



The Fenlander is a regular bulletin from Fenland District Council updating on council news, events and services.



Pride in Fenland Award nominees. Picture courtesy of the Fenland Citizen

## This month we celebrated some of Fenland's stars

Fenland stars were celebrated this month at the Pride in Fenland awards, for the selfless and community spirited, and Fenland Poet Laureate awards.

It's also the month Fenland District Council made a bid for a judicial review of the Government decision to award development consent to the proposed Wisbech incinerator

Progress continues on March town centre regeneration works, there are more opportunities to get fit and healthy with Active Fenland or improve your environment by joining Street Pride volunteers. And we're all gearing up for Cambridgeshire-wide Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

This month, will also see the first of this year's Fenland Four Season's Events with the St George's Festival, in March town, 10am to 4pm, on Sunday, April 21.

And Manea has become the latest Fenland location to feature in a series of

walking and cycling maps.

Discover more details about all of the above in this newsletter.

Remember you can also get regular updates from us via [Facebook](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#) and our [website](#).



### **Jobs**

Our **current vacancies** include an opportunity for a [workshop technician](#).



### **Ask a question**

Got a question about our services you'd like to see covered in The Fenlander? Send it to [fenlander@fenland.gov.uk](mailto:fenlander@fenland.gov.uk)

## **Council seeks judicial review of Wisbech incinerator decision**

Fenland District Council has made an application for judicial review of the secretary of state's decision to award development consent for the proposed Wisbech incinerator.

A judge must now decide whether to grant the council permission for judicial review and progress to a hearing.

The proposed Medworth CHP Ltd energy from waste combined heat and power facility at Algores Way, Wisbech, was given the go ahead by Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero Claire Coutinho MP in February.

Following a unanimous vote at a meeting of Fenland's full council on February 26 the council sought expert legal advice over the possibility of seeking judicial review.

The timescale in which an answer will be given as to whether the council is permitted by a judge to proceed to judicial review is within the court's discretion.

See more: [Wisbech incinerator](#)

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## Amazing stories of bravery and selflessness at Pride in Fenland Awards



**Above, lifetime achievement award winner Evelyn Hamps with Cambridgeshire High Sheriff Dr Bharatkumar Khetani. Picture courtesy of the Fenland Citizen**

Sisters aged nine and ten who've dialed 999 numerous times to save their diabetic mum and a dedicated octogenarian who has spent decades running her chapel - and still varnishes the floors herself - were among those recognised as Fenland's finest at an awards ceremony.

The Pride in Fenland Awards was bigger than ever this year attracting 117 nominations for 79 incredible groups and people who do wonderful things in our community.

Among the winners were groups and individual volunteers who go to amazing lengths to get food to struggling families, elderly people and the homeless.

There was a nine-year-old who tirelessly raises funds and awareness for a friend and his brother who have an incurable disease.

And a man who picks litter every day to keep his village looking good.

Full story at: [Amazing stories of bravery and selflessness at Pride in Fenland Awards](#)

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## Fenland Poet Laureate and Young Laureate 2024 selected

Poet Hannah Teasdale (pictured, above) described the moment she was named the 2024 Fenland Poet Laureate as nothing short of "surreal".

Hannah, who was born in the Midlands and lived in the South West before moving to The Fens, also said receiving the honour felt like she was finally "at home".

She was announced the sixth Fenland Poet Laureate at the Fenland Poet Laureate Awards ceremony, held at March Town Hall.

In the Young Fenland Poet Laureate competition, open to those aged 17 and under, it was Lacey Vinn who was unanimously crowned the winner. Second place runner-up was Nathanael Wilson and third place runner-up Lydia Shillings (Pictured below. Lacey, centre)

See more: [Hannah Teasdale awarded Fenland Poet Laureate honour](#)



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## Temporary roundabout open in March as Broad Street regeneration continues

A temporary roundabout opened in March town centre, as the Broad Street regeneration contractor continued work.

The temporary roundabout and road surface is now in use at the northern end of Broad Street, allowing motorists direct, straight-over access from Station Road and Dartford Road.

Further updates at: [Temporary roundabout open in March as Broad Street regeneration continues](#)

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**fenland**  
forbusiness



Looking to start, grow or relocate your business? Our **Fenland for Business** team can offer free and impartial advice.



### **Business Premises**

Starting or expanding your business? Looking for affordable offices or factory units? We can help! Our Business Premises and Industrial Units are ideal for small and start-up businesses.

- **The Boathouse Business Centre**  
The Boathouse overlooks the marina in the vibrant market town of Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. It is just a short walk from the town centre and is easily accessible from the A47.
- **South Fens Business Centre**  
South Fens is located in the small market town of Chatteris. It is next to the A141 and A142 - offering easy access to Ely, March, Huntingdon, Cambridge and beyond.

## Elections - Police and Crime Commissioner and Whittlesey Town Council

Elections will be held across Fenland and Cambridgeshire on Thursday, May 2, to elect the county's Police and Crime Commissioner.

In Whittlesey, there will also be a town council by-election on Thursday, May 2, to fill vacancies in the St Andrews Ward and North West Ward.

Voters need ID to place their vote at a polling station.

- More information at: [Elections](#)
- See also: [Police and Crime Commissioner Elections](#)



**Active Fenland** promotes and provides informal and fun sport and physical activity sessions in community settings in Fenland.

## Enjoy the benefits of volunteering during April's Stress Awareness Month

Volunteering is a great mood boosting activity - especially when it's outdoors.

This national Stress Awareness Month, take a look at our Street Pride opportunities for ways to get involved in the local community and help look after your physical and mental wellbeing.

See more: [Enjoy the benefits of volunteering during April's Stress Awareness Month](#)

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## Enhance your fitness and wellness with Active Fenland

Free 'Couch to 5k' programmes are launching in March and Wisbech to support non-runners to build up to completing distances of 5km through weekly sessions.

The sessions are the latest offerings from Active Fenland, which provides free and low-cost exercise and wellbeing opportunities in the district, including everything from walking football to wellbeing kickboxing, badminton to social gatherings with mixed sports and dementia-friendly seated exercise.

The 'Couch to 5k' sessions are:

- 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Wednesdays, April 24 to July 3, meeting at March Athletic Club, Elm Road Sports Field, Elm Road, March PE15 0BH.
- 9.30am to 10.30am, Tuesdays, April 23 to July 9, meeting near the pavilion at Wisbech Park, Lynn Road, Wisbech PE13 3AB. Enjoy an optional drink afterwards in the new pavilion café, at your own cost.

Book online at [www.fenland.gov.uk/activefenlandbookingform](http://www.fenland.gov.uk/activefenlandbookingform) or call 07874 893316. Please leave a message.

Turn-up and play, no-need-to-book walking football and social badminton sessions in Wisbech are among the other Active Fenland offers.

New members are also particularly welcome on Forever Fit multi-sports social sessions in Whittlesey, which includes a hot drink, and is building numbers up.

Find more details of Active Fenland sessions at: [New free Fenland exercise sessions](#)

And: [Active Fenland Facebook](#) and [web page](#).

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**Sunday 21st April  
10am to 4pm**



- 100+ stalls ▪ street food ▪ storytelling ▪  
▪ live entertainment ▪ falconry ▪  
▪ street performers ▪ amusements ▪  
▪ indoor craft fair and much more

**Official opening at 10am with  
Parade from 11.30am  
March Library ♦ City Road ♦ West End Park**

To find out more about what's on, visit  
[www.facebook.com/fenlandevents](https://www.facebook.com/fenlandevents)  
or scan the QR code



## Huge line-up of fun and attractions for St George's Festival 2024

Street performers, live entertainment, stalls, amusements, crafts, street food and fun will fill March town on Sunday, April 21, for the 2024 St George's Festival.

The action takes place 10am to 4pm in and around March Library, City Road, City Road car park and West End Park.

A parade, filled with elaborate carnival costumes will set off from West End Park band stand at 11.30am.

The festival will include street performers, live music, amusements, fun games, 100 plus stalls, falconry, crafts and activities and much more.



More details at: [Huge line-up of fun and attractions for St George's Festival 2024 - Fenland District Council](#)

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## New Manea walking and cycling map adds to the Fenland series

The fifth in a series of walking and cycling maps for Fenland has been launched, encouraging people to explore the charming village of Manea.

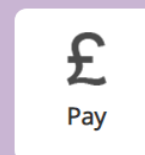
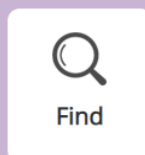
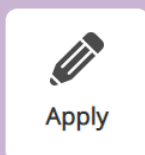
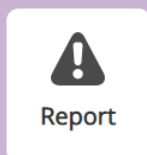
The map features local walks and cycling routes along with useful local information and places to visit.

There are now five walking and cycling maps for the district, created as part of Fenland District Council's Cycling, Walking and Mobility Aid Improvement Strategy.

Download maps for Chatteris, Manea, March, Whittlesey and Wisbech at: [Walking and cycling maps](#)

### Don't forget to **Do It Online**

The quickest and easiest way to apply, report, find or pay via Fenland District Council is usually our website. Available 24 hours a day whenever it's most convenient for you.



### Subscribe to The Fenlander

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