

COMMUNITY HELP

Whilst many are getting ready to celebrate Christmas, for some people, this time of year can be extremely tough. St Peter's has put together some information about support that is available in our region and further afield for some of those aspects of life that can seem especially hard to deal with at this time.

Support for young people

Here in the Ely region, Centre 33 exists to help every young person in Cambridgeshire. With a drop-in centre in Ely they offer a range of free and confidential services, and have a good understanding of the difficulties young people can face at this time of year: <https://centre33.org.uk/help/how-we-can-help/>

Good Mood Cafes

Supported by MIND there is a Good Mood cafe operating in Ely Library: <https://www.cpslmind.org.uk/how-we-help/good-life-service/good-mood-cafes/>

MIND Cambridgeshire also offer many other services to support local people with their mental health. From crisis support and counselling to informal opportunities to connect with others. <https://www.cpslmind.org.uk/how-we-help/>

When you're grieving, the thought of celebrating Christmas can be really daunting. **Cruse Bereavement Support** is a charity that helps people through one of the most painful times in life <https://www.cruse.org.uk>

Cost of Living Support Fund

East Cambs Council operates a hardship fund to assist eligible residents, identified as vulnerable, with medical conditions, elderly, or those with dependent children, who are experiencing extreme financial hardship. <https://www.eastcambs.gov.uk/cost-living/financial-support>

Ely Foodbank

Because anyone can end up in a time of crisis, and because no-one should go hungry, the Ely Foodbank is there to help anyone, and to judge no-one. <https://ely.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Sunday 22nd - DIY Day, from 10am Coveney VH

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 1st - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

Thursday 2nd - All Souls Service, 6pm St Peter's Church

Saturday 4th - Bonfire night, 6pm for 7pm Coveney VH

Tuesday 7th - WI AGM and resident talk, 7.30pm Coveney VH

Wednesday 8th - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

Sunday 12th - Remembrance Service, 10.45am St Peter's Church

Monday 13th - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Coveney VH

Wednesday 15th - Soup Lunch, 12 noon Coveney VH

Saturday 18th - Church DIY Day, from 10am St Peter's Church

Saturday 18th - Quiz Night, 7.30 pm for 8pm Coveney VH

Sunday 19th - Pet Service, 3pm St Peter's Church

Wednesday 22nd - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

Sunday 26th - Church Service, St Peter's Church

Sunday 26th - Table Top sale, 1-4pm, Coveney VH

Wednesday 29th - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

DECEMBER

Friday 1st - Living Advent Calendar begins 3pm

Saturday 2nd - Christmas Bingo, 7pm for 7.30pm Coveney VH

Sunday 3rd - Tree lights switch on, 12-4pm The Pound, Coveney

Sunday 3rd - Family Advent Service, 6pm St Peter's Church

Wednesday 6th - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

Sunday 10th - Church Service, St Peter's Church

Sunday 10th - Breakfast with Santa, 9-11am Coveney VH

Monday 11th - Parish Council Meeting, 7.30pm Coveney VH

Tuesday 12th - WI Christmas Crafts, 7.30pm Coveney VH

Wednesday 13th - Soup Lunch, 12 noon Coveney VH

Sunday 17th - Carol Service, 6pm St Peter's Church

Wednesday 20th - Coffee Morning, 10.30-12.30pm Coveney VH

Thursday 21st - Blue Christmas Service, 6pm St Peter's Church

Friday 22nd - Mulled Wine & Nibbles, 7pm Home Farm, Main St

Sunday 24th - Christingle Procession, 3pm at the Village Sign

JANUARY

Sunday 7th - Back to School Service, 5pm St Peter's Church

Coveney Connections

with Wardy Hill & Way Head

NOVEMBER 2023

Welcome to the November issue of Connexions. It's a bumper issue this time, as we have so much going on over the next couple of months, so put the kettle on and make yourself comfortable!

FIREWORKS & BONFIRE

Saturday 4th November

Doors open 6pm, with hot dogs and jacket potatoes being served from 6.15pm and the bonfire and fireworks from 7pm. The bar will be open too. *Donations of raffle prizes welcome please!*



VILLAGE HALL DIY DAY

Sunday 22nd October from 10am

Any volunteers would be most welcome to help with maintenance of the Coveney Village Hall including tidying outside, cleaning and minor repair jobs inside the hall. Just turn up on the day!

TABLE TOP SALE

Sunday 26th November 1-4pm

Having a pre-Christmas clear out? Or do you have some crafts or homemade goodies you'd like to sell? Just £5 per table.

For enquiries or to book, contact Claire on 07870 276088 or clairehowieson@hotmail.com

Come along on 26th November and grab yourself a bargain!

CHRISTMAS BINGO

Saturday 2nd December

Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm.

Children welcome with the first three numbers for children on every game.

Donations of prizes welcome!

All proceeds to be shared between the Village Hall and the Church.

VILLAGE HALL

Upcoming Regular Events



The next **Quiz Night** is on Saturday 18th November with Coveney's favourite Quizmaster Steve. £3 per person, teams of up to 6 people. If you don't have a full team then still come along, as we often have others willing to make up a team. The bar opens at 7.30pm with the quiz starting at approx. 8pm.

Our next **soup lunches** are on 15th November and 13th December from 12 noon. Pop along to our popular monthly community lunch and enjoy some homemade soup/light lunch, pudding and tea/coffee for £5 per person. No need to book.

Every Wednesday (except when the soup lunch is on) we have our regular **coffee mornings** from 10.30am-12.30pm. Pop in and say hi!

The bar will be open for many events during November and December, so there will be no additional **community bar** nights until 2024 when we will revert to opening on the first Friday of the month.

The Village Hall is available for hire for parties and events. For more info, contact Kathy on kathyhomes@btinternet.com

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

Tree Lights Switch On

Sunday 3rd December from 12pm, at the Pound, Coveney

Bring a homemade or recycled decoration to put on the village tree and enjoy some carols and refreshments. Lights will be switched on at 4pm.

Breakfast with Santa

Sunday 10th December 9-11am

Come and enjoy a pancake breakfast with Santa in the Village Hall.

£3 per person, payable on the door.

Children on the "good list" will receive a free gift from Santa!



Answer to front page riddle: Snow!

What falls at the North Pole and never gets hurt? Answer on the back page!

ST PETER'S CHURCH



All Souls Service

Thursday 2nd November 6pm

A service in which we remember all departed loved ones.

Remembrance Sunday Service

Sunday 12th November 10.45am

Join us for the service in the church at 10.45am or just for the 2 minutes silence at the Church Gate at 11am

Church DIY Day

Saturday 18th November from 10am

Any help gratefully appreciated as we sweep leaves, clean gutters, prune hedges, clean paths...

Pet Service

Sunday 19th November 3pm

Dizzy dogs, cautious cats, reluctant rabbits and happy horses are all welcome to bring their owners along to this service which will feature a special blessing of all the pets. If any pets are especially anxious about getting on with fellow parishioners, then they are welcome to send their owners along to the service with a photo!

Family Advent Sunday Service

Sunday 3rd December 6pm

What is Advent all about? Come and find out at this all-age Advent Service, where we will also be celebrating the launch of the Coveney Advent Window competition. Kids get a free chocolate advent calendar!

Carol Service

Sunday 17th December 6pm

All your favourite carols and readings!

Blue Christmas Service

Thursday 21st December 6pm

On this, the 'longest' night, a special service for all of us who find this time of year difficult

Pre-Christmas Mulled Wine & Nibbles

Friday 22nd December 7pm

Home Farm, Main Street. All Welcome

Christingle Procession

Sunday 24th December, Christmas Eve 3pm

Let's all come together as a village and re-tell the Nativity Story, finishing up in the Church where all the children receive Christingle Oranges.

Back To School Service

Sunday 7th January 5pm

We come together to prepare for a new term, and receive a blessing for our backpacks!

LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

Each night during Advent, a new window decoration will be revealed in the Parish, like opening a window in an Advent calendar. Trail maps will be available in the Church porch from 29th November to enable people to visit and enjoy the window displays which will be revealed by 3pm each day. After the last window has been revealed, people will be invited to vote for their favourite.

There will be a small prize for the window that receives the most votes.

If you would like to decorate a window and be part of the calendar, please contact Claire on clairehowieson@hotmail.com or 07870 276088 by **20th November**.

KNITTED CRIB

It's an old Coveney tradition that a knitted crib travels around families during Advent. If you would like to go on the list to look after some woolly nativity folk, please email stpeterscoveney@gmail.com or text Chris on 07595 155900.

POPPY APPEAL

Get your poppies from Peter and Kay Whitbread who will be knocking on doors from 22nd October collecting for the Poppy Appeal on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Thank you and bravo to everyone who took part in the 'Colours of Autumn' photo sharing and competition. Thanks also to Maria Morgan for helping to print out all the photos and display them in the Village Hall, to Jack for helping with the competition and to FooBar Engineering for sponsoring the prizes! The photos have been moved over to the church porch for everyone to enjoy them over the coming months.

Congratulations to the winners:

'Autumnal Dawns' - **Pete Gannon**

'Wildlife Wonders' - **Phil Wenn**

'Autumnal Village Life' - **Glen Mollett**

'Young Photographer of the Year' - **Amy Langston**

'Public Vote' - **Andrew Gibbon & Claire Langston (tied)**



PARISH COUNCIL

After almost three years of lobbying, BT Openreach are in the process of installing **fibre broadband** in the village, which should be completed by the end of November. This will be Fibre To The Premises (FTTP), which adds to the existing Fibre To The Cabinet (FTTC) infrastructure. Speeds in the hundreds of Mbps should be possible - a huge improvement on the current speeds. Once the installation is complete, residents should contact their broadband provider to upgrade.

The Parish Council is seeking views on how people use the **Multi Use Games Area** (MUGA) by the village hall, and what improvements they would like. The MUGA was built in 1999 and is well used by residents of the parish of all ages. As well as tennis, the MUGA is also marked out for football and basketball. A questionnaire is on the Parish Council website at www.coveneyparishcouncil.co.uk

We received an overwhelming positive response from our community who want to see the Coveney village pond rejuvenated. Preparation has commenced and we hope to start planting through the winter - watch out for volunteer requests through the Friends of Coveney. This project is likely to be funded via the Pride of Place grant.



Parish Council Contact:

Clerk: Mrs Sandra Thompson
07840 795438
clerk@coveneyparishcouncil.co.uk

DEFIBRILLATOR

The Parish has acquired a new defibrillator which is located outside Coveney Village Hall. We hope there won't ever be any cause to need it, but it is fantastic to have one nearby and it could save a life. Our extended thanks to the Palmer family who very generously donated it.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Our Parish is full of people who can offer an amazing array of services, but do we all know what's available on our door-steps? From dog groomers to freelance writers to roofers and everything in between, we want to hear from you!

The Parish is looking to put together a directory of all the services that residents can offer. If you are a resident of Coveney, Wardy Hill or Way Head, and own a business that could be of interest to other residents, let Claire know on 07870 276088 or clairehowieson@hotmail.com

WARDY HILL WI

We are a small, but perfectly formed, group of Ladies, who come together each month at Coveney Village Hall. We may even be found out and about in other areas! We have interesting and knowledgeable Speakers from many fields, as well as crafts people who are willing to share their crafts and trade with us. These could include, gardening, jewellery, painting, singing, cake decoration, flower arranging and many more.

Our next meeting will be held at Coveney Village Hall on **Tuesday 7th November** at 7.30pm. This is our AGM, followed by a very entertaining and interesting local resident.

For our Christmas meeting we will be having Christmas Crafts, to be held at the Village Hall on **Tuesday 12th December** at 7.30pm. Mulled Wine and Mince Pies will also be on offer.

Anyone who would like to come and join us would be more than welcome.

For more information please contact any of the following Committee members:

Marilyn - 07821 834 375

Janice - 07511 131 729

Jackie - 07704 848 436

FOEFFEES

Foeffees is a charity that is able to give small grants to the general benefit of people who are struggling in the parish of Coveney and Wardy Hill. The grants are usually distributed around Christmas time. If a grant would help you or anyone you know at this time please get in touch with Anthony Nix on 07850 192241.

PARISH WHATSAPP GROUPS

The Parish has a few WhatsApp groups that help keep people up to date and notified about various things going on. If you would like to join any, you can scan the codes below on your smart phone camera. Or alternatively, contact Chris on 07595 155900.



WhatsAppning In Coveney

A friendly place for sharing news about parish activities, and requests for help with those day-to-day things.

Pre-Loved in Coveney

A group dedicated to upcycling, and finding new homes for unwanted items



Coveney Parish Watch

A Neighbourhood Watch Group, also for sharing local issues such as utilities and highways