

# Stapleford

*Ne Nuntium Necare!*

# MESSENGER

March 2022

Volume 81 No 3

Price 60p

## Stapleford siblings in pantomime



**George, Maddie and Izzy Young participated in the Little Shelford pantomime. See page 31**

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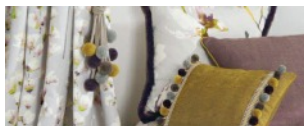
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# Who's who at St Andrew's

[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 Communion, 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

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# From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

MY grandfather taught me a little rhyme, which I now learn came from the American comic Jimmy Durante. Today's bright sun and spring-like feel bring it and him to mind.

*Spring is sprung, de grass is riz;  
I wonder where de boidies is?  
De boid is on de wing –  
No, dat's absoid, de wing is on de boid.*



My grandfather was Ernest Samuel Taylor. His names bring an era to mind, don't they? He was one of eight siblings, and his father was himself one of eight, which has led to a rather complicated extended family. I have never quite sorted out exactly how I am related to everyone. Grandpa was a market gardener in Edmonton, supplying geraniums and other bedding plants across north London.

He was full of little songs and poems. There is a song I remember him teaching us, from Tommy Steele, who, along with Bruce Forsyth, was a particular favourite because he was a Londoner.

*What a mouth! What a mouth! What a North and South!  
Blimey, what a mouth he's got!  
Now when he was a baby, oh Gawd luv 'er!  
His poor old muvver used to feed him with a shovel.  
What a gap! Poor chap! He's never been known to laugh.  
If he did, it's a penny to a quid  
His face would fall in half!*

In later years Grandpa became a Tory local councillor. I remember delivering leaflets for him when I was very young, racing my brother as we dashed up and down front garden paths to stick them in letter boxes. His particular responsibility on the council was the local parks and gardens, and he spent lots of time visiting them and talking to the staff. Local parks in London all had an actual gardener in those days. It must have helped that he knew what he was talking about.

I have the impression that at that time, in the late 60s and early 70s, at a local level party politics was not all that important. It was all about doing the best possible for the local community. He was an incredibly decent man, which is perhaps partly why the current Tory party makes me so angry – he and old-fashioned one-nation Tories like him would have been incandescent with rage, I think, at the present corruption and lies.

I wonder what you remember of your grandparents? I never knew Ernest's wife as she died many years before I was born, but I do remember

both my other grandparents. We used to sit in their vegetable patch picking the pea pods and scoffing as we sat in the mud. 'Aye, but you're a canny lad' she used to say. I will tell of them another time.

All of which brings me to this issue of remembering. Life moves so fast these days that it is sometimes hard to stop and remember, but it is really important.

It is something we do a lot of in church. Every week, for example, we remember Jesus' sacrifice in a communion service. We bring to mind that Jesus died for us so that we might be reconciled to God. And throughout the year we take time to remember the events of his life – his birth, of course, at Christmas, his death on Good Friday and his resurrection at Easter, and many other events too. Since Christmas for example, we have remembered and celebrated the worshipping wise men, and the time when Jesus was presented in the Temple in Jerusalem, in the ancient festivals of Epiphany and Candlemas.

There is, incidentally, nothing rose-tinted about all this remembering, whether of family or in Christian festivals. My memories of my grandparents are very far from being eulogies. One smoked like a chimney and stank. Another made the whole family wait to eat every Sunday lunch while he had his Yorkshire pudding and gravy. Another barely spoke to us young ones.

Christian remembrance is about the full picture too. Remembering Christ's death brings to mind the human wickedness that led to it. The visit of the wise men is followed by Herod's massacre of the innocents. And the visit to the Temple includes Simeon's warning to Mary of sorrows to come: 'a sword will pierce your soul too.'

Remembering is a big part of what we do as human beings, but it is the fullness of remembering of both good and bad that gives us a right view. Remembering grandparents without their human failings would just be false. It would paint an incorrect picture of where we ourselves came from and who we are. Likewise remembering Jesus without remembering the wickedness into which he came would represent a whitewashing of human nature and would make his sacrifice seem bizarre and pointless.

We know this, I think, but the difficulty is applying the principle of full remembering to our lives today. For our own times, for this season now of our communal life, remembering fully is and will be important. Politicians don't like us remembering in full – the partial narrative is so much more convenient - so we should take care to do it. Lies and cover-ups and whitewashing of the past is now in the very fabric of our public discourse. It is up to all of us to remember, and to do so fully.

**Every blessing to you all, Simon**

# St Andrew's Noticeboard

2 MAR	7 PM	ASH WEDNESDAY COMMUNION Joel 2.1-2, 12-17; John 5.30-47
6 MAR	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNG COMMUNION Deuteronomy 26.1-11; Luke 4.1-13 <i>The Lord heard our voice</i>
	10.30 AM	FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
	6 PM	CHORAL EVENSONG Jonah 3; Luke 18.9-14
10 MAR	8.30 PM	COMPLINE: a series with Julian of Norwich
13 MAR	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18; Luke 13.31-35 <i>Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord</i>
17 MAR	8.30 PM	COMPLINE
20 MAR	9 AM	SUNG CW COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Isaiah 55.1-9; Luke 13.1-9 <i>Repent</i>
	10.30 AM	MESSY FOREST CHURCH
24 MAR	8.30 PM	COMPLINE
27 MAR	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	MOTHERING SUNDAY SERVICE Exodus 2.1-10; Luke 2.28-35 <i>Destiny's child</i>
31 MAR	8.30 PM	COMPLINE
3 APR	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNG COMMUNION Isaiah 43.16-21; John 12.1-8 <i>Anointing</i>
	10.30 AM	FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
	6 PM	CHORAL EVENSONG Isaiah 35; Romans 7.21-8.4

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

## St Andrew's Choir Now recruiting

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

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

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## Backward glance

THERE has been a lot of news, some difficult to hear. Troublesome, worrying, sometimes unbelievable. Certainly the last years have proved tough. I thought of past times, casting a backward glance. Written news and papers are recollected.

My late father avidly read The Telegraph and The Times, making a distinctive sound with the crackly paper. He spread the sheets across the end of the dining table, expressing disgust or dismay at various pieces. Once the birthday honours came up, when choices were disapproved, he'd heave a sigh and ask that future papers be cancelled. Mother dreaded such occasions.

I shared the Children's Newspaper with my sister. The features were well-written, photographs enhancing the words. We felt grown up. There was a local paper. In it were topical articles and competitions. Colouring was one and I won. We made our own mini books, we believed like the Brontë sisters. It taught us observation, neatness, expression and care over presentation.

Papers were collected and recycled. Uses included wrapping, underfelt, shoe and window polishing and drawing the fire in the grate. Drawers were lined as well. To our surprise rows of 'dancing dollies' and stylish sailor hats were fashioned. Although we tried our efforts were never as good; on Saturdays we had fish and chips wrapped in newspaper. It made the cooked food fresher and less greasy than plastic bags. Effective, efficient recycling. The Sunday raspberry ripple ice cream blocks were also carefully wrapped in old news.

Scrapbooks were made with love. Careful selections put together to interest. They reflected appreciation, value and personality, each unique. Sometimes we developed a style of illuminated script which was a fascination. Our childhood dining table was put to good use. It was a place where we learned and made, grew and developed character. From paper aeroplanes to collage and papier-mâché creations it saw life; pleasure and consternation. Our own table and chairs were inherited, ink marked and worn, but solid sturdy oak. Generations brought up around it. We look back fondly.

Memories were being made. Historic times recorded, to serve as souvenirs for the future. Chance to look back, thinking of emotions and reaction. Soon we will live through our Queen's Jubilee celebrations. Colour in our lives, happiness, being together, rejoicing. Many words and reports to come ...looking forward. Fresh clean pages to be filled. **Judith Lee**

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## Stapleford-Nachingwea Link



WE send congratulations to Shakira Jaffary Issa (right) who has recently graduated from Masasi College of Health and Allied Science, having completed the course leading to the Diploma in Clinical Medicine.



Shakira says: "Thanks a lot for your aid and intensive help to me until I fulfil my Diploma in Clinical Medicine."

She is now a Clinical Officer and is practising at Mkomaindo District Hospital in Masasi. **Liz Ulas**

## Good Friday children's activity



TWO years after we originally planned to run it, St Andrew's is launching its Lent fundraising appeal to raise funds for The Children's Society.

The appeal is simply to 'buy' Duplo bricks for St Andrew's Good Friday children's activity.

Of course, you don't actually buy bricks – but your donation will go towards buying equipment for The Children's Society Active Families Together (AFT) project.

AFT helps families spend quality time together, whether that's playing sports, eating and cooking together, or even yoga and mindfulness. AFT is fun, safe and inspiring and offers families respite from the issues and problems they may be facing - introducing shared interests that can be continued long after the programme's finished.

It's a great project but is dependent on fundraising and, like all charities, The Children's Society has suffered from a massive drop in income caused by two years of pandemic. When all the Duplo bricks have been 'purchased', they will be lent to children at St Andrew's on Good Friday (15 April).

Bricks are on sale every Sunday at St Andrew's until 10 April (Palm Sunday). **Nicky West**

*(See also advertisement on page 23)*

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## Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

**From: Keith Warth, Stapleford**

**Re: Retirement Village Stapleford**

I NOTE that unfortunately planning permission has been given by the Inspector for the Retirement Village located well into the Green Belt in Stapleford. His decision is based on amenity gain, and he states that the permission may well open up the land between the Retirement Village and the Stapleford village envelope to future development. This was patently obvious from the date the planning submission was made. Those that supported the permission for the Retirement Village have been party to grossly eroding the Green Belt in the short, medium and long term.

Objections to the busway and future development between Mingle Lane, and Hinton Way may be honourable, but they are also hypocritical if they supported the location of the Retirement Village in the Green Belt.

On the plus side if you have increased biomedical expansion, that results in more employment, which in turn requires more housing. The potential for housing on land south of the Retirement Village with a swift bus route to the biomedical centre will at least take some of the additional traffic and some existing traffic off our overcrowded roads.

## St Andrew's Toddlers

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# The Bible Course

THE Bible Society's course helps you to see how the books of the Bible are part of one big story and to make connections to everyday life.

We will be following the Bible Course for eight weeks, starting w/c 6 March (NB: no groups w/c 10 and 17 April).

There will be a mixture of video clips from experts and plenty of space for group discussion.

Share your knowledge and learn from others by joining one of our home groups for great discussions and friendship.

Choose from:

Monday evening: Zoom group at 8pm and In Person group at 7.30pm.

Tuesday evening: In Person group at 8pm.

Wednesday morning: In Person group at 10.30am.

Wednesday evening: In Person group at 8pm.

To register or for more information contact: Fiona Holliday on 478923 or layminister@standrewstapleford.org. **Fiona Holliday**



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## Women's Institute



IF you had been in the vicinity of Stapleford Pavilion on the last Thursday in January you might have heard the buzz of lots of voices engaged in lively discussions about how individually we can all assist in tackling climate change.

Following a very informative, well-illustrated talk by Celia Weir who provided details about global warming, climate change and our carbon footprint, members then broke into groups to consider four areas where small changes to our daily life could add up to a helpful contribution. The topics under discussion were food and drink, shopping, gardening and the bathroom. Many interesting ideas, hints and tips were offered and exchanged and although members are already alert to the need to tackle this global problem there were plenty of fresh suggestions to think about.

The National Federation of WIs was represented at the G6 summit in Glasgow so we are responding positively to the encouragement WI members are given about making changes to help the climate.

Celia had described our activity for the evening as the Stapleford WI 'New Year Revolution'. According to the Cambridge Dictionary the word revolution can mean 'a very important change in the way that people do things'. So a highly appropriate and challenging title had been given to the proceedings. At the end of the discussions feedback was given. Members were then invited to write down up to three ways in which they were going to try to change their behaviour and make a positive effect on the environment. We shall look at the progress we have made at our meeting in May.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 24 March at the Jubilee Pavilion when the AGM will be held. Followed by a social meeting with refreshments to celebrate 102 years of the village WI. All are welcome.

If you are not a member and you are interested in finding out more about the WI then please contact Sallie Dixon on 843847. Also see [staplefordwi.weebly.com](http://staplefordwi.weebly.com). **Joyce Dobson**

## 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), We would love to hear from you.

## World Day of Prayer



A WORLD Day of Prayer service will be held on Friday 4 March, from 3pm to 5pm, in Cox's Close Community Room, Stapleford, CB22 5SP.

The service this year has been prepared by the women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The theme is 'I Know the Plans I Have For You'.

Tea and cake will follow the service, which is ecumenical. Everyone is very welcome.

For more information see [wwdp.org.uk](http://wwdp.org.uk) **Joy Barnes**

## 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 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).

## Great Shelford Library

Engage Talk - Your Library: What's in it for you?

Wednesday 23 March 2pm to 3.30pm

Find out about the library service – you may be surprised by all that we offer!

Please book a free ticket in advance at the library. Refreshments provided and donations gratefully received – suggestion £1.



## 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)



# 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.*

## 1811

CONVICTED. At the assizes in this county, Richard Beavis, for a burglary at Stapleford, was capitally convicted and received sentence of death, but was afterwards reprieved.

## 1849

PIG STEALING. Charles Peachy and John Sell of Barkway, the one a brazier and the other a publican, were charged with stealing five pigs, the property of Mr. Henry Collier of Stapleford. Both were found guilty and sentenced to be imprisoned for 18 months with hard labour.

## 1868

PENNY READINGS. On Tuesday evening last a penny reading with music, etc. took place in this village. The selections were of a sacred character, a number of young persons from the village having been confirmed in the morning. The chair was occupied by the Rev. W. E. Pryke, B.A., the curate, who opened the proceedings with a few introductory remarks. The room was crowded.

The singing consisted of songs by Mr. Drew of St. John's College, which were very well executed; a solo from the Elijah by Mr. Cole, of Corpus Christi College, an easy anthem by the choir which was most pleasingly rendered, and one or two hymns which were joined in by all present – particular mention should be made of the exquisite hymns by Dr. Faber, "Oh! Paradise," and "The Pilgrim's of the Night." The readers were the Rev. A. F. Torry, M.A., Fellow of St. John's, the Rev. W. E. Pryke, B.A., curate, Mr. Cole of Corpus, Mr. Bamber, P.A. of Trinity College and Mr. Walter Bell. Miss Collier presided at the pianoforte.

## 1930

CHILDREN'S TREAT. The children of the village were invited to a tea arranged by the committee of the women's branch of the British Legion. Mrs H S Gray, president of the branch, was present. After tea the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves with the entertainment given by Mr Grimwood of Histon and after a good romp, and some games, there were each given a bag of sweets and an orange. Mrs Rogers paid a visit to the happy party during the evening.

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1972

“Mr Chalk sought leave to bring to the attention of the Council the Buchanan Alternative Package for a bypass, details of which had appeared in the local press. Buchanan’s suggestions included a road taking off from the Sawston bypass and running across the fields behind Haverhill Road over Hundred Acre Hill and across Hinton Way into Cambridge. This would divide the parish in two. It was agreed to write to the County Council expressing our concern and ask for details”. *(From the Parish Council Minutes)*

## Puzzle Corner

### Threes

Fill in the 3-letter sequences so that two 6-letter words are produced.

In each group, the three 3-letter sequences form a 9-letter word. e.g.

TAM [PER] SON

CRE [TIN] GLE

PAR [ENT] IRE

tamPER + PERson, creTIN + TINgle, parENT + ENTire

PER + TIN + ENT = PERTINENT

GRAM [ . . . ] TIAL

ANN [ . . . ] MPT

WO [ . . . ] IC

DECI [ . . . ] ARIA

OFF [ . . . ] LET

GN [ . . . ] GA

CRUS [ . . . ] PTLY

FUS [ . . . ] ISE

AS [ . . . ] SE

SPEC [ . . . ] GEDY

FAL [ . . . ] FER

CL [ . . . ] UE

PANA [ . . . ] SING

SIE [ . . . ] TIC

SP [ . . . ] UE

AMIA [ . . . ] MISH

TRE [ . . . ] ACH

PO [ . . . ] NS

In the groups below, the three parts of the 9-letter word are jumbled up

STAM [ . . . ] NELY

GRO [ . . . ] ONE

AC [ . . . ] IT

STUN [ . . . ] IOUS

TEN [ . . . ] HEM

FU [ . . . ] AN

FREE [ . . . ] INOS

HAT [ . . . ] RAW

SO [ . . . ] ID

*Set by Hermes – Answers on page 43*



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# Stapleford Village Weekend

THE Village Weekend planning committee has a very ambitious programme and hope there will be something for everyone to enjoy from 2 to 5 June.

We will have two themes running side by side. The main theme will cover environmental and ecological issues, offering alternatives to the way we live at present, hoping to answer any questions you may have as to what you can do to reduce your carbon footprint, with hands-on experience that will be enjoyable as well as educational. We will also be focusing on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebration with a street party planned on Gog Magog Way, for the whole village to attend, with the road closed to ensure everybody's safety.

Other main events planned over the weekend are a dog show with professional judges; a quiz night; a fun, free to enter open mic. night for the comics and the musically minded amongst us; as well as the traditional village show for those proud of what they have produced or created wanting to display their talents. The Lonely Band from Cambridge, who have been well regarded for their music in Cambridge pubs and clubs for quite a few years, as many of you will know, will be playing for us all in the marquee on Saturday evening.

On Sunday morning the Tour de Stapleford takes place. An early evening church service in the marquee will be held after a cricket match.

This is just a brief outline of what we have planned and would like to ask if anyone could help with the marshalling/cooking/bar staff/catering or in any other way to make everything run smoothly. If you would like to help in some way, please contact **Cllr Michael Gatward**, [mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk) or **Cllr Gillian Pett**, [gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk).

## Happy Birthday, Ken Dean



KEN Dean, who was Organist and Choir Master at St Andrew's for more than 55 years, celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday in February.

His son, Peter, writes, "I am so proud that he has reached this milestone in life and hope he has many more years ahead of him. He had some great moments there. Now he listens to choral music on television and the radio. Well done Dad! Happy Birthday!!!"

# An afternoon by the lake

SUE Pitman took this wonderful picture of Dernford Lake.



# Big Breakfast

Saturday 26 March 8am to 11.30am

Little Shelford Memorial Hall



THE 2022 Big Breakfast\* is back to our normal Spring slot at Little Shelford Memorial Hall. A variety of breakfast food will be available from cereals, toasts and pancakes to a traditional cooked 'Full English'.

There will be live piano music played by David Adams, and newspapers will be available. Relax and chat with friends. Meet the SSYI Team and hear about their work while enjoying a great hearty breakfast, good company and good music.

We will be raising funds for SSYI, the Christian community-based Charity providing Youth Clubs and activities for all 11-18-year-olds across our three villages. A minimum donation of £5 towards breakfast costs would be appreciated.

A great way to start the day!

If you would like more details or can offer to help contact Polly Stanton (polly.stanton@ntlworld.com).

Keep up to date with details of our events and SSYI activities at: [ssyi.club](http://ssyi.club). **David Jones**

\*May be subject to late change due to Covid-19 restrictions. We will be taking all recommended steps to reduce the risk of Covid transmission. In order to provide assurance for all, full vaccination and recent negative lateral flow or PCR test are advised for all guests.

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee street parties



YASMIN Emerson in Sawston has written a very detailed and informative article for the Sawston Scene about how to go about organising a street party. Having gone through the bureaucratic process herself she thought others might benefit from what she has learnt.

If residents are thinking about organising a street party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, you need to get going on it, as the form to submit to the County Council is due in by 7 April.

If you'd like a copy of the article please email us at the *Messenger*.

**Helen Hale**

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# Quick Fire Quiz

THIS Quiz round was prepared by **Simon Hardwick** and was aired at the Three Horseshoes at the weekly quiz on Monday 7 February. Participants compete for bar tokens and a £10 prize for a random guess question, with half of the entry fee of £2 going to local charities.

Answers on page 55.

1. The Bavarian town known for its Passion play?
2. Otolagia is what exactly?
3. Who was King of Wessex between 871-899?
4. The precise term for a battlement of a castle?
5. Which daughter of Tsar Nicholas II was once thought to have escaped death at the hands of the Bolsheviks in 1918?
6. In which English county is the martyr-linked village of Tolpuddle?
7. A city in Northern Spain and a place of pilgrimage?
8. The medical name for nettle rash?
9. The technical term for being descended from the same ancestor?
10. In Greek Mythology, the wife of Orpheus?



The Children's Society

## Build something great this Lent!

Help the children of St Andrew's build something great out of Duplo!

Simply 'buy' Duplo bricks for our Good Friday children's activity.

Bricks are just £1 each but the more you buy, the more bricks the children will have to play with!

Their creations will be displayed in the church on Easter Sunday.

**All money raised will help buy equipment for The Children's Society Active Families Together (AFT) project.**

Bricks are on sale every Sunday at St Andrew's until 10th April (Palm Sunday).

*Please give generously!*



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## 2G3S



### RECENT events:

Our talk from the leader of Camlets, Peter Pope, was very interesting. He explained the group had been in existence since 1993, and averaged about 135 members. LETS stands for Local Exchange Trading System. It is a skill-sharing club, where people swap services or the loan of a piece of equipment.

Services include batch cooking, PYO, lifts to places, DIY jobs, gardening, babysitting, computer skills, plant swaps, clothes swaps, and they hold regular meetings at which craft items that people have made can be 'sold'. There is a currency, called a Cam, but people are very flexible, charging what they feel is right for the job in hand. Over time the members' trust in each other has grown and close friendships have formed. There are groups all over the world, and they flourish in communities that are struggling as they give mutual aid to all involved, thus strengthening relationships and helping all. Sounds like something we could do with more of in these selfish times! If you are interested in finding out more or even joining the group, they are keen to recruit new members. Look them up at [camlets.org.uk](http://camlets.org.uk).

You may have visited our Repair Café on 12 February, but if you missed it and have broken items, don't throw them away but keep them for the next Repair Café.

Future dates - more info on our website or by emailing us at the address below:

Wednesday 2 March, 8pm planning meeting (hybrid or Zoom)

Saturday 19 March, 2pm to 4pm Nature Walk at Wandlebury with the knowledgeable John O'Boyle.

Wednesday 6 April, 8pm, talk hopefully on River Conservation and The Wild Trout Trust (TBC).



Green tips: the garden season is beginning, so to help the planet you can buy peat-free compost, and try growing some vegs this year if you haven't before. Even a courgette plant or some herbs in a tub, or a few tomato plants on the windowsill give great satisfaction as you harvest, cook and eat your produce.

Grow a Row: In lockdown, Cambridge Sustainable Food set up a scheme to collect and redistribute fruit and vegs for those in food poverty. Food banks usually only give out non-perishable food, so this new venture is very valuable. They are looking to expand their operation, and invite people to grow vegs for their scheme – could be somewhere to donate that mountain of runner beans you get off your allotment? More information at [cambridgesustainablefood.org/news/2021/1/5/grow-a-row-in-cambridge](http://cambridgesustainablefood.org/news/2021/1/5/grow-a-row-in-cambridge).

Reading and links: members of 2G3S are forming a book club. Suggested reading includes 'Wilding' by Isabella Tree, 'English Pastoral' by James Rebanks, and 'How Bad are Bananas?' by Mike Berners-Lee – why not try one of these yourself? And you've all heard of solar panels – what about solar trees? They take up less ground space and provide shade and wildlife habitats in cities. See article at [ecowatch.com/solar-trees.html](http://ecowatch.com/solar-trees.html).

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to [greengroupssss@gmail.com](mailto:greengroupssss@gmail.com) to sign up for our newsletter or to find out more about us, or to get a Zoom link to join in our meetings. Also see our Facebook page or website, [2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk](http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk) **Helen Hale**

## The Village Show is back!!!!

AS part of the Village Weekend, timed to coincide with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee extended weekend.

Earlier than usual – 4 June.

All the usual classes, and events surrounding the Show will be available.

Look out here and on Facebook for further information.

Two of our organising committee have stepped down, including our Treasurer, so we need YOUR help if the show is to continue beyond this year.

Any questions – please contact Julie Rayment – 07870 215776.

## 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).

# Stapleford Strollers Walk 101

## Exploring the Chisholm Trail

FINDING a suitable Strollers walk for January can always be a challenge, with muddy conditions making many countryside routes unpleasant or even impassable. Last December's opening of Phase 1 of the Chisholm Trail in Cambridge – an off-road shared path that seamlessly links the riverside towpath in Chesterton to Coldhams Lane – gave us an opportunity to explore a brand new route within the city, also incorporating my old stamping grounds off Mill Road, where I lived for 17 years before moving to Stapleford. It also meant we could leave all our cars at home, accessing the route either by bus or by train (aren't we lucky to have this choice of public transport options!)

### Getting there:

This 4-mile walk starts from Cambridge Railway Station. Whether catching the no.7 bus or walking to Shelford station to catch the train, there is actually little difference in timing going in, but the buses offer far more frequent options for coming home, and directly from the pub, i.e. six buses per hour from opposite the pub, compared to one train per hour from Cambridge North station. And with Stagecoach's slightly reduced fares now, a Dayrider ticket is marginally cheaper than the return train fare to Cambridge North; though for many of our company, the buses were of course free thanks to their bus passes.

### Walk directions:

From the front of Cambridge Station main building, head towards Station Tavern; follow that building round, past the entrance to the bike park and through the car park. The structure above ahead of you is the Tony Carter Bridge, opened in 1989 – and at the time listed in the Guinness World Records as the world's longest covered cycle bridge. Following the Pedestrian/Cycle route, go under this bridge, then up the steps (or ramp) on the left, onto the bridge, and head over it.

At the far end of the bridge turn left, then at the road restriction turn right onto Greville Road and walk along that; cross over when convenient. At the end of Greville Road turn left - this is Coleridge Road; cross at the Pedestrian Crossing. On the other side, left and quickly right into a narrow cut-through. Where this cut-through emerges - Marmora Road - turn left to head down Malta Road. The Royal Standard pub is at the bottom corner on the right; turn right here, this is now Mill Road.

Cross Mill Road at the pedestrian crossing next to Cambridge Kitchens. You are on the corner of Vinery Road. You can take a detour a short way down Mill Road to view the Mosque if desired – highly recommended, it is truly beautiful inside as well as outside. From the Mosque, double back on Mill Road and turn right down Vinery Road. Cross over to the left of this road either when or before you reach the park on left, then head into the park and through it, sticking to the right-hand side past all the play equipment.

Emerging at the far end of the park, turn right and follow this road, crossing over when convenient. This is Ross Street. At the corner before the width restrictions, turn left onto Fairfax Road. Again, cross when convenient. Pass some allotments on your right, then follow the next corner round to the right, into Brampton Road. Cross over to the left side of Brampton Road before the curve at the end, and emerge onto Coldhams Lane, where you will see Coldhams Common opposite. Bear left and walk along to the pedestrian crossing at the junction of Cromwell Road. Cross over towards the Common, then over the cattle grids to the start of the cycle path.

This long-standing cycle path across Coldhams Common now marks one end of the Chisholm Trail 'Phase 1', completed in December 2021. Follow this wide tarmac path under the railway and on across the Common. You reach the football ground ahead on your right: at the 'Habbin North' entrance, bear left where the tarmac path splits. This new section curves round to go under Newmarket Road, emerging the other side near the Leper Chapel and continues on a brand-new path which heads towards the riverside commons.

After a curve, with woods on the left and after the path has gone over a ditch, take the left path option, heading towards the two bridges across the river that you can now see. When you get to the bridge approach, fork left to go over the new pedestrian/cycle bridge (the other bridge carries the railway line.) Cross the river then go down the steps or ramp at the far side, and turn right to go under both bridges on the towpath. A little way along, follow the tarmac round to the right, between houses (here the towpath itself reverts to a looser, gravel surface).

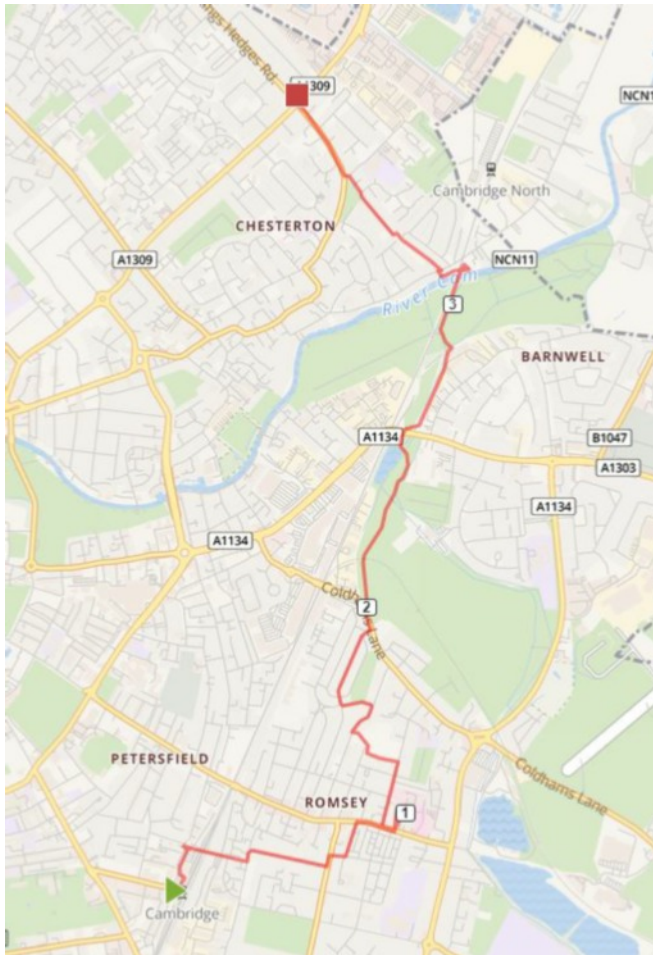
Cross here (this is Fen Road) and turn right. If you're heading straight to Cambridge North Station, continue along Fen Road, taking the second turn on the left which is Moss Bank, just before the railway crossing, and will be signed as the pedestrian route to the station.

For those carrying on to the pub: just a few metres along from where you crossed Fen Road, turn left into a pedestrian alley, which leads through

to 'Five Trees' pocket park. Walk straight through the park, emerging at the other end into a residential cul-de-sac; this is Cam Causeway. Keep going straight up here, crossing the end of Nuffield Road and continuing in a straight line onto what has become Green End Road. At the end of this road at the traffic lights you have reached Milton Road: cross over to the Golden Hind pub, where tasty pub grub is available. The bus stop for return services into the centre of Cambridge is on the south side of Milton Road, and you can change in central Cambridge for a no.7 service back home.

**Miranda Fyfe**

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



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**Iain Ballamy & Huw Warren**  
5th | Saturday | 7:45pm

**Pixels Ensemble**  
11th | Friday | 7:45pm

**Salt House**  
12th | Saturday | 7:45pm

**Megson Family Folk Concert**  
13th | Sunday | 12:00pm

**Lauren Zhang**  
19th | Saturday | 7:45pm

**Edison Herbert Trio**  
20th | Sunday | 12:00pm

**Stan Sulzmann & Nikki Iles Trio**  
24th | Thursday | 7:45pm

**Ariel Lanyi, Charlie Lovell-Jones  
& Yoanna Prodanova Trio**  
25th | Friday | 7:45pm

**Musica Secreta**  
26th | Saturday | 7:45pm



[www.staplefordgranary.org.uk](http://www.staplefordgranary.org.uk)  
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# Babes in The Wood

## The panto returns!

*YOUNGSTERS from Stapleford were among the cast of the long awaited return of the Little Shelford pantomime. Photos by Louise Guron and Brie Lury.*

FOLLOWING a curtailed pandemic 'Pantomime' last year, greasepaint was once more applied, thighs slapped, costumes stitched and LFT'd tonsils warmed and stretched, all under the watchful eye of Dame Dick Wallin, who directed with characteristic aplomb, ably assisted by Heidi Meikle.



*The Year 11 students who took some of the principal parts: Sybil, the Witch (Olivia Henry), Goldilocks (Eira Sheridan), Robin Hood (Theo Lury), Granny Gertie, the Dame (Oliver Moss), the Sheriff of Nottingham (Thomas Milne), Little Red Riding Hood (Poppy Henson) and Maid Marian (Chloe Freeman)*

Oliver Moss as our fabulous Dame Granny Gertie, accompanied by a chorus of woodland creatures with fur, ears and tails liberally stapled or glued to whichever body part had been presented to the superbly creative wardrobe department, marshalled by Charlotte Chatwin and her assistants.

There was enough sugary sweetness on stage to induce a diabetic coma, such that our witch with wicked wantonness proceeded to repurpose as a candy cladding for her cottage, all the better to capture Hansel and Gretel. Olivia Henry was excellent as Sybil the Witch, with equally menacingly comedic familiars played by Ellen Arthurs and Sally Hudson, and a pair of hapless wolves in the shape of Jonathan Eames-Cartwright and Charlie Fulton, both of whom were determined to make a quick meal of Little Red Riding Hood (Poppy Henson). Red was more than capable of looking after

The particular woods in which these Babes found themselves lost were located in Wandlebury, with our heroes, Hansel and Gretel, played with alacrity by Archie Meikle and Emma Quinnell (filling in last minute for the Covid-struck Lucy Christelow), bemoaning a dull Boxing Day walk.

A magic door transported them and us to a world beyond, a world of pure imagination as espoused in song by

herself though, with her band of fairytale sisters - Goldilocks, Rapunzel, Mary Quite Contrary and the Little Misses Bo Peep and Muffett, played with panache by Eira Sheridan, Rafaela Wilkinson, Zosia Zmija, Freya Cameron and Alexa Bendelack respectively. And, in a surprising turn of



*Hansel (Archie Meikle) and Gretel (Emma Quinnell) in the Mastermind chairs being questioned*

fictional poetic licence, Hood's brother was none other than the scourge of tax evaders in the Middle Ages himself, Robin Hood. Robin attempted throughout to win the heart of Maid Marian, and Theo Lury as Robin and Chloe Freeman as Marian proved more than adept at the big power ballads. It takes all sorts to create panto magic and the expertly staged fluorescent scene was no exception, with Bertie Bassett himself making an appearance,

thanks to the brilliance of Nikki Wilkinson and her team.

Following a comic turn by a scene-stealing quartet of cantankerous Yorkshiremen, out-Pythoning Monty Python in their tales of lockdown hardship, Robin and his Merry Men gathered their courage to thwart the evil machinations of the dastardly Sheriff of Nottingham, played with villainous vigour by Thomas Milne.

The musical accompaniment throughout was excellently provided by the diligent digits of Greg Morris and the repertoire was as wide as the audience acclaim, with songs stretching from Dukas to Duran, Sinatra (Frank AND Nancy) to Sugarhill Gang with all stops in between. A particular highlight was a tear-jerking 'Bright Eyes' performed by clear-voiced rabbits and hedgehogs. The future of Little Shelford panto looks safe in the hands of all its talented young chorus members.

All of our heroes happily escaped unscathed as the more carnivorous amongst the Pantoland gangsters decided not to put the fairytale folk in the pot, but opt for a meat-free January instead.

The choreography was beautifully directed under the auspices of Cheryl Smythe and Emma Christelow and the whole thing was Covid-coordinated to perfection, as usual, by the indefatigable Sarah Cappendale.

The splendidly entertaining romp, scripted by Libby Ahluwalia, spread much needed love and good cheer (whilst maintaining social distance, of course) through post-festive Little Shelford. Roll on 2023! **Pete Wilkinson**

# Stapleford History Society

## The Story of Pye 1896 -2021



ON 13 January Roger Crabtree and Bob Bates, both ex-employees of Pye, gave a fascinating talk about the company's history.

The talk began with the statement that Pye had been the premier employer for many years in this region with more than 7,000 employees in its heyday, and it was interesting to see that, while only a handful of the audience had worked for Pye, everyone knew somebody who had.

The firm was founded by W G Pye who initially worked at the Cavendish Laboratory. The Pye Galvanometer, equipment for schools, gun sights and detonators were all produced up to and during World War I. After 1918 the focus changed and the first Pye wireless was produced in 1922, with 40,000 wirelesses being produced by 1928.

The expansion of Pye was largely due to the foresightedness of a charming Irishman called C O Stanley who was the boss for over 35 years. Although not a technical man himself, he had the knack of anticipating market demands and was described by colleagues as 'inspirational', 'captivating' and 'a visionary'.

In 1935 the Pye Component Company was set up to concentrate on the fledgling television sector. With the onset of war in 1939 the TV section was given over to the development of radar. Pye can be said to have had a very good war as a range of military equipment was also produced. A Village Industry Scheme was set up and 14,000 employees in East Anglia contributed to Pye's explosive growth.

After the war, attention focused again on television production along with radios, cameras, transmitters, studio equipment and a wide range of scientific instruments. C O Stanley was very keen on the idea of colour television and the first such set was produced in 1949. By the time of the Queen's Coronation on 2 June 1953, many families were able to buy black and white television sets and only days before, on 29 May, Edmund Hillary took Pye equipment to the top of Mount Everest. The Pye company was at its zenith.

Pye produced records, the Pye Black Box, underwater cameras, outside broadcast vans, complete TV studios, the hostess trolley, transistor radios, and mobile phones, but the glory days came to an end. The Finance Directors changed quickly and by 1967 Philips' accounting system was

imposed. Even the great Pye Telecom, started in 1978, was eventually sold on and 2014 saw the closure of the last Pye factory sites, which were then turned into housing estates.

Yet the feeling persists that Pye was a great firm, and a great firm to work for. People still reminisce about the family Xmas parties, the trips to the seaside in the Pye train, the sports and social activities, including netball as well as football. Workers' Playtime came twice to Pye of Cambridge.

To learn more about Pye, it is possible to visit the Cambridge Museum of Technology, Riverside, at The Old Pumping Station, Cheddars Lane, Cambridge, CB5 8LD where The Pye Trust has a range of displays and videos. **Jane Steadman**

## Two school governor vacancies



STAPLEFORD Community Primary School Local Governing Body, as a member of the Anglia Learning Trust, is looking to appoint two and possibly three people to join our committed team of governors in our happy and vibrant school.

Governors are responsible for ensuring the strategic direction of the school, its performance and the use of resources to support learning. They help to ensure that our school provides the best education it can for all the children in its care.

The Local Governing Body meets as a group two or three times each academic term in the evening. More recently, these meetings have been held remotely and this has proved to be extremely successful. Governors also visit school once or twice per term, during the school day. While governors do not need to be experts to tackle the range of responsibilities expected of them, we pride ourselves on the breadth of help, advice and training available from various sources that help our governing body excel.

The governing body is looking for members of the local community with some time flexibility, interest and enthusiasm to fulfil the role.

If you are interested in joining our enthusiastic team and have the time to commit to this role, please contact the Joint Chair of Governors Edward Gunn ([egunn@staplefordprimaryschool.org](mailto:egunn@staplefordprimaryschool.org)) and Martin Brown ([mbrown@staplefordprimaryschool.org](mailto:mbrown@staplefordprimaryschool.org))

You can find out more information about the Governing Body at Stapleford Community Primary School on the school website at [staplefordprimaryschool.org](http://staplefordprimaryschool.org) where you will also find an application form.

We are a member of a group of schools in the Anglian Learning Trust at [anglianlearning.org](http://anglianlearning.org). **Surabhi Khanna**

# Introducing the Anne Robson Helpline

If you or someone close to you is dying, you can talk to us

AT the Anne Robson Trust we aim to be there to listen to anyone who is struggling with the imminent death of someone they care about. We know that facing the end of life can leave you isolated and alone.

Calls are free and confidential – Call us on 0808 801 0688.

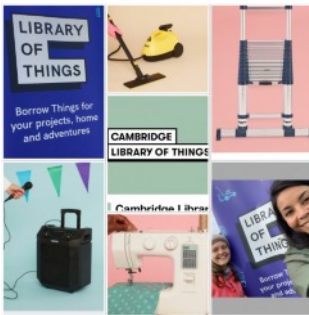
Being able to access support whilst a loved one is dying is really important for a number of reasons. Gaining knowledge of what may happen towards the end and having a sense of ‘preparedness’ helps both the person dying and their family gain as much control as possible.

Please visit [annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service](http://annerobsontrust.org.uk/helpline-service) to find out more.

**Suzanne Brown**



## Library of Things is here!



HAVE you heard that a Library of Things is coming to Cambridge? A Library of Things is exactly what it sounds like – a place where you can borrow objects that you don’t want to or can’t buy. This helps you save money and reduce waste by affordably renting out useful stuff like drills, sound systems and sewing machines. Sharing things that we only use now and again cuts down on clutter, is more affordable, and is kinder to our planet.

This type of library exists in many places in the UK and Europe, so why not Cambridge? That’s exactly what local residents Alice and Lucy thought, and now they are working with the original Library of Things team in London to replicate the scheme in Cambridge. Things are moving fast and are at a stage where they could really use your help!

You can follow us on @cambridgelibraryofthings on Instagram, @ThingsCambridge on Twitter and @CambridgeLibraryOfThings on Facebook or email [Libraryofthingscmb@gmail.com](mailto:Libraryofthingscmb@gmail.com) if you are interested in learning more. **Alice Hehir**



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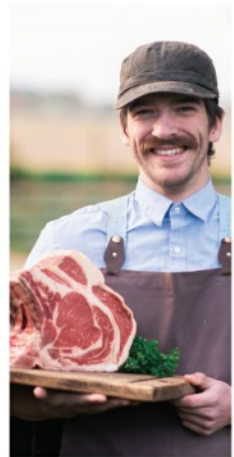
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# Cambridge Flower Club



THE first meeting of our new season will be held on Thursday 17 March at Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford CB22 4NE at 7.15pm.

The demonstrator will be Terri Potter, and her title is 'This Way and That'.

On 21 April our demonstrator is David Wright, with 'All things Bright

and Beautiful'.

All welcome. Visitors pay £6.00.

For more information about these meetings or to enquire about joining Cambridge Flower Club, please phone Freda on 01223 891464 or email [fredaorgee@gmail.com](mailto:fredaorgee@gmail.com). **Freda Orgee**

## Stapleford Community Warden Service

Assisting older people to live independently at home. Providing daily phone calls (Monday to Friday) and help with things such as:

- making drinks and light meals
- watering plants
- making appointments
- getting small items of shopping
- collecting prescriptions
- wellbeing contact

(a small weekly fee applies)

For further information call the Warden on  
**07436 102733**



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# Julian Meredith Migration

New print exhibition at Stapleford Granary



IT'S a sunny day in August 2021 and artist and beekeeper Julian Meredith is pacing around the little orchard area at the back of the Granary looking out to the field. He's curious about how long and how quickly the grass grows

and wondering if he can 'mow something' into it.

This is Julian's first site visit to Stapleford Granary in preparation for his solo artist exhibition in March 2022. Since that day, I've had endlessly fascinating conversations with Julian and the idea that he might mow something in the grass now seems unsurprising and entirely in keeping with the unique way he sees and moves through the world.



Meredith's art is a practice that grows directly from the natural world. Railing against the loss of habitat and the extinction of familiar creatures, he creates powerful life-size prints of dead animals in his signature Prussian blue, from huge 8-foot long tuna and the fins of whales down to a tiny 4cm shrew. His outdoor sand sculptures and earth

works in chalk and stone include a 400 foot white whale cut into the limestone of the Coed Hills. His art is suggestive of something that 'once was'... a trace of life, a fossil, a remnant. Speaking about his hand-burnished elm wood prints, he describes the printed paper coming off the block as being *"like the spirit of fossilized wood"*.



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Conversation with Julian Meredith also shifts seamlessly between art and nature. Over a couple of hours we talk about eels, paper, light, tuna, bees, the colour blue, shrews, observation, water, salmon, ink, fishing, chalk streams... I'll be chatting to Julian again here at the Granary on **Friday 4 March** at the launch of his MIGRATION exhibition. We'll be exhibiting a range of his extraordinary and thought-provoking prints until **24 May**. (To avoid disappointment, looking at the grass right now I have to say that I think its unlikely there will be 'something mown' in the next few weeks... maybe he'll drop in again before the exhibition ends!) **Kate & the Stapleford Granary team**

Launch event: Friday 4 March, 6pm to 8pm (artist talk 7pm)  
Free, but please book a place via the EVENTS page at  
[staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/events](http://staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/events)  
Or phone us on 849004

**Julian Meredith exhibition information:**

[www.staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions-overview](http://www.staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions-overview)

*(Photo credits: Calum Barlow (feathers banner); Alan Fentiman (workshop))*

## Barton Drama Group

### *Calling all thespians...*



SOME of you may have been to the wonderful past productions staged by Barton Drama Group, such as *A Woman of No Importance*. Sadly, due to the pandemic and the lack of local youthful input, it is likely Barton Drama Group will cease to be. There

will be an Extraordinary Annual General Meeting to decide its fate:

Barton Drama Group EAGM

Monday 11 April at 7.30 pm

Barton Village Hall, School Lane, Barton CB23 7BD

The Group would like to invite as many people as possible to attend so that full options can be discussed and to raise a glass to past productions. If you would like any more details please contact: **Tracy James 890686**  
[jracy.james1@gmail.com](mailto:jracy.james1@gmail.com)



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## Little Shelford film evening

THERE will be a Memorial Hall film evening showing of 'Red' on Saturday 9 April. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start with a break for supper of fish and chips.

'Red' is a 2010 American action comedy film with an excellent cast including Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, John Malkovich and Helen Mirren. 'Red' follows Frank Moses (Willis), a former black-ops agent who reunites with his old team to capture an assassin who has vowed to kill him. The film grossed \$199 million worldwide and in 2011, the film received a Golden Globe nomination for Best Musical or Comedy Film.

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

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

## Great Shelford Bowls Club



THE Great Shelford Bowls Club is looking forward to a year of some normality so that we can enjoy playing bowls and socializing as we have in the past.

Our first opportunity to get together with the public and our members will be at one of our bi-annual tabletop sales held in Great Shelford Memorial Hall on Saturday 12 March. The doors will be open at 9.30am with tea/coffee and bacon baps. This year there is no charge for a table.

If you would like to participate please contact Sheila Fettes on 630073. We will be advertising locally shortly.

Our next event is a coffee morning at the Bowls Club on 9 April at 10am where everyone, existing and hopefully new members are welcome to attend and discuss what we have to offer.

We all look forward to seeing you at one of our events. **Alan Edwards, Secretary 666965.**

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# Drinking water shock

NEWS that drinking water containing dangerously high levels of toxic chemicals has been pumped into Stapleford homes caused quite a stir last month.

Phones were pinging across the village as links to an article published as an exclusive by the Guardian were forwarded and shared - and it certainly made alarming reading.

Cambridge Water had admitted it had detected water containing four times the legal limit of perfluorooctane sulphonate, otherwise known as PFOS, in water that was destined for our taps, in June last year, the report claimed.

Just over 1,000 customers, including some in Great Shelford and other villages, were affected, with the article also suggesting that Cambridge Water had been slow to alert anyone about potential side effects.

PFOS are highly toxic chemicals that were once used in foams used to fight fires; Duxford Airfield was the obvious source of the contamination that percolated into our aquifers.

Research has shown that PFOS exposure increases risk to certain diseases and reduces immune response - extra alarming given that Covid remains a part of our daily lives.

The aquifer supplying the affected houses was found to have PFOS levels at almost 400 nanograms per litre (ng/l) of water - four times the Drinking Water Inspectorate's limit.

Stapleford Parish Council clerk Belinda Irons was quoted as saying the organisation "had no knowledge" of the contamination, with Malcolm Watson, Great Shelford chair, saying: "We've heard nothing at all from Cambridge Water... they've been very backward at coming forward."

Elinor Cordiner, Head of Drinking Water Quality and Compliance at Cambridge Water, said Stapleford villagers had not been put at a significant risk.

She said: "When the refreshed guidance on PFAS compounds was released in January 2021 by the Drinking Water Inspectorate, we undertook sampling surveys to establish whether there was any risk to our customers in Cambridge. "All of our sites, with the exception of one, fell within the tier 1, lowest risk, category (tier levels are 1 to 4).

"Our site at Duxford Airfield fell within the tier 3 category, however water supplies from this source have always been blended with other sources before reaching our customers. This means that levels of PFAS at customer taps were at, or around, the tier 1 (lowest risk) level.

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“As a purely precautionary measure we took the site out of supply and we are in the process of installing additional treatment at the site to safeguard our supplies for the future, and to ensure that our customers always receive the highest quality water.” **Jon West**

## Granta Medical Practices

### Are you up to date with all of your vaccinations?

THERE are a number of vaccines available on the NHS, the more common of which are listed below. If you are unsure whether you are eligible or would like further information please do not hesitate to call us on 0300 234 5555 or visit [nhs.uk](http://nhs.uk).

#### Shingles vaccine – who is eligible?

- Adults 70 to 79 years old

You only need to have the shingles vaccine once and you can have it at any time of year. Whilst it is a very effective vaccine, some people can develop shingles at a later stage, but the illness will be milder. It is also fine to have the shingles vaccine if you have already had shingles. It works well in people who have had shingles before, and it will boost your immunity against further shingles attacks.

There is a new vaccine available for people who are immunosuppressed called Shingrix and this is available at all of our surgeries as a 2-dose course.

#### Pneumonia vaccine – who is eligible?

- Babies, as part of the national immunisation programme
- Adults aged 65 and over
- Children and adults with certain long-term health conditions, such as a serious heart or kidney condition.

The pneumonia vaccine protects against serious pneumococcal infections and encourages your body to produce antibodies against pneumococcal bacteria.

If you have a long-term health condition you may only need a single one-off vaccination or a vaccination every 5 years, depending on your underlying problem.

#### Flu vaccine – who is eligible?

- Adults 50 years and over
- Have certain health conditions
- Are pregnant
- Are in a long-stay residential care

- Receive a carer's allowance, or are the main carer for an older or disabled person who may be at risk if you get sick
- Live with someone who is more likely to get infections (such as someone who has HIV, has had a transplant or is having certain treatments for cancer, lupus or rheumatoid arthritis).
- Frontline health or social care workers

If you are not eligible for a free NHS vaccine you can buy one from your local pharmacist. Granta Pharmacy in Sawston have stocks of flu vaccine – to book an appointment call 727530.

### **Covid vaccine – who is eligible?**

- People aged 16 and over
- Children aged 12 to 15
- Some children aged 5 to 11

Adults have two vaccinations plus a booster dose. People with a severely weakened immune system are offered three doses plus a booster. Please note that it is never too late to start your covid vaccine course.

Visit [nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk) to find out where to get Covid vaccinations. **Sandra East, Head of Patient Services**



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## Parish Council Chair's report

CLLR Brian Milne (Cambridgeshire County Council) and Cllr Peter Fane & Cllr Nick Sample (SCDC) attended the meeting on 3 February, as did two members of the public.

Five vacancies remain for members of the Parish Council, and you are urged to consider applying. If you are interested in helping your village and supporting the existing councillors, please contact the Clerk.

### South Cambridgeshire District Councillors report

Cllr Fane reported on the Local Plan, with reference to the proposals for the Mingle Lane/Hinton Way site across Great Shelford and Stapleford, and the Inspector's decision to allow the Retirement Village to go ahead. The following response was submitted by our SCDC councillors following the 'First Proposals' consultation:

*"While the principle of expanding the housing stock in our villages by 100 homes over the next 20 years is reasonable, local residents are understandably concerned about building them on the green belt. The principal question is: is it worth incursion on the green belt to deliver such a small percentage of the overall additional projected housing needs? Furthermore, if 100 houses are needed, why is such a large area (10 hectares) proposed for development? Local concern is that a second access route would result in a much larger number of houses being built on the proposed site. The Local Plan explains that the housing supply must meet the evidential need. As only 100 houses are required within the Shelfords and Stapleford to meet that need, why propose a site that might accommodate many more houses?"*

*"We call on the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service to either (1) reduce the area of land proposed for development, OR (2) designate a Local Green Space the area of the 10-hectare plot beyond that which is necessary for 100 houses, thereby protecting it from development and offering the potential of park land with play facilities to the east of Great Shelford and Stapleford. This would represent a significant benefit to families living in the area."*

*"At the end of December (after the consultation on the First Proposals closed) it was announced that an appeal against the rejection of a planning application for a retirement village in Stapleford had been accepted by the planning inspector. The site is on greenbelt bounded by the A1307, Stapleford village, Hinton Way and Haverhill Road."*

*"The 10-hectare site in our ward, which the First Proposals document proposes to allocate for the development of 100 houses, is within this same parcel of greenbelt."*

*“We believe the Mingle Lane/Hinton Way development should now not go ahead. There are three key arguments to support this:*

*1. The area of land for housing in the retirement village is 4ha, which is a similar amount of land actually required for 100 houses on the Mingle Lane site. Therefore, the retirement village should be considered as being Shelford ward’s contribution to the housing requirements in the next Local Plan.*

*2. The case for the retirement village (RV) was built on releasing housing stock in the area - with elderly people in Stapleford and Great Shelford moving into the retirement village and freeing up family homes. Therefore, the RV will reduce (or may even remove) the requirement for new houses in Shelford Ward in the period of the next Local Plan. (Note this will be further reduced in the event that plans for retirement flats on 2 Station Road, Gt Shelford are approved.)*

*3. The reduced net housing requirements weakens any argument for incursion into the green belt. If the site now only needs to deliver tens of houses (if any), GCPS should find space for them in infill opportunities and other smaller brownfield development sites across Greater Cambridge, and protect the green belt from further damage.”*

The issue of contamination of the water aquifers from Duxford aerodrome following use of foam containing PFOS, which does not degrade, by fire appliances was discussed, and concern expressed that residents had not been informed. It has been reported to the Parish Council that the Water Authority had blended water supplies to reduce contamination levels but it remains a concern. Water supply and contamination have been an issue in Stapleford for more than 40 years. Cllr Fane advised that the issue has been referred to Cllr Heylings for consideration.

**County Councillor report – Sawston & Shelford Division**

Cllr Brian Milnes reported on Cambridge County Council budget. The Joint Administration is to consider a 4.99% rise in order to close the authority’s £16m budget gap this year. Next year’s funding gap is likely to be even worse. 4.99% would mean an extra charge of £1.04 per week for a Band B, and £1.19 for a Band C household. More than half of all homes in Cambridgeshire are in these two bands. Local government experts who visited in summer highlighted that decisions not to raise council tax in previous years had led to significant ongoing lost income to support council services. The council also proposes to set up and spend a £14m fund over the next five years to tackle inequality, improve lives and care for the environment.

Cllr Milnes also reminded residents about the Household Support Fund. There are circa 7,500 people in South Cambridgeshire receiving Universal

Credit. They have recently lost out on the £20 weekly uplift and in the context of the rising fuel prices, unemployment due to Covid and growing cost of living we expect to see more and more people struggling to pay the bills. It is hoped to arrange some extra payments direct to individuals on Universal Credit.

### **Other matters**

A Pavilion Management Committee, a sub-committee of the Parish Council with members from various village organisations, will deal with day-to-day pavilion management issues. An offer of a piano for the pavilion has been made and accepted.

Cemetery fees have been revised and information will be on the Parish Council website.

Sports Club fees have been set at RPI (*as at 1.1.22*) + 1%.

A project making bird/bat/owl/hedgehog/bee boxes is in progress and these will be put up in various places around the village. Thanks are due to Travis Perkins for donating wood to the Scouts to build some of these boxes, to the CDT department at Sawston Village College, to those in the village who have donated wood and boxes, and to Cllr Gatward for coordinating everything.

Work on the Neighbourhood Plan is underway and this will plan be vital in protecting village interests with planning issues.

CSET, the GCP and East West Rail were discussed. Cllr Howard Kettel is the liaison for these groups.

The children's playground is being well used and there have been positive comments. A formal opening is planned for April. A decorative fence is planned with Art Funding.

Reconfiguring the design of the pavilion was discussed and this will be for discussion and consultation at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Planning for the Queen's Jubilee Weekend and Village Weekend is well in hand and further information is elsewhere in the Messenger.

### **Planning**

#### **Reference: 05612/FUL**

Proposal: Demolition of existing dwelling and detached garage, and the erection of one dwelling house and detached garage together with associated landscape enhancements (resubmission of 21/01328/FUL)

Site address: 2 Gog Magog Way Stapleford Cambridge Cambridgeshire

Support application subject to conditions regarding on-site contractor parking and deliveries for highway clear zone re all parking.

**Reference: 21/05638/HFUL**

Proposal: Proposed extensions with loggia, balcony and basement

Site address: 8 Gog Magog Way Stapleford CB22 5BQ

Objection: extensions protrude above Conservation Area, important central section of the house considered detrimental to the Conservation Area, impact on street scene, light spill, noise nuisance. Conditions if granted: contractor and delivery on-site parking with highway clear zone re all car parking; replacement of TPO trees.

**Reference: 22/00162/HFUL**

Proposal: two storey rear extension, conversion of garage to habitable space and alterations to front porch/entrance

Site address: 10 Priams Way Stapleford

Porch: objection: out of keeping with style of property and street scene

**CLlr Gillian Pett**

## **CSET Busway update**

WE mentioned in our February update that Cambridgeshire County Councillors would need to vote on the Cambridge South East Transport scheme (CSET) – this hasn't happened because the retirement village and associated country park getting planning permission on appeal means that the GCP will have to delay while they reconsider their original alignment.

The busway will now run through or adjacent to the designated country park between Haverhill Road and Hinton Way, so the environmental impact of the busway increases further.

We wrote to the GCP board members on 1 February asking them to reconsider their plans in light of the significant changes that have taken place and the viability of the alternative route in the A1307 corridor. These include:

1. The alternative route would serve the Cambridge Biomedical Campus extension identified in the new Local Plan, whereas the GCP's route will not.
2. One of the deciding factors in the GCP's 2018 decision to discount the A1307 corridor was that it could not form part of the Cambridge Autonomous Metro (CAM). However, the CAM has now been dropped.
3. Cambridge South Station is likely to get the go-ahead and CSET will have to fit around these extensive works, and this will cause inevitable delay. It would be challenging to build both infrastructure projects in parallel. The A1307 alternative can therefore be delivered much quicker.

4. As mentioned above there are increased environmental impacts by routing through or alongside the new Country Park.

5. There is every indication that most of the benefits of CSET could be delivered at a fraction of the cost by the A1307 corridor. Currently the assessment is that CSET with its heavily engineered bridges and roadway is entirely uneconomic.

We wrote to the three politicians on the GCP Board, and at the time of writing we have had no acknowledgement of our letter.

We are now preparing a petition to be presented to South Cambs District Council calling for a debate on this subject. Just 100 signatures are needed to trigger this. Please let us know if you can support this petition and we will contact you.

We really hope that our local politicians will listen. There was a well-above average response to Anthony Browne MP's CSET survey, far more than from the GCP's consultations. This shows that 72% do not support the GCP's route and a further 9% probably do not, and 75% said they would never use it. Detailed results will be available at [anthonybrowne.org/cset-survey](http://anthonybrowne.org/cset-survey). **Cllr Howard Kettel**

## Shaping where we live

### Stapleford and Great Shelford neighbourhood plan update

A steering group of Stapleford and Great Shelford parish councillors and residents has been making good progress on the early stages of the villages' combined neighbourhood plan. This is our unique opportunity to create a shared vision of what is important to us and how we want to develop and use our land over the next 15-20 years. Once completed, the plan will provide a set of legal policies – tailored specifically to our area – and sit alongside the Greater Cambridge local plan and the National Planning Policy Framework when assessing planning applications in our area.

#### Preparing for initial community engagement

We are preparing for initial consultation with residents in Spring 2022. Consciously or subconsciously, we have all weighed up what is important to us about the place we live. Without asking too many detailed questions too early in the process, this is what the steering group needs to begin to pin down so we can then think about what needs to be done to make Stapleford and Great Shelford better places to live and work.

We will start by asking basic questions about planning-related matters across seven main categories, such as:

Category	Questions
Housing	What's good and needs conserving?  What needs fixing?  What's missing?
Local design and character	
Heritage	
Natural environment and green spaces	
Amenities and infrastructure	
Transport and travel	
Economy and employment	

Answers to these questions will shape more detailed surveys, focus groups and other meetings with residents, businesses, workers, service providers and landowners. It is our aim that everyone will have opportunities to participate, whether face-to-face, by phone, online or via social media. It does not matter whether you wish to comment on one, a selection or all of these categories; your views are invaluable.

**Turning engagement into evidence...and evidence into policies**

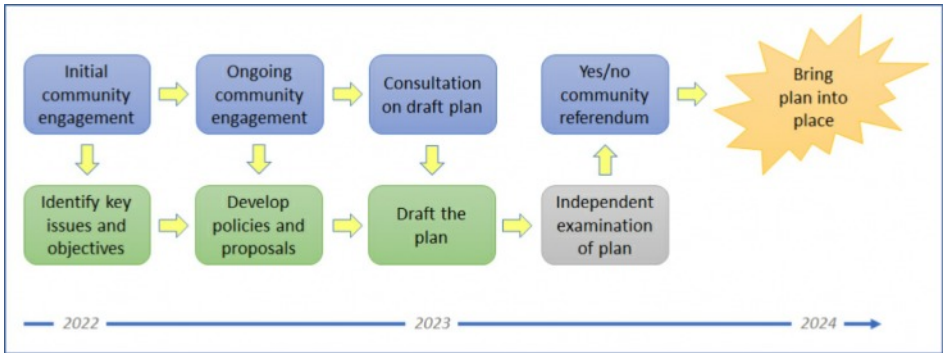
The outcomes of community engagement will be combined with other information (such as housing needs analysis, local character assessment and local plan data) to create a large evidence base. From this, the steering group will distil a vision for what Stapleford and Great Shelford aspire to look like at the end of the neighbourhood plan period, roughly 20 years from now. A set of more specific objectives will describe what needs to be done to deliver this vision (e.g. 'promote a range of housing sizes and types which are integrated into the community'; 'protect, enhance and expand our green spaces and access to the surrounding countryside, linking them for the benefit of wildlife and non-motorised users'). The vision and objectives will be the subjects of further community input.

Following this, a set of planning policies will be created to turn the objectives into action. These are the most important outcomes of any neighbourhood plan because they form part of the statutory development plan against which planning applications are assessed.

In the final stages, the draft neighbourhood plan will be put out for consultation to the people who live, work or run businesses in Stapleford and Great Shelford, plus various bodies whose interests may be affected by the plan, such as the Environment Agency and Natural England. A revised plan is then submitted for independent examination. The examiner will



consider whether the proposed neighbourhood plan meets the basic conditions and other legal requirements set out by law. If found satisfactory, the neighbourhood plan will return to Stapleford and Great Shelford for a referendum – a yes/no poll in which you will be asked ‘Do you want South Cambridgeshire District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Stapleford and Great Shelford to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?’ If more than 50% of those voting say ‘yes’, then our plan will come into force.



**Final thoughts**

Producing a neighbourhood plan is very definitely a lengthy and intricate process with many different parts! But, by the end of it we – the people who know and love Stapleford and Great Shelford most of all – will have written new planning laws and achieved greater control over development in our area. And that really is a vision worth aspiring to.

If you’d like to know more, look out for regular updates via Stapleford Messenger, Great Shelford Village News, local Facebook pages and e-newsletters, Parish Council meeting minutes and school Parentmail. Coming very soon is our new neighbourhood plan website ([www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/staplefordandgreatshelfordneighbourhood-plan](http://www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/staplefordandgreatshelfordneighbourhood-plan)), with direct links from both Parish Councils’ homepages.

**Cllr Jenny Flynn, Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

**Quiz Answers**

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Oberammergau     | 6. Dorset                 |
| 2. Earache          | 7. Santiago di Compostela |
| 3. Alfred the Great | 8. Urticaria              |
| 4. Crenellation     | 9. Consanguineous         |
| 5. Anastasia        | 10. Eurydice              |

# Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



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



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