

Stapleford

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MESSENGER

September 2021

Volume 80 No 9

Price 60p

Champagne cricket



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Who's who at St Andrew's

www.standrewstapleford.org

Parish priest

Rev Dr Simon Taylor 840256

Curate

Rev Clare Coates 07818 618795

Churchwardens

Jackie Nettleton 721366

Alastair MacGregor
07855 269844

Parish Safeguarding Officer

Rob Needle 844227

Parish Administrator

Gillian Sanders 07752 373176

Youthworker

Zoe Clayton 894656

Children's Ministry

Sue Brown 01954 264246

Director of Music

John Bryden 07803 706847

PCC secretary

Nicky West 07927 531719

Treasurer

Chris Bow 841982

Verger

Clare Kerr 842984

Sacristan

Peter Green 500404

Captain of bellringers

Tony Smith 843379

Church flowers

Jackie Nettleton 721366

Liz Hodgkins 01638 570060

Stapleford-Nachingwea Link

Trish Maude 242263

Mothers' Union

Hilary Street 840548

Johnson Memorial Hall

Gillian Sanders 07752 373176

Friends of St Andrew's

Tony Hore 843796

SERVICES at St ANDREW'S

Sunday services vary from week to week and our pattern is changing as we come out of lockdown. See the St Andrew's Noticeboard for this month, and the church website at standrewstapleford.org for full details. The services include:

9am BCP or CW Communion

10.30am Communions, Services of the Word, Messy Church and Forest Church

2pm Sunday Praise

4.30pm Connect

SERVICES AT OTHER CHURCHES

Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston (Roman Catholic)

Sundays 8.45am and 11.15am

Shelford Free Church (Baptist)

Sundays 10.30am

All house, prayer and Bible study groups are cancelled until further notice.

Christenings and Weddings

Christenings take place during Sunday worship.

For both Christenings and Weddings, contact the parish priest.

Stapleford MESSENGER

Editor

Contact staplefordmessenger@gmail.com

Advertising

Contact stapleford.ads@gmail.com

The subscription for the Stapleford MESSENGER delivered to your home is £6 per annum (£16 by post): single copies 60p. For more information, contact Valerie Powell, Distribution Officer, on 843415.

From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor



WHAT is the most widely played sport in the world? Answer: three against three basketball, which is why the IOC included it in the Olympics this time round. Their research also highlighted the popularity of sports like BMX and skateboarding, so they were included too. The whole thing was an amazing spectacle and the IOC and organisers in Tokyo deserve our congratulations.

It was all a bit odd with no crowds but still terrific. The British & Northern Irish team did well in the medals table. Keeping our feet on the ground, we should remember that the main determinants of a nation's Olympic success are population size and economic power, but that takes nothing away from the achievements of our individual athletes. Their determination, skill and dedication is amazing, and they deserve the applause they get for their performances. I enjoyed it all enormously.

One striking thing was hearing our athletes speak out on issues important to them. Dina Asher-Smith spoke about the right for athletes to express their views during the Games as well as outside it. Then, with success in the synchronized diving in the bag, Tom Daley was articulate on LGBT rights, and responded beautifully to subsequent attacks in the Russian media. It turns out that real men crochet. Adam Peaty, one of the world's best swimmers, announced he was taking time out after the Olympics to focus on his mental health. Idiots criticised him, but he talked movingly about the stigma associated with poor mental health and the effect of pressure on well-being. And Alice Dearing, a black British swimmer who competed in the 10 kilometre open water race, spoke about the lack of diversity in swimming after the world governing body banned the use of a head covering designed to cope with a full head of naturally curly and voluminous hair because it didn't follow 'the natural form of the head'. No wonder black swimmers feel like outsiders in the sport.

These amazing young athletes seem to have found a new freedom to speak out which I don't remember in the past. To be sure there have been occasional protests – remember the iconic 1968 Black Power podium salute – but this level of willingness to speak out on issues other than their sport, for so many to use their platform so positively, seems new. And it is not just Olympians, of course. Marcus Rashford has led the way on food poverty in the UK, and he and other footballers have campaigned on racial justice and other issues, contributing positively to our national discourse in all sorts of ways.

The theme seems to be inclusivity. Young athletes are refusing to allow the quiet exclusion or sidelining of minority ethnic groups, LGBT people, those with poor mental health, the poor and those suffering injustice. And whilst the IOC is nervous about its servant-athletes gaining their own voice, its aim too, with the widening pool of sports, is greater inclusion.

It's hard not to like this new attitude. From a Christian perspective it is in tune with the idea that each one of us is ultimately to be thought of as created by a loving God. Psalm 139 puts it poetically:

You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.'

And not only are we God's creation, we are, each and every one of us, loved by him. That is what the famous line from John's gospel means: 'God so loved the world ...' We belong to him and his love means there is a place for each of us in his family. Christianity has an incredibly inclusive vision, and it was good to see the Olympics taking such a small-g godly course.

At St Andrew's we have been quietly taking the same course for, well, over a thousand years in fact, but we have become rather more intentional about it, with our new advertising tag line: 'a church for the whole community'. That is not a fundamental change, but expresses our determination to be more intentional about inclusion. It means that you are welcome at St Andrew's whoever you are, and, critically, that we are trying to ensure that all we do is genuinely inclusive.

Most recently this has been reflected in two ways.

First, we have moved away from a pattern of services that were of a traditional character right across the board. Now, if traditional form and ritual is what helps you worship, the 9 am slot is the place to be; at 10.30 am our services are more informal and may be an easier entry-point if you are thinking about coming to church for the first time in a while. And twice a month we have our relaxed Forest Church – great for children, but emphatically not just for them! It's a good mix with something for everyone.

And second, we did the Church of England's course *Living in Love & Faith*. This explored issues relating to identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage. Part of the course was a mass of short videos from a very wide range of people – gay, straight, transgender and more – all explaining what it meant for them and their relationships to be Christian and to 'live in love and faith'. This material was very thought-provoking and extraordinarily good, and I highly recommend it to you – freely available on the Church of England website. It is, I am sure, going to help us in our aim of genuinely being a church for the whole community.

Every blessing to you all Simon

St Andrew's Noticeboard

SUNDAY services will also be on our St Andrew's Stapleford YouTube channel.

- | | | |
|---------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 5 SEPT | 9 am
10.30 am | SAID BCP COMMUNION
OUTDOOR SUNG CW COMMUNION WITH
FOREST CHURCH
James 1.1-18; Matthew 6.1-18
<i>Trials & perseverance</i> |
| | 6 pm | BCP CHORAL EVENSONG |
| 12 SEPT | 9 am
10.30 am | SAID BCP COMMUNION
BAPTISM SERVICE FOR BENJI ELBOURNE
James 1.19-27; Matthew 7.1-14
<i>Listening & doing</i> |
| 19 SEPT | 9 am
10.30 am | SAID CW COMMUNION
ALL AGE SUNG SERVICE OF THE WORD
NACHINGWEA LINK 40 TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
1 Cor 12.12-20 |
| 26 SEPT | 9 am
10.30 am | SAID BCP COMMUNION
SUNG SERVICE OF THE WORD
James 2.1-13; Matthew 9.1-8
<i>Mercy & judgment</i> |
| 3 OCT | 9 am
10.30 am
10.30 am
6 pm | SAID BCP COMMUNION
HARVEST FESTIVAL SUNG COMMUNION
Joel 2.21-27; Matthew 6.25-33
FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
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The church is open every day as a place to come and pray or enjoy a moment of quiet reflection.

FROM THE REGISTERS

- 11 August: Funeral of Joyce Newitt
14 August: Wedding of Anna Bryden & Bruce Gulland
22 August: Baptism of Ace Dawn-Arnold

St Andrew's Choir Now recruiting

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Amoosing

YES, cringeworthy, cheesy but fun. The theme is Cows about Cambridge, a project in our city. Ninety cows are displayed; mini moos to full size, all colourful with a story or reason behind the design. A trail map helps with tracking. We glimpsed strays en route to the Botanic Gardens. Curiosity took hold. Blooms from the Gardens beautifully painted on a sculpture impressed. Near the station, Thameslink and Greater Anglia showed journeys, the latter called the Bovine Line. Stagecoach East created Moss Cow which wilted one hot day and needed watering. Wandering Lions by Bidwells was based on stories. John Lewis has Beef Wellington and children's work sheets. MOORE Gin stands outside the Hilton. Play on Moo continues with MOOOon in Lion Yard. Each unique with personality, making us smile. Skill and humour evident.

Next, Dairy Curie, no prize for guessing the actual name. The Periodic Table in neon greens, yellows and pinks glows in the dark. Two members of the Royal Society of Chemistry told us about it. They produced cracker jokes such as why was the cow a good scientist? Answer: it was outstanding in its field. What might Sir Isaac Mooton near Trinity College have thought? The art project gives insight into past clever discoveries. I think approval would be granted. Science and technology is fundamental to our city's DNA.

Cows still roam the Commons, some breeds feature on Monty Rushmoo. Red Polls, Longhorns and Aberdeen Angus; a triumph of reality. Cowmono on Parkers Piece and Cowbridge show traditions and recognisable local wonders. Detailed painting. Mini moos delight; including our school endeavour, Staplemoo placed in the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. The children will explain. Other mooseums are involved, shopping centres and hotels too.

Memories were triggered. Feeding cows through our garden fence as a child; a hot air balloon flight landing in a field of surprised grazing cattle; strolling across a field of calm cows who took a dislike to us... There was a time of farm holidays; waking to hear the shout, "Come in number 45." A reluctant beast. How about the Magic Roundabout cartoon series and Ermintrude? In Austria we heard soft cow bells in the pasture near our chalet window.

Seeing is believing. In September, we say "Cheerio Cows." They will be rounded up and later auctioned off. Funds raised help young people and families across Cambridge through the Break charity. Time and imagination have impressed and intrigued. Creations helping others.

Judith and Stephen Lee

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Mothers' Union



THE weather kept fine for the Ely MU Diocesan Garden Party in the Bishop's Palace Garden on Sunday 25 July.



It was lovely to see so many old friends who we hadn't seen for eighteen months. Bishop Stephen dropped in as well, reminding us that 2021 is the centenary of Mary Sumner's death, and that the Mothers' Union has been in existence for 145 years; he also remarked how much the Mothers' Union had made a difference

to communities during the lockdowns and that now the MU is fully in the digital age with its presence on social media, which promotes its continued support for campaigns against modern slavery and the fight for social justice. Altogether a delightful occasion.

On 9 August the Branch enjoyed its well-attended Mary Sumner Day coffee morning, when we also welcomed several of our friends from Milton



MU. Again, there was a lot of catching-up to do, the Branch not having met since February 2020.

Our meeting at 2pm on 30 September, when we are having an Opening Service, will be led by Clare Coates in the Johnson Hall. Hopefully as many members as possible will be able to come. **Hilary Street**



Looking for a local venue?

The Johnson Hall, next to St Andrew's Church, is an ideal venue for small groups and children's parties. The Hall is **available for hire** for one-off events and regular bookings.

For details please contact **Gillian Sanders:**

Tel: 07752 373 176 **Email:** admin@standrewstapleford.org

From Stapleford- Nachingwea Link

New library opens



THE renovation of a room to create a library at Nambambo Secondary School, Nachingwea in conjunction with Realising Education for Development (READ) has now been completed and the library handed over to Nachingwea District Council ready for use by the Nambambo Secondary School Community.

The funds for the library were donated by the Stapleford Link and the project implemented and managed by READ, based in Dar es Salaam.

The Link wishes to thank all those who contributed to make this a reality - it is an amazing achievement remembering that it was completed in the midst of the pandemic.

READ volunteers create libraries and improve access to educational resources for students and teachers in Tanzanian secondary schools.

The photos below show the library building in progress and the finished entrance and interior.



Fund raising brings results for the Link

FUNDS raised by the Link for medical equipment have now been handed over to the District Medical Officer for the Region in Nachingwea. The photo, right, shows Siamini, the Nachingwea Link treasurer (far right), presenting the cheque to Dr. Mtabho (second from left), the District Medical Officer.



The funds will be used to purchase a variety of badly needed neonatal equipment.

The Link has also provided funds for the purchase of special needs uniforms. The photo below left shows the cheque being handed over by Obed to Siamini. Witnessing the occasion were Martha Fanuel, right, a newly employed teacher and left, Hadija Hamadi, a parent of one of the pupils.

In the photo, right, the pupils themselves are seated on mats outside their class room. **Trish Maude**



Celebration Service

As part of the 40th Anniversary celebrations for the Link there will be a Thanksgiving Service at St Andrew's on 19 September at 10.30 am. We look forward to seeing you there.

Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

FROM Sylvia Morris MBE, Stapleford resident and Chair, Karen Morris Memorial Trust

RE: Challenge 23 for Karen



18 SEPTEMBER this year marks the first day that my daughter Karen has been away from us longer than she was alive: 23 years, three months, 20 days.

To mark this significant date we are organising the Karen Morris Memorial Trust Sponsored 23 Challenge. I will be doing a daily mile for 23 days starting on 18 September.

Please sponsor me at uk.virginmoneygiving.com/SylviaMorris4. Or why not do your own challenge on your own, as a family or with a group of friends... and have fun!

Here are just a few ideas: run 23 miles; bake and sell 23 cakes; climb 23 stairs for 23 days; make and toss 23 pancakes; run 1 mile in 23 layers of clothing (as my grandson did for a previous challenge!); score 23 goals in your favourite sport; do 23 hops, skips, hula hoop gyrations or circuits of your garden – the possibilities are endless!

As some Stapleford residents know – and we are grateful to so many of you for your support over the years – Karen (right) passed away in 1998 having lost her year-long battle with chronic myeloid leukaemia.

The KMMT was set up to continue her fundraising initiative. We are a locally based charity supporting a local facility: Karen's Home from Home for leukaemia patients and their families at Addenbrooke's (with other Karen's Homes at the



Hammersmith in London, the Churchill in Oxford, and the Queen Elizabeth in Birmingham, and the fifth under discussion for another leading haematology department).

For further information about the KMMT please visit our web site: kmmt.org.uk or email me at info@kmmt.org.uk. I look forward to hearing from you.

FROM: Jill Ward, Stapleford

RE: Cam Sight

ON the first Thursday of the month, Cam Sight holds an afternoon gathering for blind and partially sighted people from 2 pm to 4 pm at Cox's Close Community Centre. Apart from tea and cakes, entertainment is provided in the form of talks of interest, quizzes, music etc. as well as information about helpful aids. After the long lockdowns, the first gathering was held on 5 July.

I started going some years ago, taking my husband who suffered from glaucoma and he always enjoyed the company. After he died, as it was such a friendly group, I stayed on as a volunteer. As I now have age-related macular degeneration I am both client and volunteer!

The next gathering is on Thursday 2 Sept and I do recommend that anyone with a sight problem comes to enjoy a really pleasant afternoon.

(Editor's Note: For further information go to camsight.org.uk.)

FROM: John Wakefield, Great Shelford

RE:31 Bus Services Extension

ACCORDING to a tweet from A2B, from 16 August some weekday journeys on the 31 bus service are to be extended through onto the 114 service from Addenbrooke's Hospital, and the route covers Sainsbury's, The Beehive and Grafton Centres, and Drummer Street.

These are the 10.04, 11.34, and 13.04 from Stapleford Church bus stop. The 31 timetable remains the same. There is no need to change bus at Addenbrooke's as the same bus continues onto the 114 route. Full details of timetables will be available on their website (a2bbusandcoach.com/bus-timetables).

FROM: Miranda Fyfe, Stapleford

RE: Role of the clerk on the Parish Council

IT was interesting to read about the clerk's role in your August edition. I was puzzled by her comment about "the decisions I have to make..." – surely it is the Parish Councillors whose role is to make important decisions (popular or otherwise), and the clerk's role in that regard is just to ensure such decisions are implemented?

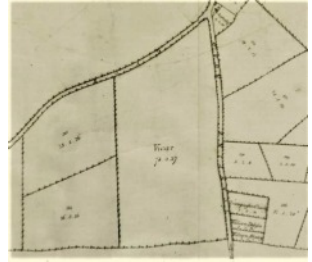
Howard Kettel, Stapleford Parish Council chairman, replies: "We are grateful to your correspondent for her comment. It's helpful to clarify that decisions are taken by the Parish Council, not the Clerk, following which there is process, so that involves both decision and implementation!"

Yesteryear

SYLVIA Morris delves once again into the archive of events in the village over the decades, this time in September. Note that punctuation and capital letters are exactly as printed at the time.

1811

INCLOSURE. Notice is hereby given, that application will be made to parliament in the ensuing session for leave to bring in a Bill for dividing, allotting, and inclosing the open and common fields, commons, commonable lands and waste grounds, in the Parish of Stapleford, and for exonerating all the lands in the said parish from great and small tithes.



1885

INQUEST. At the “Three Horse Shoes”, touching the death of Noah Rawlinson, aged 62 years. William Turner said the deceased was thatching when he complained of a pain in his back. Just before his death, he went round the stack, and drank something out of a can, before he went up the ladder. The cause of death was syncope, in consequence of the failure of the action of the heart. It was no doubt accelerated by the draught he took, and going up the ladder directly afterwards.

1904

HARVEST FESTIVAL. This annual festival was observed on Thursday evening and continued on Sunday in the parish church, and there were good congregations. The church presented a very pretty appearance, being tastefully decorated with flowers, fruit, vegetables, corn, etc, the work of Mrs Armestead, Miss Linton, Misses Wright and Mrs Hawkins.



The vicar (Rev F W Hawes) officiated and preached appropriate sermons. The singing was hearty, and the choir very creditably rendered the anthem “He Watereth the Hills” (C Simper). The offertories for Addenbrooke’s Hospital amounted to £6 13s 4d.

1943

STAPLEFORD HOME GUARD. The autumn show organised by the Stapleford Home Guard on Saturday last was an outstanding success. A very large crowd watched with interest the demonstrations of hand-grenade throwing and the attack by Spigot mortar and Northover projector on an “enemy” tank.

On the opposite side of the road, in Stapleford House garden, and around the Home Guard headquarters another large assembly enjoyed the many side-shows and amusements, while many enthusiastic gardeners studied the 200-odd exhibits in the fruit-and-vegetable show. The day concluded with a dance in the evening at which over 100 persons spent an enjoyable but very hot time.

The total raised for the Stapleford Home Guard Fund for the Forces was £208.8s – a magnificent result.



1971

LIBRARY. “It was reported that the Library in the Johnson Memorial Hall organised by the County Council had been closed as the building was unsuitable to house the books and it was not possible to find an individual to staff it. It was hoped to add Stapleford to a Mobile Library route. Mr Holt reported that in plans for news schools, managers will try to include facilities for such needs as Libraries”. (From Parish Council Minutes)

WI news



WE are planning to meet in person from September, and have changed our meeting dates. We will now be meeting on the fourth Thursday of the month (rather than the first), and in the Pavilion rather than the smaller Johnson Hall.

Our first meeting will be our long-delayed Centenary Meal, and it will be lovely for members to catch up with each other at such a lovely occasion. Future meetings planned include speakers, a Harvest/Christmas meal, and New Year members evening.

Meanwhile we have been enjoying book group, a walk, and social gatherings on the Recreation Ground.

Do contact Sallie Dixon if you need any more information about the WI, on 843847. Also see staplefordwi.weebly.com. **Helen Hale**

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David Whitebread



MANY people will know that my husband, David Whitebread, of London Road, Stapleford, died suddenly in April.

David was a primary school teacher and later an academic at Homerton College and subsequently at University of Cambridge Faculty of Education. Our children attended Stapleford School in the days of headteacher Simon Hoad, and David was a parent governor, and at one point Chair of Governors, at that time.

His main academic field of interest was learning in the early years, and especially children's play. With a generous grant from Lego, he established the PEDAL (Play in Education, Development and Learning) Centre in the University Faculty of Education.

The family and staff from the Faculty/PEDAL are celebrating his life and work in an online presentation from 4.30 to 5.30 pm on Friday 3 September. All are welcome to attend. If you are interested contact me, Linda Whitebread, at lindawestern2001@yahoo.co.uk and I'll put you on the list to be sent the link.



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2G3S



IN August we held a planning meeting, actually face-to-face, and another nature walk from Great Shelford to Hauxton. Our walks and cycle rides have been well-attended and enjoyed by participants, and it's a welcome change to meeting by Zoom!

As I write we have had the IPCC report on climate change, fears expressed for the outcomes of COP26, and pictures of wildfire and floods all over the World.

It is easy to feel despondent about such a huge issue and think we can't do anything, so we focus on what we can all do ourselves and in our local area to improve things – every little bit helps.

We have a talk planned for Monday 6 September at 7.30 pm at the centre in Cox's Close, or you can join by Zoom. Pippa Heylings, who is Chair of the Planning Committee of SCDC and also Chair of their Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, will talk to us on Tackling Climate Change and Biodiversity at a Local Level. There will be an opportunity to ask her questions.

We discussed events in Big Green Week, which is 18 to 26 September. So far we have:

- Litter picks in the local area on weekend 25/26. If you would like to come and join in, contact us by email or on our Facebook page. Bags and grabsticks will be provided. Bring your own gardening gloves to protect your hands, and wear something green if you can. If you have noticed a particularly littered locality in the area, let us know and we will try and get there.
- Fruit and Veg Swap on weekend 18/19.
- A virtual interactive talk on climate change and climate justice to support developing countries towards zero carbon.

Sorry we haven't got all the details finalised, but find out more on our website or Facebook page, or email us. It is also World Car Free Day on 22 September, can you challenge yourself to walk, cycle, take the bus or train instead?

Maybe some of you went along to Food For Our Future's stall in





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Sawston (photo on previous page). Rosie Sykes, a local chef, cooked tasty baked beans, yummy vegan banana muffins and other items as part of their campaign to encourage people to take up the 'Climate Diet'. There was lots of advice available and people shared tips about eating a diet with less meat and dairy or going vegan. There were samples of local seasonal vegetables such as courgettes and tomatoes, and British-grown pulses (Hodmedod's is the name to look out for). They can be bought in various shops in the area and through the Cambridge Organic Food Company's veg box scheme. I can vouch for the dark-skinned haricot beans, they can be used instead of kidney beans in a chilli. Local pulses are a good way to save food miles and use less or no meat in a stew, casserole or curry.

Many of you will know there is a bike stand outside the Spar in Stapleford. It was always a bit low, and the chap who used to look after the flowers no longer does so. 2G3S supporter Jim Chisholm has raised the stand and planted some attractive herbs in it (photo, right).



Other activities our members have done include attending a Net Zero Now course run by Cambridge Carbon Footprint and SCDC to help participants start green initiatives and engage people locally; and a workshop by the Cambridge and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate (set up by the Mayor's Combined Authority), on making a fair and just transition to a low-carbon economy in South Cambridgeshire – once again, going local. Apparently our district has a carbon footprint 45% above the UK average!! Thanks to the presence of the A14, a large number of SUVs, a high standard of living for many of us, and a patchy bus service. But lots of ideas came up to help: limiting new development and improving building regulations to save water, designing new developments to have all services within walking or cycling distance, improving bus services, sharing cars, having good internet access to make working at home easier, eating a climate-friendly diet, and farming more sustainably.

Talking of water, you may remember we had a very interesting and concerning talk about the River Cam and chalk streams last month. England is home to 85% of the World's chalk streams, and many of these are in our county. Our tap water comes from the chalk underground aquifer, which also feeds the Cam. So extracting water quicker than it can be replenished by winter rain has led to the river often running dry, and the damage to the water quality is worsened by farm and sewage pollution. The more new



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houses are built in the area, the more water-stressed the area will become. The new Local Plan commissioned a report that indicated that even a minimum level of new development would involve having to boost our water supply by pumping from elsewhere, or building a reservoir. Cambridge Water Company needs to take various steps to reduce consumption and leaks, and central Government needs to examine the level of abstraction allowed. We can also do our bit to preserve the aquifer level and quality of our streams by cutting our consumption – some fairly obvious suggestions:

- Don't flush every time you pee. "If its yellow, let it mellow."
- Reduce quantity of water in WC cisterns.
- Fit aerators to taps.
- Have brief showers instead of baths.
- Don't run the tap when brushing teeth.
- Use a bowl when washing up and only use the dishwasher and washing machine when full.
- Install water butts with drain downpipe connectors.
- Don't water your lawn.
- Wash the car with a bucket and sponge rather than a hose.
- Have a free smart meter installed.
- Act promptly to repair or replace and leaky appliances, dripping taps or overflowing cisterns.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment, send an email to greengroupsssss@gmail.com to sign up for our newsletter, or to get a Zoom link to join our meetings. Also see our Facebook page. **Helen Hale**

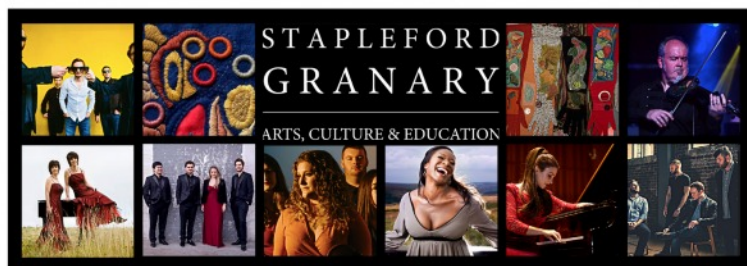
Badminton at Little Shelford



FOR any local badminton players who fancy a game with others on a pay and play basis, badminton will start on Thursday 23 September at Little Shelford Memorial Hall from 7.30 pm and continue on Thursdays each week.

It is a one-court facility with high ceilings and a sprung wooden floor, custom built for badminton. £4/session with shuttles provided but please bring your own racquet.

For more details, contact James Newman on james@jamesnewman.org; 07717 394176 or just turn up! **James Newman**



September

- **10 September:** International opera star **Elizabeth Llewellyn** performs music by Puccini, Finzi & songs by Samuel Coleridge-Taylor from her acclaimed debut album
- **12 September:** Coffee Concert from **Mifune Tsuji Trio** (violin, saxophone, piano) performing works by Piazzolla, Grainger & Milhaud
- **18 September:** Award-winning jazz trio **Acoustic Triangle** (saxophone, double bass, piano) are one of the most original & respected British Ensembles
- **19 September:** Coffee Concert from local musicians **Steve Bingham** (violin / electric violin) & **Derek Scurl** (percussion) promising 'eclectic surprises'
- **24 September:** Renowned piano duo, the **Cann Twins** present a programme of much-loved classics & a world premiere by Antoinette Cann of her *Etudes de Concert*
- **25 September:** **Rura** are one of Scotland's most sought-after folk bands – a rugged & refined blend of fiddle, pipes, flute, bodhrán & guitar

October

- **1 October:** The award-winning **Piatti Quartet** play Dvořák, Mendelssohn & a world premiere by Glyndebourne resident composer Anna Appleby
- **8 October:** Acclaimed jazz innovator **Ant Law** performs songs from his 2020 album – *The Sleeper Wakes* – with his quintet
- **17 October:** Coffee Concert with **music for flute, viola & harp** including works by Debussy, Prokofiev & Damase
- **22 / 23 October:** 'hand-Stitched Stories' is a new exhibition by outstanding **textile artist Sabine Kaner**. Special launch events on 22/ 23 October (exhibition runs until 21 January 2022)
- **23 October:** BBC Young Musician 2015 pianist **Lara Melda** plays Chopin & Rachmaninoff
- **24 October:** Coffee Concert from **Ulrich Heinen (cello) & John Humphreys (piano)** including works by Bach, Schubert, Debussy & Zoe Martlew
- **29 October:** Fiddle-led **Fara** return to the Granary with their distinctive sound drawn from classical, jazz & indie-pop influences whilst retaining deep roots in Orkney folk music

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The Big Breakfast is back

Saturday 2 October 8am to 11.30am

Little Shelford Memorial Hall



OUR much-missed Big Breakfast is back on Church Street. A variety of breakfast food available from cereals and toasts to a traditional cooked 'Full English'.

Live piano music featuring David Adams, newspapers available. Relax and chat with friends.

Meet the SSYI Team and hear about their work while enjoying a great breakfast, good company and good music.

Raising funds for SSYI, a Christian community-based Charity providing Youth Clubs and activities for all 11-18-year-olds. A minimum donation of £5 towards breakfast costs would be appreciated. A great way to start the day!

For more details and offers of help contact Polly Stanton at polly.stanton@ntlworld.com.

Keep up to date with details of events and SSYI activities at: ssyi.club.

David JH Jones Chairman of Trustees

Note: All may be subject to late change due to Covid-19 restrictions, but we hope for the best.

Library Update

GREAT Shelford Library has now returned to its normal opening hours!

Monday	3 pm – 7 pm
Tuesday	10 am – 1 pm and 2 pm – 5 pm
Wednesday	10 am – 1 pm
Thursday	CLOSED
Friday	10 am – 1 pm and 2 pm – 6 pm
Saturday	10 am – 1 pm
Sunday	CLOSED

Many thanks to all our readers for being so patient about the limit on library visitor numbers (which we hope will be eased very soon) and for continuing to observe our Covid-19 safety precautions.



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The End of the Word

FIND a 4-letter word for each group, forming three new 7-letter words,

e.g. INF... INFLATE

ISO... ISOLATE

EMU... EMULATE

Answer = LATE

SUP.... CLO.... VIB.... END.... ART....
 PUR.... CEN.... NAR.... AIM.... NET....
 RAP.... MEA.... OPE.... TOP.... WAX....

BUL.... TAL.... AWE.... VAG.... EVI....
 BIL.... SMO.... TWO.... CUR.... PRU....
 MIL.... SOA.... NOI.... WAR.... STU....

COM.... PRE.... PAD.... WAR.... CLI....
 BED.... CON.... HAD.... PAS.... CRE....
 OUT.... POR.... BUR.... CEN.... PRI....

WOR.... DUC.... OUT.... SUB.... SPL....
 WAR.... REP.... DEC.... PRE.... SCO....
 GUN.... TAC.... SKY.... WAY.... UPS....

Anagrams

UNEM DEUXE TROISU QUATREO
 CINQUATA SIXMEANER SEPTRAHOOP

Answers on page 55

Financial difficulties?



Are you in need, hardship or distress? Do you live in Stapleford? Then the Feoffees Charity may be able to help you.

For more information contact: Rev. Simon Taylor at simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com.

Sawston Library

SAWSTON Library is back to normal opening hours: Monday 2pm to 6pm, Tuesday 3pm to 7pm, Wednesday and Friday 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm, Saturday 10am to 1pm.

Cambridgeshire Libraries are pleased to announce a celebration for the new Sawston Library on **Saturday 2 October, 10am to 1pm**. All are invited!

The original library on the site of Sawston Village College was sadly destroyed in a fire in September 2012. A new library was completed in August 2020 but, due to COVID restrictions, could not be fully opened and we have not yet been able to invite the community along to celebrate.

On 2 October we hope you will come and get to know your new library and all that it has to offer. With help from the Friends of Sawston Library, who have been loyal supporters and advocates over many years, we are providing a range of family-friendly events on the day including stories and creative activities with a children's author. There will also be a special appearance from a popular book character! Look out for further details of the celebration, to be announced nearer the time.

The Library is next to the Marven Centre, on the Sawston Village College Site. It has been designed as a community hub, and we will hold our celebration in conjunction with the relocated Child & Family Centre. You will be able to explore the community multipurpose spaces and outdoor play area, as well as the flexible library space which can easily be rearranged to hold events with an audience.

Ahead of the celebration there will be an art competition. Can you design a piece of artwork on the theme of 'Sawston' to be turned into a bookmark or shelf-end image for the library? There are four categories: children under 4; children 4 to 11 (primary school-age); young people 11 to 16 (secondary school-age); adults. Entry forms are available from the library desk and the competition is open until 18 September. As part of the celebrations, the Friends of Sawston Library are organising a Book Treasure Hunt around the village. The idea is to display books in the windows of shops and other premises around the High Street, for people to find and write down the title and work out if there is a connection or not between the shop and the book! Here's an easy example – if Brown's Barbers displayed Paddington by Michael Bond, what would the link be?

If you'd like to do the trail, look out for more information on our website www.sawstonlibrary.org.uk or in the library from 7 September.

Anna McMahon Library Development Officer and Pat Glasbey Friends of Sawston Library

Quiz time

Anna's Legal Scramble

Answers on page 51.

1. Which northern Californian city and port on Humboldt Bay lies in the heart of the US Redwood Coast?
2. Emma Raducanu made her Wimbledon debut this year. In which Canadian city was she born?
3. Which fictional character in JRR Tolkien's 1937 novel, *The Hobbit*, is the leader of the Company of Dwarves who aim to reclaim the Lonely Mountain from Smaug the dragon?
4. Which Renaissance painter gave us the fresco, *The School of Athens*, painted for Pope Julius II?
5. Of the 92 clubs in the top four divisions of the football which comes first alphabetically?
6. Which 1967 sketch satire, bringing the comedy of the Cambridge Footlights to the small screen, featured several of those who would go on to form Monty Python?
7. Which French blue cheese is known as '*le fromage des rois et des papes*'?
8. New Order have the distinction of having the best-selling 12" single of all time. Which?
9. In Japan, what is the art of arranging flowers called?
10. Which legal term can be made by rearranging the first letters of each answer?

We're waiting for your story!

HAVE you a story to tell or an event to publicise? Or perhaps you have an opinion to share on an issue that is important to you. If so, drop us a line on staplefordmessenger@gmail.com - after all, it's your magazine and we would love to hear from you.

Stapleford Strollers: Walk 97

Round Building End: a circular walk in North Essex

To get to start of walk

TAKE the A505 past the Imperial War Museum. Then turn left after the Pet Cemetery, on the road signed Chrishall and Chrishall Grange. When reaching Chrishall village, fork right past The Red Cow pub and drive on until the B1039 is reached. Turn right, and then left very shortly after, on a narrow road signed 'Bilden or Building End'. Drive for less than ¼ mile and park at the point where there is enough space for about three cars to the right of the road. If you pass any houses, you have gone too far! Post code for Building End: SG8 8RE.

Distance of walk

4¼ miles. Two short cuts are shown on the route map provided. The wooded section near the start, just beyond The Well, might have a few nettles in high summer but it is not a major problem.

OS Map

OS Explorer map 194. Use footpathmaps.com or maps.the-hug.net for free map extracts. The route map provided is taken from the latter.

Extra Information

Building End is the name used on the OS map but Bilden End, its alternative name, sounds rather more characterful. It is a hamlet and you may well not have heard of it. However, the walk is pleasant, the paths are well maintained and the views are excellent.

Route of walk

Walk up the road, passing a house on the left. Then go left, in the direction of a concrete footpath sign, through the entrance to The Well (a house). Keep ahead on the path, going through a wood until a footbridge is reached. Cross this and turn immediate right on a wide grass strip, with the wood to the right and a large field to the left.

Keep on ahead for some time going up a gentle slope until, just before another wood, a footbridge is reached. Cross this and walk ahead, just to the right of the wood. Follow the wood edge, as it swings right and walk along a grassy headland path until a solid-surfaced track is reached. Turn right and walk downhill on the track, which later becomes a tarmacked road. Turn left when it joins another minor road.

Shortly after the road swings right, look out for a concrete Public Bridleway sign on the left. Take this route, to the left of a wood, heading up

a slope. Beyond the wood, carry on ahead and then turn right on to a track just before a tall hedge. After a short time, go right again on another track, heading downhill towards the other side of the wood. The distant views to the right form part of this walk route.

The first section of the downhill track, until just before the wood, is not strictly a right of way but is widely used. The real footpath runs cross-field to the left and can get muddy, but this route also requires a short navigation along a main road, so you might want to avoid it (shown by black dots on route map). When the downhill track reaches the wood it is now a full right of way again. Keep going until reaching the minor road walked earlier. Turn left and it will not be long before you get back to your vehicle. **David Barnes**

The Stapleford Strollers do not accept responsibility for any accident or mishap that may happen to any person who follows this route.



Wandlebury: new land for nature

CAMBRIDGE
PAST, PRESENT
& FUTURE

WANDLEBURY Country Park is set to expand. The park is owned and cared for by local charity Cambridge Past, Present & Future (Cambridge PPF), and they have purchased 4.5 acres of land next to the park.

James Littlewood, CEO of Cambridge PPF explains about the project: *“Two separate areas of land came onto the market next to Wandlebury and the charity saw an opportunity to protect them from development and to increase the size of the park to help tackle the climate and biodiversity crisis. During the pandemic we have seen how important green spaces are for health and well-being and as the population of our area is growing rapidly, we will need more green space and nature in future.”*



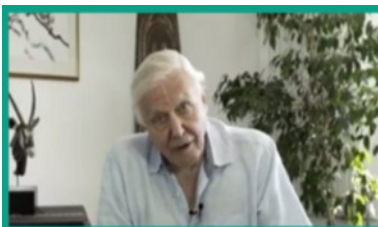
One of the areas is a 2-acre strip of grassland with some trees and, with the support of the community, the charity plans to restore the ecological value of this field to create an attractive grassland meadow like

the others found in the park. The other land is 2.5 acres of farmland that the charity plans to plant with trees to connect the woodlands at the park.

The charity has launched a ‘Land for Nature’ Appeal to raise £100,000 to restore the new land into nature-rich habitat and to enable it to buy more land in future.

Ros Aveling, Chair of the charity said, *“We are often advised to “think globally, act locally”. We have all been doing a great deal of thinking globally as a pandemic has ravaged our lives over the past year. Now here is the opportunity to act locally and be a part of a very visible stake in a better future. People can donate to the appeal via our website. People will be able to visit the land they have helped to buy and to watch its transformation over the years ahead.”* See their website cambridgeppf.org

James Littlewood Chief Executive Cambridge PPF



“CambridgePPF looks after the green places of one of the loveliest cities in Western Europe...do help it, do join it!” Sir David Attenborough

Learning from a ladybird



THE little scar from my second vaccination is still visible high on my left arm, many weeks after the jab. Assorted grotty facemasks lurk in my every pocket. In the UK we are now 'unlocking' at breathless speed. Given the potential for spawning new COVID variants that runaway infection rate would imply, there are many who doubt the wisdom of

this. If we are going to survive this next phase, there are surely some protections we have to cling to?

And as one government adviser wisely tweeted, this is not an 'I' thing, it is a 'we' thing. Now more than ever, we must take care of each other.

Talking of wee things - and people you must take care of - it was brought home to me this week that one of the purposes of having children - apart from ensuring you do not join the ranks of the complacent rich - is to continue your own education. This happens most maybe when the children are small; as has often been said, you discover the world all over again through tiny eyes. You don't need your own children to do this obviously, you can borrow them. Either way, spending time with those who have not yet seen the world and got bored with it is a thrill.

Speaking for myself, raising small children produced a very timely shot of awe and wonder. Into my thirties when I first became a dad, I was - how can we put this - a bit 'over' nature and stuff. Now I began to re-engage with the natural world led by my children's burgeoning curiosities - and the world was made new. To explore, to explain, to find out together is a great and valuable thing. Lots of adults become more childlike as parents, shrugging off the sense of indifference - the 'been there, done that' - that can creep over minds preoccupied with the adult business of getting by, getting on and making good - or at least working out where the stopcock is when the kitchen floods.

Children, I find, continue the education of parents long after the kids have become adults. Phones are good at this too. So, the other day, faced with a weird-looking insect I didn't recognise I did what I always do - sent a picture to my Eldest, currently living in a small Spanish hill town, teaching English. Within seconds the answer came back (he also has a phone - and a seemingly encyclopaedic knowledge about critters).

The black and yellow segmented bug about a 7mm long and 5mm wide is, explained Eldest patiently, a ladybird larva.

It will soon curl up into a ball, the segments will harden and form a shell, and that will house the wings and soon the creature will display the spots and unspots of every child's first beetle.



So, there you go – out of the mouth of babes, as the good book has it, comes a lot of great knowledge, besides all the foul language.

I went out to have a look for my larva this morning. I found it, curled up on a nasturtium leaf, just as Eldest predicted. It is out there still, hardening as we speak. Perhaps the ladybird understands something we too could learn: if you want to fly, take it steady, and get protected. The little scar from my second vaccination is still visible, high on my left arm, many weeks on from the jab... assorted grotty facemasks infest my pockets... This is not an 'I' thing, it's a 'we' thing...

And so we brace for flight... **Fraser Grace**

Nearing a century

KAISU Cornish celebrated her 98th birthday in August and is pictured at her Stapleford home with the flowers and cards she received.

Kaisu, who is from Finland, is the widow of former Parish Councillor Victor Cornish.



Giving porridge a stir

MY offer to be a prison visitor to Latin American inmates in a closed prison in East Anglia was not truly altruistic. It was fuelled by two objectives. One, I wanted the opportunity to maintain the fluency in Spanish I had acquired through working in Latin America and Iberia for nearly 30 years. The other reason was to gain “real life” insights into prison life.

Eight years of boarding school probably initiated my interest in what I learnt from my Law Degree studies to be penology or penal science. Not everyone can hack boarding school - both my brother and sister were expelled from their respective boarding schools.

Boarding schools and prisons share some common characteristics. You cannot come and go as you please. They do not offer the comforts of home. They are “private” institutions in the sense that someone has to pay for you to go - parents or the State. But in one respect - at least in the 1960s - there was one huge difference - the quality of the food. At both my boarding schools, yes the grub was grub-free, but just a notch above roadkill and chips.

Hot meals were always south of tepid. “Seconds” was NEVER uttered. I do not know what school Oliver Twist attended but I know the food was better - because we never had housemasters asking “More Boy? More!!”

The Home Office had a bright spark who worked out providing quality nosh to Her Majesty’s reluctant guests on their all-inclusive staycation was more economic than repointing the rubble after every riot. And the menus reflect the culinary tastes of our multinational clientele. The choices go beyond Spotted Dick and Bubble and Squeak - terrible to taste and impossible to translate. Our catering “czar” was a Mr. R. If he was referred to as a cook - instead of a chef - you got his cordon bleu language. He was as much a chef as buying a toolkit from Halfords made you a Chartered Engineer. He was rumoured to have gone AWOL from the Army Catering Corp - on the run from the Gurkhas for his version of vindaloo - there is an operative word in there somewhere. His “pièce de resistance” was his custard.

The “resistance” really was resistance - resistance to being poured - but you could sculpt with it - so we competed in the Refectory to see who could build the highest tower before Sir Isaac Newton’s laws kicked in.

We reckoned it was easier to use than the clay used in art class to produce our hideous pottery creations. It has probably served as the prototype to Polycell filler.



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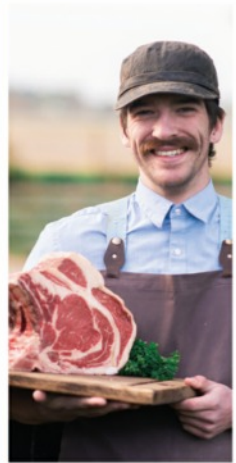
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Prison tours of penal establishments such as Robbins Island, Fremantle, Melbourne and Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay gave me a feel for the facilities – but the guests were long gone.

A prison visit has certain protocols. You cannot just stroll up to the gate and demand “Let me in!” A prisoner has to request a visit - which raises a visit order. You check in at the Visitors’ Centre to confirm prisoner/visit details. You leave Prisoner Visitor ID, mobile phone, credit cards and all cash bar £2 for tea/coffee/snacks. You line up at the gate until you “go through the wire” to a reception area where you are patted down to ensure there are no cakes with files. Then you go through an x-ray arch. Most visits are relatively straight forward. I remember one that was anything but. After the x-ray arch I waited to be called forward with another visitor - to be checked out by the drug dogs.



On this particular visit, my co-visitor, who had the face of a lazy bee keeper, had enormous curtain ring-sized earrings. They could provide an extremely painful experience if they tickled the fancy of a passing magpie. I knew he was called Danny - by it being tattooed in size 48 font down his right arm. If this was an aide-memoire, it was a little over the top. Not the smartest artistic decision if Interpol prompted him to go on the run down to the Costa del Sol. Covering up “Danny” would not help him to go incognito – walking around Puerto Banus in a long-sleeved shirt in 40 degree heat would be a dead giveaway to El Plod.

He introduced himself “Hi. I’m Danny.” I did not think it was wise to suggest “I wouldn’t have guessed.” The scarring across his bald eagle pate was not from playing second row rugby.

“Hi. I am Adrian.” I volunteered.

“Good Lord. What is an Adrian doing in a place like this? Visiting family? Ha! Ha!” he asked in what he clearly thought was a Downton Abbey accent. I thought of suggesting, with his attempts at comedy, he should stick to the day job, but then thought better of it, since Danny probably only worked at night anyway. Most day jobs require GCSEs - not GBH.

Instead I replied “No not the family, the Cartel.”

A flash of profound professional respect flashed across his face - followed by a faraway quizzical look that asked - do I know you? I could see his brain cells were checking other cells: Pentonville, Parkhurst, Belmarsh, Dartmoor - some of his previous temporary abodes?



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Danny clearly was not visiting family - probably a mate who got collared on the same blag but for the sake of his health had observed “omerta” - enabling Danny to evade being banged up with his mate. Before we could swop addresses for Christmas cards, we were called forward to meet our friendly mutts. My hound seemed to just have a half a sniff and sat down by my right shoe with his tail going like a demented propeller.

Danny’s mutt, alerted by the thumping tail of his mate - in one bound left Danny’s side and sat down by my left shoe. And joined his mate’s wagging rate. They probably thought: “This is ALL we learnt on the courses - all happening at once. Just wait ‘til we get back to the kennels and tell the boys.”



Danny looked at me. All the forementioned respect was replaced by a scowl .

“Trying to get gear through here? You must be out of your ***** tiny mind. Even my pooch clocked you!”

With that damning review of my abilities as a drug mule, Danny strode off to the Visitors’ Hall.

All four dog handlers were smiling. “Well, what have we got here?” enquired the senior-looking officer. “I have to say that this is first time we have ever seen the other dog join in!”

“Could we have your name, Sir?” I answered both questions. He consulted his clip board.

Turning to his colleagues, he said, “I see you are down to visit our delightful Mr. Angel S. who is doing a 10 stretch with us.”

“Yes.” I replied. Another officer stepped forward and frisked me.

“He’s clean Boss.” “Of course he is. It’s the trouser trick.” replied the Boss. I knew what he meant - in Latin American prisons, visitors wear trousers that have been impregnated with drugs - and a trouser swop takes place. I could have pointed out that a trouser swop is hardly going to be possible in the Visitors’ Hall in an East Anglian prison - then it suddenly struck me why the hounds were in canine Shangri-La. I gave them a detailed explanation about what had prompted such devotion from my new furry four-footed friends that they would not leave my side.

After a previous visit two weeks ago, I was asked to act as a drug dealer for a drug dogs passing out parade . So for an hour I wandered about with enough Class A drugs - heroin, crystal meth, cocaine, ecstasy, methadone -



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stuffed in my trouser pockets to impress any professional drug mule. I got to play the Pied Piper of Hamlyn with a delightful group of hounds – all of whom passed. The four officers clearly did not believe me.

I think they would have found it more credible if I told them I saw Lord Lucan feeding Polo Mints to Shergar down at Newmarket Racecourse.



The senior officer asked, “You are asking us to believe that the trousers you are wearing today - to meet a cartel member on a 10 stretch - that have left these two dogs as high as kites - are the trousers you wore stuffed with class A drugs at a drug dogs passing out parade two weeks ago?”

“Well, yes officer. If you phone Mr.K. he will confirm everything.”

One phone call later, I found myself in the Visitors’ Hall - leaving behind four bemused dog handlers and two very happy hounds reflecting on their biggest bust to date.

I made my way down the hall to the table where Don Angel S. was sitting.

I did not explain the reason for my delayed appearance in case he did suggest a trouser exchange. Angel suddenly got a little agitated. “What is that (naughty Spanish word) looking at?”

I looked round and could not believe what I saw. Danny was at the next table – mouth half open - staring at me and shaking his head.

The previous scowl was replaced by a disturbing look of unbridled admiration - a look that said -“you’ve got the drug dog handlers (if not their dogs) in your pocket - as well as the Prison Officers in the Visitors’ Hall. Plus being in deep conversation with Angel S. confirmed you have serious cartel connections.”

When I joined the queue to buy Angel Colombia’s other famous product - a coffee, I was joined by a very excited Danny. In an agitated voice he asked, “How did you get past the dogs?”

I tapped my nose. “Are all the Prison Officers in on it?” I tapped my nose.

“How do you do it?” I tapped my nose. “Who do you work for? Maybe we can work something together?” Danny beseeched.

I now completely confused Danny by asking him in my heavily Mexican accented English:



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“Amigo, ‘av you 50 perique two times for pound one coin for máquina?” He offered three fifty pence pieces for the pound he was so out of his comfort zone.

The furrows on his brow suggested Danny was frantically trying to compute all he had seen in the past hour. Multiple viewings of the Godfather trilogy probably added to the perception he was in the presence of a cartel Don.

“You must meet ‘Big Eric’.” he said. I had never met ‘Big Eric’ but instinct put him straight at the top of my list of people I never wanted to meet. It was my last prison visit.

Not because of the prospect of being stalked by Danny until I met ‘Big Eric’.

But because I was not making a difference. My practical recommendations - based on what I managed to discern through conversations with inmates because for me there was no language barrier, were dismissed because of an attitude of “The Home Office says No !”

Regarding the prisoners - to a man - they asked me to get in touch with the cartels - be they in Medellin, Cali, Bogotá or Santa Cruz. Refusals did not go down well - and so I never saw the same prisoner twice. I hope for Danny’s sake ‘Big Eric’ has got over any heartfelt disappoint over not meeting me. The prisoners may not - but I would like to think that at least the dogs miss me. **Adrian Barnard**

Challis Horticultural Show

THIS annual event will be held in the Challis Garden in Sawston on Saturday 4 September. It’s a great showcase for the wonderful produce and handicrafts made in Sawston and local villages. There are 59 classes to enter this year – something for everyone. Trophies are awarded for the best entries.

- Fruit & vegetables
- Flowers
- Domestic classes
- Handicrafts
- Children’s section



If you grow your own fruit & veg., arrange flowers, bake, make preserves, sew, knit, stitch, paint, sketch or take photos, there is a class for you to enter. It’s fun and very rewarding.

Why not have a go & enter? Pick up an entry form from the Challis Garden or download from our challistrust.org.uk website. **Mike Redshaw**



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Love your natural shortcomings

IT is nice to be able to impress your friends by saying: “oh yes, that’s *Ranunculus acris*” (while picking a buttercup) or point knowingly to a poor unsuspecting robin and declare with great importance: “that is *Erithacus rubecula* don’t-you-know”.

But don’t worry if you don’t have a clue! People like me who have been horribly exposed to Latin name-calling all their lives are trying to forget it all and go back to the pure connection we had when we were children. Of course we need to know accurate names in order to access the right information, but we can save that for practical purposes.

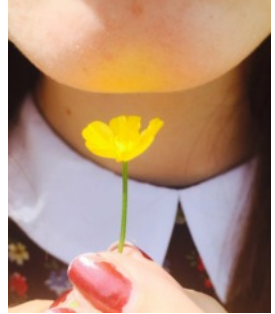
For the business of pure nature connection, ***just noticing that buttercup and really seeing what’s in front of you*** – that is so valid: see the iridescent petals, the exquisite form, made all the more significant by its fleeting time in this glowing state.

So often, I see people capture things by naming, and just as often, with a photo - then instantly dropping it or turning away, as if it’s done, finished!

I sometimes argue (and get most disapproved of I may add) that a label, a name, and all its associated past blurbings, written or said about it, can put up a barrier between us and nature, between us and direct experience.

Shoshin is a word from Zen Buddhism meaning “beginner’s mind.” It refers to having an attitude of openness, eagerness, and lack of preconceptions when studying a subject. I’ll have you know that it is a very sophisticated thing, to see things with beginner’s eyes, so don’t let anyone belittle your lack of knowledge! Everyone can love nature.

Sarah Ashworth, Garden Designer and Wildlife Specialist,
www.sarahashworth.co.uk



Stapleford Horticultural Society

WITH the relaxation of Covid Rules, we are able to resume our programme of talks for 2021-2022. Our first talk is on Thursday 9 September, when we welcome Nina Lewis to talk about “The Folklore of Plants”, which promises to be an interesting topic.

As usual, the talk will start at 7.45pm, and will be held in the Johnson Hall. All members and guests welcome. **John Sherwell 841012**

Cambridge Flower Club

WE are pleased to announce that Cambridge Flower Club will meet again for the first time since February 2020, for a garden visit on Thursday 16 September. We also have meetings arranged for October and November, when we will have flower demonstrations. These two meetings will be held in our usual venue of Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, CB22 4NE at 7.15 pm.

Hence our programme to the end of the year is:

16 September: Garden visit and afternoon tea

21 October: Pat Barton will demonstrate. Her title is 'Plan B'

18 November: Lee Berill will demonstrate. His title is 'Made for

Christmas'

For more information about these meetings or to enquire about joining Cambridge Flower Club please phone **Freda** on 891464 fredaorgee@gmail.com. **Freda Orgee**

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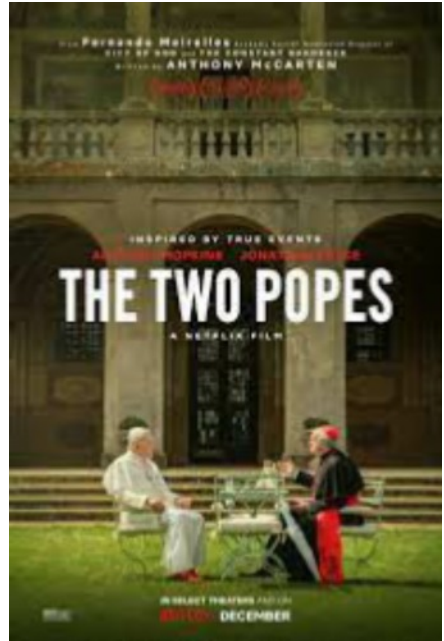
Little Shelford film evening

THERE will be a welcome return of the Memorial Hall film evenings with a showing of *The Two Popes* on Saturday 9 October. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start with a break for supper of pizza and salad.

The Two Popes is a 2019 biographical drama film, predominantly set in the Vatican City in the aftermath of the Vatican leaks scandal and features Anthony Hopkins as Pope Benedict XVI and Jonathan Pryce as Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio. The writer, Anthony McCarten, along with both leading actors, received nominations at the Academy Awards, Golden Globes and British Academy Film Awards.

Tickets (£12.50 per person) will be available from Sarah Coppendale: (842498) coppendales@btinternet.com and Diana Haines (841415) dianahaines42@icloud.com.

Please book by Wednesday 6 October so that sufficient food can be ordered. **Sarah Coppendale**



Hardwick Eco Event

The Cabin, St Mary's Church, Hardwick.
Saturday 4 September, 10.30am - 4pm

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Contact us at: Hardwick.Ecoevent@gmail.com.

Little Shelford Village Weekend

Please come along and support us. We are raising funds this year to improve our community including the Village School and the Wale Recreation Ground.

All events will be Covid compliant and subject to late cancellation if Government Regulations change.

All events in the Marquee and on the Wale Recreation Ground

**Friday 17 September 7.30pm for 8pm
Dance and Enjoy (18+ only)**

**Saturday 18 September
Family Fun Village Show and Scarecrow Exhibition 1pm
and .**

Real Ale and Craft Beer Festival 1pm to 10pm

**Sunday 19 September
All Saints Harvest Celebration 11am
Village History Walk 12.15pm
Family Picnic 1pm**

For more information, offers of help or to run a stall on Saturday afternoon contact: Jo Boyle: joboyle780@gmail.com or call 07774 843770 or 01223 843984

Arthur's Shed relaunched

ARTHURS Shed is a community hub based in the grounds of the Arthur Rank Hospice in Shelford Bottom

Arthur's Shed offers a range of sessions led by volunteers including Mixed Media Art, Card Making, Paper Crafts and Astronomy.

The Shed re-opened in August and we look forward to welcoming the community back to the building. To ensure everyone feels comfortable we have a number of COVID-19 safe measures in place.

If you have any questions or would like to book a session, please get in touch: email: arthurs.shed@arhc.org.uk or call: 01223 675871 Our office hours are Monday – Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm

For more information visit www.arhc.org.uk/open-to-all/arthurs-shed/.
Hannah Touhey, Voluntary Services Manager

Cricket news

STAPLEFORD CC's Under-13 girls' amazing cup journey came to an end at the final hurdle but the men's team ended up in a promotion position.

Having knocked out opposition from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Oxfordshire, the girls travelled all the way to Shropshire to take on Porthill Park in the Midlands regional final of the Lady Taverners national cup.



And, as our picture shows, they were greeted by almost biblical scenes on arrival at the ground. Unsurprisingly, the match did not start on time and was further delayed by the umpire insisting it needed to be called off and then, to prove his point, heading off for home.

The sun appeared eventually however and an extensive mopping up operation by the groundstaff eventually saw a match reduced to 15 overs agreed to be played.

Stapleford made 79-5 in their innings but the opposition turned out to possess a superstar bat who took her side over the line and then proceeded to take Thriplow apart in the U15 final that followed.

Stapleford first XI's first league campaign in more than a decade ended on a high when promotion rivals Elsworth were trounced in a winner-goes-up final day fixture.

Elsworth were skittled out for just 71 and James Badcock's runs made sure we knocked that total off for the loss of four wickets.

Cam Kerala III won their final fixture as well to claim top spot in Junior League 5 West so Stapleford had to be content with second spot, which means we can go up a division in 2022 - if we feel up to it.

As for Stapleford Phoenix, the village's T20 midweek side, their first-ever foray into the Cambridge Business House League also ended in a second-place finish.

A youthful Histon side posted 147 at their place but an unbeaten 58 from Jeff Wilson (pictured) made sure of a seven-wicket victory that was followed by an exciting tie with NCI on Parker's Piece, where both sides ended up on 96. **Jon West**





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Sunday 12 September – Granta Market Hill

Saturday 9 October – Granta Sawston, Granta Linton, Granta Barley

Saturday 23 October – Granta Shelford

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Charity Event

Granta Medical Practices are proud to support EastFest21, a charity music festival being held on Saturday 18 September, raising awareness of mental health and suicide. Set in the grounds of The Coach House Hotel at Flint Cross (CB22 7PN), there will be live music, a beer festival, food and side stalls, with B&B rooms and camping available. All proceeds are going to the Zero Suicide Alliance, a charity dedicated to raising awareness of suicide by offering free online training for everyone and bringing NHS trusts and organisations together with the joint aim of reducing suicide nationwide.

For further information about EastFest21 and to order tickets go to www.eastfest.live.

For further information about the Zero Suicide Alliance and to access free online training go to www.zerosuicidealliance.com.

Remember that whatever you are going through, a Samaritan will face it with you. They are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Call free on 116 123. **Sandra East, Head of Patient Services.**

Quiz answers

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Eureka | 6. At Last the 1948 Show |
| 2. Toronto | 7. Rocquefort |
| 3. Thorin Oakenshield | 8. Blue Monday |
| 4. Raphael | 9. Ikebana |
| 5. Accrington Stanley | 10. ARBITRATE |

Parish Councillor Diary – Gillian Pett

PARISH Councillors each have a portfolio of interest. Part of mine is the Pavilion and recreation ground. The Pavilion has been more or less out of action for the past year because of Covid but is now available for use. Village organisations and sports clubs are back. The Parish Council website has details on how to book the pavilion, and up to date Covid safety recommendations.

For details contact the Assistant Parish Clerk, via the PC website. We have no caretaker at present, so day-to-day management and problem solving is down to volunteer Parish Councillors and the Assistant Clerk.

I have been working with Beckie Whitehouse, Rosie Brown and Rebecca Trigg to plan and to secure funding for refurbishment of the children's playground. We now have secured sufficient funds through various grants (listed in last month's issue of the Messenger) to commence the basic refurbishment and hope that through local funding we can add to the playground in the future. There is already £2300 in the bank towards building something extra on the mound for children's enjoyment, and we would encourage anyone interested to donate towards this. Please contact me on gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk. Ideas for this part of the project are also welcomed. The new playground will complement the MUGA which is now in use.

The refurbishment should start at the end of the month. The contract has been signed and we are waiting for details. The new equipment will take about three weeks to install and will come with all the safety checks required ready for village children to play! While the work is underway, the playground will be out of use. The surfaces under the play equipment will be replaced and equipment being installed by Kompan UK Ltd includes a You and Me swing, a Jumper Square (mini, ground level trampoline bouncer), a Supernova slanting turning ring, a seesaw, a Megadeck climbing frame and turning bars. The much-loved slide from the top of the mound will be restored, with a wide slide instead of the old narrow one.

Another area of my responsibility (alongside the Assistant Clerk and other Parish Councillors) is management of the Cemetery. Those visiting the Cemetery may have wondered why some parts have been cordoned off for some time. This is for safety reasons, where grave markers are in danger of falling or where the ground has become unstable and dangerous. Attempts are being made to contact relatives responsible for the upkeep of the graves and this has taken some time, and this is proving impossible in some cases. Work will be undertaken, once these investigations have finished, to

remedy the defects and then the unsightly fencing will be removed. The new part of the Cemetery is now in use and planning is underway to make the entrance to this area a quiet reflective area for visitors. Much of the unused area at the far end of the plot will be maintained as a wildflower meadow with mown paths, until such time as it will be needed.

Many of you will have seen me riding my bike round the village helping to manage these areas!

July Parish Council meeting

THE July meeting gave the go-ahead for the play area renovation (see below) and discussion on how to manage the roadside grass verges and grassed areas in the village from an environmental point of view. We have asked to be included in the County Council's rewilding project. For planning application comments please see below.

Dernford Lake

Taking up from previous Messenger articles on the Dernford Lake proposals by Russell Smith Farms, the Parish Council felt it was premature to hold a public meeting and so the presentation planned for 1 September has been cancelled.

There was no Parish Council meeting in August, so nothing formal to report for August.

Meeting Dates

The next PC meeting is on 8 September. However, after that the Council will meet on the first Thursday of each month, so the following meeting will be on Thursday 7 October.

Ongoing management and maintenance

With the successful opening of the MUGA we are considering how best this can be managed and maintained going forward in conjunction with the other public spaces in the village.

Projects

We are excited that the play area refurbishment is now fully funded and contractors are instructed for a start on site in late September/early October.

The shed refurbishment should be complete at the time of publication of this article and this will greatly benefit the management of the recreation field and Pavilion and the storage arrangements for the sports clubs.

With what is left of the S106 monies we are planning to install external toilet facilities at the Pavilion and are looking at some of the remaining art-

related ringfenced S106 money for a high-quality artistic design for a façade to the building.

Busway

Finally the busway, or should I say the bus road, is entering its next phase with the GCP planning to apply to the Department of Transport for a TWAO (Transport Works Act Order). Once this has been applied for we will need to formally submit our objections. Once the date of the public enquiry in front of a government planning inspector is announced this will necessitate the appointment of leading counsel to present our case.

One significant development is the Mayor's cancellation of CAM (Cambridge Autonomous Metro) so the busway no longer has to be CAM compliant.

This not only prompts a review of the early proposals for an inbound bus lane along the A1307, but also calls for a review of transport strategy with the reopening of the Haverhill railway line. This could operate on the existing railway tracks, or if light rail, with additional parallel tracks. An application to the Government's 'Beeching Fund' by RailFuture was made for funding for an appraisal / viability study of reopening the line and a decision on this is imminent.

To my mind the GCP's busway is open to challenge:

1. To build infrastructure in the greenbelt there is a requirement for the GCP to demonstrate that they have looked at all the alternatives.
2. The business case is non-existent. The BCR (benefit to cost ratio) was so bad that the GCP have withdrawn their economic model and even subject to a freedom of information request, they are not revealing it.
3. With the proposed bus stops located on the extremity of the village the GCP have failed to factor in the full walking times to reach those bus stops.
4. The impact on the existing bus service is such that the Citi7 would have to be withdrawn because it becomes uneconomic as the busway siphons off demand.
5. It fails to respond to the climate crisis by constructing a carbon intensive bus road and concrete bridges with diesel buses running beyond the City and encourages car usage with a 1250 space car park.
6. No capacity for the planned growth of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and no additional capacity in Cambridge where all these buses will run on the existing roads.

Whilst due to your generosity there is over £6,000 still available in the public appeal fund having commissioned the i-Transport report, we are

advised that the budget to present a case should be in the order of £100,000 but this has to be a collaborative process shared with other organisations. We need to see this coupled with a significant public appeal for funding.

Planning Applications

21/02743/FUL: L and rear of 11 Bury Road, Stapleford

Erection of a single storey dwelling: *Objection: Paragraph 8 of the Planning Regs states that 'any development garden plot has to be in the right place, must be accessible and must have an environmental objective'. This cannot be the case here. S/7b states that 'it must enhance local features of green space'. Obviously this does not. Paragraph 118 states that 'it must be on underutilised land and meet identifiable housing needs'; no vehicular access to site for emergency services/ deliveries/ construction*

21/02851/FUL: Chalk Hill, Haverhill Road, Stapleford

Construction of a single storey replacement dwelling (resubmission of 20/04170/FUL) *no objection*

21/02546/HFUL: Bury Farmhouse, 64 Bury Road, Stapleford

Internal alterations, single storey & two storey extensions, additional window and canopy/porch to existing door on west elevation, reinstate chimney, extend veranda, construct new garage and storage: *no objection*

21/0737/TTPO: 11 Sternes Way, Stapleford

TPO 001 (2002) T37: Horse chestnut: reduce branches on lower crown by 4m, up to 10m height. *No objection*

Howard Kettel, Chair Stapleford Parish Council

Puzzle Corner Answers

The End of the Word

PORT, SURE, RATE, LESS, WORK
 LION, KING, SOME, RANT, DENT
 POST, TEND, DOCK, TIME, MATE
 SHIP, TILE, LINE, SIDE, URGE

Anagrams

menu, exude, suitor, equator, acquaint, examiners, apostrophe

Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



COUNCILLORS

Howard Kettel (Chair)	hkettelstaplefordpc@gmail.com
Paul McPhater (Vice Chair)	pmcphater@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Jenny Flynn	jenny.flynn@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Michael Gatward	mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Colin Greenhalgh	cgreenhalgh@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Barbara Ann Kettel	bkettel@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
David Pepperell	dpepperell@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Gillian Pett	gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Jez Raphael	jraphael@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk

CLERK

Belinda Irons 07840 668 048
clerk@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk

ASSISTANT CLERK

Kerry Byrne 07545 847 976
assistant.clerk@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk

SOUTH CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Peter Fane , 27 London Road, Great Shelford CB22 5DB
peterfane1@live.co.uk 843861 / 07802 256 861

Nick Sample, 2 Bar Close, Stapleford, CB22 5BY
nick.sample@gmail.com 07706 990 833



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