

# Stapleford

*Ne Nuntium Necare!*

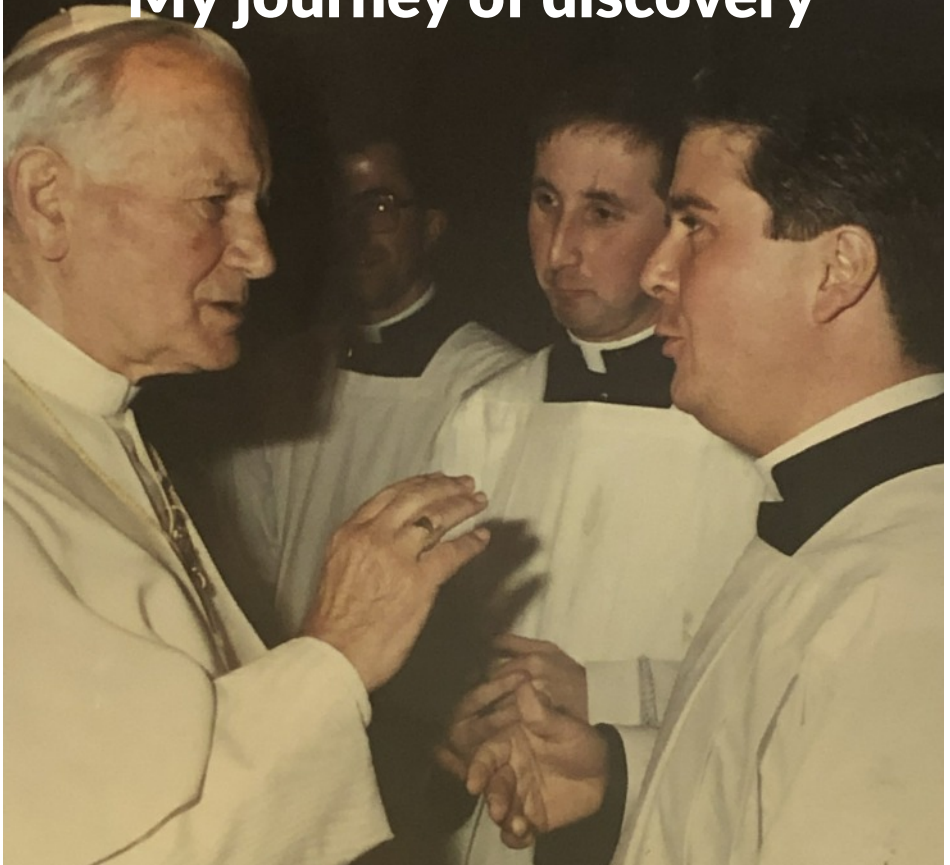
# MESSENGER

February 2022

Volume 81 No 2

Price 60p

## To Rome and back: My journey of discovery



Francis Bostrom (right foreground) recalls his encounter with Pope John Paul II  
Page 26

*The Messenger is the Parish magazine for the whole community of Stapleford.*

**We have a reputation for excellence  
- but don't just take our word for it.**

*"Unlike most other estate agents I have found them to be completely trustworthy, patient and to give superb service throughout."*

*"The whole team were very professional and friendly."*

*"Highly recommend!"*

Extracts from recent Google reviews

**If you are looking for a property agent in Stapleford -  
get in touch and discover the Bush difference.**



01223 246262  
bushsales.co.uk



01223 508085  
bushlettings.co.uk



Established. Independent. Passionate.



*Bespoke Curtains  
& Blinds*

[suecrowcurtains.com](http://suecrowcurtains.com)



01223 836498

Great Shelford Solicitors



**DAVIES**  
solicitors advocates & mediators

- Family
- Divorce & Separation
- Children
- Civil Disputes
- Wills & Probate
- Estate & Tax Planning
- Powers of Attorney
- Court of Protection

**For a quality and attentive service**  
Please Call: **01223 842211**

[www.daviesolicitors.co.uk](http://www.daviesolicitors.co.uk)  
[law@daviesolicitors.co.uk](mailto:law@daviesolicitors.co.uk)  
30 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford,  
Cambridge CB22 5LZ

*Free and easy parking*



**T&J**  
**Tyres & Autocentre**

**WE ARE NOW IN A NEW LOCATION.  
CALL US FOR A FREE QUOTE TODAY!**

- New tyres
- Part-worn tyres
- Wheel balancing
- 4-wheel alignment
- Locking wheel nut removal
- Servicing
- Brakes fitted
- Shock absorbers
- Exhaust repairs
- Diagnostics
- Batteries
- Engine carbon cleaning
- Air conditioning
- And more...

**ALL WHILE YOU WAIT**

**Opening hours:**  
Mon-Fri: 09:00-18:00  
Saturday: 10:00-16:00  
Sunday: CLOSED

**01223 845155**

Unit 2, Hillstead Farm, Hinton Way, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5AN



**WATERLILIES**

SKIN CLINIC • BEAUTY

Call **01223 844700**

Book online at

[www.waterlilies.org.uk](http://www.waterlilies.org.uk)

2d Dolphin Way, Off London Road, Stapleford, CB22 5DW

**THE CAMBRIDGE  
WILL WRITING  
Company**

OFFERING A COMPREHENSIVE  
RANGE OF SERVICES

- Wills
- Lasting Power of Attorneys
- Inheritance Tax Planning
- Trusts

and specialising in home visits, both in the evening and at weekends



For a no obligation discussion,  
please contact us on

T: 01223 503688 or 07817 206659

E: [info@cambridgewillwriting.co.uk](mailto:info@cambridgewillwriting.co.uk)

Full price list available on request.

# Who's who at St Andrew's

[www.standrewstapleford.org](http://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](http://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](mailto:staplefordmessenger@gmail.com)

**Advertising**

Contact [stapleford.ads@gmail.com](mailto: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

YOUNG barristers doing crime – if you see what I mean – tend to have repeat clients. One of mine was a young lad, I suppose aged 18 or so, though he seemed rather less mature than that, who I will call Timmy.

Timmy was always in trouble, and either up in front of the magistrates or the crown court. I must have made Timmy-trips to Highbury Corner, Willesden, Wood Green, Isleworth, Snaresbrook and more. He was never involved in violent crime; low level thefts and criminal damage were his thing. He seemed to get mixed up in stuff and couldn't say no to an opportunity.



Now I really liked Timmy. I spent many hours in his company waiting for his latest escapade to be called into court. He was charming, optimistic, outgoing, intelligent and good company. He just didn't fully understand the difference between what was his and what wasn't. I suspect that was largely because he had been brought up that way. Oh, and he always told the truth. If he had done something he pleaded guilty. He did something, he got caught, he fessed up, and he took the punishment in a good spirit. I do wonder sometimes what has become of him. I have a feeling he would have turned out alright. Certainly if he had all the advantages in life that I have had he would have been fine. He was, as I say, truthful, charming, optimistic, outgoing, intelligent and good company.

Over the years I represented a lot of lads like Timmy. Slightly feckless youths, often repeat customers who got caught at some low level crime and took the rap. Despite all the best efforts of the Probation Service the thing that mostly seemed to stop them offending was when they got the right girl pregnant – someone with a bit of character who made them go out and get a proper job.

Truthfulness when cornered seemed to be their unifying characteristic. I think they only learned to lie as they became hardened criminals, and I was too junior at the time to represent those.

I remember another lad who really liked curries but didn't like paying for them. He and his mates would go and have a curry and then run off without paying. One time he was the last to try and leave, and the staff locked the doors front and back. He managed to get out though. 'So how did you get out?' I asked. 'Wiv a table' was the unexpected and truthful reply. Through the glass front of the restaurant was the detail I had to add in to complete the picture.

Lying once caught was just not their thing. I guess persistent lying was really too much like work. You had to remember which lie you had told to which police officer in which case – hard when you have several on the go. And they intuitively knew they would be caught out so what was the point?

All of which brings me back to the topic I just touched on last month. When is a party not a party? The answer, apparently, is when it is in a garden attached to a set of offices and takes place after a period of hard work. The fact that a hundred people are invited to BYOB and are told to come to drinks – no mention of it being a working meeting of course – and that there are tables laden with nibbles and booze, is, in our Prime Minister's eyes, irrelevant. It was, so he claims, a work meeting not a party. The problem for him is that this is manifestly untrue. He is a liar and he is a lying about this, as he does about so much. Like my old client Timmy, Johnson is, or can be, charming, optimistic, outgoing, intelligent and good company. Seems that way anyway. But unlike Timmy, the low level criminal born into a north London estate with not a single advantage in life, our Prime Minister lacks any sense of what is true and what is false.

Part of the bible is called the book of Proverbs. It is a collection of sayings attributed to King Solomon. Just in passing he compares Timmy to Johnson: 'Better to be poor than a liar.' But he also had it in for lying leaders:

*'Like a coating of silver dross on earthenware  
are fervent lips with an evil heart.  
Enemies disguise themselves with their lips,  
but in their hearts they harbour deceit.  
Though their speech is charming, do not believe them,  
for seven abominations fill their hearts.  
Their malice may be concealed by deception,  
but their wickedness will be exposed in the assembly.  
Whoever digs a pit will fall into it;  
if someone rolls a stone, it will roll back on them.  
A lying tongue hates those it hurts,  
and a flattering mouth works ruin.'*

If Solomon is right, our lying leader has it coming to him – the pit awaits – but Solomon is also talking to us. Recipients of lies have a responsibility. Don't fall for fervent lips, Solomon is saying. There may be an evil heart underneath. See through the disguise. Don't fall for the charm. Deception may be concealing real malice.

Last month I wished for an ordinary year. This month, what? Just, I think, that we would find leaders with at least a smidgeon of integrity.

**Every blessing to you all. Simon**

# St Andrew's Noticeboard

- |        |          |  |
|--------|----------|--|
| 6 FEB  | 9 AM     | BCP COMMUNION  |
|        | 10.30 AM | CW COMMUNION on the 70 <sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUEEN'S ACCESSION<br>Joshua 1.1-9; Luke 22.24-30<br><i>Be strong and very courageous</i> |
|        | 10.30 AM | FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION  |
|        | 6 PM     | CHORAL EVENSONG<br>Hosea 1; Colossians 3.1-17  |
| 13 FEB | 9 AM     | BCP COMMUNION  |
|        | 10.30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP<br>Romans 15.1-6; Luke 4.16-24<br><i>Anointed to proclaim good news</i>   |
| 20 FEB | 9 AM     | CW COMMUNION   |
|        | 10.30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP<br>Isaiah 61.7-11; John 8.21-30<br><i>Pleasing the Father</i>   |
|        | 10.30 AM | MESSY FOREST CHURCH  |
| 27 FEB | 9 AM     | BCP COMMUNION  |
|        | 10.30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP<br>Isaiah 62.1-7; John 8.31-59<br><i>Before Abraham was, I am</i>   |
| 2 MAR  | 7 PM     | ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION<br>Joel 2.1-2, 12-17; John 8.1-11  |
| 6 MAR  | 9 AM     | BCP COMMUNION  |
|        | 10.30 AM | CW COMMUNION<br>Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Luke 4.1-13<br><i>The Lord heard our voice</i>  |
|        | 10.30 AM | FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION  |
|        | 6 PM     | CHORAL EVENSONG<br>Jonah 3; Luke 18.9-14   |

The church is open every day as a place to come and pray or enjoy a moment of quiet reflection.

## FROM THE REGISTERS

- 29 DECEMBER: Funeral of June Allen  
23 JANUARY: Baptism of Teddy Fleet

## St Andrew's Choir Now recruiting

Thursday evenings  
Main practice 7pm to 8.15pm  
Main Sunday service 10.30am  
St Andrew's Church, Mingle Lane Stapleford CB22 5SY

*Ability to read music not a necessity  
All abilities welcome!*

Specially wanted: adults from 18 to 30.

Children from 7 to 12 please come to SingPlus on  
(Termtime) Wednesdays 3.45pm to 5.15pm

**Contact:** John Bryden 07803 706847 or [music@standrewstapleford.org](mailto:music@standrewstapleford.org).



## Deadline for the MARCH Messenger

Please submit copy **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 11 FEBRUARY**

By email (Word or similar attachment) to [staplefordmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:staplefordmessenger@gmail.com)

*The Messenger reserves the right to edit material. Please include contact postal address with all letters to the Editor.*

Advertising queries to [stapleford.ads@gmail.com](mailto:stapleford.ads@gmail.com)

Subscription queries to Valerie Powell on 843415

The views expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the *Messenger*.

Advertisements are accepted in good faith but customers should satisfy themselves that advertisers are able to supply the services they offer.

Thinking of  
selling or letting  
your property?



**Our Great Shelford  
team can help!**

Whether it's advice about  
getting your property ready  
to sell, discussing the rental  
market or simply to find out  
what your property is worth,  
give us a call.

We are always happy to  
chat about the local market.

**01223 800860**  
**shelford@rah.co.uk**  
**rah.co.uk**



**PROFESSIONAL TREE SURGEONS**

All aspects of tree work  
Fully qualified and insured  
Hedge maintenance  
Woodland management

Please call Jonathan for a free  
no obligation quote:

**07743 406569 / 01763 208361**

**shelfordtreeservice@outlook.com**

**www.shelfordtreeservice.co.uk**



**GATWARD & SONS LTD**

**BUILDING ON EXPERIENCE**  
CARPENTRY, JOINERY & BUILDING CONTRACTORS

 **01223 839490**

 **07557 735247**

 **contact@gatwardandsons.co.uk**

**BASED IN STAPLEFORD**



**EXTENSIONS  
CONVERSIONS  
RENOVATIONS  
ALTERATIONS**



## Pen to paper



ARTICLE time. Pen to paper. One question, what to write? Sparks of inspiration flit about, until Eureka! Words are committed to bright enticing white paper.

School days. Making meaningful magic marks. Remember learning; forming letter shapes, making words, sentences, constructing paragraphs ...frustration leading to delighted satisfaction ...sometimes. Beginning story writing for me was a joy. Once I escaped the theme of walking in a wood, seeing a fox and running home, I found different areas of adventure to explore. My mind could create. Wonderful. Doors opened through persistence with the repetition of Janet and John readers and my mother's Schonell spelling tests administered on a Monday whilst ironing. My father used the word persevere which I believed to be a name. A fountain pen from my grandfather for my first exams was an inspiration and comfort. Hopefully achievement expressed appreciation.

My first hard back books were gifts. A poetry anthology and Arthur Ransome's, 'Swallows and Amazons'. The spines creaked and pages were cool and crisp. New smelt special, exciting. Simple black and white line illustrations invited copying. 'The Mountain of Adventure' by now controversial Enid Blyton helped creativity. Frances Hodgson Burnett's 'The Secret Garden' enchanted. I artistically designed fabulous borders and woodland with gorgeous water features. Imagination stimulated through words on pages. Since then and coming to Cambridge I have discovered much loved local authors. That could be another story.

Coloured pens made impact. Each paragraph or idea, being bright, forming stripes. Effort personalised with original signatures or initials practised from a young age. Developing thoughts is untidy. Words change, ordering alters. Sometimes crossing out, (never scribbled) makes it troublesome to decipher. I recollect number work, a way to achieve A, for presentation. I rate that highly.

Now technology in varied ways has become communication. Images, cartoon-like, express emotion. Texts and emails with 'easy speak' lazy abbreviations have replaced handwritten letters. Button pressing and send ...too easy? Times have changed, yet I hope sentiment remains similar; warmth and love related differently. Valuing yourself and praising others is morale and confidence boosting ...a tonic. Who knows, maybe putting pen to paper will become more popular, even trendy. **Judith Lee**

## FOOT PROBLEMS?

Call **07939 227195**

Foot treatment in the comfort of your home

### Treatments cover:

- Nail Cutting and other nail conditions
- Corn and callus removal/reduction
- Fungal infections and athletes foot

**Celia Kenney**

*HCPC Registered Podiatrist*

The Beechwood Practice | 41 Hills Road  
Cambridge CB2 1NT  
Call **01223 315541**



## PIANO LESSONS

Jacqueline  
Cairnduff  
CT ABRSM ALCM

All ages welcome.  
Also aural training & theory.

2 Sternes Way,  
Stapleford CB22 5DA

**01223 842912**

[jcairnduff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:jcairnduff@hotmail.co.uk)

## THE GAS SPECIALIST LTD (D Hatter)

Service, installation, and repair of all domestic gas appliances: cookers, fires; specialist in boiler repairs and servicing.

*Gas Safe Reg 131405. Est 1994.*

**01223 844866**

## “The Most Thorough Cleaning Ever Seen or It’s Free!”

WE SPECIALISE IN CLEANING:

- Carpets,
- Upholstery
- Leather
- Fine Rugs
- Tiles/Stone & Grout
- Wood Sanding and Finishing

**-10%**  
*Discount to all new customers*



Laurence & Pierre de Wet

**01223 863 632**

[www.artofclean.co.uk](http://www.artofclean.co.uk)



# STEVE the PLUMBER

Steve the Plumber is a friendly, reliable, locally based plumber who would love to help you out! All those jobs you thought weren't worth getting someone out for I would love to do for you.

No job too small and individually priced at great rates.

**07803 922517 or [www.stevetheplumbersawston.co.uk](http://www.stevetheplumbersawston.co.uk).**

## CHIMNEY SWEEP

**J. L. WIGHT**

Guild of Master  
Chimney Sweeps



Certificates issued.  
Advice given /  
problems solved.

**01954 253315**

[www.camsweep.co.uk](http://www.camsweep.co.uk)

9 Cow Lane, Rampton

## Toddler group is back!

WE'D like to remind you that St Andrew's Toddler group has returned.

A warm welcome awaits parents and carers with babies or toddlers from 9.15am to 11am every Monday during term time in the Johnson Hall. We aim to be a friendly supportive group offering a variety of activities for your little ones including craft, songs and stories. There will also be plenty of time to meet and chat with other families over a cup of coffee or tea. We hope to see you there.

**VOLUNTEERS WANTED:** We are also looking for anyone who would enjoy playing with the children, chatting with carers and making coffee to join our team. Just once a month or more regularly. Safer recruitment safeguarding procedures will be followed.

For more information contact Rev Simon Taylor at [simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com](mailto:simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com) or on 840256. **Fiona Holliday and Rev Clare Coates**

## Save the date!

**Stapleford Village Weekend 2 June – 5 June**  
**Celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and our environment.**

Plans include the Village Show on 4 June, village stalls, children's activities, advice on climate change and being eco-friendly, food and music. See next month's *Messenger* for more details. **Gillian Pett**

## To rent

### **Office Space – Meeting Room – Business Address**

The Verger's Cottage at 1 Gog Magog Way has an office, downstairs sitting room, upstairs room, kitchen, toilet and garden.

Hire charge: £7.50 per hour.

For more information or to make a booking, please contact the Parish Administrator, Gillian Sanders, email [admin@standrewstapleford.org](mailto:admin@standrewstapleford.org) or phone 07752 373 176.

# Stapleford-Nachingwea Link



ONCE again we have enjoyed the presence of the Nativity scene in St Andrew's Church. The collection of figures has been built up over a number of years, with each one being carved in Nachingwea.

Kevin Bushiri has updated us with news of the



*The Nativity scene in St Andrew's Church, Stapleford, consists of figures carved in Nachingwea*

successful completion of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual English Course, which he runs. 44 girls and 15 boys, who had graduated from primary education and were about to commence secondary education, followed a three month course in written and spoken English. Kevin tells us of significant benefits to the students of the following

initiatives that he has introduced this year, including:

- The use of a voice recorder, which has proved to be invaluable for developing listening, speaking, pronunciation and peer mentoring.
- The arrival of the dictionaries, provided by the Messenger Fund, which have enhanced the skills of spelling, comprehension and vocabulary extension.



*Left: Presentation to students on completion of Kevin's course and right: Parents meeting at Kevin's course*

- The provision of reading books enabled students both to read aloud and silently with interest and to translate stories into Swahili.
- The giving of gifts of exercise books and pens as rewards for success in the two course tests served as a successful motivational tool, in addition to providing essential resources for the start of secondary education.
- The involvement of parents at both the start and the end of the course reinforced the benefits of parental support and provided parents with knowledge of the course content and student achievements.

As a significant part of the finance for the course was provided by the Stapleford and Nachingwea Link Committees, Kevin also includes in his report a financial statement of expenditure.

Congratulations from the whole Link Committee go both to Kevin for his expert leadership and teaching and to the students for their diligence and achievements. **Trish Maude**

## Mothers' Union



OUR meeting this month will be the presentation for the World Day of Prayer (due to be held on 4 March – details in the next *Messenger*). This year the service has been arranged by England, Wales and Northern Ireland on the theme 'I know the plans I have for you'. I do hope as many of you as possible can come – 2.30pm, 24 February in the Johnson Hall.

We are enjoying getting back to meeting together once again. The Thursday Prayer in Ely cathedral continues once a month – also accessible via Zoom on the access code forwarded by the MU Office in Ely.

Can I remind any members who have not yet paid their subscriptions that Mary will be pleased to receive them, as soon as possible? **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](mailto:admin@standrewstapleford.org)

## OvenPad Cleaning Services

I will professionally and efficiently clean ovens, ranges, Agas, ceramic hobs, extractors, microwaves, and BBQs.

*It's a dirty job, why not give me a call?*

Please contact **Paddy Kelly** on

Tel: 01638 742703

Mobile: 0775 263 1343

Email: info@ovenpad.com  
www.ovenpad.com

Great  
Value

# KASH STORES

Local  
Service

**A great deal more from your local store!**

- General groceries • Fresh produce • Confectionery  
• In-store bakery • Off-licence • Photocopying  
• Newspapers, magazines & stationery • Lottery  
• Dry Cleaning • Passport photos

**Full Post Office counter facilities**

33-35 Hinton Way, Great Shelford

Tel: 01223 843307

**Shop opening times:**

Mon-Sat:

7:00am - 6:30pm

Sunday:

7:00am - 1:00pm



**Post Office opening:**

Mon-Fri: 9am - 5:30pm

Sat: 9am - 1:00pm

Sun: CLOSED



**JACKSON COX**  
YOUR LOCAL VILLAGE OPTICIANS

A.Saxena MCOptom  
OPTOMETRIST

**PROFESSIONAL HIGH QUALITY EYE CARE**

- NHS & Private eye checks
- Cataract, Glaucoma & Macular degeneration checks
- Contact Lenses • Safety specs

*Free on road parking with disabled access*

30a Woollards Lane | Great Shelford | CB22 5LZ

☎ 01223 840 441 🌐 www.jackson-cox-optician.com



# PANTHER

01223

# 715 715

WIDE RANGE OF VEHICLES AVAILABLE 24/7  
INCLUDING 5-8 SEATERS

METERED RATES TO SURROUNDING AREAS

**DOWNLOAD OUR BOOKING APP**



## RUSSELL COOPER GARDENING

(QUALIFIED HORTICULTURIST EST 1987)

**ALL ASPECTS OF GARDENING  
WORK CARRIED OUT BY A  
PROFESSIONAL LOCAL  
BUSINESS**

**MONTHLY MANAGEMENT  
OF YOUR GARDEN  
UNDERTAKEN**

**Tel: 01223 830575  
Mobile: 07702 456797**

## Neil's Gent's Hair Stylist of Stapleford

Is offering professional gents  
hairstyling at competitive  
prices

30 years' experience

4a Bar Lane, Stapleford

Call 01223 844411 for an appointment



# Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

**From:** Nicky West , Stapleford(with additional information from Mike Keeton),

**Re:** Heritage and Memorials (*Messenger*, November)

I WAS delighted to hear from *Messenger* reader Mike Keeton from Yorkshire, whose step-daughter Angie Taylor is a Stapleford resident and who regularly sends him our magazine.

Mike contacted me following the November issue, when I wrote about contested heritage and the memorials in St Andrew's, focusing on the Godolphin Osbornes.

My research concluded that the family wealth came from agriculture from estates around the UK and Cornish tin mines – but I left out another very important source: coal.

I am very grateful to Mike for supplying this information and, with his permission, am pleased to print his findings for *Messenger* readers:

“The family seat [of the Dukes of Leeds] was Kiveton Hall, in South Yorkshire near to the border with Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. The family vault is at All Hallows Church, Harthill – an ancient church founded in 1281.

“In 1811 Kiveton Hall was demolished and the family purchased Hornsby Castle, 75 miles or so north.

“Harthill / Kiveton were rural agricultural areas up to 1864, when a group of entrepreneurs formed a company to sink and work a coal mine at Kiveton Park (of the former Kiveton Hall) and leased 6,000 acres from the Duke of Leeds [Sir George Godolphin Osborne, memorialised at St Andrew's].

“Nos. 1 and 2 shafts were completed in 1867 and reached the 57 inch thick Barnsley seam at a depth of 400 yards. This made it one of the deepest collieries in operation at that time.

“Royalties are payable to the landlord on the value of the mineral produced. This area of South Yorkshire, North Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire is often called ‘The Dukeries’ because of the number of aristocratic magnates owning large estates in the area, including the Dukes of Leeds.

“They benefited hugely from the mineral rights from the development of coal mining in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century – without their permission to use their estates the coal industry would never have happened in that area.

“Coal was not a pariah then; it was ‘black diamonds’. Coming back to the interests of the Godolphin Osbornes they also leased land for the development of Shireoaks, Waleswood and Dinnington Main Collieries.

“The thing about mineral royalties is that it’s a bonus – the agricultural rents are payable on the surface and the rent payable on the coal 500 yds below – what’s not to like!

“So you could add coal as a source of income to the agriculture and the Cornish tin mines.”

*(Editor’s note: readers may be interested in reading Jeremy Paxman’s book “Black Gold” about the history of coal in the UK.)*

## The new Stapleford playground is open!

THE Jubilee Playground opened on the 15 December, after several weeks of hard work by contractors Kompan. Situated next to the MUGA, it’s set to provide hours of fun for the children of Stapleford and surrounding areas. There are several new pieces of equipment. The star of the show is the new slide on the hill. Residents had told us that there had previously been a slide



built into the hill many years ago – so we chose to bring that element back in this updated design. This slide is double width, meaning that two children or a child with their carer can use the slide together. Wooden steps built into the hill make it fun and easy to get to the top and slide down again. No doubt many children will spend some happy hours doing that on repeat!

Additionally, there are some other new pieces – and these were deliberately chosen in consultation with children from Stapleford Primary school. There’s a big sand pit, with a log in it for climbing or sitting on. A floor trampoline – which is impossible not to try a cheeky bounce on, even if you’re an adult just walking past.... There’s a new see-saw, which takes up to four people. And a few pieces of play equipment designed to encourage more physical movement and play – like the ‘supernova’ roundabout and the turning bars. Equipment has been selected for children of all abilities, including wheelchair users.



At the heart of the playground is a brand new centrepiece – a climbing frame with bridges, tunnels and slides. Designed for all ages, for all types of play. Toddlers seem to love the little seat at the bottom of the frame, and older children can climb to the top of the tower.



Installation of the new equipment wasn't without challenge. The contractors needed to get lots of heavy equipment over to the playground, which meant machinery having to go across the field. Conditions weren't helpful – classic December weather mixed with very soft ground. Huge thanks to Kompan, our contractors who worked very hard to stay on schedule despite the wet conditions.

We did what we could to protect the ground, but sadly it's still a bit muddy! But once the weather dries up a bit, nature will restore the area to its previous glory! Thanks to Tennis Club and MUGA users for their patience in accessing facilities while it's been a bit messy.

So – we have a new playground. It's open, but there are still some tasks for us to finish – we're going to re-use (and paint) the old wooden house from the tower slide, and we're going to have help clearing some of the brambles at the back of the hill.

All that's left to say is some thank yous. To our main funder, the FCC Foundation, who provided two-thirds of the overall budget. To our local organisations, charities and businesses – South Cambs Council Recovery Fund, St Andrew's Messenger Fund, Village Hall Estate Fund, and to Scotsdales for providing the picnic benches (which will arrive in the springtime). Finally, a big thank you to all the people who contributed to the JustGiving appeal we ran last year – you helped us buy the sandpit, which was top of the schoolchildren's wishlist! Together we've created a lovely village asset which can be enjoyed for years to come. **Rebecca Trigg and Rosie Brown**



## SPB Property Maintenance

Professional local business

Fully insured and qualified Plumber, based locally to South Cambridge and surrounding villages. Offering a friendly, reliable and efficient service with references and examples of work available on request.

Free quotes and advice on all jobs, whether big or small!

- Full bathroom and kitchen refurbishments
- General plumbing
- Tiling and plastering
- Gardening needs and monthly grass cutting
- Patio and decking, installation and jet washing
- General DIY and property maintenance
- If your requirement is not listed, please ring and ask!

Contact Simon on:



07581088722



SPBpropertymaintenance66@gmail.com

staplefordonline.co.uk



Your community website  
for up to the minute news and  
views from around the village



PLUMBING, HEATING  
AND MECHANICAL



ELECTRICAL, FIRE  
AND SECURITY



REFRIGERATION AND  
AIR CONDITIONING



RENEWABLE ENERGY

Domestic & Commercial  
e: [info@huttie.com](mailto:info@huttie.com) t: 01223 292295  
[www.huttie.com](http://www.huttie.com)

# The building stone of St Andrew's

DR Nigel Woodcock, Emeritus Reader of the Department of Earth Sciences, Cambridge University has surveyed the building stone of St Andrew's and given us permission to publish the following summary of his findings.

## The stones used

St Andrew's is typical of medieval churches in being built as far as possible of locally available stone. The motive for this choice was economic. Until the coming of the railways in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, every 10 miles of overland transport cost as much as the stone cost at the quarry gate. There are three main sorts of local stone in the church and one local brick variety:-

**Clunch** – harder parts from the local Chalk Group, a very fine-grained limestone of late Cretaceous age. One horizon suitable for building is the Melbourn Rock, which was quarried at Limekiln Hill, Cherry Hinton. Softer Chalk was quarried at Little Trees Hill, less than 2 km to the northeast.

**Fieldstone** – cobble to boulder-sized lumps of stone that were collected from surrounding fields. They would be ploughed up and moved to field margins, particularly as new areas of arable land were tilled. The stones are of a variety of different rock types, moved to the area by Quaternary ice sheets and associated rivers. Fieldstone typically comprises ovoid lumps, but also more irregular pieces of Flint.

**Flint** – a hard, siliceous rock that originated as irregular lumps (nodules) within the upper Chalk Group limestones. Flint is typically dark grey or black on broken surfaces, but nodules have a white skin around them on unbroken lumps. Since late Cretaceous times, the resistant flints have been progressively weathered out of the Chalk and transported by rivers or ice. They form a common and distinctive component of fieldstone.

**Gault brick** – a fired product of the Gault Formation, clays of early Cretaceous age that occur extensively west and north of Cambridge. Gault bricks are typically light yellow to pink and were first used in Cambridge in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. They were produced at numerous local brickyards during their peak popularity in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Fieldstone and flint are unsuitable materials for fashioning buttresses, quoins (corner stones) and other exposed dressings. Clunch is too soft to last long in these positions. Therefore, durable and workable stone had to be imported from further afield. St Andrew's contains stone from at least four quarries in the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation of mid-Jurassic age, as detailed below. The nearest source of this stone is in the Stamford area, about 100 kilometres to the northwest of Stapleford. The prohibitive

overland transport costs for this stone were avoided by shipping the stone by inland boat, a transport mode costing five times less than overland transport.

**Barnack** – a limestone dominated by shell fragments and also containing 1 mm diameter spherical carbonate grains called ooids. Barnack, 5 km east-southeast of Stamford, was the main Lincolnshire Limestone quarry exporting stone beyond its local area from Roman times until the quarries were worked out about 1460. Having been exposed to the Stapleford climate for at least 550 years, Barnack has typically been weathered along the original sedimentary bedding surfaces to give an etched appearance.

**Ketton** – a limestone composed entirely of 1 mm sized ooids. It was exported from the quarries 6 km west-southwest of Stamford from the early 17<sup>th</sup> century.

**Casterton/Stamford** – a limestone similar to Ketton, but with some fine-grained shell fragments. One source is the 19<sup>th</sup> century Casterton quarries, 2 km to the northwest of central Stamford, but similar stone was available from numerous small quarries in and around Stamford from an earlier date.

**Clipsham** – a limestone with a higher content of shell fragments than Ketton or Casterton, with coarser variants looking similar to fresh Barnack. Clipsham quarries, 10 km northwest of Stamford, were opened by the Romans but the stone was never as popular as Barnack. It has only been used in St Andrew's in the 20<sup>th</sup> century and is one of the few Lincolnshire Limestone varieties currently available.

Finally there is one limestone imported from nearly 300 kilometres away:

**Portland Whitbed** – this almost pure white limestone contains ooids, carbonate mud and fine shell material, but also bivalve mollusc shells some centimetres in size. It comes from the Isle of Portland in Dorset, and arrived in Cambridge in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It was not used in St Andrew's until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

**The outside of the church**

We now take a geological walk around the outside of the church, starting at the western tower, and working eastward.

The **tower**, said to be 14<sup>th</sup> century, has rubble walls, predominantly of Flint but with some other Fieldstone and blocks of Barnack



*Tower south belfry window: C14 Barnack sill below 1803 Gault brick jambs and arch, probably replacing C14 Clunch*

and Clunch. The plinth, buttresses, quoins and window sills are Barnack. Gault brick has been used to repair the buttresses and to replace most of the



*South aisle: C13 Fieldstone/flint rubble wall with Barnack in the buttress and as very large blocks in the plinth. Window restored 1866, possibly Casterton*

plinth, quoins and buttresses are Barnack, including some very large blocks in the south aisle plinth, west of the porch. The windows have mostly been replaced in what is probably Casterton during the 1866 restoration of W.M. Fawcett. Barnack sills survive in the west window and the middle north window of the north aisle, in the east window of the south aisle, and in the



*Chancel: C20 Portland Whitbed ashlar wall replacing C13 local Clunch, over fieldstone/flint rubble plinth. Windows mostly C20 Clipsham repair. Door with C13 Barnack plinth and Clunch inner jambs then possible 1873 Casterton repair of outer jambs and arch*

belfry and mid-tower windows, probably during the 1803 renovation. The west window has Barnack sill, mullions, arch, hood mould and outer jambs. However, Clunch survives in the tracery and inner jambs, as a reminder that Clunch would have been the dominant stone in every other medieval window, now replaced.

The 14<sup>th</sup> century **aisles** and **south porch**, and the 15<sup>th</sup> century **north chapel** all have rubble walls, mostly of Flint and other Fieldstone. There is a significant patch of white Clunch in the western wall of the north aisle. The 14<sup>th</sup> century **aisles** and **south porch**, and the 15<sup>th</sup> century **north chapel** all have rubble walls, mostly of Flint and other Fieldstone. There is a significant patch of white Clunch in the western wall of the north aisle. The plinth, quoins and buttresses are Barnack, including some very large blocks in the south aisle plinth, west of the porch. The windows have mostly been replaced in what is probably Casterton during the 1866 restoration of W.M. Fawcett. Barnack sills survive in the west window and the middle north window of the north aisle, in the east window of the south aisle, and in the chapel windows. The Casterton stone probably replaces original Clunch, which would have been badly weathered by the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The **vestry**, built in 1925 and extended in 1978, has walls of Flint-rich rubble on a plinth of Gault brick. The quoins, door and north window appear to be of Clipsham, but the small east window is of Ketton.

The 13<sup>th</sup> century **chancel** originally had Clunch walls on a rubble plinth, but the Clunch was replaced by Portland Whitbed in the 1970s. The windows seem to be a shell-rich *Clipsham* but with some surviving parts of original *Barnack*, newly dressed to match the *Clipsham*. The south door

has a Barnack plinth to the jambs. The inner jambs are original Clunch, but the outer jambs have been replaced by Casterton.



*Norman arch: Entirely in Barnack limestone*

### The inside of the church

Moving inside the church, much of the stone is obscured by render and/or lime wash. The piers and arches of the early 14<sup>th</sup> century aisle arcades are of Clunch, which is not subject to the weathering that would degrade it externally. Also of Clunch are the internal frames to the windows, certainly in the chancel and probably elsewhere. However the fine Norman chancel arch is of Barnack, as is the 13<sup>th</sup> century font.

### Summary

In summary, St Andrew's is a typical example of a southern Cambridgeshire medieval church, originally constructed of local Fieldstone, Flint and Clunch, with imported Barnack stone used for exposed external dressings. The rubble walls were probably originally rendered like the tower at St Mary's, Great Shelford, but also limewashed to give the appearance of the present Portland stone chancel. The render would have been removed by the mid-Victorian restorer, William Fawcett, who mistakenly thought he was returning the church to its proper medieval appearance.

## Stapleford Horticultural Society

FOR our January talk, we welcomed back an old friend, Andrew Sankey. Andrew's topic was the 18<sup>th</sup> Century botanist Joseph Banks, who accompanied James Cook on his first circumnavigation and brought many thousands of plant specimens back with him. He was also one of the foremost scientists of his day, being President of the Royal Society for 41 years, and a major influence on the development of Kew Gardens. A celebrity in his own lifetime, strangely he is more revered today in Australia than in Britain.

For the last talk in our 2021-22 season, we will be welcoming Simon White, Garden Centre Manager of Peter Beales Roses, to tell us about 'Peter Beales and the Romance of the Rose'. It will be a good introduction to our visit to Peter Beales Roses this summer. The talk will be held in the Johnson Hall on Thursday 10 February, starting at 7.45pm. As always, all members and guests are most welcome. **John Sherwell, 841012**

# Yesteryear

SYLVIA Morris looks at events in the village in the month of February over the years.

*Punctuation and capital letters are exactly as printed at the time.*

## 1790

WAGER. On Saturday last, one Cornell, of Stapleford in this county, for a trifling wager, eat half a quarter loaf, half a pond of cheese, a pound of raw pickled pork, and drank four pints of ale, in 22 minutes and a half; he afterwards eat three penny worth of bread and cheese at this own expense, and said that it was a nice little snap.

## 1901

STAPLEFORD CONCERT. A most successful concert took place in the Board School on Thursday, February 14<sup>th</sup> in aid of the Princess of Wales appeal on behalf of the Soldiers and Sailors Families Association. The programme consisted of recitations, vocal and instrumental music. There was a very crowded audience, who were most enthusiastic, there being a number of encores. The proceeds, amounting to £7 3s 6d have been forwarded to Col Gidea, the treasurer of the fund.

## 1907

PUBLICAN FINED. At the Cambridge Division Petty Sessions on Saturday, Joseph Wilson, 50, beerhouse keeper of the Hammer and Anvil, Stapleford, was summoned for selling a pint of beer to Mary Ann Stearn, a child under the age of 14 years, without placing it in a corked and sealed vessel, at Stapleford, on January 18<sup>th</sup>. He pleaded guilty. Pc Davis said that at 3.30 in the afternoon in question he saw a little girl leave the defendant's house with a pint of beer, and noticed that the bottle was not sealed. After ascertaining that the little girl was only nine years of age, witness took her back to the public house, and asked defendant why he had not sealed the bottle. He replied that he quite forgot it. Defendant said a man was pestering him to buy some fowls at the time he served the little girl and this was the reason he forgot to seal the bottle. He was fined 2s 6d.

## 1924

PROPOSITION. "That the Clerk write to the Chesterton RDC and apply for 6 cottages to be erected in the parish and suggest that the following sites are suitable having regard to the water supply.

viz (1) Mr A Gumbley's field, Bury End. (2) Dr Collier's field, Bar Lane opposite Blacksmith's Shop. (Carried)" (From the Parish Council Minutes)



**AA**

Call me to book lessons  
**Alistair Gibson**  
 Tel: 07713 156 737

# RAYMENTS GARAGE LIMITED

ESTABLISHED IN 1970

23 ASHEN GREEN, GREAT SHELFORD

**MOT, SERVICE AND REPAIRS**

EXHAUSTS • TYRES • BATTERIES  
 BRAKES • CLUTCHES • SHOCK ABSORBERS  
 AIR CONDITIONING SERVICES

**TELEPHONE: 01223 843048**

**EMAIL: john@raymentsgarage.com**



*Don't Dilly: call Lilley of Sawston*

**Mobile: 07768 718223**

ROTAVATING | TURFING | SEEDING | TREE WORK and PADDOCK, ETC.  
 PAVING | LARGE OR SMALL AREAS

**FENCING A SPECIALITY**

**128 Duxford Rd, Whittlesford, Cambridge, CB22 4NH**

Wellbeing and relaxation



Reiki With  
**Sue Pitman**  
 HELP IS AT HAND

Tel. 01223 843164  
[www.reikiwithsuepitman.co.uk](http://www.reikiwithsuepitman.co.uk)

**A sound investment**



Advertise in the  
**Stapleford Messenger!**  
 For details email  
[stapleford.ads@gmail.com](mailto:stapleford.ads@gmail.com)



*More than just a service*



Heating



Plumbing



VIE MANN



Renewables



Electrical

All Domestic and Commercial works undertaken

[www.shelfordheating.co.uk](http://www.shelfordheating.co.uk)

Telephone 01223833426 E-Sales@shelfordheating.co.uk



1949

“A letter of protest was received from the residents of Haverhill Road asking the Council to reconsider its decision to rename it Gog Magog Way. Proposed by Major French seconded by Mr Hardy that the part of the resolution passed at the last meeting referring to Haverhill Road be rescinded and that it remain Haverhill Road. This was carried Unan.”.

## Repair Café



2G3S (Green Groups in the Shelfords, Stapleford and Sawston) are pleased to announce a Repair Café to be held on Saturday 12 February from 2pm to 4.30 pm

at Great Shelford Free Church, Ashen Green, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB22 5EY.

It's a free event (donations very welcome) where we match amazing repairers with people who need stuff fixing. Bring along the following to be repaired and to pick up repair skills: jewellery/jewellery cleaning, sewing repairs (clean items only please), small household appliances and electrical items, sewing machines, computers, bicycles, and general bits'n'bobs.

You can turn up with your broken item on the day, but we're usually very busy so it's best to book it in by following the links at [circularcambridge.org](http://circularcambridge.org) from 1 to 9 February inclusive. The repairers are brilliant and can fix most things but there are no guarantees. Tea and cake available of course!

This time we shall have an additional feature: a recycling bin for small electrical non-screen items that are beyond repair.

For more information go to [2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk](http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk) **Helen Hale**



## 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](mailto:staplefordmessenger@gmail.com) - after all, it's your magazine and we would love to hear from you.



St Andrew's Church  
Mingle Lane  
Stapleford  
Contact:  
Simon Taylor  
01223 840256  
simontaylorstAndrews@gmail.com

**CLEANER(S) NEEDED**

- 1 hour a week
- Flexible hours
- Equipment provided
- £11.15 per hour



**Exceptional Residential  
Nursing & Dementia Care at  
The Cambridgeshire  
Care Home**

We pride ourselves on our ability to respond to individual needs and preferences. Whether a residents stay with us is just a two week break or a permanent residency everyone living at The Cambridgeshire Care Home will be treated with dignity, compassion and respect.

**Call us on  
01223 551200 or email  
enquiries@cambridgeshirecarehome.co.uk**

# Go ahead for retirement village

CONTROVERSIAL proposals to build a retirement village on green belt in Stapleford have been given the go ahead.

The retirement care village will include 220 residential units on green belt land between Haverhill Road, Stapleford and Hinton Way, Great Shelford.

There will also be facilities for the wider community to use including wellness facilities, a swimming pool and a new 50-acre Countryside Park.

There were 54 objections to the original proposal. One resident from Haverhill Road in Stapleford who submitted a letter to South Cambridgeshire District Council said they were worried any development would “irreversibly change” the character of the area.

They added: “The proposed development of Greenbelt land combined with the planned busway would devastate the delightful rural character of our village.”

The proposal was originally rejected by South Cambs Council in April 2021. But it was given the go ahead following a planning appeal at the end of last year.

Developers Axis Land Partnerships said the high-end retirement village would include an investment of £15 million, creating 190 jobs during construction.


Axis Land Partnerships is part of the Sir Robert McAlpine Group and are working in partnership with the landowner of the proposed development site. **David Martin**

*(For more information please see page 46)*

**Beach holidays, City breaks, Honeymoons, Weddings abroad,  
Adventure holidays, Ski, Cruise, Tailormade trips, Flight only,  
Car hire, Airport hotels and parking, and much more . . .**

**CHERYL HARRADINE**  
Travel Counsellor  
01223 842670  
cheryl.harradine@travelcounsellors.com  
www.travelcounsellors.co.uk/cheryl.harradine



Place an ad here  
and promote your  
company to an estimated  
readership of over 1,800!

Contact us today at:  
**stapleford.ads@gmail.com**

## To Rome and back

*FRANCIS Bostrom moved four years ago from Scotland to Stapleford. He has settled well into our local community and would like to share his personal journey which brought him here.*

I WAS born into a Methodist family in Ireland. Although I much enjoyed the singing of hymns. At an early age I felt led to join the Anglican, church of Ireland. This church was established by law in the sixteenth century by Henry VIII and dis-established in 1870 by Gladstone.

I began my Anglican journey within the evangelical wing, but having developed a great love of the Anglican choral tradition, I felt more comfortable within this setting. This direction still did not satisfy me so I moved upward to the high church tradition. The parish I joined maintained a fine men and boys' choir, one of a very few in Ireland. I remember well this choir making broadcasts with the BBC. It was during this time that I discovered the existence of the religious life within the Anglican church, monks, nuns, friars, etc.



I was inspired along my spiritual pathway through the writings of Keble, Newman and Pusey. These scholars established the Oxford or Tractarian movement. This development brought order and dignity into the liturgy of the Church of England and indeed the wider Anglican Church.

Having discovered the Anglican religion, I decided to test my vocation as a

Benedictine monk at the monastic community of Our Lady and St John, Alton Abbey, Hampshire. Guiding principles had been laid down by St Benedict, founder of western monasticism. St Benedict was born in Italy to a noble family in 480AD. He wrote the holy rule for monks, which include the three vows of obedience, conversion of life and stability.

I joined this community of Alton abbey and remained for six years.

Alton abbey was founded in 1888. Building work continued over many years with much of the manual labour being provided by the community. Several architects were involved in the design of the abbey including

Monsignor John Cyril Hawes and Sir Charles Nicholson. The abbey is set in 40 acres of pleasant Hampshire woodland

My duties included prayer, work, study and running the home for the elderly attached to the monastery. Later on I was appointed guest master playing the organ for divine service. At that time the community was engaged in parish work, making communion wafers, blending incense, and painting icons. There was much gardening to be done including growing vegetables and fruit picking as well as the care of bees, ducks, chickens,

turkeys, and peacocks.



After six years, I decided not to proceed to final vows and having left the Community I moved to Kent and trained as a registered nurse. I was received into the Catholic church at St Augustine's Abbey Ramsgate, a very beautiful church built by Augustus Welby Pugin in 1845. St Augustine's became the home of what developed into a large Benedictine community. The Order

eventually moved to Surrey in 2010. Pugin built, lived, and died in the house next door known as the Grange, a very fine house which he had built in 1843 as a family home. This lovely building has been saved by the Landmark Trust, and is well worth visiting for a day or a longer stay. I eventually decided to offer myself to study for the priesthood. I was accepted by the Archbishop of Southwark and sent to study in Rome. During my four years in Rome I had the great privilege of serving mass for Pope John Paul II (pictured on the front cover). Normally when meeting a head of state you wait for them to address you. On this occasion, however, with the multilingual John Paul II, it was permitted to speak first. I said to the Pope, "Pontificio Collegio Beda Holy Father," The Pope responded in English after a slight pause, "Ah, yesterday was the Feast of St Bede". The occasion of our meeting was the ordination by the Pope in St Peter's Basilica of 60 new priests for the Universal Church. I also explored the Vatican museum and gardens and visited the Tomb of Saint Peter far below the Basilica.

The college I attended was the Pontifical Beda college founded by Pope Pius IX in 1852 for convert and post graduate catholics. At the Beda I studied philosophy and theology and our lectures were very ably given by the Dominican professors from the nearby pontifical Angelicum university.

# L A Kerridge

Painting and decorating

*15 years-plus  
experienced tradesmen  
Quality interior and  
exterior decoration  
Artex ceilings smoothed  
Free estimates and quotes.*

**Tel 01223 832745**  
**Mobile 07843 850484**

# HJ Paintin Ltd

**INDEPENDENT FAMILY FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
MONUMENTAL MASONS**

Private Chapels of Rest  
Floral Tributes and Printed Orders of Service  
Golden Charter Pre-payment plans  
Personal Attention Assured at All Times  
24-hour Caring Personal Service



43 High Street, Linton, Cambridge CB21 4HS

**Tel: 01223 891226**

8 Morley's Place, Sawston, Cambridge CB22 3TG

**Tel: 01223 830065**

# TIM PHILLIPS & Co.

## Accountants

*Established 1991*

Independent, specialist service for:  
**Small Business • Self Assessment  
Personal Taxation**

Free initial consultation - no obligation

**EASY, FREE PARKING**

Copley Hill Business Park, Cambridge Rd, Babraham  
*Off A1307 between Wandlebury and Babraham*

**Tel: 01223 830044** [www.tpaccounts.co.uk](http://www.tpaccounts.co.uk)



## Mrs Rosemary Rigge

Grad Dip Phys MCSP Reg. HPC  
CHARTERED PHYSIOTHERAPIST

**T:** 01223 844091

**M:** 07958 708728

**E:** [physio.rigge@ntlworld.com](mailto:physio.rigge@ntlworld.com)

**TREATMENT ROOMS:**

26 Mingle Lane, Stapleford  
*or home visits*

## ALL HUNG UP



Specialist | Blinds  
Tracks | Poles | Curtains  
**Supply and Installation**

E: [paul@allhungup.uk](mailto:paul@allhungup.uk)  
T: 07920 772 969

[www.allhungup.uk](http://www.allhungup.uk)

# M D COOPER

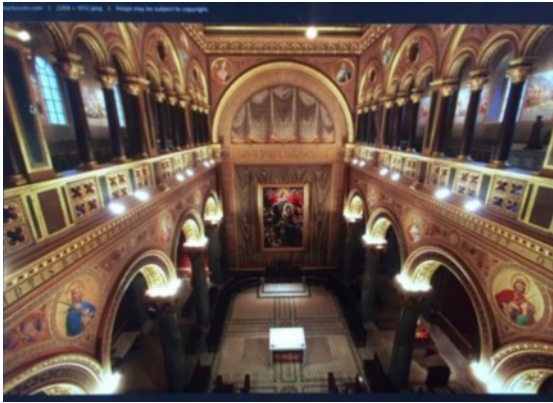
specialising in  
INTERIOR DECORATING  
AND GLAZED TILING

***Design services available***

4 Falkner Road, Sawston  
Telephone 01223 832422  
Mobile 07860 803938

Because the Beda college remains extraterritorial, it flies the papal flag, has the use of the Vatican diplomatic postal service, commissary, supermarket, pharmacy, and petrol facilities. The Vatican post office issues papal stamps and Vatican coins are also available. At the beginning of term students are issued with two passes, a Permesso di Soggiorno for the republic of Italy and a Vatican pass which grants permission to use the facilities of Vatican City. On special feast days such as St George or St Bede, the college would entertain to dinner the British ambassador to the Holy See or the British ambassador to Italy.

The Principessa Doria Pamphilj would also be entertained; her family continue to have the finest private art collection in Rome at their home the Palazzo Pamphilj.



My room at the Beda college had a spectacular view of the splendid basilica of St Paul outside the walls, completed in 395 AD, destroyed by fire in 1823 and restored by 1840. The very beautiful thirteenth century cloisters survived the fire.

The basilica is a Benedictine foundation and houses the tomb of St Paul. Before the reformation it was under the patronage of the English Monarchy.

Whilst at the Beda college I received two of what used to be called minor orders now described as ministries, they are, lector, and acolyte. Lector grants permission to read during the liturgy, and acolyte grants permission to assist at preparation for holy mass, exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and the administering of holy communion both in church and to the sick and housebound. These ministries are given for life, the recipient also receives a parchment scroll inscribed in Latin signed and sealed by the student's Diocesan bishop and the college rector. The age range of the college was 26 to 70 with a representation of 16 nationalities.

I spent a number of my days off at the English college Palazzola enjoying the beautiful walks around the lake, swimming in the pool, playing the organ in the chapel, and reading in the library. Palazzola (photo overleaf) is open throughout the year and everyone is welcome to visit or to stay. One year I spent a very happy summer there caring for pilgrims and visitors.



After reflecting on my time at Beda college, I decided not to continue with training for the priesthood. I resumed my nursing career at first in Rome caring for a retired writer and broadcaster who had for many years worked for the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Food Programme. I

eventually decided to return to the UK and through my connection with the British Nursing Association became a nursing officer onboard a cruise ship.

On a world cruise I met John Bryden, international concert pianist and organist. I found life as a ship's officer both demanding and rewarding. I was delighted to invite onboard members of my family who live in Cape Town whom I had not seen for a very long time.

For many years John and I continued to work together for Ace Cultural Tours, a charity based here in the Stapleford Granary. As tour director and tour manager John and I have visited the homes of many composers including Bach, Handel, Mendelssohn, Chopin and Schumann, and John has given recitals on organs once played by Bach and Handel.

I also like to feel that I continue to contribute to both Anglican and Catholic traditions both of which have so enriched my spiritual life. In particular playing the organ regularly in both Catholic and Anglican churches.

## Jubilee Pavilion online booking system

STAPLEFORD Parish Council has a new online system available to people wishing to book the Jubilee Pavilion, check its availability or see what regular classes and meetings are on. This gives control to the person booking, instead of having to rely on the Clerk to provide alternate dates.

The system is easy to use: go to [staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk) and click on Jubilee Pavilion link; on the booking calendar page look to see if the date and time you require are available; to make a booking click on + for the booking request form. Payment is made directly into the Parish Council bank account. The Clerk will then verify your booking by email.

If users prefer, the booking form is still available to download and complete. However, be aware that an online booking may be made before your hard copy form is received and processed. **Jenny Flynn**



# Stapleford Community Primary School

THE Autumn Term ended with some fun activities including one on the new running track. Having opted to have a charity fundraising event, the school council organised a 'Rudolf Run' to raise funds for the Arthur Rank Hospice. This went ahead on 7 December, and each class had an allotted time to encourage the children to run as many laps as possible in 30 minutes. With deer antlers an optional accessory, and an inspiring visit from Arthur Bear, the children did brilliantly, and over the day several miles had been clocked up. A total of more than £1,300 was raised for the hospice.



Rev Simon Taylor visited both Year 2 and Year 3 in December, and worked with the children to explain and make Christingles. The children were delighted with theirs and enjoyed both making them and taking them home to share with their families.

Having postponed the December pantomime trip due to Covid-19, we were pleased to rearrange it for January, and the school, including those in the nursery, travelled to the Cambridge Arts Theatre for a performance of Aladdin. With all the traditional characters singing and dancing on stage, and much cheering and booing from the audience, great fun was had - what a great way to start the new year!

Applications for our reception class in September can be made centrally through Cambridge LA: [cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-school](http://cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/apply-for-a-school-place/primary-reception-junior-or-middle-school). **Christine Spain**

## Stapleford Choral Society

WE have moved to a new venue!

If you are interested in singing choral music from the Baroque to the present day, come and join us.

We now meet at the Stapleford Primary School, Bar Lane, CB22 5BJ on Mondays from 7.45pm to 9.15pm.

For more information  
email [staplefordchoral@gmail.com](mailto:staplefordchoral@gmail.com).



# Stapleford Strollers: Short Walk 24

## Bottisham Fen and the River Cam: a circular walk in The Fens

### To get to start of walk

DRIVE to the village of Lode, next to Anglesey Abbey. Pass down High Street and then carry on straight ahead out of the village on the small, bumpy road that leads into the Fens. Pass a turn to the right (White Fen Drove) and keep on until, just before the road swings sharp right and next to a footbridge on the left, there is a small parking space to the left of the road (CB25 9HF).

### Length of walk

Just over 2½ miles. Half the walk is on a solid tarmacked surface. The only bit that gets at all muddy is the section that parallels the River Cam, and then only in winter.

### OS Map

OS Explorer map 226. If you simply want a map extract either go on to your Smart Phone or, if your phone is less smart, use the website [maps.the-hug.net](http://maps.the-hug.net). You can run off a free extract. The route map provided with these notes has been taken from that site; the number 11 next to the Start point on the map indicating a cycle route.

### Extra Information

The lodes in this area are man-made channels draining into the River Cam. Bottisham Lode, part of which is walked alongside on this route, is about 2½ miles long. Like most of the lodes it used to be navigable, but has not been so since about 1900. It links directly with Quy Water, the lode that passes the back of Anglesey Abbey.

### Route of Walk

From the parking place, follow the road as it swings right and keep walking along it until, after some time, it turns sharp left. By this time, Cambridge County Polo Club will have been passed. There is no playing activity in the winter months, but many of the horses will be seen as they are stabled on-site throughout the year. The polo fields are to the right-hand side of the road; the horses can be seen to the left. This area is all part of Bottisham Fen.

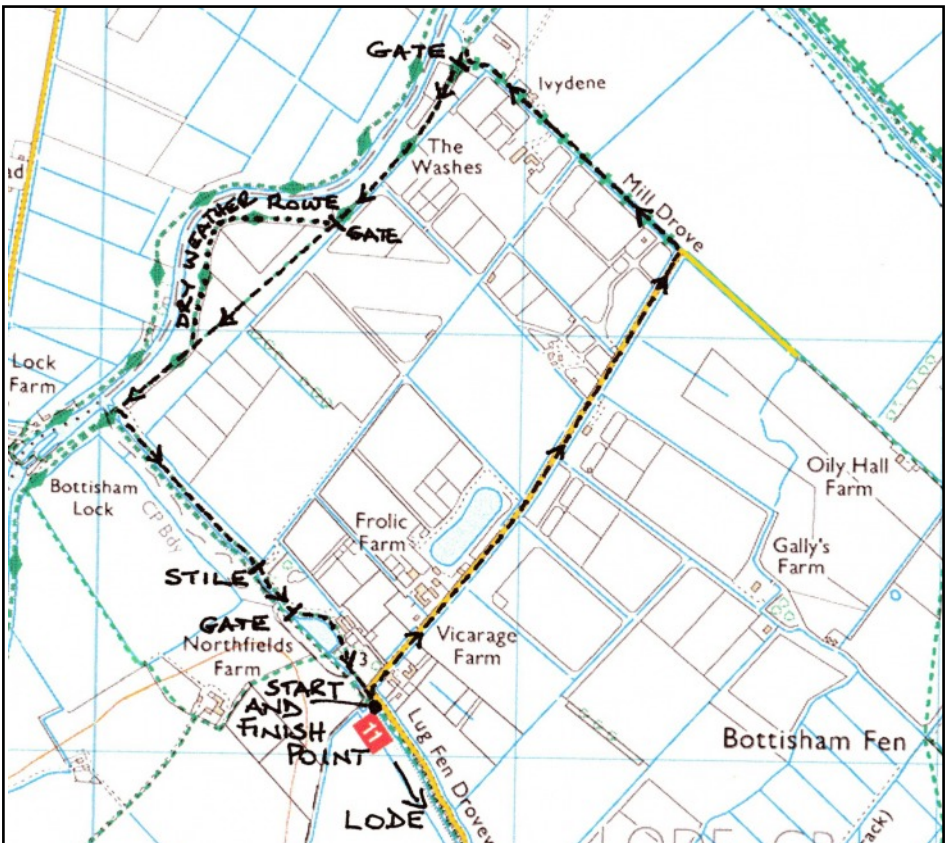
After the road swings left, follow it past a farm called Ivydene to the right and, when it turns right and ends at a Marina, go left on the public footpath that follows the top of the flood bank alongside the River Cam. Go

through a couple of gates. To the left, below the level of the path, is part of the Polo Club land and to the right is the river.

Keep walking until Bottisham Pumping Station is reached. Turn left through a metal gate immediately before the Pumping Station building and walk along the bank of Bottisham Lode. After a few minutes go over a stile and keep ahead along the bank. To this point, the views have been clear, but now the path passes along the edge of an area of trees and tall hedges.

Go through a gate and pass what looks like a small lake to the right. In fact, it has been created by taking water from Bottisham Lode, which is accessible via a channel at the far side of the 'lake'. A house is passed to the left; the path goes through the garden, so keep on the grass to the right. Another gate is reached very shortly. Go through, and you are back at the start of the walk. **David Barnes**

*The Stapleford Strollers do not accept responsibility for any accident or mishap that may happen to any person or persons following this route*



STAPLEFORD  
GRANARY

ARTS, CULTURE & EDUCATION

# EVENTS

## February

### Fretwork

4th | Friday | 7:45pm

### Rant

5th | Saturday | 7:45pm

### Rosalind Ventris

6th | Sunday | 12:00pm

### John Law Quartet

11th | Friday | 7:45pm

### Daisy Chute & Midori Jaeger

18th | Friday | 7:45pm

### Eblana String Trio

19th | Saturday | 7:45pm

### Paper Jungle - Three Suns

20th | Sunday | 2:00pm

### Mithras Trio

25th | Friday | 7:45pm

### Elizabeth Kenny

26th | Saturday | 7:45pm

### Patrick Hemmerlé

27th | Sunday | 12:00pm



[www.staplefordgranary.org.uk](http://www.staplefordgranary.org.uk)  
01223 849004

## 2G3S



OUR next meeting is on Monday 7 February at 8pm, and will be a hybrid event - in-person at Cox's Close Community Room in Stapleford, or online by Zoom (email to address below to get a link sent to you). It will be a talk by Peter Pope from CamLETS. LETS stands for Local Exchange Trading Systems, which are local community-based mutual aid

networks in which people exchange all kinds of goods, skills and services with one another, without the need for real money. A fantastic idea for those tools and appliances that you only use occasionally and don't have room to store. It's like a barter system, but you don't directly swap your service/goods with someone else's, you use a kind of currency. All sorts of skills and items are valued and needed. Some of you may know that Sawston has a Timebank scheme which runs in a similar way. Come along to find out more, also see [camlets.org.uk](http://camlets.org.uk) and [timebank@sawston.org.uk](mailto:timebank@sawston.org.uk).



Our next event is a Repair Café on Saturday 12 February at Great Shelford Free Church from 2pm to 4.30pm. Don't throw away that item that's broken or stopped working, bring it along to the Café first, and have a cuppa and cake while you're there. See page 23 for details of how to book in a repair.

Throughout the year we will hold planning meetings, talks and events, a book club, nature walks, and cycle rides. Topics of talks or workshops will include regenerative farming, climate justice for developing countries, how local river health has been improved e.g. at Babraham, and green finance. We may also arrange a fruit and vegs swap in the late summer.

Our group has been in existence since 2015, and has worked hard to network with other local groups, Parish Councils, SCDC, and CCC, and have feedback that the work is appreciated. We look forward to working with them further, especially local PCs on their environment plans.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), email [greengroupssss@gmail.com](mailto:greengroupssss@gmail.com) to sign up for our newsletter, or to get a Zoom link to join in our meetings. Also see our Facebook page or website. **Helen Hale**



### Butchery

High-quality meat with an award-winning friendly service.

### Deli

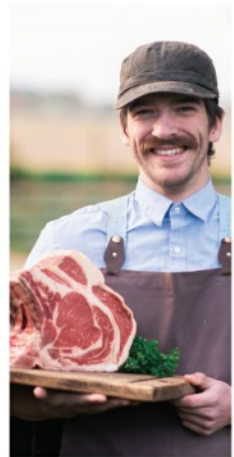
A mouth-watering array of cheese, olives, charcuterie and so much more!



# THE GOG

The Gog Farm Shop is an award-winning farm shop that sources delicious local ingredients, making for the perfect foodie destination.

We look forward to welcoming you soon!



### Grocery

Surprising you with foodie gems from local producers.



### Café

Serving our Great Taste Award winners everyday.



Open 7 days a week

[www.thegog.com](http://www.thegog.com)



# All-new Sunday mornings at the Granary

WE'RE seriously excited about the newest addition to Stapleford Granary: installed in the foyer café-bar is a beautiful La Marzocco espresso machine and the aroma of locally roasted, freshly ground Butterworth's coffee wafts down the gallery walkway. Gosh, it's good!

This is the first step towards a permanent café at Stapleford Granary which will open later this year. But we wanted to start serving wonderful coffee right away! So we're kicking things off by opening up on **selected Sunday mornings** (see website for details) to coincide with our popular Coffee Concerts and family events, serving silky smooth flat whites, cappuccinos, espressos and hot chocolate along with delicious pastries.

From 23 January, you'll also find new paintings and prints on display by Anne Lynch, Louise Davies and Ivy Smith (kindly on loan from Church Street Gallery, Saffron Walden, until 27 February) and textiles by Jenny Fulton. We're also making the first steps into an on-site shop stocking beautiful gifts and artisan products for the home. We're putting together a capsule collection in the foyer and we'll be steadily increasing our range of products over the coming months, supporting UK artists and makers.

In 2022, we're expanding the number and variety of our Sunday Coffee Concerts and events. Relaxed, chatty and informal, they feature brilliant musicians playing and talking about the music they love. From Brahms and Bach to jazz, family folk sing-alongs and imaginative theatre, we look forward to welcoming you to more of our new-look Sundays.

Please take a look at the events section of the website for more details, drop us an email, or give us a call. We hope to see you soon! **Kate Romano**

Website: [staplefordgranary.org.uk](http://staplefordgranary.org.uk);

Twitter: @SGArtsCulture;

Instagram: @StaplefordGranary;

sign up to the enews via the website





FREE no obligation quotes and advice provided

# My Village Handyman Services



- DIY repairs and odd jobs
- Painting & Decorating
- Tiling & Flooring
- Gardening, Landscaping,
- Patios & Decking
- Fencing and sheds
- Kitchen & Bathroom installation
- Brickwork, Dry Walling and Small Builds
- Carpentry and Plumbing
- Window and Gutter cleaning
- Jet wash and Patio cleaning
- Rubbish clearance and Tip runs
- Carpet cleaning and Wood Floor staining
- New doors or locks
- Security and Garden lighting
- **No job is too Small or too Big!**

**Your very local handyman!**

Contact Steve to arrange a visit or quote

**07500 876376 or 01223 881700**

Email: [steve@myvillagehandyman.com](mailto:steve@myvillagehandyman.com) | Web: [www.myvillagehandyman.com](http://www.myvillagehandyman.com)



## Have you heard? We've moved!

Find us at our new address:  
Audiology House (Cambridge)  
15 Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, Cambridge CB22 5LZ

Independent audiology experts you can trust

- Hearing Assessments
- Ear Wax Removal
- Hearing Aids
- Tinnitus Solutions



BOOK ONLINE [www.angliearhearing.co.uk](http://www.angliearhearing.co.uk)

**01223 661399**

[info@angliearhearing.co.uk](mailto:info@angliearhearing.co.uk)



# Puzzle Corner

## Find the Country

IN *each* of the paragraphs below are hidden the names of *five* countries. Initials such as U.S. do not count. They are hidden in one of three forms:

- written forwards e.g. France in “Off ran Cecil”.
- written backwards e.g. Sweden in “the fine dew sparkles”.
- in anagram form e.g. Yemen in “his worst enemy”.

An anagram will always consist of one or more whole words. Good luck!

1. Reginald had many pets: a toucan, a Dalmatian, a tank of piranhas, two colts and a fearsome dog no cat would dare to approach.
2. Shall we do the diners’ waltz or the daisy chain dance? And will Eddie the DJ or Danny give Rod a cue to start the music? I don’t mind – it’s pure heaven for me!
3. Anwen lazed in the blazing sun. She had bangles on both wrists. She nibbled lettuce and occasionally sipped lager. Many formal tasks over, Anwen the salad-lover lay back and relaxed.
4. Our voyage was to the Arctic, so a careful approach was needed. We went by ship or tug along the first part of the journey. We watched ships of lower rank sail by. And given the wholesale ban on foreign ships, we kept our vessel away from the coastline.
5. For swollen glands, the remedy today is one of various painkillers such as aspirin. But when Dad was a boy, he used to add a teaspoon of cinnamon to half a pint of milk and stir. ‘A quick sip of that clears it up no problem,’ he says.

*Set by Hermes – Answers on page 43.*

## 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](mailto:simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com).



## DAVID FOX CARPENTRY

*PURPOSE-MADE  
JOINERY AND  
FITTED FURNITURE*

Unit 4, Granta Terrace,  
Stapleford  
Cambridge  
Tel: (01223) 845143

## SCP Electrical

Quality  
Electrical



Work



36 Haverhill Road, Stapleford,  
Cambridge. CB22 5BX  
Telephone (01223) 515089  
E-mail: enquiries@scpelectrical.co.uk

All types of  
carpentry work  
undertaken

Phone  
01223 842440  
for free prompt estimate

### STEVE BOND

3 Cherrytree Avenue  
Stapleford  
Cambridge

## Rothwell's

Carpet & Stone Floor Cleaning

01223 832 928

www.Rothwells.biz

### Carpet, Stone, Upholstery and Rug Cleaning

Rothwell's has been in business since 1993.

We're an honest local family firm.

Our large truck-mounted machines mean more  
cleaning and drying power.

Members of both the NCCA and TACCA.

We will move the furniture for a thorough clean.  
100% satisfaction or it's FREE.

Call Oliver and Max Campbell for expert help  
today.

# DAY

CHARTERED  
CERTIFIED  
ACCOUNTANTS

## Do you want more control over your business accounts, or want to organise your personal tax situation more effectively?

We are a friendly team of qualified accountants who can help you reach the potential of your business and give you expert professional accounting and tax advice using the latest technology to work for you in achieving your goals.

We can deal with all matters relating to business tax and accounting including online bookkeeping, VAT

and PAYE matters. Bespoke all inclusive packages are available from £145 plus VAT pcm.

Private clients can be confident that we will deal efficiently with tax return preparation and all aspects of tax planning.

To arrange an informal chat or a meeting please contact us at:

Quern House, Mill Court, Great Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5LD

T: 01223 506533 F: 01223 363810 E: hello@day-accountants.com W: www.day-accountants.com

# Granta Medical Practices

## Covid Vaccine Update

ON 13 December 2021 the government announced that the deadline for every adult to have been offered a Covid booster was being brought forward from 31 January 2022 to 31 December 2021.

Granta staff stepped forward to support the “Omicron Emergency Booster National Mission” to encourage everyone who is eligible to “get boosted now”.

Between 15 December and 3 January an extra 7,000 Granta patients were vaccinated. Staff worked the three bank holidays, in addition to squeezing extra vaccine clinics into their normal working days, to ensure that as many patients as possible were vaccinated before the new deadline .

## New Hospital Helpline for Patients

The Covid-19 pandemic has added to the strain on all NHS services. As a result of this, waiting list times for outpatient and specialist appointments and procedures have increased for everybody.

This can cause worry and uncertainty about when you will eventually receive an appointment, and unfortunately Granta has no direct access to the hospital appointment lists.

If you have been referred by your GP and are waiting for:

- An outpatient appointment.
- An appointment for hospital tests (e.g. scans).
- A date for an operation or other treatment.
- A follow-up from your hospital team.

and you have a query about what is happening, there is now a new dedicated Freephone Patient Help Line - 0800 048 5800.

May we respectfully ask that you only call Granta if your condition has genuinely deteriorated, when you will be reviewed by one of the clinical team and appropriate action can be taken in regard to your hospital care.

Thank you for your continued understanding, patience and support.

**Sandra East, Head of Patient Services, [sandra.east@nhs.net](mailto:sandra.east@nhs.net)**





*Award winning free house & restaurant  
in the heart of the village.*

☎ 01223 503 402

@ hello@threehorseshoes-pub.com

🌐 www.threehorseshoes-pub.com

# D.L.M. AUTOS

63a Orchard Road, Great Shelford CB22 5AA

## MOT - SERVICE - REPAIR

01223 844828

www.dlmautos.co.uk

# Library Update

CAMBRIDGESHIRE Libraries continue to follow all government **Covid safety guidelines**. Many thanks to everyone for continuing to observe these precautions.

Happily, we are now beginning to reintroduce **in-person library events**. This includes a half term children's Lego event on Wednesday 16 February (2pm to 3.30pm, age 3+), with additional events planned for the Easter holidays. We will also be re-starting our popular monthly Engage talks, starting with a talk from a member of staff about what the Library Service offers (Wednesday 23 March from 2pm to 3.30pm). Pre-booking will be required for all events – please ask at the library.

7 to 13 February is **Children's Mental Health Week**. We have lots of supportive books in our Reading Well for Children collection to help younger readers to understand their feelings and we'll be glad to help you to find the right one for your child.

February is **LGBTQ+ History Month** – celebrate the rainbow with us by choosing from our display highlighting LGBTQ authors and titles.

Finally, we would love your feedback about a new idea, which is to hold regular informal get-togethers at Great Shelford Library for parents and carers of **children with additional needs**. Whether this can go ahead will depend on the level of interest, so please tell staff in the library if you might be interested and would like further information. **Rosemary Humby**

## Opening hours:

Mondays 3pm to 7pm, Tuesdays 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm,  
Wednesdays 10am to 1pm, Fridays 10am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm,  
Saturdays 10am to 1pm.

## Contact details:

Telephone: 0345 045 5225. Email: [your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

# Puzzle Corner

## Answers

### Find the Country:

1. Niger, Canada, Iran, Scotland, Congo
2. Switzerland, China, Jordan, Ecuador, P.eru.
3. New Zealand, Bangladesh, Germany, Malta, El Salvador.
4. Costa Rica, Portugal, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Wales.
5. England, Spain, Oman, Iraq, Israel



Independent specialist for all things  
**Audi, VW, Seat, Skoda & VW Commercial**

- ❖ VWG Servicing
- ❖ VWG Repairs
- ❖ VWG Diagnostics
- ❖ VWG Performance Upgrades
- ❖ VWG Genuine Parts



[quattro-tech.co.uk](http://quattro-tech.co.uk)



SALES ❖ AIR CON SERVICING ❖ 4 WHEEL ALIGNMENT ❖ MOTs

revo Authorised Dealer

Unit 11A, Solopark Trading Estate, Station Road,  
Pampisford, Cambridge CB22 3HB  
[info.cambridge@quattro-tech.co.uk](mailto:info.cambridge@quattro-tech.co.uk) 01223 800850



[@QuattroTechLtd](https://www.facebook.com/QuattroTechLtd) [@QuattroTechLtd](https://www.instagram.com/QuattroTechLtd) [@quattrotechltd](https://www.instagram.com/quattrotechltd)



# Calling all amateur carpenters

## Bird, bat, owl, bee and hedgehog boxes needed



COULD you make creature boxes for Stapleford Parish Council land? Or do you have any unused boxes we could have?

We have simple designs for wooden boxes for different types of creatures (bird, bat, owl, bee, hedgehog) and are looking for residents and craft groups who would be interested in building one or more before Spring for us to put on Parish Council

land (e.g. Rec, Cemetery, Basil's Piece, Clerk's Piece, Villedômer garden).

A list of 'how to make' guides is available on the Parish Council website ([staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/creature\\_boxes/](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/creature_boxes/)) or can be emailed to you. Alternatively, perhaps you can replicate one you already have in your garden. As in nature, dimensions do not have to be precise!

If you have your own untreated wood off-cuts, please use them. Alternatively, we have some which we can hand out. If you have any spare untreated off-cuts we can collect from you and distribute to other people, do get in touch.

Additionally, if anyone has a clean bird/bat/owl/bee/hedgehog box lying around in their shed and has never got round to using it, please let us know and we will happily collect it from you and put it in the village.

Please contact Michael Gatward who will co-ordinate wood and box collection/drop-off: [mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk).

Thank you in advance! **Cllr Michael Gatward**

## Events at Wandlebury Country Park



HERE'S what's on at Wandlebury in February; for more information about these and events at other locations email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org), call 243830 extension 207 or visit [cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://cambridgeppf.org/whats-on).

### History and Archaeology Walk

Weds 2 February, 10am to noon. Free (donations welcome). Gentle guided walk with a Warden.

### Children's Holiday Bushcraft

14 to 18 February, 8.30am to 4pm. £38 per day. Fun and enriching outdoor activities during half-term.

## Axis wins appeal

AS discussed in David Martin's article on page 25, the developer Axis has won outline planning consent on appeal to develop a retirement care village on land between Haverhill Road and Hinton Way. The Class C2 development will comprise housing with care, and various other facilities including a country park.

Whilst the Planning Inspector acknowledged that the proposal clearly does not meet the criteria for removal from greenbelt, he nevertheless determined that the benefits of the scheme outweigh the cost. Significant weight appears to have been placed on the offer of a country park, which was calculated to increase biodiversity by 234% and open the greenbelt to public access for social use.

He also identified an under-provision in the current Local Plan for retirement housing, given the potential contribution to the supply of housing stock with the theoretical release of larger houses as older people relocate and downsize. He noted that developers struggle to acquire C2 sites on the grounds of cost. Disappointing, then, that he was not aware of the provision being set out in the draft new Local Plan.

The Inspector satisfied himself on landscape impact. He noted that the Cambridge Inner Green Belt Study of 2015 delineated the boundary between our village scene and the surrounding countryside at the 20m contour, rising to the 30m contour on the east side of the village, whereas the 2021 Greater Cambridge Landscape Assessment placed the boundary higher up and further out. The Inspector was therefore content that the proposed development will sit within the 25m contour and not impinge on the landscape. Rather unhelpfully, he refers to an 'island of land' stretching towards Hinton Way and annexed by the retirement village, which could potentially also be developed.

He dismissed the argument that the site for a retirement village is poorly located because it is too far from local services by identifying facilities such as St. Andrew's Church and the Granary as also being on the 'edge' of the village. Some parishioners might feel otherwise.

Interestingly, the Inspector rejected the GCP's objections regarding the impact of the retirement village on its proposed busway. He thought the route could be realigned further to the east of the village, although we note that this could potentially impact the country park. He overruled the GCP's demand for an S106 contribution from Axis to help pay for the busway.

Before the conclusion of the inquiry, a signed S106 agreement was submitted. This makes provision for the transfer of the country park



element of the proposal to a body charged with its maintenance, together with a sum of £349,950 (index-linked) to be used for its creation, management and maintenance.

There is no right to appeal the Inspector's decision, it can only be challenged in the High Court on a point of law. Whether the fact that several significant objectors were not given prior notice of the appeal is not something that we are qualified to comment on.

The focus should now perhaps shift to the 'reserved matters' in the application: those aspects of a proposed development which an applicant can choose not to submit details of with an outline planning application (i.e. access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale). In this instance, the reserved matters are significant and will be influenced not only by our District Councillors at SCDC, but also by policies to be developed in the emerging Great Shelford and Stapleford Neighbourhood Plan.

Further information can be found by searching under Appeal Ref: APP/W0530/W/21/3280395 on [acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk](http://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk).

**Cllr Howard Kettel**

## CSET busway update

FURTHER to our January update on the new campaigning group formed (now known as "Better Ways than Busway"), we are still waiting for the GCP to apply to the Dept of Transport for a Transport and Works Act Order. This will trigger the start of proceedings – and an ensuing public inquiry – for the GCP to obtain consent to compulsorily acquire land and to build the guided busway.

Accordingly, we have approached new consultants recommended by our solicitors to prepare a background report for an alternative based on the A1307 (given the demise of the Cambridge Autonomous Metro), which will save our countryside and landscape and deliver similar benefits for a fraction of the cost, and they have confirmed that they are happy to work with us.

It will be important for residents to contact our County Councillors to tell them that this alternative scheme would deliver most of the benefits of the GCP's proposed scheme but with much less harm to greenbelt countryside, at a much lower cost and more quickly. If you can support the campaign in this way, please contact us; we will be delighted to provide assistance. **Cllr Howard Kettel**

# WORLDWIDE CULTURAL TRAVEL

SINCE 1958

ACE CULTURAL TOURS

[aceculturaltours.co.uk](http://aceculturaltours.co.uk)  
01223 841055

# Parish Council Chair's report

CHRISTMAS is long gone and spring is round the corner, and although Covid-19 is still a problem, it seems we are slowly moving towards a more manageable situation. We have the Queen's Platinum Jubilee to look forward to and the Village Weekend is planned for that long Bank Holiday weekend.

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 January and those of previous meetings can be viewed at [staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk). In summary:

Cllr Jenny Flynn was appointed as Vice Chair of the Parish Council.

The clerk's contract has been renewed and the former assistant clerk will assist with cemetery matters when necessary.

## **Cllr Peter Fane reported on the Local Plan:**

The Axis Appeal for the retirement home has been upheld and there are implications for Stapleford now that the appeal has been granted. Articles by David Martin (page 25) and Cllr Howard Kettel (page 46) discuss different aspects of the scheme.

The impact on the landscape of the Axis Development was not deemed as impactful as SCDC and SPC believed it would be. The route of the busway, which was to go through the development site, will need to be rerouted as the Inspector commented that it was not sufficiently developed to be considered, despite GCP comments to the contrary.

This is an outline application with all matters reserved except access: the Parish Council was urged to carefully consider the Reserved Matters application when it eventually comes forward for consideration, and to ask for the Reserved Matters application to be 'called in' for decision by the Development Management Committee. Matters of principle need to be brought to the attention of the Committee. Specific issues for consideration would be landscape, appearance, scale, and management of the country park.

Cllr Fane commented water is a key consideration in the Local Plan. The developer will be asked to bring forward a low water use Reserved Matters application.

## **Pavilion management:**

The Parish Council approved the setting up of a Pavilion and Recreation Ground Management committee to assist the Parish Council and terms of reference were agreed. The new Hallmaster booking system for the pavilion is now in operation. It was agreed that profit should not override community



**O N CHALLIS**  
Painter and Decorator

**Tel:** 01223 841646  
**Mob:** 07939 607653

*All types of interior and exterior work undertaken.*

*High-class quality workmanship guaranteed.*



**The Copley Hill Coffee Barn and Meeting Rooms**

Homemade cakes, soups and savouries and a selection of hot midday meals. Eat in or take-away.  
Meeting rooms for 2 to 40 people.  
Ample parking. Superfast broadband.

**COPLEY HILL BUSINESS PARK CB22 3GN**  
Tel. 01223 792325 Web. [www.copleyhill.co.uk](http://www.copleyhill.co.uk)



**QUALITY FLOORING SUPPLY, INSTALLATION & AFTERCARE**

**Specialists in Wood Flooring, Carpets & Vinyl Flooring Solutions**

*"What a fantastic company. Knowledgeable, friendly staff & quality services. My company has used Art of Flooring on a number of occasions already and have been delighted with the whole experience. Thoroughly recommended & future projects will be coming your way."* Mr Andy Ward, Cambridge

141 Milton Road Cambridge CB4 1XE  
01223 755 802 [www.ArtofFlooring.co.uk](http://www.ArtofFlooring.co.uk)

**The Country Store**

Animal feeds, bedding and accessories, shooting requirements and country clothing



[www.thecountrystore.co.uk](http://www.thecountrystore.co.uk)

Unit 12a, Sawston Trade Park, Pampisford, Cambridge CB22 3EE.  
01223 837977

**Barker Bros**  
EST 1843



**FAMILY BUTCHERS**

43, High Street, Great Shelford  
01223 843292  
[www.barkerbrosbutchers.co.uk](http://www.barkerbrosbutchers.co.uk)



use, but a profit does need to be made to ensure upkeep of the building. A caretaker will not be employed at present.

### **Parish Council vacancies**

There are still five vacancies, although one member of the public has expressed interest. The current Council workload is difficult to maintain with only six members, so there is an urgent need for more Councillors. All Councillors are happy to discuss with anyone interested in becoming a Councillor.

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

There will soon be a link on Stapleford Parish Council's website to this for public access.

### **Precept**

The Council agreed to increase the precept to £85,000 because of inflation so that the Council can continue to work on projects beneficial to the village. This increase represents a very small increase in taxation for each household. Projects on hold at present are toilets with direct external access and reconfiguring of the Pavilion to make it more usable, with a larger kitchen and installation of a hearing loop.

### **Playground**

The refurbishment of the children's playground is complete and a report on this is on page 14. The Parish Council thanks all the generous donors who have made this possible. They will be acknowledged on a welcome and safety sign to be erected at the playground. The fencing will be replaced, in part by an art installation, at a future date.

### **Parish Pit**

The council agreed to the new scheme for the Public Stone, Chalk, Gravel and Clay Pit (268975), and is awaiting formal application to the Charity Commission.

### **Planning**

APPEAL: Inspectorate Ref: APP/W0530/W/21/3274838S/0022/20/FL Hill Trees, Babraham Road, Gt Shelford

Change of use of public house car park to parking for car sales. The Parish Council remains committed to its refusal.

Planning application: 21/05435/HFUL 7 Granta Terrace: orangery

The Council commented that the plans do not reflect the buildings on site. **Cllr Gillian Pett**

# Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



## COUNCILLORS

Gillian Pett (Chair)	gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Jenny Flynn (Vice Chair)	jenny.flynn@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Michael Gatward	mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Barbara Ann Kettel	bkettel@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk
Howard Kettel	hkettelstaplefordpc@gmail.com
David Pepperell	dpepperell@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk

## CLERK

Belinda Irons 07840 668 048	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

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Maria King	maria.king@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	07764 609 061
Brian Milnes	brian.milnes@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	07971 886 113

*Stapleford Parish Council normally meets publicly on the first Thursday of every month. Please check our website for the latest details.*



# Ken Benson

## Heating & Plumbing

**Reliable local tradesman**

Plumbing • Bathrooms • Wet Rooms • Central Heating

**Tel:** 01223 565975

**Mob:** 07766 544888

**Email:** kennybenny50@virginmedia.com

## PEASGOOD & SKEATES

### THE FAMILY FUNERAL SERVICE

Purpose built funeral homes with private chapels of rest  
Home arrangements available  
Funeral pre-planning - a wide range of memorials

45 Moorfield Rd  
**DUXFORD**  
01223 833463

48a High Street  
**SAWSTON**  
01223 791065

enquiries@peasgoodandskeates.co.uk

also in Cambridge, Haverhill  
and Saffron Walden

[www.peasgoodandskeates.co.uk](http://www.peasgoodandskeates.co.uk)



Summit Landscapes

## LANDSCAPES

PAVING • DRIVEWAYS  
BRICKWORK • CARPENTRY  
GROUNDWORKS



[www.landscapingpaving.co.uk](http://www.landscapingpaving.co.uk)

PHONE

**01223 929 394**

## JASON KIRBY

Professional Painting  
& Decorating Ltd

*A Professional Service  
from Start to Finish*

Tel: 01954 211775  
[www.jasonkirbyltd.co.uk](http://www.jasonkirbyltd.co.uk)



The newly refurbished  
Zara Indian Cuisine is  
open for dine-in and  
takeaways.

Zara Indian Cuisine  
offers a sophisticated yet  
relaxed dining experience

RESERVATION & ORDER ONLINE AT  
[www.zarashelford.com](http://www.zarashelford.com)

1 Hinton Way, Great Shelford, CB22 5AX  
01223 846 668 / 01223 844 244



# KITCHENSMITHS

4 STATION ROAD, HISTON, CAMBRIDGE, CB24 9LQ

01223 236 456

[info@kitchensmiths.co.uk](mailto:info@kitchensmiths.co.uk)

[www.kitchensmiths.co.uk](http://www.kitchensmiths.co.uk)

