

# Chesterton News

DECEMBER 2023 TO FEBRUARY 2024

SERVING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

## CHRISTMAS IN CHESTERTON: LIGHTS! CAROLS! COMMUNITY!

*Annual Christmas community events  
are back – and set to be better than ever*

5  
DEC  
5.30PM

### Christmas Lights switch on

*with the Mayor*

An all outdoor event at  
Chesterton Methodist Church

Light refreshments provided  
and (we hope) a visit from Santa!

For more information contact 01223 424428  
[www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk)



Christmas lights in the centre of Chesterton will be switched on in a popular annual event outside Chesterton Methodist Church—on Tuesday 5 December, 5.30pm. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun on the first Tuesday in December. The Mayor of Cambridge will be present, as will another VIP— for Father Christmas is rumoured to have plans to stop by! Light refreshments will be served outside. This event is organized in partnership by Cambridge City Council & Chesterton Methodist Church.

Later in the month, two Community Carols events take place:

- Outdoor Community Carols in the Park (Green End Road Park), **Saturday 16 December, 5pm**. Organized by Hope Church and St George's Church, Chesterton.
- Chesterton Community Carols in St Andrew's Church (Church St) **Thursday 21 December, 6.30pm**. Organized by St Andrew's Church and the St Andrew's Hall to raise funds for WinterComfort— the homeless support hub. Local brass band, CSD Brass, will lead the sing-along. Christmas Refreshments will be served inside the church afterwards.

## HOMELESS PROJECT GEARS UP FOR WINTER WITH NEW VOLUNTEERS

*Crossways homeless project has  
lots of opportunities to support  
rough sleepers*



The Cambridge homelessness partnership— It Takes A City (ITAC) - has reopened its Crossways winter emergency accommodation in Chesterton this November.

Crossways provides a safe, secure home for some of our most disadvantaged rough sleepers from 1st November until the end of March. The project runs with the generous help of volunteers. Last year, those involved donated an amazing 2300 hours of their time. One volunteer, Barry, commented: 'I have thoroughly enjoyed being part of this amazing project and meeting such incredible people along the way'.

This year there are roles as Lead Cooks, Mealtime assistants, Week Day Housekeepers, Weekend Daytime Hosts and Social Activities Facilitators.

To find out more about each role and other ways you can support Crossways, visit [www.ittakesacity.org.uk/support-us/](http://www.ittakesacity.org.uk/support-us/)

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RESIDENT ASSOCIATION

## HUNDRED HOUSES

*News from the Residents' Association*

## CHRISTMAS INITIATIVES RAISING FUNDS FOR ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE

**Arthur Rank Hospice Charity needs to raise £4.79 million this year to continue to offer services free to patients. This Christmas, Chesterton residents are being encouraged to support their local hospice in a range of ways.**

### Charity Christmas cards

Limited edition packs of Christmas cards showing local scenes are available to order. There are many to choose from, including the River Cam, The Round Church, Parker's Piece, Ely, Wisbech and lots more! (see two examples above) The full collection can be viewed on their website [arhc.org.uk/shop](http://arhc.org.uk/shop). The cards are beautiful in appearance and also in sentiment as every pack of cards sold helps fund patient care!

### Letters from Santa

Arthur Rank Hospice, and the Charity's mascot, Arthur Bear, have teamed up with the North Pole! The Charity is taking registrations for personalized letters, which will then be sent from Santa directly to the special little people in your life. Parents, aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbours, and friends of children who would enjoy the extra excitement of receiving a letter from Santa Claus are invited to register. Registrations close at

9pm on Friday 8 December to ensure letters are received in time before the big day. A small donation of £5, £10, or £15 is suggested: this will not only help cover letter administration and postage costs (and the cost of mince pies to keep Santa and his elves going!) but it will help raise vital funds for people in Cambridgeshire living with an advanced serious illness or other life-limiting condition. Please visit [arhc.org.uk/santa](http://arhc.org.uk/santa) to register.

### Pick up pre-loved items at bargain prices

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity has seven retail premises across the city and region. They are shops in Burleigh Street, Mill Road and Regent Street in Cambridge, Cottenham and Great Shelford, as well as both a Retail Hub and Outlet near Sawston, where you can find bargain clothes, bric-a-brac and furniture! Do your bit for your local community (and the planet) and recycle/upcycle by donating or purchasing preloved items. Please visit [arhc.org.uk/shops](http://arhc.org.uk/shops) for more information.



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

*making every moment count*

## CHARITY ART EXHIBITION

*Local charity Rowan invites everyone to get creative and raise funds for their roof repairs in 2024.*

**Rowan is calling all local artists to get creative for their 5th charity art exhibition at the Leys School on 24-25 February 2024, 10-3pm.**

To take part: Simply pick up your canvas from Rowan for just £10 (Two sizes are available: 16" x 12" or 8" x 12").

Create an artwork inspired by the theme 'The Journey'. Then drop it off at 40 Humberstone Road, Cambridge, CB4 1JG by Friday 9 February 2024.

Buy your canvas today online [www.rowanhumberstone.org.uk](http://www.rowanhumberstone.org.uk) or call 01223 566027. Go on! Get creative and support your local charity!

**The Hundred Houses Residents' Association is a small band of loyal volunteers who give up their time freely to help their fellow residents.**

The Association has recently said goodbye to one of its longest-serving members - Mrs Angela Stocker—who has stepped back from involvement with the committee after the best part of 50 years! We wish to thank Mrs Stocker for all her hard work for our community. We wish her well for the future.

The Residents' Association is always looking for new ways to engage with residents. There is a new website in development. Please check it out and let us and know what you think of it. [www.100housesresidents.com](http://www.100housesresidents.com)

Alongside the Residents' Association, the Hundred Houses Scrutiny Panel is a sister group which conducts reviews of standard repairs in Hundred Houses properties. Please support their work by giving feedback on work carried out, good or bad. The Scrutiny Panel has the power to investigate matters in greater detail than the Residents' Association.

From September the Hundred Houses Society have extended their office opening hours Tuesday 2pm to 4pm, Wednesday 10am to 12pm, Thursday 2pm to 4pm, Friday 10am to 12pm. The annual report for Residents has been published. If you would like hard copy, please contact the office for one.

Coffee morning—2nd Friday of the month for January 12th, February 9th - 10am till 12pm. Free and it is open to the general public. The knitting/craft club - Monday afternoons, 1:30-3.30pm—usually at the Working Men's Club but the venue can vary. For further information, please contact Sylvia McGregor on 07546584333.

If you wish to find more details about our activities and planned events, visit [www.hhs.org.uk/](http://www.hhs.org.uk/) Or our Facebook page, or email for further details: [hhresidentsassociation@hotmail.com](mailto:hhresidentsassociation@hotmail.com)



# CITY COUNCIL OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR COMMUNITY PROJECT GRANTS

*Area Committee Grants are for activities that reduce social or economic inequality*

**Have you got plans or ideas for a neighbourhood activity that will take place between April 2024 and March 2025 and help to reduce inequality?**

Voluntary or community organisations, or groups of local residents, could be eligible for an Area Committee Grant of up to £5,000 per area.

Area Committee Grants are for activities that reduce social or economic inequality for disadvantaged residents in one of the four areas of the city (North, South, East or West Central). Groups based in Arbury, East Chesterton, King's Hedges and West Chesterton wards can apply for a North Area Committee grant.

Activities that can be funded include those that reduce poverty, or items which enable an activity to happen such as venue hire for a local community art, sport or social activity or activities for people on a low income plus many more. The

Council want these grants to make a difference to the lives of city residents with the highest needs.

Area Committee grants will launch on the 12 December. This year the application process is via an online application form, go to [www.cambridge.gov.uk/area-committee-funding](http://www.cambridge.gov.uk/area-committee-funding) to view the guidelines and access the application form. The deadline for applying is 31 January 2024 – please note this is the same for all areas.

Contact the Grants Team from December onwards for further information and to discuss your ideas.

Email: [grants@cambridge.gov.uk](mailto:grants@cambridge.gov.uk)  
Telephone: 01223 457875



## CHESTERTON CHORAL SOCIETY SINGS IN THE SEASON

*A spectacular Christmas concert will feature works by Vivaldi & John Rutter, and many Christmas favourites*

**The Chesterton Choral Society is performing a magical concert on Wednesday 6 December, 7.30pm at City Church Cambridge, 15-16 Cheddars Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8LD. Tickets £10 cash on the door.**

Music on the night will include Vivaldi's spectacular Gloria, touching seasonal songs by John Rutter, lively family favourites and traditional carols. The concert will be conducted by the Society's engaging musical director Owen Elsley—who is recognised to have brought new energy to the choir.

Chesterton Choral Society is a well established local community choir which welcomes everyone who enjoys singing with others. They perform a repertoire of classical, sacred and secular music as well as popular numbers from musicals and songs from around the world.

They rehearse every Monday evening during term time at the Chesterton Methodist Church, Green End Road. Visit [www.chestertonchoralsociety.org.uk](http://www.chestertonchoralsociety.org.uk) for more information or contact Jan Bainton if you would like to join.

## SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN CHESTERTON

*North Cambridge Child and Family Centre offers weekly groups, support and advice*

**Cambridgeshire Child and Family Centres offer groups, events, activities, courses, and support for families with children aged 0-19.** North Cambridge Child and Family Centre is located next door to Shirley School on Nuffield Road in East Chesterton. Core groups which run each week include:

Monday – **'Mini movers'** 10.30-11.45am for children 1-2 years.  
Tuesday – **'Tiniest Feet'** 10.00 am -11.30am for babies 0-walking.  
Wednesday – **'Little Explores'** 10.00-11.00 am—themed activities for children up to 5yrs.  
Thursday—**'Stay and Play'** 10.00-11.30 for up to 5yrs.

Older siblings are welcome during school holidays to all of these weekly groups, except Tiniest Feet please.

The Child and Family Centre also offers:

- Parenting courses
- Group activities
- School holiday activities
- Information and advice for parents and carers
- Health services such as midwife and health visitor clinics
- Baby self-weigh service
- Ante natal programmes.
- Infant feeding support and advice

All our groups, activities, events and courses are promoted on [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/directory)



# 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](mailto:brownsfield@cambridge.gov.uk)

**Chesterton Methodist Church (CMC), 424428,**  
[www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk)

**St Andrew's Hall (SAH) 306150,**

[www.standrews-hall.co.uk](http://www.standrews-hall.co.uk)

**St George's Church (SGC) St George's Church Hall (SGH) 423374**  
[admin@stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk](mailto:admin@stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk)  
**Chesterton Working Men's Club (CWMC), 354411**

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  
 6.30 - 7.30pm, Hatha Yoga Class, (SAH) **W** Contact Gabriella  
[info@milanamyoga.com](mailto:info@milanamyoga.com)  
 6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**  
 6.30pm—8pm, Jujitsu Club (BF) **W** [cambridgejujitsu@gmail.com](mailto:cambridgejujitsu@gmail.com)  
 7.30 - 9.30pm, Chesterton Choral Society (CMC) **W**

## Tuesdays

- 9.15am - 12.15pm, Playlanders (Playgroup and Pre-School) (SGH) **W**  
 10am – 12noon, Foodbank Distribution Centre (CMC) **W**  
 10am-12noon, Coffee Morning—Coffee, Cheese and biscuits for £1 (CWMC) **W**  
 12.30-1.30, Forever Active Strength & Balance class (CMC) **W**  
 1 - 3.30pm, Hope Fairbite (SGC) **W**  
 1.20 – 2.30pm, U5's dance classes – 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**  
 7.30pm, East Chesterton Women's Institute (CMC) **M** Fourth 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**  
 10-11am, Senior Exercise Class (SAH) **W** Contact Giuletta 07505 255952 or [gspudich@gmail.com](mailto:gspudich@gmail.com)  
 3.30pm - 4.45pm, Hope Kids (after school club for YS2 age children) (SGH) **W**  
 5-7pm, Hope Youth Hub **W** (all secondary school age children welcome) (SGC)  
 6.15pm, Girls Brigade (CMC) **W**

## Thursdays

- 10am - 11.30am, Strength and Balance Class (for older adults) (SGH) **W**  
 5pm - 7pm, Hope Youth Hub (for year 7-11 year olds) (SGC) **W**  
 6pm - 7.15pm, 41st Brownies (SGH) **W**

- 6.30pm - 9.30pm, Cambridge Community Circus (SGC) **W**  
 9.30am – 2.30pm, Headway Rehab Hub (CMC) **W**

## Fridays

- 9.30 – 14.30, Headway Rehab Hub (CMC) **W**  
 10-11am, Senior Exercise Class (SAH) **W** Contact Giuletta 07505 255952 or [gspudich@gmail.com](mailto: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**

## CHESTERTON LOCAL HISTORY

**Chesterton Local History Society's Next meeting is 21 November.**  
 Talk : "Flour Milling Through the Ages" by Graham Bruce and Kate Armstrong ( with information about Bourn windmill).  
 For more info: [chestertonlocalhistorygroup@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:chestertonlocalhistorygroup@yahoo.co.uk)

## IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH

*English as a Second Language Cafe*

**Is English not your first language?**

**Would you like to practise your English with native speakers?**

A friendly group meets on Tuesday mornings 10am-12 noon in the Meeting Room at St. Laurence's Church, 91 Milton Road, CB4 1XB. Each 2-hour session offers plenty of opportunity to practise English through useful topics and conversation. Whatever your level of English, you will be welcome.

Cost: £5 per session (cash) (includes a hot drink)

If you want to know more please contact us through our website: [www.esolcafe.co.uk](http://www.esolcafe.co.uk) Or email: [jilld97@hotmail.com](mailto:jilld97@hotmail.com) ; Or message/call: 07736 656039 We look forward to meeting you!

If you would like your activity included in the next edition please email [info@standrews-hall.co.uk](mailto:info@standrews-hall.co.uk) with the details.





## NEWS FROM ST GEORGE'S CHURCH *Chesterfield Road* & HOPE CHURCH *Shirley School, Nuffield Road*

**Our two congregations in the parish—St George's Church and Hope Church Chesterton—continue to be in good heart as they develop and grow.**

Hope Church enjoyed a wonderful weekend away in September which was a great time of fellowship and learning. We enjoyed baptisms at the beach in Old Hunstanton in July and recently held our October half term holiday club for 7-11's on the theme of space and creation.

Our St George's once a month Lunch Club in the church hall for older folk is growing and enjoyed by all. The Hope Fairbite social market continues to support those in need in our community on Mondays and Tuesdays with a pop up cafe. Lots of other initiatives are ongoing and we are grateful to have two youth workers to support and serve the many young people in our area.

We look forward to celebrating the Christmas season; to remember afresh, the wonder, hope and relevance of the Christmas story - the birth of Jesus Christ the Saviour of the world.

## NEWS FROM CHESTERTON METHODIST CHURCH *Green End Road*



## NEWS FROM ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

*Church Street*



**St Andrew's Church is a place that has long encouraged a love of music in Chesterton — through our Sunday choirs, midweek concerts, and groups for children and young people to learn to enjoy singing.**

Minims is our singing group for 4-8 year olds that runs on Sunday afternoons in St Andrew's Church. They sing a range of songs about God and faith, from lively action songs to calm reflective songs. Every session, there are a few songs with sign language and a few songs sung in a round or with simple harmony. Children often work together to make up words to additional verses, or have fun with percussion instruments or colourful flags to wave.

The group meets on 1st and 3rd Sundays at 4pm. Knowing that life with young children is busy and unpredictable, there's no pressure to commit to coming to every session. 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.

Minims is a gentle and fun introduction to making music in a group and singing techniques. The time starts with a warm up, and ends with free biscuits and raisins! New young singers are always welcome. If you'd like to know more, please contact the church office: [admin@standrews-chesterton.org](mailto:admin@standrews-chesterton.org)—or ask about Minims after any of our Sunday morning services—at 8am or 10am. Sunday services in person in church and online through our YouTube channel (search St Andrews Church Chesterton)

**With Christmas approaching, Chesterton Methodist Church will be hosting the great Chesterton Christmas lights switch on—on Tuesday 5 December, 5.30pm. (see page 1).** Everyone is very welcome. Seasonal light refreshments will be provided.

We are a loving Christian community where all will find a welcome. We worship together, learn together, serve together, and witness together to the love of Jesus Christ. Find out more about our pattern of worship in December—for Christmas—and the early months of 2024 from our webpage: [www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk/worship](http://www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk/worship)

## MINISTER'S LETTER

*By Philip Lockley*



**As the nights draw in and we approach and pass the shortest day, this is a season when many of us find ourselves longing for light.** We are eager for the sun to lift the gloom and mist of a winter's day. We are cheered by fairy lights on trees, houses, and shopping streets. We are drawn to the soft, stilling light of candles in comfy homes or history-filled churches.

Christmas stands at the centre of this season – a festival of light in the winter darkness. Now it may be you tend to associate Christmas with something else before you think of light. May be you think of “presents” or “food” or “family” – either excitedly or stressfully!

But before all these other things, Christmas has actually always been about light. This is because, when the first Christians were coming to understand Jesus – and put the Christ in “Christ-mas” – they called him ‘the true light’ that had come into the world. This true light from God shone in the darkness – our world’s darkness of war and disease, stuff messed up, stuff broken, stuff that hurts. As one early Christian writer put it: all that darkness could not overcome Jesus the light. Because God’s light always conquers the darkness.

I think of this being a bit like when we’re afraid of the dark. Do you remember being afraid of the dark? May be you still are!

Well, what do we want more than anything when we’re afraid of the dark, and worried and unsure about what’s out there?

We want someone to put on the light. The light goes on, and the darkness goes. So we can see. See that it’s ok. See who’s there. See where to walk. And that’s what Christians believe God has done by coming in Jesus. God has shown the light we can live by; shown the darkness will not win.

And that’s what we really celebrate at Christmas. That God has switched on the light. God has been born in Jesus, so this true light can be with us and among us. This light has not gone; it stays with us in our darkness, in our worries, in our fears. God is here, bringing us comfort, bringing us joy.

I wish you all a peaceful, joyful and light-filled Christmas – and a flourishing New Year.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES *in Chesterton*

### **Chesterton Methodist Church**

[www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk](http://www.chestertonmethodist.org.uk)

See website for details.

**St Andrew’s Church** [www.standrews-chesterton.org](http://www.standrews-chesterton.org)

**Sunday 10th December 4pm** Christingle Service (includes Minims)

**Sunday 17th December 10am**—All-age Communion with Nativity

**Thursday 21st December 6.30pm** Community Carols

**Christmas Eve, 24th December 8am + 10am Communions 6.30pm**—Nine Lessons & Carols by candlelight

**11.30pm** Midnight Eucharist

**Christmas Day, 25th December**

**8am** Holy Communion (BCP);

**10am** Christmas Communion Celebration for all ages.

### **St George’s Church**

[www.stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk](http://www.stgeorgeschesterton.org.uk)

**Hope Church Chesterton** [www.hopechurchchesterton.org.uk](http://www.hopechurchchesterton.org.uk)

**Sunday 10th December 11am** Making Christingles and Family Carols (at the Shirley School, CB4 1TF)

**Saturday 16th December 5pm**

Community Carols in the Park (Green End Road Park, CB4 1RS)

**Sunday 17th December 11am**

Nativity Service for all ages (at the Shirley School, CB4 1TF)

**Christmas Eve, 24th December 11.15pm**

Midnight Service (St George's Church)

**Christmas Day, 25th December**

10am Christmas Day Celebration (St George's Church)





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**The copy deadline for the March 2024 issue is 15 January 2024, and contributions should be emailed to Rachel at [info@standrews-hall.co.uk](mailto:info@standrews-hall.co.uk) for consideration by the editorial team.**