

Letters



OUR POLICY

Please enclose your full address and daytime telephone number. Keep your letter to no more than 200 words. The News reserves the right to edit material.



WRITE TO

Letters to the Editor, Cambridge News, Winship Road, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6BQ



EMAIL

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Don't move the archives

I VISITED the Central Library on one of my regular visits to the Cambridgeshire Collection, because I am researching life in Soham during the First World War years. Through this wonderful resource I have completed two books, Soham Chronicle 2 and 3.

On entering the library I noticed a display all about establishing the third floor as an Enterprise Centre. I was of course aware that the Cambridgeshire Collection was going to vacate the Central Library and move to Ely along with the County Archives.

I have deposited archive material from our churches from the Ely and Newmarket circuit to Shire Hall Record Office, so I know the desperate need for them to be housed in a better place, but why should the Cambridgeshire Collection be moved as it is perfectly suitable where it is?

I have been attending the collection for many years and I was so put out when the library had its refurbishment. It seemed it took a long time to complete. They say a good thing is worth waiting for, and so it proved.

Before, when I spent many hours there each time I attended, I had to go down many steps to use the toilet and get a drink and a muffin in the Lion Yard and struggle to find a seat. Now I walk a few paces outside and I am in the lovely café with toilets just a few more paces away. I doubt very much whether this situation will ever be replicated in the bowling alley or warehouse place at Ely.

Yes I heard a long time ago George Osborne was going to set up enterprise centres around the country and that is fine, that's his to do. But why invade a public facility to provide the space for training people for the private sector?

I took away the proposal literature and read a lot about how they will be changing, and the lovely café will be replaced with a smaller upmarket coffee bar which will be open to tenders. Maybe Costa or Starbucks. We have seen how much the NHS is being privatised but now it is being done inside a very public facility. If this proposal goes ahead it will not be just the third floor but the whole of the Central Library.

Watch this space.

George Ginn
Kings Parade
Soham

Well done for saving a life

I AM writing to congratulate Zoe Crow and Laura Human of Trimsett Hairdressers on their quick thinking and use of first aid to save the life of one of their regular clients (News, April 28).

Their actions show how important it is to understand first aid and to be able to deliver it, especially Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation in the critical first few

Your view



HELLO, FLOWER: "I photographed this Spanish Festoon butterfly in Portugal," says Helen Sharpe, of Sawton

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minutes after a cardiac arrest.

Learning first aid is one of the most important things you can do and you never know when you might need to use it, as Zoe and Laura have clearly demonstrated.

Not only are we at St John Ambulance trying to boost the number of people who possess these skills around the country, we are also working hard to get the subject onto the school curriculum.

We run many courses where people can pick up these skills and our website includes many free resources including advice, videos and our first aid apps for Android, iPhone and Blackberry. We are also very pleased to be working with the News on a weekly first aid tips column in the health supplement.

My colleagues and I at St John Ambulance are delighted that the lady they assisted is recovering and we know that Zoe and Laura's swift response and calm use of first aid without doubt contributed to this. Well done again to both of them!

Lee Taylor
Area Manager
St John Ambulance

Target parks in litter blitz

WITH reference to council employees targeting "people dropping" single cigarette butts – all fine and good. But perhaps they can "up their game" by patrolling our central parks at weekends and bank holidays, thereby catching people dropping serious amounts of litter.

Especially if they patrol Jesus

Green when the 2,000 students invade the park and drop 40 bags of rubbish.

Mr Chris Gifford
Lilac Close
Haslingfield

Green passion for fairer world

SOME of us are supporters of the Green Party, some of us are not. But if you choose to vote Green in the General Election on May 7, you will be voting to elect the Green Party's candidate, Rupert Read.

We, the signatories to this letter, all know Rupert Read personally. He is a person of integrity and passionate commitment. He cares intensely about achieving a fairer Britain and a flourishing world. He has seven years' practical experience as an elected Green Party local councillor under his belt, and he has recently come to prominence through the national campaign he began to protect children by banning advertising targeted at them.

We are asking you today – whoever you normally vote for (and whichever party you intend to vote for in the council elections being held the same day) – to consider voting Green this time, in the General Election.

A Green vote on May 7 could elect Rupert Read to be your MP, as part of a strengthened Green Party team in the House of Commons. Rupert came very close to being elected as your Green MEP last year, but narrowly missed.

That however, was before the 'Green surge', which has seen the party's membership quintuple and the party rise significantly in the polls, and enter into the leaders' debates for the first time.

Cambridge was, in fact, already the Green Party's third strongest seat in the entire UK, at the 2010 General Election. If you believe that there should be at least three Green Party MPs in the entire House of Commons, then you need to be voting Green in Cambridge. Please give the Greens a chance in this election, and vote for an MP of whom you will, we are confident, be proud.

Jonathan Porritt, former Chair of the Sustainable Development Commission;
Zoe Williams, Guardian journalist and columnist;
Tony Juniper, Green Party candidate in Cambridge in 2010;
Charles Secrett, former Director of Friends of the Earth;
Peter Tatchell, LGBT and human rights campaigner who citizens-arrested Robert Mugabe;
Natalie Bennett, Green Party Leader;
Gary Francione, world-leading animal-rights lawyer;
John Stewart, leading anti-airport-expansion campaigner;
Jules Peck, director of David Cameron's Quality of Life Commission, 2008-2010;
Ian Gibson, former Labour MP and Chair of the House of Commons Select Committee on Science and Technology;
Craig Murray, SNP activist and former UK Ambassador to Uzbekistan;
Caroline Lucas, Green Party MP and MP of the Year

Your say online

cambridge-news.co.uk

SUBJECT: New Waitrose for Cambridge? Supermarket interested in store at 3,000-home Darwin Green development

POSTED BY: opaque

You do know there is a Waitrose near the Grafton Centre, right? It's small but still a Waitrose. There is certainly a need for more supermarkets on that side of the city. The number of times I see poor students carrying Sainsbury's bags from town as they trudge back down Madingley Road.

POSTED BY: Notadon

Of course at least 1,200 of this development will be for low cost affordable housing!

SUBJECT: 16 top hotspots where dirty needles are found in Cambridge

POSTED BY: Jason101

Even more reason that we need drop in centres, like most European countries, to actually help people, rather than just turning a blind eye and hope that it goes away. Guess what? It doesn't. Criminals just end up making more money. The UK's drug policy is ridiculous and needs a complete overhaul.

POSTED BY: Gilbert

Always a few scattered around the keep fit/kids play equipment on Romsey Rec.

Tweet of the Day

Lucy Gossage
@lucygoss

I like this write up in <http://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/Cambridge-triathlete-cancer-doctor-Lucy-Gossage/story-26414979-detail/story.html> Thank you!

Your poetry

Lambs' first day on the hill

Jenny and John
Were born today
Up on the green hillside
Out of all harm's way

Their fleeces white
Like fresh fallen snow
With eight little legs
Struggling to get up and go

Late afternoon
Mum so contented and proud
Brings her two little miracles
Down to meet her old crowd

Uncles and aunts
All gather around
To witness these enchanting new creatures
Born up on their mound

Content and well fed
Her two little mites
Drift sleepily through
Their very first night

Village girl
Royston

■ Send your poems, with your name and address, to Roz Lau, Editorial Assistant, Cambridge News, Winship Road, Milton, Cambridge CB24 6BQ, or by email to rozlau@cambridge-news.co.uk