



Welcome to the Lordsbridge Team Monthly Newsletter October 2026

Worship with us across the Team

Our Weekly Worship at Home Resources:

<https://lordsbridge.org/2025/06/16/worship-at-home/>

Our Sunday Zoom Church meets every week at 11.00am at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82311473640>.

The service sheet is available on the website, via the link above.

Everyone is welcome.

News

Safeguarding training will be available at the Cabin for those eligible on
Tuesday 27 October 10am-12 noon.

Please email thelordsbridgeteam@gmail.com to book a place.

DBS Checks for certain Church roles may be arranged strictly by
appointment by emailing thelordsbridgeteam@gmail.com

Bible Readings

Genesis 8:22

While the earth remains,
Seedtime and harvest,
And cold and heat,
And summer and winter,
And day and night
Shall not cease.

Psalms 67:6

The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God, blesses us.

Matthew 13:36-43

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed is the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴² and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.



Services Spotlight

4 October at 09.30

St Peter's Church, Barton

Harvest Festival



11 October at 09.30

St Mary's Church, Hardwick,

Harvest Festival

and

11 October at 11am

St Helen's Church, Little Eversden,

Harvest Festival



18 October at 09.30

St Mary's Church, Comberton,

Healing & Wholeness

25 October at 10.30

St Peter & St Paul's Church, Dry Drayton,

Team Service Holy Communion



Lordsbridge Spotlight

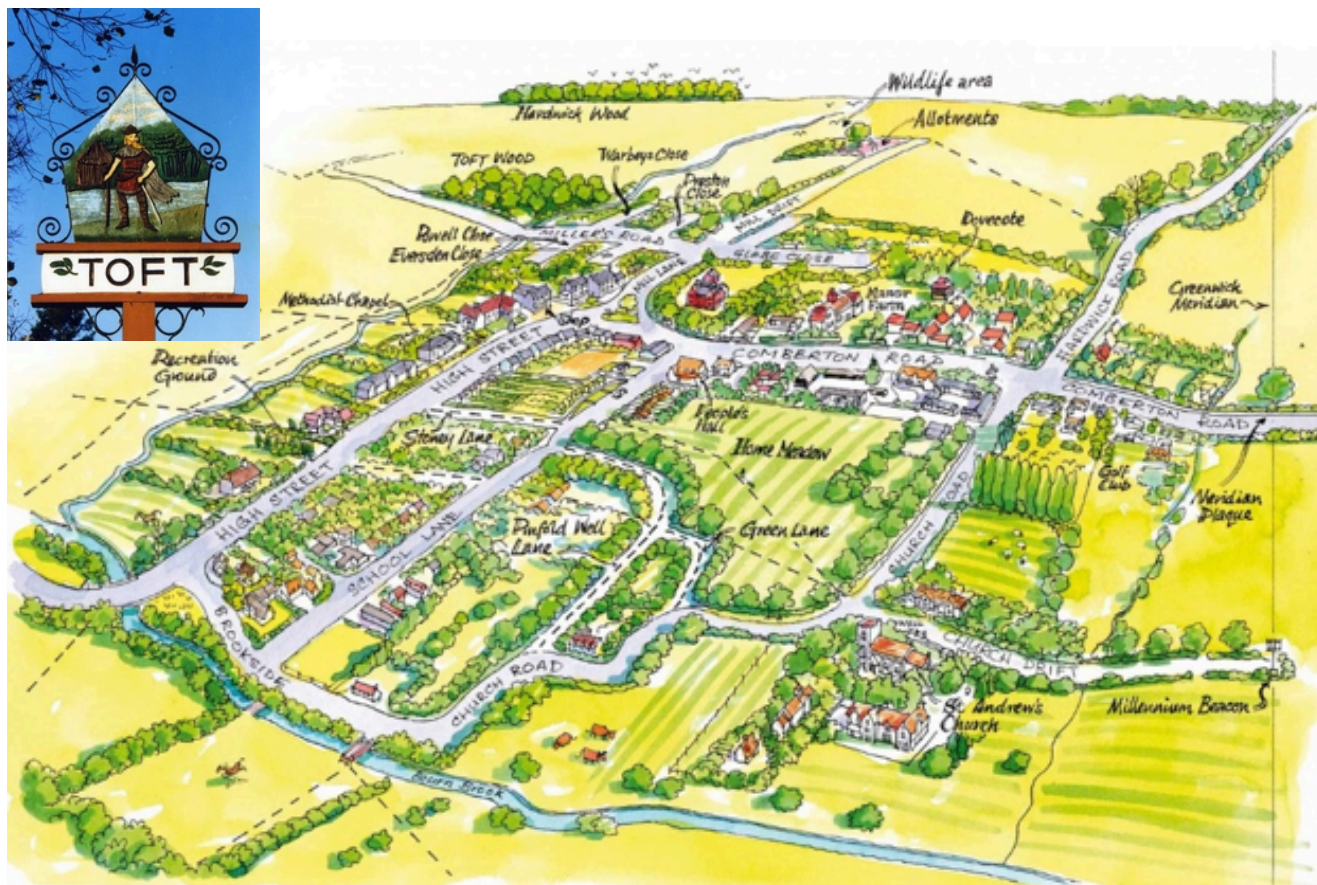
Over the next few months we will be putting the spotlight on different teams and individuals within the Lordsbridge community. If there is a group you would like to know more about, feel free to get in touch.

We are beginning a new series by featuring each of the Parishes in the Lordship Team.

An enormous thanks to Ann Mitchell for writing a fascinating account of Toft; the community and St Andrew's Church.

TOFT

The story of Toft is not just the story of its past which takes us back to at least Roman Times and probably further as the Bourn valley must have been a fertile, safe place to live, but is still very much a part of its present. Its name derives, so we believe, from a Viking who decided to settle here and built his Toft, or homestead. A walk round the village, easy to do and many do daily, makes you feel very close to the past.



Let us begin with the Church, an early version of which existed on that site in 1217 and perhaps before. Beside it runs the bridleway known as Lot Way which links the churches of Comberton, and Toft, both of which stand outside their present villages, and Caldecote and Bourn. Cross the field opposite and look at the ridges and furrows where our ancestors, farmed their crops wheat, barley, oats and peas but not clover or turnips to provide food for their families. Walk around Brookside, once known as Water lane as it used to flood frequently and was the heart of the village beside the Bourn Brook, the High Street and Comberton Road , and look at the cottages which were built in the 1600s. On the way, notice the Chapel built in 1862. Walk down School Lane to the old village school, now the Toft People's Hall, ready for another stage in its development. In each century and even each decade, the appearance of the village has changed as people have put their stamp on it, building houses, cultivating fields, setting up small businesses. Just a few present-day villagers were born here, went to school here, and bicycled to Comberton, or even into Cambridge every day to attend secondary school. The Village College, in Comberton, opened in 1960, just after Toft village school closed in December 1959.

Toft has been strongly non-conformist since the first house was licensed in the early 17th century, By 1669 there were 50 or 60 in the conventicle, not all from Toft and in 1659 John Bunyan had preached in a barn in Toft, some of which is still here. It is rumoured that John Wesley also visited. By 1751 five houses were licensed as meeting houses in Toft and in 1862 a Methodist Chapel was built in High Street. There followed many years of strained relations with the Church. Most of those involved in farming were Methodists but their children had to attend the Church of England School which opened in 1833.



Excellent School log books tell us much of life in agricultural Toft. The population of the village was 380 in mid-19th century but only 200 in 1900 following the agricultural depression and Toft was described as poor but not distressed. Following a major dispute over learning the catechism and the brief existence of a second school in Toft, held in the Chapel, peace was established and relations improved greatly; firstly with the establishment of a weekly, winter, get together known as Fireside which began just after WWII and changing with time still exists today; and then worshipping once a month alternately in each other's buildings until the signing of a Covenant and finally a Local Ecumenical Partnership in 2003. So for 22 years the Church in Toft flourished, worshipping together, supporting each other and the community until in 2025 with a diminishing congregation, the Chapel was closed, the majority of its members choosing to receive an ecumenical welcome and become part of St. Andrew's congregation. The chapel building has been purchased by the Plymouth Brethren.

The original chapel building was increased in size in 1940, and again in 1980 and was used by the community in all sorts of ways – home to Sunday/ Monday Club, Toft Guides, meetings of all sorts and the Warm Hub. This latter begun by the two congregations after lock-down, it runs throughout the winter every Monday and welcomes from 24 to 30 people each week for scrabble, jigsaws, art works and chatting, lubricated by hot drinks and biscuits. With the closure of the Chapel it has transferred to Toft People's Hall (TPH).



In the 1990's two decisions of great importance were made by the church community, firstly that the church, as the largest public building in the village should be involved in as many community endeavours as was appropriate and that to assist that the building should be made 21st century worthy! This latter took us 12 years and a lot of money but resulted in a new, efficient heating system, a coffee and tea making facility, a sound system, the removal of a pew, and lowering of the pulpit, a moveable slope up into the chancel, re-ordering of the vestry, and finally the construction of a North porch to house a disabled friendly WC. We now welcome Toft Choir and Toft Session concerts twice a year, and other musical events and are frequently visited by bands of bell-ringers. For many centuries we had just three bells, and because of the questionable stability of the tower the bells were not rung. In the 1990's, we strengthened the tower, bought a bell from Hardwick and had a fifth bell struck, named Richard Howard, at Loughborough Foundry, had a group that trained as bell-ringers and rang in the millennium at midnight. Since then we have been gifted a sixth bell, and have brought ringing to ground floor level. We no longer have our own band but share with other churches in the Team.



Our churchyard is maintained by a wonderful family who mow all round the stones; our policy to keep every stone reachable and leave the edges wild. Surrounded by 12 lime trees, planted in 1890 (bar one which is a replacement) to represent the disciples, it is most beautiful in the spring when it is full of snowdrops.

Random facts: we publish and finance the Toft Village Calendar, our monthly newssheet delivered free to every house. The church is open every day in daylight hours. We have beautiful hangings for each of the seasons made and designed by villagers; we always greet Easter dawn with a fire on our highest point; we printed our own cook book and made our own tea towel and so much more!

Major village events in which we play a large part are:

the Spring Feast week-end – carrying on a long term village tradition with entertainment and historical input at TPH on the Friday and Saturday and outdoor service and activity, maypole dancing on the green, drawing of water from the well by the church, a village service sometimes with a visit to our Millennium yew tree and a parish tea.

The Christmas Tree week-end – individuals and organisations decorate Christmas trees, the church is open to view them then on Sunday afternoon there is a Christingle and gift service – for over 30 years we have gathered gifts for the Women's Refuge in Cambridge.

Remembrance The RBL service in alternate years and Sports Day.

And we are always part of 'specials' – the Millennium, all the Jubilees, the Coronation, the Big Breakfast, street parties and so on.

In addition to St. Andrew's, and Toft People's Hall, we have Lot Meadow, a piece of public land most beautifully cared for down the High Street, with apple trees from which the village may gather, a place to play, to sit and enjoy the birds and trees, to hold events – the village beacon has been moved there. A few years ago we gifted a sapling cedar of Lebanon from the one in the churchyard for over a hundred years felled by a gale; it is flourishing.



For the Millennium, our tired village hall was given a face-lift and a Social Club was created. Toft People's Hall is central to our village, occupied nearly every evening of the week and many days as well. Regulars are the Community Café every Wednesday morning with its club for Mums and toddlers, Toft Guides and Brownies, the Friendship Club, Toft Choir, Toft Art, the Quiz, table tennis and carpet bowls, camera club and food on Fridays. There is a volunteer run licensed bar and special Saturdays with well-known performers; a monthly film night; open mic and slow session; and special week-ends/evenings gin tasting, themed, hedgehogs, murder mystery, Chinese food....

2026 – as it has through the centuries the demographic of Toft is changing, the village, run by the same group of people now ageing, is giving way to a generation who have to work longer and have less volunteer time, but it is still a great village to live in and St. Andrew's is still very much part of it.



A photograph of a large, ancient tree with thick, gnarled, and exposed roots. The roots are light brown and spread out across the ground, which is covered with dry leaves and small plants. The tree's trunk is thick and textured, and its branches are covered in green leaves. In the background, there is a body of water and a blue sky with some clouds.

Rooted: discovering ways to pray

October 24 2026
10-12 at the Cabin in Hardwick
with
Revd Clare Coates and Revd Steve Clark

Rooted: Discovering Ways to Pray **with Rev'd Clare Coates and Rev'd Steve Clark**

Saturday 24 October
10am-12noon at the Cabin in Hardwick

Are you a regular intercessor at your Church? Or would you like to try leading prayers? Would you like to find out more about prayer, and why we pray?

Prayer is at the heart of our lives and work as Christians and as a Team. We believe God is calling us to a deeper commitment to prayer and we are expectant that God is at work in us as we seek Him together. We believe that prayer is more than something we 'do.' Let's plant firm roots in God as we pray together and as we seek to draw closer to Him together.

All are very welcome to join us for a morning workshop, focusing on discovering the many different ways we can pray, and finding your own voice as you pray.



MONTH OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER

Autumn 2026

Take time out to explore prayer and find God in daily life



That very same day two of them were on their way to a village called Emmaus...and Jesus himself came up and walked by their side.

(Luke 24: 13-15)

In person on Saturday mornings
at 7 Brookside, Cambridge CB2 1JE
OR by zoom or telephone at an agreed time
29th October – 28th November

For information and an application form, contact:
Judy Bennett-Prowse cambsprayer@gmail.com
or call

Kay Dodsworth	07786 910 406
Romie Ridley	07941 862 435

Closing date – Friday 16th October

An ecumenical initiative of the Diocese of Ely Spirituality Group

Once again the team are offering an opportunity for people to be accompanied individually once a week by a trained guide in Autumn 2026 from 29th October to 28th November. There will be the option of face to face meetings with a guide, limited to Saturday mornings and held at no 7 Brookside. Or at a pre-arranged time during the week via zoom or by telephone. There will be no charge for participation although donations for the use of Brookside are very welcome.

1. Interested but unsure? Do email or ring one of the team listed overleaf for more information.

A previous participant wrote afterwards: "We all felt like we met God in some way. In our homes, gardens and through our imaginations. It helped us to revisit scripture afresh and talk to Him freely."

2. The Opening Session

Participants will gather together with the Prayer Accompaniers/Guides for these introductory sessions, whether in person or on zoom. The aim is to begin to create a Community of Prayer by – ? Praying together with Scripture; ? Meeting one another in an informal setting; ? Introducing the Prayer Guides. ? To allay fears, answer questions, give ideas for prayer during the week

EITHER: Thursday 29th October , 7 to 8pm ON ZOOM

For pilgrims meeting on zoom or by telephone, arrangements will be made directly by email or telephone between the guide and pilgrim.

OR: Saturday 31st October 10.00-11.00am at 7 Brookside, CB2 1JE (use side door).

At Brookside, the hour ends in small groups, each with their allocated Prayer Guide, to arrange times for their weekly meetings.

3. The weekly meeting with one's prayer guide. The meeting will take place according to your choice and the time agreed with your guide. The sessions with the accompanier are confidential. This is the heart of the month, for it is God who is THE GUIDE, whom we believe speaks in and through the Word of Scripture and in the daily events, feelings and circumstances of our lives.

The Prayer Guide is a listener, giving the participant or pilgrim the chance to reflect on their own experience and in the light of this offer further suggestions for the prayer time.

4. FEAR NOT! THE PRAYER GUIDES are ordinary people with their own ups & downs as yourselves. They are trained in this work & their role is to be an accompanier & guide; not to give advice nor to sort anything out for you.

The individual meeting is for you to share what you want. There are no right answers –whatever happens for you is right. The prayer guide is there for you, never intruding, always respecting confidentiality. Silence may be also be helpful.

If you are thinking, I don't think this is for me, I am not able enough, or I am too shy, or I don't know anything about prayer or have much knowledge of the Bible . . .don't dismiss the possibility of doing the week. It is not about knowledge or being articulate, rather it's about being yourself & growing in intimacy with a God who is in every aspect of life. All you need to bring to the month is yourself and a commitment to set aside some time for prayer and meditation, one or more times a week.

Our Lord has written the
promise of resurrection not in
books alone but in every leaf
in springtime.
Martin Luther



St Peter's Barton

Organ Recital

by two Churchill College Organ Scholars: Nia Middleton

Thursday October 15th

12.00-1.00

followed by a light lunch

&

Thomas Winrow-
Campbell

Tickets £12

from bartonpccsecretary@gmail.com

or by telephone (01223) 263196

or on-line



Account: StPetersChurchBarton

Account No.: 00019213

SortCode: 40-52-40

Please quote: Organ Recital

Proceeds to Barton church



St Peter's Church, Barton

Village Harvest Festival Service

Sunday 4 October 2026 9.30am

A collection will be taken for Tearfund, supporting their vital work.

Jimmy's Night Shelter Appeal

Harvest Donations of produce are welcome on Saturday, when we will be decorating the church for Harvest, or on Sunday morning.



- | | |
|---|---|
| ♥ <u>Long Life Milk + Dairy Free Alternatives</u> | ♥ <u>Jars of Pasta Sauce + Curry Sauce</u> |
| ♥ <u>Squash</u> | ♥ <u>Cooking Oil</u> |
| ♥ <u>Tea + Coffee</u> | ♥ <u>Sugar</u> |
| ♥ <u>Hot Chocolate</u> | ♥ <u>White Rice</u> |
| ♥ <u>Baked Beans</u> | ♥ <u>Pot Noodles / Instant Noodles</u> |
| ♥ <u>Tinned Fish (e.g Tuna)</u> | ♥ <u>Pasta Sauce Packs</u> |
| ♥ <u>Tinned Meat</u> | ♥ <u>Jam / Peanut Butter / Chocolate Spread / Marmite</u> |
| ♥ <u>Tinned Tomatoes</u> | ♥ <u>Biscuits / Chocolate Bars</u> |
| ♥ <u>Meals in a Tin</u> | ♥ <u>Crisps</u> |
| ♥ <u>Salt + Pepper / Herbs + Spices</u> | ♥ <u>Cereal</u> |
| ♥ <u>Ketchup / Mayo / Brown Sauce / BBQ Sauce</u> | ♥ <u>Sandwich Pickle</u> |

Stapleford Wind Sinfonia

presents

Top Hat

A concert of music by Irving Berlin, Jerry Herman, Nigel Hess, John Ireland, Ralph Vaughan Williams and more . . .

Conductor **Anne Templer**

Sunday 18 October 2026 4.00 p.m.

All Saints Church Church Way

Haslingfield

Cambridge CB23 1JF

Tickets £15

Tickets available from TicketSource

OR

Haslingfield Village Shop

Under 18s FREE



Scan for tickets

staplefordwindsinfonia@gmail.com

Supported by the

CAMBRIDGE CHAMBER COLLECTIVE



Sunday 18 October 2026 at 6:00pm

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Dry Drayton CB23 8BZ

Amy Beach, *Quartet for Strings in One Movement*, Op. 89

Dmitri Shostakovich, *String Quartet No. 6 in G major*, Op. 101

Felix Mendelssohn, *Viola Quintet in B-flat major*, Op. 87

Paula Muldoon & Alice Ruffle, violins

Penny Veryard & Tom Taylor, violas

Jon Fistein, cello

Admission £12 in advance or £15 at the door - carers & under-18s free



<https://buytickets.at/cambridgechambercollective>



Cambridge City
Foodbank
Together with Trussell



This Harvest, can you ensure every neighbour has the essentials?

More people than ever are being forced to turn to Cambridge City Foodbank to survive. By donating at Harvest, you can help provide vital food, and hope, to people who are struggling.

In the past 12 months, we gave out over

meals across our Foodbank Welcome Centres and our Fairbite Food Clubs

We have supported over **3,000** unique households with a combination of emergency food, affordable food, and advice services.



Thank you

The Foodbank
relies on the
support of people
like you.



Other ways to donate

Regular financial
donations help us
provide fresh food
items, as well as
cover ongoing
costs like transport.

Shopping list

Instant coffee

Long-life juice

Nappies - size 6

Pasta sauce

Squash

Tinned pasta

Tinned vegetables

Tinned fruit

Long-life milk

Jam

Find out more and get involved
ccfb.org.uk

info@ccfb.org.uk I 07772 538628



Cambridge City Foodbank is an independent local charity and member of the Trussell network.
Charity No:1149883. UK Limited Company: 8175815.

Adventure
Friendship
Skills for Life



Comberton Scout Group

Be part of
something
amazing!

JOIN OUR CUB PACK & SCOUT GROUP

Make new friends • Try new things • Have fun!

CUBS

For 8–10½ year olds

- Outdoor adventures
- Fire lighting
- Making friends
- Learning new skills
- And much more!



Scouts

For 10½–14 year olds

- Challenge yourself
- Grow in confidence
- Learn life skills
- Take on new adventures
- Make a difference



BEAVERS

For 6–8 year olds

- Play and explore
- Try new activities
- Make friends
- Learn and grow
- Be part of a team



Leaders Needed!

We're looking for enthusiastic, positive people to join our team of volunteer leaders.

- ✓ Support young people
- ✓ Make a real difference
- ✓ Be part of a friendly team
- ✓ Full training and support provided



No
experience
needed!

New Beaver Colony Opening!



We're excited to be opening a new Beaver Colony in Comberton but we need your help!

We're looking for volunteers to help get it off the ground – whether you can help regularly or just a little, we'd love to hear from you!

Help us
give more
young people
a great start
in scouting!



Get in touch:



ian.douglas@craftshillscout.org.uk

COMBERTON SCOUT GROUP



Contact Us

Revd Clare Coates
Team Rector;
(Lead Minister in Caldecote with Childerley,
Dry Drayton and Hardwick)
clarecoates@lordsbridge.org; 07818 618795

Revd Claire Robertson
(Team Vicar; Lead Minister in Barton, Coton,
Harlton and Haslingfield)
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Revd Charles Fraser
(Team Vicar [MSE]; Lead Minister in Great Eversden
and Little Eversden)
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Revd Priscilla Slusar (Team Support Minister)
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Team Administrator
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