

Chesterton News

MARCH TO MAY 2025

SERVING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY



LOGAN'S MEADOW IMPROVEMENTS GET THE GO AHEAD

Chesterton nature reserve will get long-awaited improvement works in the Spring

Works to improve biodiversity, paths and information at Logan's Meadow beside the River Cam in Chesterton will be carried out this Spring. Planning delays and unusually high rainfall last year postponed the improvements—which were requested in a survey of local residents before 2020.

Secretary of the Friends of Logan's Meadow, Elizabeth May, explains: "The works will improve the biodiversity of the reserve. It will increase the amount of seasonal wetland and wet grassland, providing suitable habitat for birds including Reed Bunting, Common Sandpiper, Water Rail and Snipe. There will be an additional channel running from the riverside for otters, water voles and kingfishers."

Among the other exciting developments are a new Interpretation Trail, a new meandering gravel pathway, and boundary fences. All this will better connect our local green space with the riverside lands from Jesus Green to Wicken Fen.

The Friends of Logan's Meadow organise regular events on our local nature reserve. Their next confirmed event is: **Amphibians evening** - Fri. 14 March 6pm Meet by the Gym equipment.

It's FREE to join the Friends. You get newsletters and email updates. <https://logansmeadow.wordpress.com/blog/> Here you can find out about future events, plans and the reserve wildlife.

CHESTERTON FESTIVAL 2025 - SAVE THE DATE!

Community event will return on Saturday 21 June.



After a triumphant return in 2024, plans for an even bigger Chesterton Festival are well in hand for 2025. This year's Festival Fun Day will take place on Saturday 21 June 2025, for the extended time of 12 noon to 4.30pm on Chesterton Recreation ground.

How can you get involved?

- **Book a stall**—for your business, charity or local group! We charge just £15 for any stall selling goods or services and £10 if you're providing information only.
- **Provide a registered food stall**—We're particularly interested in hearing from local registered food providers so that we can provide a good range of food options. We just ask for an additional 10% of your takings.
- **Volunteer** to help make the Festival happen. We are recruiting two volunteer teams:
 - 1) **Team Set Up** in the morning; and
 - 2) **Team Clear Up** in the afternoon!

If you'd like to get involved in any way contact Rachel Clarke at St Andrew's Hall: 01223 306150 or by email to info@standrews-hall.co.uk

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Would you like to advertise in the next edition of *Chesterton News*? Contact Sue Richards for more info on 353296 or chesnewsfest@gmail.com

Looking for an opportunity to support *Chesterton News*? Join our fantastic team of distributors. Contact Paul Marston email: psmarston@aol.com

ROWAN'S ANNUAL ART EXHIBITION RETURNS WITH A SECRET POSTCARD TWIST!

Local arts centre and social enterprise in Chesterton offers you the chance to take home your own mini-masterpiece.

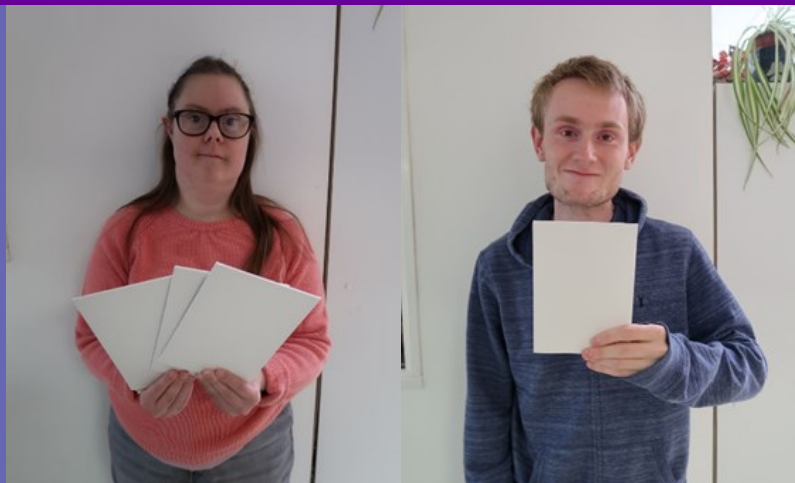
Local charity, Rowan, an arts centre for adults with learning disabilities, is holding its annual art exhibition at The Guildhall in central Cambridge on 1st & 2nd March.

This exciting event invites you to explore anonymous artworks, all created on 5x7" postcard canvases. Each unique 'postcard' is for sale, offering you the chance to take home your very own mini-masterpiece. The twist? You won't know who the artist is until after you've bought the piece. It could be someone from the local community or a professional artist! Best of all, entry is free.

Plus, every piece of art sold helps support Rowan's work with adults with learning disabilities. Additionally, you will have the chance to shop at our Rowan stall where you can browse our handmade gifts made by our student artists.

The exhibition, open from 10am to 3pm, is free to attend, and will also have a pop-up shop with all the latest artwork created at Rowan's art centre.

For more information visit www.rowanhumberstone.org.uk or call on 01223 566027.



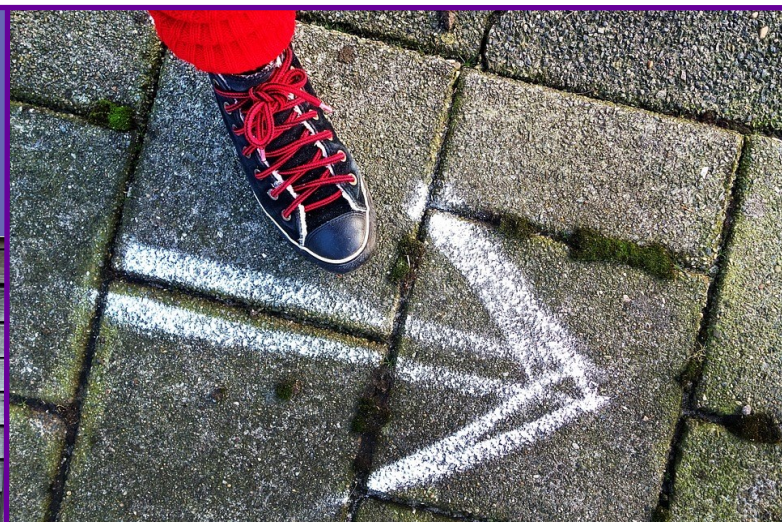
FUNDING A LIFESAVER!

Community fundraising has enabled a defibrillator to be installed at St Andrew's Hall



St Andrew's Hall is the newest venue in Chesterton to install a potentially life-saving community defibrillator — thanks to fundraising and donations by local people and match funding from the Department of Health and Social Care. Complete Electrics—a Cambridge-based local business—also installed the equipment for free as a gift to our community.

The defibrillator is situated to rear of the St Andrew's Hall, easily accessed from St Andrew's Churchyard and Chesterton Rec beyond. The benefits of having access to a defibrillator in our community are huge. There are more than 30,000 out-of-hospital cardiac arrests in the UK each year and currently less than 1 in 10 survive. Without immediate intervention with a defibrillator, most cardiac arrests are fatal. Every minute without CPR and a defibrillator a person's chance of survival is reduced by up to 10%. These machines save lives. The defibrillator is available to anyone who needs it in an emergency.



STEP INTO SPRING WITH CHESTERTON NEWS!

Play your part in delivering your free community magazine.

Are you ready to shrug off the gloom of winter and reach your target of daily steps? Then join our team of *Chesterton News* volunteers, delivering copies of this magazine just four times a year. We have a number of rounds of various sizes and locations. If you would like to try it out, please contact Paul at psmarston@aol.com, who can give you more information and find a nearby round to suit you.

Example rounds include: Bateson Road, Chesterton Road (sections between Mitcham's Corner and the High Street), George Street, Trafalgar Street, Trafalgar Road, Kendal Way, Laxton Way, Pippin Drive, Woodhead Drive .

LEARN TO MAKE A SPRING WREATH – AND RAISE FUNDS FOR ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE

Wreath making workshop to run for first time in April

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity is offering a range of exciting and creative ways to support the vital care work of your local hospice this Spring and Summer.

Popular Floral Wreath Making Workshop Returns

Following the success of the festive wreath-making workshop, which raised over £3,000 for hospice services, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity are excited to announce their first Spring Wreath-Making Workshop lead by Eco-Florist Flora Laura Flowers. Just in time for Easter, book your place for Friday 4 or Saturday 5 April by visiting arhc.org.uk/whatson or call 01223 675888.



Charity Star Shine Night Walk 2025 in Cambridge and Wisbech!

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity's Star Shine Night Walk will be back with two events this year. Their flagship Cambridge event will take place on Saturday 21 June at 7pm. Choose between a 10- or 5-mile route and get those steps in as you watch the sun set on the longest day of the year. Or, for the first time ever, you can join the Wisbech Star Shine which is taking place on Saturday 17 May at 7pm. This 6km route starts and ends in the beautiful grounds of Elgood's Brewery and is sure to be a talking point of the town! Whichever walk you choose and whichever distance you go, you'll be helping to raise much-needed funds for hospice care. For more information, visit arhc.org.uk/ssnw



CHESTERTON GARDEN CLUB *Spring events at Laurence's Church Hall, Milton Road*

27 February @7pm, Flowering Perennials in a Shady Garden

George Lockwood is a full time totally organic passionate gardener. He studied at Capel Manor College and has been gardening for the last 15 years.

13 March @7pm, Self-sufficiency from your Garden

Nigel Start's love of gardening started in the late 1970s when his first small house came with a large plot. He found the best way to manage it was by growing fruit and vegetables, with the help of a small flock of chickens to clear the weeds and fertilise the ground.

27 March @7pm, Rose Care

Kerry Austen Team Leader and Head Gardener of the international rose trials at Joseph Rochford Gardens Ltd. Kerry also works at RHS Wisley Bowes Lyon Rose Garden and is the Chair of the Rose trial forum at RHS Garden Wisley.

10 May @ 2pm, Garden Club Plant Sale

Stalls in St Laurence's Church car park, 91 Milton Road

Everyone is welcome: members free; visitors £5

CONCERTS IN CHESTERTON *Spring concerts in our community*



Friends of St Andrew's Lunchtime Concert

Piano Recital by Bethany Reynolds.

Friday 7th March, 12.30pm.

St Andrew's Church, Church Street, CB4 1DT.

Admission free. Retiring Collection for The Friends of St Andrew's. The Friends seek to raise funds to maintain, improve and share Chesterton's beautiful medieval church and surrounding churchyard with current and future generations.

For more info: admin@standrews-chesterton.org

Chesterton Choral Society Concert

Chesterton Choral Society & KJV Community Children's Choir perform: Andrew Carter's *Benedicite*

Saturday 29 March, 7pm.

City Church Cambridge 15-16 Cheddars Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8LD

Tickets £12 (including post-concert refreshments)

WHAT'S ON IN CHESTERTON

Please see below for the contact details of venues offering community activities in and around Chesterton.

Brown's Field Youth & Community Centre (BF) 420309

brownsfield@cambridge.gov.uk

Chesterton Methodist Church (CMC), 424428,

www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk

St Andrew's Hall (SAH) 306150,

www.standrews-hall.co.uk

St George's Church (SGC) St George's Church Hall (SGH)

423374 admin@stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk

Chesterton Working Men's Club (CWMC), 354411

Arbury Community Centre (ACC), 712038

Meadows Community Centre (MCC), 508140

W = Weekly, **M** = Monthly

Mondays

9.15am - 12.15pm, Playlanders (Playgroup and Pre-School) (SGH) **W**

9.30 - 10.15 & 10.45 - 11.30am, Little Music Makers (CMC) **W**

10.45am - 12noon, Monday Coffee Morning (SAH) **W**

12 - 2pm, Macular Society Cambridge Support Group (CMC) **M** 3rd Mondays

2 - 3.30, Forever Active Re-Fit over 50's exercise class (CMC) **W**

2 - 4pm, Crafty Club (CWMC), Contact Sylvia 07546584533 **W**

2 - 4pm, CamSight Monday Club (CMC) **M**, 1st Monday

3:30-5pm Hope Fairbite, with pop up cafe from 2:30pm (SGC), **W**

4—5pm, Perform Drama Class—4-7 year olds (SAH) **W**

4.30-5.30pm, Hope Youth Hub **W** (all secondary school age children welcome) (SGH)

5.05-6.05pm Perform Drama Class—7-12 year olds (SAH) **W**

6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**

6.30pm—8pm, Jujitsu Club (BF) **W** cambridgejujitsu@gmail.com

7.30 - 9.30pm, Chesterton Choral Society (CMC) **W**

Tuesdays

9.15am - 12.15pm, Playlanders (Playgroup and Pre-School) (SGH) **W**

9.30am & 11am— Little City role play adventure for under 6's.

Separate sessions at 9.30 and 11am (SAH) **M**

10am - 12noon, Foodbank Distribution Centre (CMC) **W**

10am-12noon, Coffee Morning—Coffee, Cheese and biscuits for £1 (CWMC) **W**

10am - 12noon, Arbury Artists Watercolour Art Class (MCC) **W**

Contact Celia Conway 01223 523680

12.30-1.30, Forever Active Strength & Balance class (CMC) **W**

2-3:30pm Hope Fairbite, with pop up cafe from 1pm (SGC), **W**

1.20—2.30pm U5's dance class Jill Bridger School of Dance (CMC) **W**

2.30pm, Chesterton History Group (SAH) **M** Third Tuesdays

6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**

7-9pm—Grovebury Ladies club, (ACC) **W**

Contact Barbara Watts 01223 570707

7.30pm, East Chesterton Women's Institute (CMC) **M** 4th Tuesdays

Wednesdays

9.15am - 12.15pm, Playlanders (Playgroup and Pre-School) (SGH) **W**

9.15am, Red Hen Project – Wellbeing Wednesdays (Contact Red Hen/CMC for details) (CMC) **W**

9.30-11.30am, Welcoming Wednesdays (support for child, parent + family wellbeing), (SAN) **W** (term time)

2-3pm, Senior Exercise Class (SAH) **W** Contact Giuletta 07505 255952 or gspudich@gmail.com

3.30pm - 4.45pm, Hope Kids (after school club for Key stage 2 age children) (SGH) **W**

5.30pm & 6.30pm—Children's Karate (SAH) **W**

6.15pm, Girls Brigade (CMC) **W**

Thursdays

9.30am - 2.30pm, Headway Rehab Hub (CMC) **W**

10-11.30am Church Mice—Stay & play (0-4 years) (SAH) **W**

10-11.30am Strength & Balance class (for older adults) (SGH) **W**

1.30-3pm Baby Club (under 1s) (SGH) **W** (termtime)

6pm - 7.15pm, 41st Brownies (SGH) **W**

6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**

Fridays

9.30am - 2.30pm, Headway Rehab Hub (CMC) **W**

10-11am, Senior Exercise Class (SAH) **W** Contact Giuletta 07505 255952 or gspudich@gmail.com

2.30 - 4.30pm, Table Tennis (U3AC) (SGH) **W**

3 - 5pm, Table Tennis (SAH) **W** Contact Sue for info 07923 918277

4.30pm - 5.30pm, Hope Boxing Academy (ages 14-16) (SGH) **W**

5.30pm - 6.30pm, Hope Boxing Academy (ages 16-18) (SGH) **W**

6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**

8pm - 9.30pm, Table Tennis (SGH) **W**

Saturdays

9 - 9.45am and 10 - 10.45, Children's Karate (SAH) **W**

9am - 12.45pm, Tiny Tots Ballet (SGH) **W**

9am onwards, Tiny Toes Ballet (CMC) **W**

1 - 3pm, Craft Club (CWMC) **M** Variable. Contact Mel 07532314949

7pm - 10pm, Argentine Tango (Milongas) (SGH) **W**

Sundays

12 - 3pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**

5.30-7pm, St Andrew's Youth Group **Fortnightly** (SAH)

admin@standrews-chesterton.org for info.

EAST CHESTERTON WI SPRING EVENTS

All meetings: Chesterton Methodist Church Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 25 March—**Amanda Sutherland styling masterclass**

Tuesday 22 April—**Author Caroline Biggs on her book *The Spinning House*** – the untold story of how Cambridge University locked up women in its private prison.

Tuesday 27 May—**Ken Smith on the work of Cambridge Aid**

To find out more, contact Elizabeth May semay@live.co.uk.

If you would like your activity included in the next edition please email info@standrews-hall.co.uk with the details.

NEWS FROM THE CHURCHES

YOUTH AND CHILDREN FIND THEIR SINGING VOICES AT ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Church Street



Vicar Philip writes: **Many readers of *Chesterton News* might remember themselves or members of their family learning to sing at St Andrew's Church—in the historic male-voice choir or the more recent girls and boys Youth Choir since the 1990s. Today, musical opportunities for children and young people are flourishing at St Andrew's Church once more.**

Minims is our singing group for 4-8 year olds. It runs fortnightly on Sunday afternoons in St Andrew's Church, 4pm. It's a gentle and fun introduction to making music and singing techniques. The Minims sing a range of songs about God and faith, from lively action songs to calm reflective songs. Children often work together to make up words to additional verses, or have fun with percussion instruments. Every session, there are a few songs with sign language and others sung in a round or with simple harmony. Parents stay for the whole session and siblings are welcome to join in too, whether they're younger or older than the 4-8 age bracket.

Youth Choir is for 9-17 year olds. It runs weekly on Thursday evenings, 7-8pm, during school term time. Any level of experience is welcome. Sessions include vocal warm ups and learning fun and inspiring songs in a supportive atmosphere.

If you're interested in your child or grandchild joining Minims or Youth Choir, contact: admin@standrews-chesterton.org—or ask after any of our Sunday morning services—at 8am or 10am.

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Vicar Andy writes: **Our Parish has two sister congregations:**

St George's meets at 10am in the church building where we have a reflective traditional service with Holy Communion and children's church. Refreshments are served afterwards.

Hope Church meets in the Shirley school. From 11am tasty treats and drinks are served and then at 11.30am we have an informal, family friendly all age service for about an hour. All welcome!

BABY CLUB LAUNCHED

Hosted by Hope Church

Baby Club is a weekly informal group for parents with young babies. It offers support & a chance to sing and chat.

Drop by for hot drinks, biscuits and a chance to relax and chat in a welcoming, safe and calm environment. This group is suitable for babies up until they can walk.

Every Thursday during termtime, 1.30-3.00pm—St George's Hall, Chesterfield Road, CB4 1LN

Baby Club

JOIN OUR EASTER TRAIL
SATURDAY 19TH APRIL 1PM-3PM
GREEN END ROAD PARK, CB4 1RS

Collect the 9 symbols to get a free Easter egg at the end!



St Georges Chesterton



Blue Monday — or Brew Monday?

MINISTER'S LETTER

By Ian Murray



Do you remember 20th January this year? It was 'Blue Monday' – allegedly the most depressing day of the year. (Also the day of the inauguration of the 47th President of the United States of America, which I will refrain from commenting on).

The whole Blue Monday thing is a bit rubbish if you ask me. It seems to have started out maybe 20 years ago, linked to someone trying to encourage people to think about booking summer holidays, just a few weeks after Christmas and with winter darkness still lingering around us.

I discovered this year that the charity 'Samaritans' had a campaign running to encourage supporters to mark the 20th January as 'Brew Monday' instead. That sounds much more inspired to me. It was all about making time for a brew and a catch-up. Reaching out to others and spending time listening to one another whilst remembering that struggles with mental health don't happen on just any one, particular day or at any one time of the year. It set me thinking about making every Monday a Brew Monday?

My role as a Christian Minister leads me into conversations and partnerships with a wide range of organisations and activities that

keep going, week by week, in and around where we all live and work in Chesterton. Activities which set out to create safe and supportive spaces in which we can share our life stories and be encouraged when things feel tough. Just from me, I want to say thank you for those spaces and for the staff and volunteers that enable them. I know that our community is stronger because of them/you.

The Christian season of Lent will soon begin and preparations are made for the Feast of Easter. At the start of the season of Lent Christians discover again of the story of Jesus of Nazareth spending time in a wilderness. We read that there was mental struggle and a wrestling with the way forward for the future. That's always been a part of what it means to be human. There will be a celebration of life, new life, on Easter Day and the dawning of hope.

I'll be holding in my prayers all the many ways that people share hope with one another. Wishing everyone a happy, joyful and hopeful Easter when it dawns.

Peace,

Ian—Chesterton Methodist Church

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER *in Chesterton*

Good Friday, 18 April 10.30am - 12pm

Join us for a 'Walk of Witness' through Chesterton. We'll start at St George's Church Chesterton and end at St Andrew's Chesterton, journeying together via the Methodist Church and other locations. All welcome as we walk together and pray for our area.

For details of Holy Week and Easter Services in April, please visit our local church websites, or search for us on Facebook:

Chesterton Methodist Church

www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk

St Andrew's Church www.standrews-chesterton.org

St George's Church www.stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk

Hope Church (Church of England) Chesterton

www.hopechurchchesterton.org.uk

NEWS FROM CHESTERTON METHODIST CHURCH *Green End Road*

Minister Ian writes: **At Chesterton Methodist there is a growing excitement about our project to improve the landscape around the church buildings.** A landscape architect has been busy assisting with the vision and fund-raising has begun. More information is available on the church website – just go to the section on redevelopment. The aims of the project include :

- * To create an attractive, welcoming, green space
- * Bring together local people to help sustain the church garden for the benefit of everyone
- * Increase biodiversity, including protection of habitat for an existing population of ivy bees (*Colletes hederarum*)
- * Enable charities that we partner with to offer their clients new outdoor activities, such as horticultural therapy, mindfulness sessions, sensory experiences
- * Support early years education by providing features such as picture boards and environmental print to stimulate literacy and language development.

Please do get in contact if you are interested in the project and would like to support it. www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk



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Cats Protection is a registered charity 203644 (England and Wales), SC037711 (Scotland) and is listed as a Section 167 Institution by the Charity Commission of Northern Ireland. BC_1770

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