

Cambridgeshire District & County Council Coats of Arms
SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL ARMS



Heraldic Description:

ARMS: *Gules on a Saltire Ermine between in chief a Cornucopia the horn Or replenished proper in fess two Garbs and in base the Sails of a Windmill Or a closed Book Gules clasped and garnished Or.*

CREST: *On a Wreath Argent and Gules upon a Mount Vert a Great Bustard close between the legs two Quill Pens in saltire points downward all proper.*

Motto:

'NIET ZONDER ARBYT'

Nothing without work

Granted 13th May 1978.

The South Cambridgeshire District was formed by the amalgamation of the Chesterton Rural District and the South Cambridgeshire Rural District

Explanation of Imagery:

The shield retains the red background and ermine saltire charged with a red book edged and decorated gold which were the basis of the arms of the [Chesterton RDC](#). These commemorate the crossing of ancient roads in the district, including Ermine Street, and also many connections with the University of Cambridge. The book also alludes to the unique system of Village Colleges in the County, many of which are in the new District. As in the Chesterton arms, a gold cornucopia filled with fruit and flowers represents the orchards, nurseries, and preserving industries. The sails of a windmill, also in gold, as in the Chesterton arms, suggests the mechanised agriculture of the area and notable windmills at

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Bourn, Madingley, and Chishill. The two gold sheaves indicate the union of two rural districts to form the new authority. The wheatsheaf was the only emblem in the South Cambridgeshire RDC seal and this appropriate symbol is thus preserved.

From the Chesterton crest comes the Cambridgeshire bustard on a small grassy mound. For necessary distinction are added two crossed quill pens to indicate the literary associations of the district with writers such as Chaucer, Tennyson, Rupert Brooke, Pepys, Matthew Paris, and Byron.

The motto is that of the Chesterton RDC, it is that inscribed on a house in Fen Drayton associated with Vermuyden, the famous fen drainer - the only Dutch motto in British civic heraldry.