

INSTALL SOLAR PANELS

WITH YOUR EXPERIENCED LOCAL COMPETENT ROOFER

YOUR SOLAR **BENEFITS**

- Reduced electricity bills
- Reduce your carbon footprint
- Generate your own renewable electricity
- Store excess energy add a battery(s)
- Avoid rising fuel bills
- Sell excess energy smart export guarantee*

*Subject to status

Size of system	No of panels	Price (£)	inc 5kW battery
3 kW	6	£5,809	£7,879
4 kW	8	£6,264	£8,289
5 kW	10	£6,690	£8,498
6 kW	12	£6,989	£8,984
7 kW	14	£7,350	£9,345

Limited
Time Offer

Finance available

Buy now, pay monthly

Ask about our 0% Interest FREE Offer

iDeal 4 Finance

There are risks involved in taking out a loan and you should ensure you can make all payments on time and in full: failure to do so can lead to financial difficulties and have a negative impact on your credit score

PROJECTS 4 RENEWABLES FIND OUT MORE

Contact us today: 01223 258 049 | info@projects4renewables.co.uk



















Join the Corn Exchange's 150th anniversary celebrations

Council news in brief

Have your say on local government reorganisation

Our housebuilding partnership marks 1000th new home

Your guide to recycling and waste services

Simple changes to support the environment

Are your voter registration details up to date?

New butterfly trail takes flight

How AI is helping our **Planning team**

Invigorating activities this autumn - open to all

Homes for Ukraine scheme still looking for sponsors

Front cover: Jesus Green

Cambridge City Council does not necessarily endorse the products or services featured in advertisements in this magazine

Reguest an audio version of Cambridge Matters on CD for visually impaired people using the contact details below. For any editorial enquiries:

☑ communications@cambridge.gov.uk

01223 457290

Design, production and sales



Fireworks night on Saturday 1 November

Cambridge's spectacular fireworks display, one of the city's most eagerly anticipated annual events, returns to Midsummer Common on Saturday 1 November.

The free show is organised by the council and is one of the city's longest running events, regularly attracting crowds of up to 20,000 people. The event takes place from 6pm-9pm with the first rockets due to go up at 7pm. There will also be walkabout entertainment and music before and after the fireworks, plus plenty of food trucks to visit if you're feeling peckish.

Creating the display this year is the multi award-winning Pains Fireworks, who were

established in 1862, making them the oldest fireworks display company in the UK.

The spectacular Cambridge display is one of the largest free fireworks events in the country so we're grateful to the local businesses and organisations Illumina, Astra Zeneca, Trinity College, RBC Brewin Dolphin who sponsor it.

In addition to support from the business community, you're welcome to bring along any loose change to make a contribution to the cost of running the event and keeping it free for all.

As ever, large numbers of people are anticipated, so allow plenty of time for your journey – please arrive early Coming and wherever possible walk, cycle, or use public transport. Additional Park & Ride services will be available for the evening.

> This year's Fireworks Raffle is now open! Tickets £1, scan the OR code to enter a draw for Corn Exchange tickets of your choice (subject to availability)



What do you think the council's priorities should be?

soon!

This autumn we're asking residents to help us plan what the council's priorities for the coming years should be, by taking part in a survey.

Our latest forecasts suggest we need to make savings of nearly £1.5 million over the next two years, on top of the many millions in savings we have had to make in recent years due to government funding cuts and other economic pressures.

To help with that, we'd like to hear which council services you value most, and which you think we should prioritise.

We're asking you for your ideas at an earlier stage in the budget process this year, so that your feedback can have even more of an impact, as we shape our proposals to keep on providing excellent council services in innovative and efficient ways.

Keep an eye on our website at cambridge.gov.uk/consultations in the next few weeks for full details of how you can take part or phone 01223 457000.



How to contact Cambridge City Coun

It's often easier to contact us online, at a time that suits you. You can complete a short form to report things like flytipping - cambridge.gov.uk/reportflytipping, a missed bin collection - cambridge.gov. uk/report-a-missed-household-bin-collection, or a change in your circumstances affecting your benefits or Council Tax - cambridge.gov.uk/online-accounts.

cambridge.gov.uk

01223 457000, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5.15pm **℃** 0300 3038 389, for emergencies outside of office hours

† Appointments are available for customers who have queries which cannot be resolved by telephone or online. Call us for help.

Appointments are available 9am to 5.15pm, Wednesday to Friday, at our Customer Service Centre at Mandela House, 4 Regent Street, Cambridge, CB2 1BY.

Please note that we no longer operate customer services from the Guildhall.

Join the celebrations for the Corn Exchange's 150th anniversary

From skeletons of medieval monks unearthed a stone's throw from its stage door, to backstage tales of rock gods. From revolutionary politics as women fought for the vote to the echoes of corn traders and the cleaning of guns during World War One – Cambridge Corn Exchange's extraordinary and often surprising history is taking centre stage during its 150th anniversary year.

The council's city centre arts and entertainment venue has been awarded a grant by The National Lottery Heritage Fund for its 150th anniversary project in 2025/26 with support from Cambridge BID. This year and next, we'll be getting involved with the community to uncover, learn about, and celebrate the rich heritage connected to this Grade II listed public building.

As the city's iconic venue marks this special year, an expert heritage team along with dedicated volunteers, have been criss-crossing the centuries and delving into every possible source of information about the venue's multi-faceted life from the 1200s onwards.

For several months the team has been painstakingly piecing together an important archive which will now form the basis of a major six-week exhibition which will be free

and open to all in the foyer at the Corn Exchange [dates and opening hours to be confirmed], alongside a digital exhibition beginning in February 2026. Presented for the very first time will be a fascinating picture of the Corn Exchange's varied life, also reflecting its wider relevance in the history of Cambridge itself.

A host of other archive related activities has included an incredible 60 workshops with city schools involving partners like Cambridge Literary Festival and during the autumn, DanceEast.

Led by award-winning performers and choreographers, Anna Williams and Tom Roden, dance group Anatomical are working with city school children using Heritage research gathered as part of the 150th anniversary project as source material to inspire the children's dance pieces.

At a Celebration Day on Thursday 6 November, the Corn Exchange will host 15 schools from across the city for a special performance event, giving students involved the chance to perform live on stage and celebrate their involvement in the Heritage Project.

✓ To find out more visit:☒ cornex.co.uk



A (very short) timeline of the Corn Exchange

- 1200s: Austin Friars given land including site of modern Corn Exchange
- 1579: Friary sold to Vice Chancellor of University
- 1798: Black Bear pub on the site
- 1868: Council decides to build new Corn Exchange to replace one on Downing St
- **1874:** Foundation stone of new Corn Exchange laid, opens 1875
- 1909: Over 2000 people attend meeting of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage
- 1914: Soldiers billeted at Corn Exchange during First World War
- 1939: Winston Churchill gives speech on conscription
- 1953: TVs set up for Queen's Coronation
- 1966: David Bowie appears with band The Buzz
- 1972: Last ever live appearance by ex-Pink Floyd's Syd Barrett
- 1982-1986: Closed for refurbishment into modern concert hall
- 1994: Oasis perform live
- 2000: Work to make venue more accessible, including installation of lifts
- 2006: Improvement programme to foyer, auditorium and seating
- 2013: United Nations carpet whole venue for a conference
- 2016: Memorial to Syd Barrett unveiled
- **2025:** 150th anniversary celebrations

Folk festival set for exciting new format

An exciting new format which seeks to protect what makes Cambridge Folk Festival special and celebrates the event's early independent grassroots values, has been announced.

From 2026 the festival, which has been run by Cambridge City Council since is first edition in 1965, will take place at a

number of venues and performance spaces over a number of days, but still with two full days of performances and camping centred around Cherry Hinton Hall, the event's spiritual home.

The new approach aims to make the festival more inclusive and affordable for people attending, while also being

more financially resilient and environmentally sustainable, despite major economic challenges which have seen many music festivals in the UK have to end.

More details about next year's festival are due to be announced, and tickets are scheduled to go on sale by the end of this year.



☑ For more information visit:☒ cambridgefolkfestival.co.uk

Council news in brief

HMS Protector awarded freedom of the city

A Royal Navy ice patrol ship has been awarded the honorary freedom of the city of Cambridge by the council.

HMS Protector was awarded the title for its ongoing contributions to climate change - an issue which the council is committed to tackling.

The ship has for many years been working to uphold the Antarctic Treaty including by supporting scientific research, mapping wildlife and researching climate change alongside the Cambridgebased Scott Polar Research Institute and the British

Antarctic Survey.

The Freedom of the City was presented to Captain Tom Weaver, Commanding Officer of HMS Protector, by the Mayor of Cambridge, Cllr Dinah Pounds, during an event on Parker's Piece to mark Armed Forces Day.



The Mayor, Cllr Dinah Pounds and Capt Tom Weaver of HMS Protector

New benches designed by pupils are unveiled

Four new benches were recently unveiled in Cambridge, having been designed by local schoolchildren as part of a design competition.

Two benches are at Shirley Primary School in East Chesterton and two identical ones are on publicly accessible land at the nearby St John's Innovation Park.

One of the winning designs, by Shirley Primary School pupils Aris and Hannah, was in the shape of a giant caterpillar while the other was a swing bench featuring flowers. The competition was arranged by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service's Youth Engagement Service as part of a collaboration between developers of a workplace at the Innovation Park and local students.

No funding for water treatment plant relocation

The government recently announced that no funding would be available to help finance the proposed move of Anglian Water's Waste Water Treatment Plant from its current site at Cowley Road in north east Cambridge.

As a result of this, the city council and Anglian Water's proposals for a new district in the area including over 8,500 new homes – which you may have previously read about in Cambridge Matters – will not now be able to go ahead in their current form.

The government cited rising costs of materials and labour and disruption to global supply chains as the reason for their decision.



Four-day work patterns for some council staff

Earlier this year our neighbouring local council, South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC), voted to become the first council in the UK to permanently adopt a four-day working week for their staff.

Since SCDC is the employer for two services it shares with Cambridge City Council – Greater Cambridge Shared Planning and

Greater Cambridge Shared Waste - this means that council workers in those will continue to work four-day weeks as they have since the trial of this way of working began in 2023.

Independent analysis has since shown that most services have improved or been maintained since the trial began, with significant improvements to SCDC's recruitment and retention.

L' Alliance Française Cambridge



Have your say on a potential new council for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire!

Residents, business and other stakeholders across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are being given a once in a generation opportunity to have their say on how local government is to be restructured - the biggest shake-up of local government since the 1970s.

It follows a national government requirement to replace current district, county and city councils with simplified unitary councils.

From April 2028, you will access all services—from road maintenance and bin collections to schools, planning, social care, and support with benefits -

through a unitary council.

National government believes these changes will improve services, making them simpler for you and more efficient, as well as supporting economic growth and delivering much needed housing.

Since last year, all seven existing county, district and city councils have been



working collaboratively to identify viable options for new unitary councils.

Earlier this year Cambridge City Council passed a motion saying that "a unitary authority based on the current boundaries of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, alongside viable arrangements for the rest of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, is likely to be the best option for the residents of Cambridge."

Following this council motion, the leaders of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council penned an open letter, setting out their own preferences for how local government should be reorganised ahead of a government decision later this year.

The two leaders, Cllr Cameron Holloway of Cambridge City Council, and Cllr Bridget Smith of South Cambridgeshire District Council, also expressed a clear preference that a new council for the current geographies of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire is the best option for our residents.



Take part in our survey on the proposed new council area

The leaders of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council have expressed their preference for there to be a new unitary council for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire when reorganisation of local government takes place in the coming years. [See area in pink on attached map.]

This would mean there would also be a new unitary council for East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough.

What do you think of the proposal for a

new council for Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire? What do you think a new council for this area should be called?

Find out more and have your say over the next few weeks by taking part in our online survey at cambridge.gov.uk/LGR - or get a paper survey by emailing communications@cambridge.gov.uk or phoning 01223 457000.

Register free via the link above to attend our public focus group discussion about the proposal: Tuesday 30 September, 5.30 to 7pm, Cambridge Guildhall.

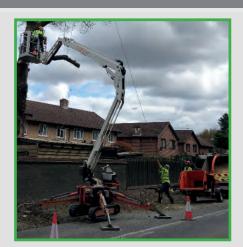






ALL TYPES OF TREE SURGERY SOFT & HARD LANDSCAPING TREE REPORTS & SURVEYS • STUMP GRINDING

All of our staff are qualified to national standards and we hold a number of quality and safety accreditations to give you peace of mind that you are working with a contractor you can trust.



TREE WORK



STUMP GRINDING



LANDSCAPING



For your free assessment and quotation please contact us today on:

01638 750186 | INFO@SPLANDSCAPES.CO.UK | WWW.SPLANDSCAPES.CO.UK

Celebrating our thousandth new home in Cambridge

Through our partnership with housebuilder Hill (Cambridge Investment Partnership), we recently celebrated the completion of our 1,000th new home, a landmark moment in our mission to build muchneeded, high-quality, sustainable homes across the city.

Established in 2017 as a joint venture partnership between the council and The Hill Group, CIP was formed to address the city's acute housing need by delivering high-quality council homes, market sale homes and community facilities.

The 1,000th home is located at a new development of council homes on Aylesborough Close in Arbury ward. There, 36 outdated council homes that no longer met modern space standards and energy efficiency ratings have been replaced with 70 low-carbon council homes designed to the council's Sustainable Housing Design Guide which make homes healthier and cheaper to run.



Timberworks, Cromwell Road

The completion of these homes not only marks a major milestone for CIP but also highlights the partnership's wider success in delivering long-lasting community benefits - boosting housing supply, improving residents' quality of life, enhancing sustainability and biodiversity and creating employment opportunities through local labour initiatives.

Having completed 1,000 new homes across 23 sites, we're now

looking ahead to our next milestone: building 1,000 more council homes and 1,000 more market sale homes by 2030. Through the Cambridge Investment Partnership, the council remains committed to improving the standard of accommodation for people living in ageing council homes, to building additional council homes to meet local need and to addressing wider housing supply issues.



Orchard Park L2



Fen Road



Akeman Street

[i] For more information visit: ip-cambridge.co.uk



Regeneration brings new opportunities for Cambridge mum Vera

Vera Guida, 40, had found comfort and community living in her council flat at Ekin Road. After the birth of her daughter Rosa, now four, she felt settled in the area, surrounded by friendly neighbours, with everything she needed close by and within easy cycling distance.

So when Cambridge City Council first introduced plans to regenerate the estate, Vera was hesitant. But after ongoing conversations with the council's housing team, she came to realise that her council home had long-standing issues that could only worsen without significant redevelopment.

"I've been living in the UK for 15 years since moving from

Italy," Vera explains. "Before Ekin Road, I was in a shared house. As a single mum, I couldn't afford even a studio flat in the private rented sector, so when I was offered a two-bedroom council flat at Ekin Road, I was over the moon."

"After receiving all the information about the planned redevelopment, we were supported through the rehoming process. With financial assistance from the council and guidance from the Homelink service, I began searching for a new place to call home.

"I was thrilled when a brand-new two-bedroom house became available at Colville Road," she says. "I never expected to be offered a house, and I was so happy, especially as I liked the area, with its good schools and excellent transport links. I was pregnant with my second daughter at the time, Edith, now six months old, and it all felt like a dream."

As her pregnancy with Edith progressed, everything began to fall into place. Just a week before giving birth, Vera's new home was ready. That same week, baby Edith arrived.

"Moving home and giving birth all in the same week was quite the challenge," Vera laughs, "but having this new home has made it all worthwhile. It's light, spacious,

and we even have a garden to enjoy. The council and CIP teams were incredibly supportive, and I honestly can't fault the process."

With several good schools nearby and local amenities within walking or cycling distance, Vera feels optimistic about the future. "It's so nice to have a proper house now to raise my daughters. My older one starts school this month, just a short bike ride away. I'm really pleased we made the move - it's a fresh start for our family and we feel really settled."



Do You Have A Basement? If so, when was the last time your sump pump was serviced?

If its more than a year ago your pump is most likely due a service!

Servicing your pump every 12 months is crucial to ensuring your basement is save from water damage.

SAS Basements Conversions Do you have a basement that needs converting?

With over 15 years of experience, SAS Basements transforms dark, unused basements into beautiful, functional living spaces. We manage every step of the process with precision and care.

Did You Know?

- 70% of basement floods are caused by pump failure.
- A basement conversion can increase your home's value by up to 20–30%.
- insurance policies may require proof of regular maintenance to honour claims in the event of flooding.

Call Or Whatsapp Us - 07787131573





Your guide to recycling and waste services 25-26







We collect your recycling one week...



A **blue bin** or clear sacks for all your recycling



A green bin or brown paper sacks for your food and garden waste. Look out for new separate weekly food waste collections coming in 2026

...and we collect rubbish the next



A black bin or white sacks for vour non-recyclable rubbish

Green bins are collected once a month from December to the end of February. and fortnightly from March to November. Please check exact dates at greatercambridgewaste.org.

Please check the bin collections page on our website to find out your bin day and your collection schedule, including any adjustments at Easter or Christmas. Bin collections are not affected by other bank holiday Mondays.

You can use a kitchen caddy or any container with a lid to collect food waste. Make sure it is lined with either a paper liner

or newspaper and not bio-bags/plastic bags, then empty it into your green bin.

Bin not emptied? – Please report missed bins on our website after 3:30pm on collection day and by 3:30pm on the next week day following your bin day (for example if your bin day is Friday you can report up to 3:30pm Monday, including bank holidays).

Assisted collections – If you are unable to move your bins to the kerbside for collection and there is no-one who can do this for you, please ask us about assisted collections.



On your bin day

Place your containers out at the kerbside or your agreed collection point by 6am on your collection day, and no earlier than 6pm the day before. Bins should be returned to your property as soon as possible after collection, and within 24 hours unless you have reported a missed collection. Please ensure bin lids are fully closed. Excess rubbish left next to your black bin will not be collected.

You can have an extra blue bin for recycling free of charge. Please order via our website. If you need an extra green bin, you can subscribe to our garden waste collection service for a fixed annual cost.

If you only occasionally fill up your blue bin

and need extra recycling collected, you can put it out next to your blue bin as follows:

- Break down cardboard to a size which would fit in the bin (with the lid closed) if there was space. Tie or tape together in one bundle. We can not collect wet cardboard, so please don't leave it out in the rain.
- Put other recycling (except glass) in a transparent sack. A maximum of one clear sack will be collected. Black or other colour sacks will not be collected.

Collection of bulky items

We can collect bulky items for a charge. Visit our greatercambridgewaste.org website for more details.



Before you recycle

We throw away the equivalent of eight meals every week! The Remy app helps you track and reduce the amount of food you throw away. The Olio app lets you pass on or pick up surplus food locally. Get more help to save money and food from lovefoodhatewaste.com

Re-use

More and more people are choosing reusable nappies, wipes and period products. You can get a discount on these through our scheme - check our website for details. Take a reusable bottle or cup and shopping bag with you when you go out.

1 Repair

Find local Repair Cafés where you can take

household items and clothing at cambridgecarbon footprint.org/ repaircafes. Get help with fixing tech yourself at ifixit.com

Re-home

Re-home vour unwanted items through charities like Cambridge Re-Use, British Heart Foundation or Emmaus; websites like Freegle, Gumtree, Facebook marketplace; or apps like Olio or Vinted. Rehome other people's items by buying from these places!

Refill

Choose loose fruit and veg bars of soap, or refill containers with cleaning products or dry foods at local Refill shops – find a list of local ones on our websites

Home composting is a great way to turn food and garden waste into compost for your plants at home. Buy bargain compost bins at getcomposting.com

Repeat!

Find out even more ways to reduce your waste before you recycle on our websites, including ideas for community groups.

Places to recycle more

Recycling Points

There are recycling banks around the Greater Cambridge area for shoes, clothing and textiles (clean and dry, but can be worn out); batteries; light bulbs; and small electrical appliances. See our websites or **recyclenow.com** for details and locations.

Household Recycling Centres

The large Recycling Centres near Milton and Thriplow are managed by Cambridgeshire County Council. You can recycle a range of items including large appliances, wood, scrap metal and car batteries, as well as dispose of bulky items. For more information and opening times visit cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Specialist recycling schemes

Many items such as crisp packets or toothpaste tubes which cannot be recycled through your blue bin can now be taken to special collection points at shops or community hubs to be recycled. Our Recycling Directories on the 'What goes in your bins?' pages of our websites link to more information.





Recycling and waste services 25-26

What goes in your blue bin? No Yes **Recycle** ✓ Clean ✓ Empty ✓ Don't bag it X Black bin bags or rubbish Nappies, tissues, kitchen paper, wipes & sanitary waste Breakfast cereal X Polystyrene Glasses, flat glass or glass dishes Large tins Paper & Cardboard Tins, cans Mirrors, Pyrex, plates/crockery magazines & foil X Glittery, metallic or plastic wrap or cards The following can be recycled elsewhere - check our website. Clothing and textiles Plastic bottles Glass bottles Cartons Plastic pots, tubs, X Food, liquid or garden waste & jars trays & bags X Wood, plasterboard & DIY waste Furniture or electricals Please put used batteries in a clear plastic bag and NOT in your bin. Place X Scrap metal e.g. pans the bag on top of any of your bin lids. Batteries must not be put inside the bin. Small portable household batteries can be put in the clear bag Hard plastics e.g. bucket - e.g. AA, AAA, 6v, 9v, D, C, button. Do not include mobile phone or X Crisp packets



laptop batteries. Search online for 'recycle small electrical items' instead.



Not sure if it can be recycled? Check the 'What goes in your bins' page on our website greatercambridgewaste.org for hundreds more items

Help shape our climate and nature work - share your views!

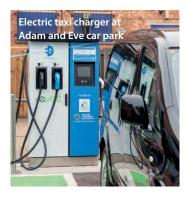
Understanding how you are thinking about climate and nature is more important than ever and we'd like you to help us shape our climate change strategy for the coming years.

The council has been actively tackling climate change since 2007. Significant progress has been made, more than halving our own emissions (51.9% lower than the 2014/15 baseline).

Our new climate change strategy will renew our commitment to working towards our net zero target for our own operations and the vision for the city as a whole. We are asking what you think the most urgent climate-related challenges are and what you are doing to address climate change and improve nature and biodiversity.'

We stand firmly by our climate goals for Cambridge

Our vision is for a city where people and nature enjoy a clean



river and clean air in speciesrich and connected green spaces. We also want to play our part in slowing climate change and supporting our communities to adapt to the changing climate.

The new draft strategy for 2026 and beyond focuses on the council's direct actions while driving wider city-wide change through partnerships. It integrates climate adaptation actions throughout and introduces some new objectives.

There are five areas of focus:

- Working to reduce the council's own emissions and increase climate resilience
- Supporting the city in reducing wider emissions and increasing climate resilience
- Protecting and increasing our nature and biodiversity
- Achieving better outcomes for people's daily lives - with lower bills, cleaner air, more comfortable homes, greener neighbourhoods, with new job opportunities and stronger local economies
- Ensuring that our climate change strategy is fair and inclusive, to deliver a just transition, so that those most



affected by climate change are not left behind and the benefits of addressing climate change are shared widely and felt by all.

Together, we're making progress. Every action makes a difference for the future and changes lives for the better today.

Can you make one simple change to support the environment?



Plant a tree in your garden, gift a tree, or water a tree? cambridge.gov.uk/planting-atree-in-your-garden



Switch to electric when you're next ready to buy a car? We are working with Connected Kerb to install up to 600 EV chargers in Cambridge to help owners.



Switch from car to bike for one journey a week? Every car journey avoided helps cut Cambridge's emissions and improve the air we breathe



Switch to an air source heat pump when it's time to replace your boiler?



Use smokeless fuel or wellseasoned wood if using a fireplace or stove?



Look out for our survey from 1 October and help shape our climate action. Visit cambridge.gov.uk/ climate-change-strategy







Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club and Cambridge Footlights

JACK AND THE BEANSTALK

By Martha Alexander and Flora Maxwell

To make ends meet, Jack sells his beloved cow Daisy in Bridgetown in exchange for five 'magic' beans from the renowned Evil Bean Merchant. His mother is devastated at the trade-off, but knows all about mistakes, having bean there done that. But fear not! Jack is distracted from this woe after meeting the love of his life, Jill, who will go with him to the ends of the earth... and indeed up a beanstalk. Don't miss this year's festive delight featuring love, adventure and...beans!

WED 26 NOV - SAT 06 DEC AT 7.45PM MATINEES ON 29 & 30 NOV & 06 DEC

Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club

BRASSED OFF

By Paul Allen, from the screenplay by Mark Herman To the Grimley Colliery Brass Band, music couldn't matter more.

TUE 21 - SAT 25 OCTOBER AT 7.45PM SAT 25 OCTOBER AT 2.30PM

Cambridge University Musical Theatre Society

THE ADDAMS FAMILY

By Marshall Brickman, Rick Elice and Andrew Lippa

Join us in Halloween week for this uplifting, hilarious musical tale of love, family and acceptance, with a touch of the macabre!

TUE 28 OCT - SAT 01 NOV AT 7.45PM SAT 01 NOVEMBER AT 2.30PM

Combined Actors of Cambridge

THE RAILWAY CHILDREN

By Edith Nesbit, adapted by Mike Kenny

When their father is falsely imprisoned, Roberta, Peter, Phyllis, and their mother must move to a small cottage near a railway line.

TUE 09 - SAT 13 DECEMBER AT 7.45PM SAT 13 DECEMBER AT 2.30PM



Are your voter registration details up to date?

Each year on 1 December the council publishes an updated Electoral Register. Our Electoral Services team is now in the process of checking that the data currently held on the register is correct in advance of publication.

During August, every household in the city received an email, letter or text correspondence confirming who is currently registered to vote at their address. If the household's information is not up to date, recipients are encouraged to submit a response with updated household details. This response will allow the Electoral Services team to contact eligible residents to encourage them to register to vote.

If your household's information is no longer correct, you are encouraged to respond using the online service, which is quick and easy to use and will save the cost of return postage and processing. You can scan the QR code on your form (or visit

elecreg.co.uk/cambridge) to complete your response online, using the two-part security code on the enquiry form to log in.

All households with changes who have not yet replied are being encouraged to respond as soon as possible, as this will save us sending a reminder letter or making a personal call to your address. If you are called on, please do ask our staff to show

British, Irish, Commonwealth and eligible EU citizens who



normally live in Cambridge can register to vote in the city. Students can register at their Cambridge term-time address as well as their home address if it is outside the city, but can only vote once at the same election.

There will be Cambridge City Council elections next year, on

Thursday 7 May 2026 – make sure you are registered so your voice can be heard through the ballot box!

- [i] For more information visit:
- cambridge.gov.uk/electionsand-voting
- elections@cambridge.gov.uk
- **C** 01223 457048

advertisements

Paying too much for your glasses?

Save Money - Buy Direct!

Visit our factory shop to see our fabulous range of Discount Prescription Eyewear

- Hundreds of frames to choose from, including designer frames from Ray-Ban, Polo Ralph Lauren, Oakley, PRADA, Ted Baker and Versace
- Specialists in high and complex prescriptions
- Same-day or next-day service available*
- Save up to 75%
- Huge range of designer sunglasses
- Full range of sports eyewear



Official stockists



POLO



PRADA

BAKER® TED

VERSACE

We are open 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, and 9am to 1pm Saturday



Call us

01954 231545 www.all-eyes.co.uk

20 Norman Way Industrial Park, Over, Cambridge CB24 5QE

Butterfly trail takes flight in parks

If you've been in some of our parks and green spaces recently, you may have noticed some eye-catching new marker posts like the one in the picture here. These are the markers for our brand new Cambridge Butterfly Trail, which offers residents and visitors an interactive way to find out about some of the species of butterflies and moths found in the city.

There are marker posts in 30 different open spaces around the city in total – each one has a QR code on it that will provide you with information about a different butterfly or moth. You or family members can also collect rubbings of the different species from the different plaques around the city which are attached to the markers. You can download a sheet for these on the council website.

The trail is a great way to celebrate some of the most important pollinators in the city and surrounding countryside. Why not try and visit all 30

locations, to learn more about these fascinating creatures – from the Angle shades (Histon Road Recreation Ground) to the White-letter hairstreak (St Albans Road Recreation Ground).

Did you know?

- The caterpillar of the Elephant hawk-moth can be up to eight centimetres long, with a trunk-like appearance and large eye markings to deter predators by resembling a snake. Find out more at Cherry Hinton chalk pits.
- The Red admiral butterfly lays its eggs on nettles. In recent years, milder UK winters have allowed some adults to overwinter, meaning they may be seen year-round. Find out more at Christ's Pieces.
- The Purple hairstreak butterfly is of the few in the UK that feeds primarily on honeydew rather than nectar, which it collects from aphids in the treetops. Find out more at Byron's Pool local nature reserve.







i For more information visit: cambridge.gov.uk/ butterfly-trail

Wetlands set to bloom with help from Wicken Fen

The newly created wetlands at Logan's Meadow local nature reserve in East Chesterton have provided an opportunity for an exciting new collaboration with Wicken Fen reserve.

Wicken Fen is an internationally renowned wetland site in Cambridgeshire, with a rich and diverse biodiversity. Using a technique known as the Green Hay method, meadow cuttings loaded with seeds will be taken from Wicken Fen and then laid on to prepared ground at Logan's Meadow this autumn.

The north lagoon wetland area at Logan's Meadow has been deliberately left unplanted to make room for this exciting project and the channel to the lagoon



The channel at Logan's Meadow local nature reserve

has already been prepped to create a more useful and varied planting area.

It is hoped that there will be lots of interesting wetland plant species popping up next spring and summer, so keep your eyes peeled!

[1] For more information visit: □ cambridge.gov.uk/local-naturereservescambridge.gov.uk

Moth and bat night highlights biodiversity in city

Earlier this year Nightingale Community Garden hosted a Bat and Moth evening. The council's Biodiversity Officer set up a (non-harmful) moth trap in the evening with a bright light to attract moths into a cosy overnight shelter, while visitors looked out for bats swooping over the park at dusk.

The next morning an amazing 42 different species of moth were found nestled into the egg boxes lining the trap. Those attending the event helped examine and identify the moths before they were released back into the garden. It showed off the wonderful biodiversity present in city parks and open spaces like Nightingale Recreation Ground, and which



is really boosted by volunteers like those who work so hard to help the Nightingale Community Garden thrive.

[i] For more information about how you can volunteer to help out in parks and open spaces visit: cambridge.gov.uk/streets-andopen-spaces-volunteers

Cambridge Matters

How AI is helping planners hear every voice, faster

One of the most important principles of the planning system as we help shape the future of the Greater Cambridge area is engaging with residents, businesses, community groups and other.

In the most recent Local Plan consultation, the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSP) received over 9,500 public submissions. Logging and summarising took planners more than 450 days.

To find a more efficient and effective way to summarise planning submissions, GCSP secured government funding to develop an AI tool to improve this process.

Developed in partnership with the University of Liverpool, PlanAl is an Al tool specifically designed to process and summarise the thousands of comments submitted during planning policy consultations. It was trained on over 100,000 submissions received by GCSP, as well as frequently used planning terminology.

The tool was tested on three public consultations, generating summaries of each submission.



while planning officers created manual summaries.

When comparing the Al summaries to the human generated ones, there were no noticeable differences in quality. While the planners spent 18.5 hours summarising 300 comments, it took PlanAI 16 minutes to summarise and collate an overall report, identifying key themes people had raised - far quicker than the original 60% time saving target.

Planners will continue to read every submission. However, PlanAI will support the process by generating summaries, not making decisions. This administrative aid frees up planners to focus on technical tasks.

You can find out more about the tool and focus groups at: ■ greatercambridgeplanning.org

Highlighting heat pumps at Open Eco Homes festival

Are you interested in finding out about how a heat pump could help you save money on heating bills, make your home more comfy and reduce your carbon emissions?

Cambridge Carbon Footprint's Open Eco Homes festival, which the city council helps fund through our Sustainable City Grants Scheme, takes place this year from 26 October to 23 November – and heat pumps are taking centre stage.

This year's winter programme gives visitors the chance to visit ordinary households in the Cambridge area who have made the move towards reducing their carbon footprint, and to experience what it feels like to be in an eco home in winter. You'll be able to visit homes with heat pumps and other low carbon technologies and hear directly from homeowners about their journey towards increased

comfort, savings, and sustainability. There will also be practical advice from experts on working with building professionals, cutting energy use, saving water, making affordable DIY improvements and much more.

Whether you're planning your next retrofit or just curious, these events – which are all free – will help you to take the next step towards a greener, more efficient home. Tours and talks are available in-person and online with advance booking required.



[For full event details and booking visit: ambridgecarbonfootprint.org

New funding helps to tackle sticky issue

If you're in the Fitzroy Street or New Square area in the coming weeks, look out for some eye-catching new signage which will help tackle the issue of people throwing away chewing gum on the streets rather than disposing of it correctly.

The signs, which feature a rather cute kitten, have been placed on street furniture in that part of the city centre after the council successfully applied to the Chewing Gum Task Force for funds to clean gum off pavements and prevent it from being littered again.

Established by the government and run by environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy, scheme is open to councils across the UK who wish to clean up gum in their local areas and invest in long-term behaviour change to prevent gum from being dropped in the first place. The Task Force is funded by major gum manufacturers.

Monitoring has shown that in areas that have previously benefited from funding, a reduced rate of gum littering of up to 80% was seen in the first two months, with reductions still being observed six months after targeted street cleansing and the installation of specially designed signage to encourage people to bin their gum.

As well as the new signage, the grant has enabled us to invest in special equipment to remove gum, which can be an unsightly nuisance streets and pavements in these high footfall areas.

Estimates suggest the annual clean-up cost of chewing gum for councils in the UK is around £7 million and, according to Keep Britain Tidy, around 77% of England's streets and 99% of retail sites are stained with gum.



[] For more information on how we keep our streets and open spaces clean visit cambridge.gov.uk/street-and-park-maintenance

Open morning Friday 3rd October 9:30am to 11:30am – no appointment necessary



Cambridge International School and Oaks Nursery

Welcoming children from the local and global community

- Supportive and nurturing community
- Holistic curriculum approach
- Small class sizes
- Flexible learning opportunities
- Mother tongue programme
- Supporting learners new to English
- Forest school programme
- Idyllic park setting

+44 (0) 1223 416938 admissions@cischool.co.uk Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, CB1 8DW

Cambridge International School and Oaks Nursery









EXTERNAL WALL INSULATION& RENDERING SPECIALISTS

CURRENTLY IN YOUR AREA

FREE NO OBLIGATION QUOTES TO IMPROVE YOUR HOME

Strata

01223 944 054

info@strata-insulatedrenders.com www.strata-insulatedrenders.com For that early morning cuppa. For when '7 across' has you stumped.

For peace. For quiet.
For when a custard
cream tickles
your fancy.
For a hand to

hold when it all feels too much.

For when you fall in love, again.

For that fit of giggles after a serious chat.

For "namaste".
For that homely feeling, even though you just moved in.

For every moment, we're here.





PEST PROBLEM?

Call DRE Pest Control

01954 230 708 07789 502 556



Commercial & Residential
One-off call outs
Management Contracts
Pest Prevention



Cambridge, Ely, Newmarket, Royston drepestcontrol.co.uk

WESTRIDGE

Property Consultants

Architecture
Planning & Building Regulations
Project Management

We are a Chartered Building Consultancy providing professional services and construction advice on Extensions, Alterations, Refurbishment and New Build projects.

Tel: 01223 233 600 www.westridgeconsultants.co.uk







- Installers of Renewable Energy for your home.
- MCS registered installer of Air Source Heat Pumps, Solar PV and Batteries.
- £7500 grants available towards the cost of an ASHP through MCS.
- We also install Mechanical Heat Recovery Ventilation (MVHR) and EV chargers.

E: enquiries@greenhatco.co.uk E: www.greenhatco.co.uk



Attingham Estates PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

- Tenant Finder
- Rent Collection
- Full Management
- Property Maintenance

CONTACT US FOR A CONSULTATION

07745 271029 | 07883 355342 hello@attinghamestates.com www.attinghamestates.com instagram.com/attinghamestates

JPT DESIGN

Need to create more space in your home? Let us come and tell you what's possible!

Free initial onsite consultation

Architectual drawings for residential planning & building control applications



• extensions • conservatories

• loft/garage conversions • new build projects

The Studio, 23 Halifax Road, Upper Cambourne CB23 6AX

T: 01954 717442

E: info@jptdesign.co.uk • W: www.jptdesign.co.uk

Invigorate - weekly wellbeing classes for all adults!

Our Invigorate programme supports people to improve their wellbeing by accessing physical activity opportunities.

Cambridge residents can access the scheme either via self-referral or be referred by a health professional, and we particularly welcome people experiencing anxiety, depression or other mental ill-health. Invigorate members can access free quarterly Botanic Garden walking tours and eligible members can also access subsidised swimming and gym access.

We also offer a programme of weekly wellbeing classes which

is open to all adults (non-Invigorate members welcome). Activities include racquet sports (badminton, pickleball and table tennis), T'ai Chi (over 50s), Yoga and Pilates for Health as well as Chair Yoga. Classes take place at various times and community venues around the city with prices starting from just £3 per session.

To find out more about the Invigorate programme, visit Invigorate: Fitness activities to improve wellbeing -Cambridge City Council.

For more information or to



book a wellbeing class visit bookwhen.com/camsport or contact us.

 □ cambridge.gov.uk/invigorate **■** sport@cambridge.gov.uk

C 01223 457000

Getting active with a long-term health condition

We know that living with a long-term medical condition or disability can make it difficult to be as active as you may want to be.

Our Exercise Referral Service provides support and activity to



match your current medical and health needs. Activities available through the service include prescriptive gym programmes for independent exercise, online exercises to follow at home and community classes led by specialist instructors. You can be referred to the service by your GP or in some cases, you can refer yourself.

We can help identify the most suitable activity for you with consideration to your health condition or disability. Just complete our online Exercise Referral triage form (takes about 10 minutes) and based on your responses, you'll be guided towards the most suitable activity options. If you request further contact, our Exercise Referral coordinator will be in touch to support you.

Find out more about the Exercise Referral service including

full eligibility criteria and complete the triage form at our website or if you need additional support, please contact us direct.

- [i] For more information visit:
- cambridge.gov.uk/referrals-tothe-exercise-referral-service
- startup@cambridge.gov.uk
- **C** 01223 458613

Strength and balance classes for older adults



Did you know that we run a programme of nine weekly strength and balance classes to support older adults who are looking to reduce their risk of falls?

These classes are primarily chair-based, with some standing exercises, and are specifically designed to improve strength and

Classes cost £3.50 per session, last one hour and as well as physical activity offer a great opportunity for social connection. All new participants are welcome to try their first class for free. If this

could be of benefit to you or someone you know, why not visit our website or contact us for more information and the full class timetable.

- [i] For more information visit: cambridge.gov.uk/physicalactivities-for-older-adults
- **■** sport@cambridge.gov.uk
- **C** 01223 457000

Have your say on our Council **Tax Reduction Scheme**

Council Tax Reduction was introduced in 2013 to help people on low incomes pay their Council Tax. While the scheme works the same across the country for people of pensionable age, each council is responsible for their own versions of the scheme for working age claimants.

Each year, councils have to review their Council Tax Reduction scheme for workingage residents to make sure it continues to meet local needs.



We're currently reviewing our Council Tax Reduction scheme for working-age households and want to hear your views on the proposed changes by 31 October.

You can find out more and

take part in our online survey at engage.cambridge.gov.uk

Your feedback will help us shape the final scheme to be published in December, with the changes coming into effect from 1 April next year.

1 To request the survey in another format, please email rbsupport@ cambridge.gov.uk or phone 01223 457000.

Homes for Ukraine scheme still looking for sponsors

Over three years have now passed since the war in Ukraine began. In that time, the people of Cambridge have opened their homes to more than 600 people from Ukraine seeking safety, through the Homes for Ukraine scheme. However, we are still receiving requests from people in Ukraine looking for a sponsor so that they can travel to the UK. If you're interested in becoming a sponsor, you need to be:

- A British or Irish citizen, or have indefinite leave to remain in the UK
- Over the age of 18
- Able to offer a spare bedroom or home for at least six months
- [i] If you are interested in supporting a Ukrainian guest, you can register your interest at: gov.uk/ register-interest-homes-ukraine



Funding available to help people resettling in Cambridge

Community groups and charities supporting people seeking sanctuary can apply for a grant of up to £5,000 from 13 October to help fund short-term or one-off projects to support refugees and people with experience of seeking asylum to develop skills, get involved with activities, and connect with communities.

The new grant fund builds on the success of the former 'United with Ukraine' grant and allows the council to distribute money received from

government specifically for people seeking sanctuary, helping to unlock additional opportunities and strengthen the voluntary and community sector in Cambridge.

The council is dedicated to supporting all people in need, making sure that everyone has a fair chance to live safely, take part in community life, and feel they belong. This has been reflected in the activities funded that have brought communities together and developed new community groups running activities for all.



BRINGING CLARITY TO DIVISION



FAMILY & DIVORCE SERVICES

FIXED FEE CONSULTATION

01223 417200 | law@barrellison.co.uk

