

In brief

Volunteers needed to help St John with youth units

St John Ambulance needs more volunteers to help with its activities with young people in Cambridge. The charity also has opportunities for children, aged 10 to 17, to join the growing youth unit in the city and is planning to open a new cadet unit on Wednesday evenings.

Michelle Grimwood, unit



For more details about volunteering, call Michelle on 07831 411779

manager and youth leader in Cambridge, said: "By joining our youth team, adult volunteers will be helping create a safe, inclusive, open environment where young people can learn important life skills."

An open event takes place tonight (Wednesday), 7pm-8.30pm at the Goodman Centre, Church End, Cherry Hinton.

Concert to support street children

A charity concert is taking place at St Paul's Church, Hills Road, on Friday, April 5 to raise money for Street Child United.

The Mawson Road Community Orchestra will perform from 7.30pm, covering classical pieces by Handel, Mozart and Prokofiev, and world music from Russia, Macedonia, Kosovo and South Africa. Tickets are £8 adults, £5 concessions and £1 children

Michael Rosen inspires children's poems and songs



Children from 18 schools across the city filled Great St Mary's Church on Monday for a concert of poetry and music led by author Michael Rosen.

The event was a project by local historical educators, Historyworks, that aimed to bring Cambridge's history to life and to mark Holocaust Memorial Day with a series of pieces written on the subjects of 'home' and 'torn from home'. Children performed their own poetry and songs inspired by the themes.

Helen Weinstein, director of Historyworks, said: "It was wonderful, and the songs about home were very moving. I saw quite a few people with a tear in their eye. I'm thrilled the children loved these songs so much."

"The event is about having a sense of belonging and a place to call home and, in the second half, children from the Cambridge Academic Partnership group of secondary schools sang about what it would be like to be torn from your home. It was absolutely breathtakingly beautiful."

Poet in residence for Historyworks, Michael Rosen, performed some of his most famous children's poems and spoke about Holocaust

Memorial Day and the loss of many of his family members.

Mr Rosen said: "You can teach children history through working with their empathy."

You appeal to the child as a human being and ask what it would be like if you were in that situation. The Holocaust was unique because it was the most scientific, industrialised, theorised genocide there has ever been. It was premeditated in a way that genocides have never been really before or since."



Michael Rosen with children at the event

Pictures: Keith Heppell

