

Next event – Halloween

Thursday 31st October from 5.30 to 7pm – weather permitting!

As last year, we will have games and activities at the corner of St Thomas's Square nearest to Walpole Rd. At 6 pm there will be a judging of the best costumes with prizes. Do come along and join in!



Next year (2020) we plan to repeat some events which have proved enjoyable this year (if it ain't broke – don't fix it!)

Wine tasting – probably in February, Coach trip – probably in September, Sunflower competition probably in September

Cream tea and talks – in May/June – two or three short talks around the subject of improving and preserving our environment – gardening, tree-planting, local wildlife habitats, etc followed by our AGM. A free cream tea will be provided.

Community Library

Our Community Library is housed in the phone box in Birdwood Rd. It is well used – books come and books go. Please continue to bring and take. BT is looking to make that box redundant and possibly dismantle it. We have applied for a grant from the Cooke Curtis & Co fund to replace the library with a new enclosed book-house.

Notice boards

We have two notice boards and would like them to be of more use to residents. Would you like to advertise services or items for sale? Have you got suggestions for items you would like to see there? Please post your adverts or suggestions through the letterbox at 52 Birdwood Rd.

Trees

The City Council has a tree-planting scheme. Each year they give a small tree to be planted in the garden of any new baby living within the City boundary. Sometimes there are trees left over. Do you know of any public area within the BARA boundary (Birdwood Rd and all roads leading off it) that would benefit from the planting of a tree? Contact us if you do.

Hedgehogs



To encourage hedgehogs to reach a good weight before the winter, you can feed them now with dry cat food – not fish varieties. To discourage cats from eating the hedgehog food, cover it with a big old plastic tray with a hole made big enough for a hedgehog to get inside. Hedgehogs roam over a wide area, so, if you want them in your garden, the City council will arrange to cut holes in your fence to allow hedgehog access. Contact 01223 457000 parks@cambridge.gov.uk

Past events

We are very grateful to Cambridge City Council for their continued support. Without their annual grant we would not be able to provide free events and this newsletter. With an additional grant from the City Council we were able to cover the cost of the coach trip to Norwich and offer some free places. Any suggestions for where you'd like to go next year will be welcomed.

We don't think it will be our turn again for a City Council Community Action Day (the one with the skips) but if we are offered one we will be glad to accept! It was very popular this year and the good weather ensured that a lot of items were taken away.

Buses again!

The County Council is responsible for the roundabout works at Queen Edith's Way. I have written to them about the lack of consultation about the long and short-term effects for bus users. This is the gist of what I have written on your behalf (Jane Phillips, Chair BARA):

'This area contains many City Council properties, old people and disabled residents. All of these vulnerable groups deserve to be able to attend their hospital appointments without changing buses. Many have regular appointments so will be more adversely affected than the average. These works will take place over winter, and the bus stop to change on Cherry Hinton Road (towards Addenbrooke's) has no shelter or seating.

I was told by Grant Weller (from the County council) that there was extensive consultation with people living in Queen Edith's. I have since learnt that Queen Edith's Way Residents' Assn have consistently argued against the roundabout ever since they examined the literature on this design about two years ago.

They quote a TfL capacity report: *We also considered a number of designs at Lambeth Bridge north including a signalised junction and a 'Dutch style' roundabout with a physically separated cycle track around the edge of the roundabout. However, our modelling indicated that this would have had significant impact on journey times for other road users in the area, including thousands of bus passengers.*

TfL have not installed a single roundabout of this type anywhere across the metropolis.'

Cambridge Area Bus Users (CABU) have also made representations. If you want to add comments, their contact details are:

Email: secretary.cabu@gmail.com

Twitter: [@CBGbusUsers](https://twitter.com/CBGbusUsers)

Web: <https://cbgbususers.wordpress.com/>

F'book: [@cbgareabususers](https://www.facebook.com/cbgareabususers)

Pavements

Also a County responsibility. We were told in January that Birdwood Rd was part of an additional funding allocation for pavement patching. I've phoned them and left a message and am waiting for a response.

If you need to contact our local Councillors, here are their details:

County Council, Sandra Crawford Phone: 01223 503061 Email: sandra.crawford@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	City Council, Grace Hadley Phone: 07940 074022 Email: grace4labour@gmail.com
City council, Lewis Herbert Phone: 07748 536153 Email: lewis.herbert@cambridge.gov.uk	City Council, Rosy Moore Mobile: 07709 222026 Email: rosy.moore@cambridge.gov.uk