moustache patterns. This one can migrate from continental Europe.

The Wildlife Trusts and The Royal Horticultural Society have teamed up to provide a free booklet all about hoverflies, and how you can help them, you can find it on the [Wild About Gardens website](#).

July events (charges apply)

A complete list can be found on our website: wildlifebcn.org/events

Friday mornings, 9.30-11ish: Little Bugs pre-school sessions, Cambourne

Mon 14th 9.30-12: Monthly meander at Trumpington Meadows

Fri 18th 10.30-11.45: Seasonal stroll at Trumpington Meadows

Fri 18th 8.30-11pm: Night walk from Cambourne to Bourn Windmill

Sat 19th 9-12.30: Summer walk from Cambourne to Bourn Windmill

Wed 23rd 8-10pm: Nature and Natter, walk and campfire for adults, Cambourne

Sat 26th 10-3.30: Free drop-in for family activities and/or a chat at Trumpington Meadows

Tues 29th 3-5pm: Wilder Stories at Sawston Library

Wed 30th (Cambourne) and Thurs 31st (Trumpington Meadows), 10-12ish: the first of the weekly family sessions for the summer holidays, making mini rafts

The Wildlife Trust for Beds, Cambs, and Northants is a local wildlife conservation charity aiming to achieve bigger, better, and more joined up habitats for wildlife and people.

Rebecca Neal Local Organiser

Rebecca.Neal@wildlifebcn.org

Foodbank Dates

Please bring donations for the foodbank to church on Sunday 6th July.

Or leave them on Thursday 10th July at 19 Kings Road (Eleanor Scott) 9.00 am - 3.00 pm, or at 1 Millington Road (Rosey Gardiner) 8.00 am - 6.00 pm.

No St Mark's collection in August.

There is also a Tuesday morning collection point from 11.00 am to 12.00 noon at the Gough Way island with the postbox. In addition donations may be left up to the Thursday evening in the black plastic box on the driveway of number 14 Wootton Way, the home of Sarah Smalley and Martin Richards.

There is a collection point at the Co-op too.

Please note the change to the collection time for the weekly Tuesday collection point in Gough Way.

St Mark's Has Got Talent

The Arts and Events team is planning an event
for the afternoon of Sunday 28th September

In the Community Centre

at which members of the St Mark's family are invited
to be part of the entertainment.

So, if you would like to be involved – by singing, dancing,
reciting, performing a sketch, conjuring etc. – do let us know.

All ages welcome.

Speak to one of the team or email Nick Warburton
at njw364@gmail.com to register interest.

Seek is printed by

Parrot Print Ltd

01487 711107

rb@parrotprint.co.uk

www.parrotprint.co.uk

FRESHCUT

Turkish Barber

45 Newnham Road

9.00 - 6.30 Monday - Saturday

10.00 - 5.00 Sunday

07552 679 356

A caring and professional service at all times

Richard Stebbings Ltd Funeral Service

Kendal House, Cambridge Road,
Impington, Cambridge CB24 9YS

Tel: 01223 232309

Fax: 01223 232319

Member of the British Institute of Funeral
Directors



- Independent family business
- Personal 24 hour service
- Private Chapel of Rest
- Pre-payment funeral plans
- Monumental masonry
- Floral Tributes



C & C BLINDS

SPECIALISTS IN BLINDS
ANY SIZE ANY COLOUR

FREE ESTIMATES

01223 211171 07761 262070

Vertical Blinds, Roller Blinds,
Venetian Blinds, Wooden Blinds,
Roman Blinds, Pleated Blinds, Repairs

Rothwell's Carpet Cleaning

Carpet Cleaning Stone Floor, Upholstery, Rugs

In business since 1993

www.Rothwell.biz

01638 428 060 and 01223 832 928

We're an honest local family firm.

Our large truck mounted machines mean more cleaning & drying power for the
best results possible. 100% satisfaction or it's FREE.

Call Oliver and Max Campbell for expert help today.

La Maison du Steak

125 Hills Road
Cambridge, CB2 1PG
01223 324258
info@laimaisondusteak.co.uk/

We are more than just a Steak House. Come and discover us!





PAINTING & DECORATING
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
WALL & FLOOR TILING
PLASTERING
WOODWORK
REPAIRS

07411599219
WWW.COEHOME.CO.UK
INFO@COEHOME.CO.UK



Thinking of selling or letting?

Then contact the experts on **01223 323130** or visit rah.co.uk

LOCAL HANDYMAN

Andy Beeton

- General gardening and house maintenance
- Small painting jobs or repairs
- Also professional plasterer

FREE ESTIMATES

07800 871738

andrew.beeton48@gmail.com



Set down a leafy lane, our Ofsted Outstanding rated nursery cares for 2-5 year olds in a stimulating and fun atmosphere with excellent outdoor facilities.

Established over 50 years ago, we offer a happy, safe and secure environment with fully qualified staff.

Registered with the Government Early Years Funding Scheme

01223 356565

4a Millington Road, Newnham, Cambridge
www.millingtonroadnursery.co.uk

THE DERBY STORES

Newnham Post Office

Delicatessen/Newsagent

Jean and Neera

01223 354391

*Off licence, Provisions, Cakes/Biscuits,
Cheese Counter, Luxury Ice Cream*

6.00am - 6.00pm daily

Sunday 6.00am - 2.00pm

Garage Services : GP Motors

Newnham Service Centre
Eltisley Avenue
Cambridge CB3 9JQ
Tel: 01223 355574

www.gp-cars.com

e-mail: enquiries@gp-cars.com



PAUL WALDMANN

Designs in Wood

41 Norfolk Street

paulwaldmann169@gmail.com

01223 314001 07740 167055

Cabinet making

Furniture restoration

Interior woodwork

(fitted cupboards, bookcases, etc.)

www.paulwaldmannndesign.co.uk

latham
builders

40 Grantchester Road, Newnham, Cambridge

Lathambuilders@outlook.com lathambuilders.com

07528 772899

Beginners

PIANO TUITION

in your own home

Tel: 07834 420739

maureen.pritchett@gmail.com

Registered with Ofsted

The Cantus Singers of Cambridge

(Conductor: Alan Howard)

The next concert by the Cantus Singers at
St Mark's, Newnham, will be on

Saturday 5 July 2025 at 8pm

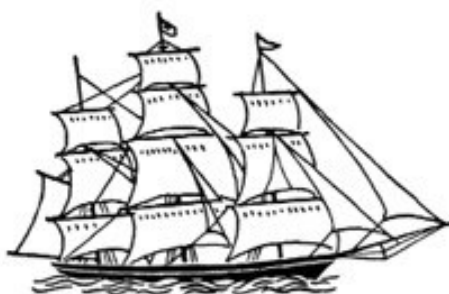
“The Voyage” by Bob Chilcott

Folksongs by Vaughan Williams and others

Partsongs by Mendelsohn, Elgar and Bishop

“Thule, the Period of Cosmography” by Weelkes

Tickets £10 in advance from
CantusSingersCambridge@gmail.com
or £12 on the door. Under 18s free



JUNIOR CHOIR

Open to boys and girls between 7 and 13.

Rehearsals in school term times,
5.00 -5.45 pm (snacks from 4.45) in the
Community Centre.

Contact Marcus, our Director of Music:
singing@stmarksnewnham.org

Prayers for July and August

God of Mission,
Who alone brings growth to your Church,
Send your Holy Spirit to give
vision to our planning,
wisdom to our actions,
and power to our witness.
Help your Church here in Newnham
to grow leaders, to grow younger,
to grow in numbers,
in spiritual commitment to you
and in service to our local community,
through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

A prayer adapted from the charity Leading your Church into Growth

God of justice and compassion,
As the violence rages, we turn to you.
As divisions widen and hatred deepens, we cry out to you.
As families are torn apart, as hostages live in fear,
as civilians are killed and injured, we lift up their souls to you.
How long, O Lord? In this day of trouble, we call upon you:
incline your ear and listen to us.
We plead with you for an end to the violence, for this war to cease.
Against all the odds, we pray that you would cause those in leadership in
Gaza and Israel to agree to an immediate and lasting ceasefire.
Our hearts break for the civilians of Gaza.
In the midst of fear and destruction, may they find refuge under the wings of
the Most High. May you open the way for full and immediate humanitarian
access
for food, water and medicine to reach all in need.
We pray too for the protection of all who have been taken hostage by
Hamas, and for their safe release.
O Lord, you alone are merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding
in steadfast love and faithfulness. Do not be far off; come to their aid.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

A prayer of lament adapted from the charity Embrace the Middle East

O Lord, you have given us your word
for a light to shine upon our path.
Grant us so to meditate on that word,
and to follow its teaching,
that we may find in it the light
that shines more and more until the perfect day;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A prayer after Jerome (AD 420)

Chosen by Mike Thompson

St Mark's Church Mission Statement

To be the people of God in this place and to work to make God more
real for our community.

Cambridge Open Studios 2025



Around 500 artists in Cambridgeshire will once again be opening their studios to visitors for up to 4 weekends in July.

The dates for this year are 5-6, 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27 of July from 10am-5pm.

In Newnham there are 6 studios this year - for more info and to check which weekends each studio is open follow the link below for the local trail map:

[blob:https://camopenstudios.org/aea8291d-73e3-441e-9fb2-e69622d1112b](https://camopenstudios.org/aea8291d-73e3-441e-9fb2-e69622d1112b)

You are warmly invited to come and meet the artists and have a look around these and other studios in July.

Regular Groups

Monday Bible Study

10:30am, alternate weeks – contact: Sue Wagner, 01223 563435

Thursday Home Group

7:30 pm, weekly – contact: Andrew Watts, aa.watts@hotmail.co.uk

Prayer Meeting

11.00 am every Friday at 10 Stukeley Close – contact: Anne Howie, 01223 356140

Choir

The choir sings every Sunday morning during term time and one Sunday evensong per month. Rehearsals are every Friday during school term time (5.00 pm - 5.45 pm *Junior Choir*, 6.00 pm - 6.45 pm *Adult Choir*) Contact Marcus Cox at singing@stmarksnewnham.org.

Junior Choir

Open to boys and girls between 7 and 13. Rehearsals are every Friday during school term time 5.00 pm - 5.45 pm (*Snacks from 4.45 pm*) Contact Marcus Cox at singing@stmarksnewnham.org.

Services at St Mark's Church, Newnham in July and August

Communion (BCP) at 8.00 am every Sunday

Sunday Services

6th July at 9.30 am	Communion
13th July at 9.30 am	Morning Worship
	Choral Evensong at Grantchester
20th July at 9.30 am	Communion
	Choral Evensong at St Mark's
27th July at 9.30 am	Communion
3rd August at 9.30 am	Communion
10th August at 9.30 am	Morning Worship
17th August at 9.30 am	Communion
24th August at 9.30 am	Communion
31st August at 11.15 am	Joint Service at Grantchester

Regular Weekday Services

Monday - Friday at 9.00 am Morning Prayer

Tuesdays

Weekly Communion (BCP) at 11.00 am followed by refreshments

