

Stapleford

Ne Nuntium Necare!

MESSENGER

June 2022

Volume 81 No 6

Price 60p

Homegrown talent



**Áine Deane, former Stapleford pupil,
breaks through in the music world**

Page 32

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

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Who's who at St Andrew's

www.standrewstapleford.org

Parish priest

Rev Dr Simon Taylor 840256

Curate

Rev Clare Coates 07818 618795

Churchwardens

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

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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

See the St Andrew's Noticeboard for this month, and the church website at standrewstapleford.org for full details. The services include:

9am BCP or CW Communion

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

SERVICES AT OTHER CHURCHES

Our Lady of Lourdes, Sawston (Roman Catholic)

Sundays 8.45am and 11.15am

Shelford Free Church (Baptist)

Sundays 10.30am

Christenings and Weddings

Christenings take place during Sunday worship.

For both Christenings and Weddings, contact the parish priest.

Stapleford MESSENGER

Editor

Contact staplefordmessenger@gmail.com

Advertising

Contact stapleford.ads@gmail.com

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From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

I WAS browsing one evening, as you do, when an ad popped up. It was for a moisturiser. A bit of a surprise as I can honestly say I have never used it and probably never will.

Some of the ads that appear on our screens clearly do so for a reason. At the moment I am getting a lot for garden irrigation systems, and if you come and see the nice new soaker hose in the vicarage vegetable patch it will be obvious why.

But the moisturiser ad was a bit harder to explain. Soap and shampoo are my only 'beauty' products, which makes me not very metroman or whatever the latest moniker is. But this moisturiser ('combining science with nature to produce a high quality product ... apply every morning and evening after cleansing to a dry face') was called Gameface, made by a firm called Triumph & Disaster. Which, as I was browsing articles about Boris Becker at the time, might explain why the advert popped up. Nice work, algorithm.



Boris - the tennis one - knows triumph and disaster very well. I remember his astonishing Wimbledon win in 1985. The tournament included some greats of the game: McEnroe, Connors, Lendl and Edberg were all playing, so it was quite something for an unseeded 17-year-old to win. It was the start of a very distinguished playing career in which he won Wimbledon twice more, two Australian Opens and one US Open. He then went on to a coaching career: in his three years as Novak Djokovic's coach, Djokovic won six Grand Slams.

Disaster has followed as you probably know. Becker has ridden out some fairly grubby personal stuff, including the Nobu restaurant encounter that led to a paternity suit, but his financial affairs have finally brought him down. He was declared bankrupt in 2017. He failed to declare all his assets - required so the creditors get something at least. Convictions followed in April this year for offences under the Insolvency Act and Becker is now serving a spell at Her Majesty's pleasure. I don't think she has ever been much of a tennis fan, so I doubt whether she will find his stay all that pleasurable.

As I was reading about all this another sportsman came to mind. Do you remember Tony Greig? He never came across as a very likeable man - unlike

Becker actually - but he was a tremendous cricketer, probably the best England all-rounder in my lifetime before Botham came along. Greig was South African but qualified to play for England because of his Scottish ancestry. Yes, really. Much of his career was a succession of triumphs - swift promotion from county cricket to the England team, a wonderful tour of the Caribbean in 1974 and then, as one of the few players to emerge with credit as England faced Australia down under and took on Thomson and Lillee, he became England captain in 1975. Disaster - only sporting not criminal in his case - followed. With the West Indies due to tour England in 1976 Greig gave an interview in which he said that he intended 'to make them grovel'. It was a pretty unfortunate and insensitive comment (in the year of the Race Relations Act of all times) from an England captain who came from apartheid South Africa. These days I suspect such a comment from a captain would, rightly, be a resigning matter. In any event it was guaranteed to get the opposition into a combative frame of mind.

I remember going to the second test at Lord's. The West Indian fast bowling quartet of Roberts, Holding, Julien and Holder were fearsome. Holding was so tall that his delivery arm stretched above the sight screens, and the ball then came down at more than 90 mph over 22 yards without the batter being able to see it clearly. No helmets and not a great deal of body protection in those days. The West Indies smashed England in the series, winning 3-0. At the final test at the Oval Greig grovelled, literally, in front of their supporters. Triumph and, now, disaster.

At St Andrew's we have just been through our annual Easter cycle of remembering the triumph-disaster-triumph of Holy Week. It starts with Jesus riding into Jerusalem acclaimed by the crowds. Hosanna to the son of David! By the Thursday and Friday of that week the scene has changed to one of betrayal, clandestine arrest, a secret night-time trial and a cruel execution. And there matters rest until early on the Sunday morning some of the women who had been with Jesus go to his tomb to anoint his body, and find that he has risen from the dead.

For us mere mortals things are often not quite what they seem, nor as bad. Tony Greig came back from the disaster of 1976 with a few more good years at the top of his game and became a respected commentator. Boris Becker will, no doubt, somehow find redemption from his disaster. But nothing compares to the startling events of that first Holy Week, when the victory of the cross - no disaster at all, really - became the vindication of resurrection. Death is dead, Christ is risen, hallelujah!

Every blessing to you all, Simon

St Andrew's Noticeboard

- | | | |
|---------|----------|---|
| 5 June | 9 AM | BCP COMMUNION
Acts 1.1-21; John 14.8-17 |
| | 10.30 AM | ALL AGE COMMUNION FOR PENTECOST
in the churchyard
<i>Where the wind blows</i> |
| | 5.30 PM | CHURCH-IN-THE-MARQUEE
on Stapleford Rec |
| 12 JUNE | 9 AM | BCP COMMUNION |
| | 10.30 AM | TRINITY SUNDAY COMMUNION
Romans 5.1-5; John 16.12-15
<i>The Spirit of Truth</i> |
| | 6 PM | HOMERTON CHARTER CHOIR EVENSONG
Exodus 3.1-15; John 3.1-7 |
| 19 JUNE | 9 AM | SUNG CW COMMUNION |
| | 10.30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP
Galatians 3.23-29; John 9.1-23
<i>Now I see</i> |
| | 10.30 AM | MESSY FOREST CHURCH |
| 26 JUNE | 9 AM | BCP COMMUNION |
| | 10.30 AM | SUNDAY WORSHIP
Galatians 5.1-5; John 9.24-41
<i>He opened my eyes</i> |
| 3 JULY | 9 AM | BCP COMMUNION
Habbakuk 2.1-4; John 20.24-29 |
| | 10.30 AM | ORDINATION SERVICE for Lucinda Howard
In Ely Cathedral |
| | 10.30 AM | FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION |
| | 6 PM | CHORAL EVENSONG
Job 42.1-6; 1 Peter 1.3-12 |

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

FROM THE REGISTERS

1 MAY: Baptism of Flora Mercer Gibbs

St Andrew's Choir Now recruiting

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Deadline for the JULY Messenger

Please submit copy **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 10 JUNE**

By email (Word or similar attachment) to staplefordmessenger@gmail.com

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LIFE has memorable moments, some worth telling, best with friends. Let us share.

Long ago, our first flight as husband and wife was to Austria on a square deal, trusting late lamented Dan Air. Eighteen hours' delay made me truly apprehensive. After landing, and a long tortuous road journey where looking down was alarming, we arrived. Where didn't matter, sleep did. In the morning we looked out of the shuttered chalet room to dull clanging sounds. Grazing beneath our window were cows proudly wearing collars, supporting deep-toned wide bells. A journey worth taking, memories beginning. Chocolate-box perfect. Gentians gloriously dotted narrow paths. Sights free to discover, open, clean, naturally beautiful. Enchanting.

As adults we went to Orlando and of course Disney World. Fun for children of all ages. Thunder Mountain railway was spectacular. Creaking and groaning over tracks starting off near statuesque cactus plants, gradually smoother and speedier, darkness enveloped us. Dense black. Bearings lost, floundering, disorientated we finished with relief, then exhilaration. The thrill-seeking roller coaster in Busch Gardens was fast; views fleeting. Adrenalin wanted more. Stephen felt three goes was too many. I'd have tried! EPCOT, Every Person Comes Out Tired, proved true to its title. Flitting from country to country and fireworks over the lake, we loved every second. Minnie and Mickey Mouse were larger than life, words not necessary, gestures and mime worked.

Completely different, we discovered a gorge. Clambering close to the slippery rock face clinging to a rope we edged cautiously across behind a waterfall. The bubbling lace-like curtain glowed translucent. Mesmerising. A flimsy bridge over boiling water felt precarious. Brave or foolhardy? Opportunity beckoned, happily we took the chance.

Seeing a playful brown bear and cub from a ski lift was a treat. Beavers swimming was an honour and seeing marmots snatching food from our hands, surprising. When geyser Old Faithful 'blew', bison scampered and elk 'buggled'. it seemed a fantasy. Life is an adventure to be grasped. Countries have unique treasures. Familiarity can make us unobservant. Technology takes attention and focus away, although can help locate destinations or highlight news on the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Our precious home country....and cherished villages and residents within them have stories to relate. Time to enjoy, cast cares aside, to stand stare and share; cheering in nostalgic celebration. **Judith and Stephen Lee.**

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Mothers' Union



ON 23 June, the Branch is having a Summer Social in the Johnson Hall, from 6 to 8pm. It's a Bring & Share Supper, and a good

opportunity for us to meet up – so please come if you can, members.

Also, on 4 June we are having a Raffle (in honour of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee) at the Village Show, so all goods in the hamper will be 'By Appointment to Her Majesty'. Bring any goods to me to make it a really worthwhile prize!



Looking ahead: the MU Diocesan Garden Party is on 15 July (3pm to 5pm) in the Bishop's Garden, Ely – a lovely event when we can meet up with other members outside our own Branch. Hilary Street

Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

From: Frank Baker, Stapleford
Re: Ukraine War (Messenger, May)

I read the offering from the Vicar in the May edition of the *Messenger* and wondered if he had a nuclear bunker. He appears to advocate the entry of NATO into the war in Ukraine, which is not a member of the organisation. In the event of it doing so, I think it is highly likely that, in the course of the ensuing European war, one side or the other will be pushed into using battlefield nuclear weapons. As depicted in the 1966 BBC film 'The War Game', such use will probably be the thin end of a terrifying wedge, leading to the use of much more powerful nuclear weapons. It is not widely known that in the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, Russian forces already on Cuba had battlefield nuclear weapons and were authorized to use them if the USA invaded the island. We can reasonably assume their use is well established in Russian military thinking.

In any conflict since their development, escalation to a major exchange of nuclear weapons is a threat so it is advisable to tread carefully. A just war is all very fine but if it leaves your country a smoking ruin, there doesn't seem to be much to gain.

Stapleford at The Rec Village Weekend

Cash and
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FRIDAY

Quiz Night

Doors at 7:00pm. Quiz starts at 7:30pm.
Max team size 8. Tickets cost £8 per person – includes a drink.
Direct tickets and food orders to jonwest1392@gmail.com.
Fish and chip van: fish and chips, £10; veggie option, £7.50.

3rd
June

4th
June

What's On during the day

Events start with the Dog Show at 1:00pm (entry £2 per class).
Village Show starts at 2:00pm.
Samba Band at 3:00pm.
Other events include: Village cafe, BBQ, ice cream van, stalls, tug of war,
circus skills workshop.

SATURDAY

SATURDAY

Live Band

Music from The Lonely
Doors at 7:00pm. Starts at 7:30pm.
Tickets are £10 in advance from gillian.pett29@gmail.com
or £12 on the door.
BBQ with veggie options available.

4th
June

5th
June

Tour de Stapleford Family Bike Ride starts at 10:00am.
Cricket play at 1:00pm.
Church-in-the-Marquee starts at 5:30pm.

Tour de Stapleford / Cricket

SUNDAY

Stapleford - Nachingwea Link



THE Nachingwea branch of the Link has a new committee, pictured below.

Obed Pwirira, who has chaired the Link Committee in Nachingwea for the full 40 years of the Link, has now decided to retire at the age of 68 and bring in some younger members.

Kevin Bushiri, the new Link Chair, writes: "My beloved mother always does not come to Sunday services because of her health but due to the importance of yesterday's event of the blessing of the new Link committee she came to witness it. "My mother is often my good

supporter. There were many heavy claps from believers. This shows us that they have great trust in our new leadership. We must translate that trust into actions."

We look forward to working with the new committee on some innovative and exciting new projects over the coming years.

STOP PRESS: We are delighted to report that the Nachingwea Link lunch on 2 May raised in the region of £1,500 which will be used to purchase school uniforms and shoes for children with special needs and a support a variety of other projects in Nachingwea. We entertained around 100 visitors so this was a fantastic success. Many thanks to all who



Kevin Bushiri and his mother



Obed Pwirira (front right) with Kevin Bushiri (front left) and members of the new St Andrew's Nachingwea Link

contributed. **Trish Maude**

Cambridge comes to you

Homerton Charter Choir

A TRADITIONAL choral evensong led by the Homerton Charter Choir - open to all in St Andrew's on Sunday 12 June at 6pm.

Free admission and all welcome! **Simon Taylor**

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Church-in-the-Marquee

Village Weekend special on 5 June at 5.30pm



EVERYONE is very welcome to come and join in the service in the Marquee on the Sunday evening of the Village Weekend - grab a drink from the bar, sing some cracking hymns, enjoy a Royal celebration theme. Informal and fun, open to those of any faith and none. If you don't usually come to church but want to give it a little go, this service is for you.

The service starts at 5.30pm and will last about 45 minutes to an hour. We look forward to seeing you there! **Simon Taylor**

Stapleford Twinning Association

WE hope to see you at one of our upcoming events:

Village Weekend, Saturday 4 June, 2pm to 4pm

Bottle Stall – please stop by for a chat and maybe we can tempt you into buying a raffle ticket to win a bottle! It's pot luck – you could win a bottle of wine or a bottle of vinegar!

Walking Quiz around Stapleford Sunday 12 June, 3pm

Meet by the Villedômer Gardens in the Slaughterhouse Land and finish in the nearby Three Horseshoes pub. The walk will be about a mile round Stapleford. The questions will be about things in Stapleford but with a French connection. A French dictionary, app or paper, may be useful and you will need a pen.

Latest update: entertainment in the pub after the walk will be provided by local band 'Blame the Dog', playing a variety of popular songs.

And here's a reminder about our new website address: twinning.staplefordvillage.org.uk/. Do have a look through it and let us know if you have any questions or comments on that or anything else via staplefordtwinningassociation@gmail.com **Tim Jessop**



STAPLEFORD CHORAL SOCIETY

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Village Weekend Tour de Stapleford

Family cycling event on Sunday 5 June

AFTER an enforced absence, the ideal Sunday morning family activity, the Tour de Stapleford, returns for the Stapleford Village Weekend. Exploring the cycle paths and bridleways between the villages of Stapleford, Sawston and Babraham. Riders of all ages welcome, just turn up at the Jubilee Pavilion from 10am to register and receive a free bike check. Departing from 10:15am, with last riders out at 10.30am, the route is signed and marshalled for help and guidance. You can choose how far you want to cycle with a choice of routes from one to seven miles and once finished, enjoy a bacon buttie from the BBQ between 11.15am to 12noon. The team are excited, and we hope you are too and look forward to seeing you on Sunday for another enjoyable Tour de Stapleford. The event is free of charge, but donations to cover costs are always welcome **Nathan Whitehouse**. nathan.whitehouse35@gmail.com (see also pages 59 and 60)



Village Weekend Quiz

THE Village Quiz is back as part of the Village Weekend celebrations - and this time there is money to be won.

It's the big event on the Friday night in the marquee on the Rec - that's Friday 3 June - and a fish and chip van will be waiting for you as well.

The fun questions for all tastes and ages will be in keeping with the Village Weekend's two themes - so there's a clue for you straight away.

The winners collect £50, there is a £25 prize for the runners-up - and whoever comes last gets a prize as well.

Teams can comprise up to eight people and it costs £8 per person, with each ticket including a free drink from the bar worth £4.

It is pay on the door from 7pm onwards for a start around the 7.30pm mark.

Please email jonwest1392@gmail.com beforehand to register your team.

If you wish to order from the fish and chip van as well please do so in advance via the same email address. It's £10 for fish and chips and £7.50 for the veggie option. Payment on the night is available by cash or card.

Jon West (see also pages 59 and 60)

BIKE SALE AND POP UP CAFE



Saturday 18th June

Great Shelford Memorial Hall

8am - 12 noon

To sell a bike contact us on shelford.bike.sale@gmail.com

Raising funds for Shelford School PTA, Charity No. 1180813

How much do you care?

We are surrounded by so much natural beauty
 It's hard to imagine what could possibly lie just ahead
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As we prolong making a decision
 our existence sits on a knife edge
 How should we choose to move forward
 change our ways and make a firm pledge

Extinctions are becoming more common
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 and commemorate all she has done

Michael Gatward

Stapleford WI



AT our meeting at the end of April members were introduced to Shirley Scotcher who came to speak to us in her role as Director of Fundraising, Trading and Marketing for the charity Deafblind UK. Her talk was extremely informative, enlightening, and thought-provoking. The number of people in the UK who are registered as both deaf and blind is in the region of 400,000. Of these only 4,000 are able to be supported by the charity as they navigate their way through daily life and the activities many of us take for granted. Shirley explained clearly what day-to-day difficulties are faced by those who fall into this category and described the effects of isolation and loneliness which can be felt. Sign language interpreters are also in short supply for those with both sight and hearing problems, as currently there are only 15.

The talk was an interactive one. Glasses were passed round which could be tried on by members to simulate how different eye conditions such as cataracts, macular degeneration and retinitis pigmentosa alter vision. Some members tried to do simple tasks such as count money or make a sandwich when wearing ear defenders and a blindfold. No one volunteered to eat the sandwiches!

There is a need for more general awareness of deaf blindness especially as the advances in medical science mean more premature babies are surviving, which sadly often means their sight and hearing are not always fully developed. There is also concern in the medical profession about the long-term effects on sight and hearing caused by using earbuds for loud music, and using a phone for long periods of time – Shirley advised keeping the volume down and to turn our eyes away periodically.

It was encouraging to hear all that is being done to help people who do have this condition. All new bank notes now have braille in the corner to identify them. Dogs can be trained to assist with tasks in daily life. A guide dog wearing a red and white harness indicates the handler is deaf and blind. Similarly a red and white cane signifies the same thing.

The talk provoked much discussion and was well received by members.

Centenary tree

You may have noticed a new tree has been planted on the Haverhill Road side of the recreation ground, opposite the Pavilion. This is a Sorbus Aucuparia, a rowan tree of the 'Sunshine' variety. The tree has been donated by Stapleford WI to celebrate their centenary which was in 2020.



On Friday 29 April members gathered to watch and support the president, Liz Hodgkins, as she ceremoniously took part in planting the tree. It is hoped that the tree will grow and flourish and give pleasure for many years, just like the WI which has been here in the village for more than 100 years. There is a plaque giving details about the tree and the reason for its placement.

Thanks go to Keith Dixon, Bill French, and Helen and Geoff Hale who have all helped to make this project possible, and hopefully keep it alive for many years!



If you are interested in finding out more about the WI and the activities available both within Stapleford, and also in the Cambridgeshire Federation, then please do come to talk to us on Saturday afternoon 4 June where members will be running a stall at the Village Show. You can also find further information about us on staplefordwi.weebly.com or by

contacting Sallie Dixon on 843847. **Joyce Dobson**

Newcomers' Tea

HAVE you moved into the village in the last three or four years?

Then you are warmly invited to a newcomers' tea in the Vicarage, 43 Mingle Lane, CB22 5SY on Sunday 24 July from 3.30pm to 5pm. A great chance to meet new people, and there will be a good sprinkling of village old hands there too. If you have new neighbours who might like to come, please do let them know – not everyone gets the Messenger, so help in getting the word out would be great. All welcome, definitely not restricted to Christians or churchgoers! **Lizzie and Simon Taylor** look forward to meeting you then. RSVP on 840256 or text 07970 716163 or simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com

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Miles becomes an Essex boy

LOCAL butcher Miles Nicholas has always been a well-known face in the village, starting his career in Ellis' Butchery in Great Shelford in 1980 before moving to Stapleford Spar Butchery in 1989. He has been serving the community and providing high quality and welcoming service wherever he has been.

Miles is not only the local butcher but a key part of the community - from doing talks with the WI, being on the annual Stapleford Village Show committee, to fundraising for the local hospital. This determined and passionate man has now gone on to start his own adventure in the beautiful countryside of Baythorne End in Essex.

Miles has partnered up with butcher Matt Morgan, who Miles trained in the profession in 2012.



Miles is now continuing his passion for butchery alongside Matt at Morgan's Butchery at Baythorne Hall. The Hall is home to not only Morgan's Butchery but Ben and Ella's farm shop, a bakery with freshly baked bread, garden and flower shop, antiques shop, cafe and even a winery.

Morgan's Butchery is proud to serve locally sourced meat from around Essex, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. The welcoming atmosphere and quaint aesthetics of Baythorne Hall make it definitely worth a visit.

From growing up in Stapleford and starting in the local corner shop to now embarking on his new venture at the butchery, Miles continues to further his passion and is starting cookery and butchery workshops from his new setting. If his previous talks and courses have been anything to go by you will not want to miss these.

Morgan's Butchery has now teamed up with Docky Barn Cafe at Copley Hill Business Park, making a simple, convenient and easy way to order and collect your locally sourced meat from the butchery, delivered to Docky's on a weekly basis for you to collect at a time to suit you.

For more updates on Miles' new adventure you can follow him on Instagram @Miles_the_butcher, or why not pay him a visit at Morgan's Butchery, Baythorne Hall, Baythorne End, Halstead, CO9 4AH.

Amy Nicholas

Yesteryear

SYLVIA Morris looks at events in the village in the month of May over the years. Punctuation, spelling and capital letters are exactly as printed at the time.

1811

TRANSPORTED. On Monday last, Richard Beavis was conveyed from the county goal, to undergo sentence of transportation for a burglary at Stapleford.

1844

CURIOUS REMAINS. We noticed some time since the discovery of fossil remains in a large deposit of gravel at Stapleford, and as they were much mutilated by the workman, with a praiseworthy respect for such remains, orders were given by the proprietor, Mr. R. Headley, not to remove any specimen that might thereafter be found. A few days since the workmen came upon an enormous bone of which intimation was given to Mr. Deck, who quickly repaired to the spot, and found it to be a femur (thigh bone) of the elephant, perfectly entire, but in such a state of decomposition from moistures as to preclude any possibility of removing it whole. It measured 38 inches long and six in diameter at the extremity, lying in an horizontal position 13 feet from the surface in deluvial matter.

1882

SUMMONED. Mr. Samuel Heffer of Stapleford was summoned by Walter Finch, Gt. Shelford, Farmer, for unlawfully allowing two carts to be used on the highway at Gt. Shelford without having his name painted thereon. Defendant fined 5s. and costs.

1919

"The Clerk read a letter from the Housing Committee of the RDC asking the Parish Council to suggest sites suitable for the building of 6 cottages. After some discussion it was proposed by Mr Linton sec. by Mr Gumbley that the following sites be suggested.

(1) Grass Land. Bar Lane adjoining the parish pump owned by Mrs E Short.

(2) Grass Land. Church Street owned by Mr Sidney Campkin.

(3) Land. London Rd owned by Mr Wm Harris Heffer. (Carried)" *(From the Parish Council Minutes)*

1926

DEATH OF A NONAGENARIAN. Stapleford has lost one of its old inhabitants by the death of Mrs Ann Matlock, who passed peacefully away

on 3 June, aged 93, retaining all her faculties till the last. She died in the cottage in which she was born on 15 May 1833, and in which she lived all her life. She leaves four sons and one daughter. The funeral took place in the churchyard on Monday, the vicar, Rev M W Rogers, officiating.

1944

Proposition "that if an application was received for permission to graze the recreation ground with sheep it be granted, but the council reaffirmed its decision that grazing by cows, etc, was not suitable for the public using the ground. This arose from correspondence received from the Cams War Agricultural Committee asking for the herbage to be used and not allowed to run to waste."

The Village Show

Saturday 4 June

THE Schedules have been delivered to all Stapleford households, and entry forms will be accepted until midday on the Friday. Please get involved.

There are classes for all age groups and interests.

There will a dog show as part of the afternoon this year and the Samba Band from Sawston Village College will be playing, among other attractions.

There are several events over this special weekend, so do come along, join in, and see what it's all about. **Julie Rayment**

See also pages 59-60

Bell ringers needed!



ST Andrew's Church tower bell ringers would like to invite experienced ringers to join them for Wednesday practice and/or Sunday morning services. The resident team are enthusiastic and very welcoming, but need a few more ringers to help improve their current skills. Please contact me, the tower captain, on 843379. **Tony Smith**

We're waiting for your story!

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



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Quiz Time

V for Victory

THIS Connection Round was devised by **Graham Briscoe** and was aired as part of the Quiz at the Three Horseshoes, which takes place every Monday night at 8.30pm. There is a £2 per person entry fee (£1 of which goes to assist local charities). The winners receive £30 worth of bar tokens along with the privilege of hosting the quiz the following week.

Answers on page 36.

1. Who played Aragorn in Lord of the Rings?
2. Translate Live Laugh Love into French?
3. The name of what car company means 'people's car' in German?
4. Who stared opposite Jennifer Aniston in the 2006 film 'The Break Up'?
5. By what name is dilute acetic acid more commonly known?
6. Who wrote 'Around the World in Eighty Days' and 'Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea'?
7. In mathematics, what name is given to a quantity with both magnitude and direction?
8. The gorgon Medusa symbol is the symbol of which Italian fashion house?
9. What element is represented by the letter V in the Periodic Table?
10. In Star Trek, Mr Spock is of mixed race ... which two races exactly?

Road works in Bury Road



BURY Road will be closed for gas works from 6 to 24 June. The diversion in place will be A1301 – Station Road – Hinton Way – Mingle Lane – Gog Magog Way – Haverhill Road, and vice versa. Access to properties on Haverhill and

Bury Roads will be maintained.

If you normally park on any of these roads, you may wish to do so elsewhere to reduce congestion as large vehicles divert through the village.

Expect car travel to the primary school to be delayed and the only way in and out (after a 3-point turn in the road) of Bar Lane will be via Gog Magog Way. If you can, please cycle, walk or park and stride from somewhere like the Recreation ground or Priam's Way.

Gas works are intended to be completed by 24 June, but the traffic order is in place until 23 Dec 2023.

Jenny Flynn, Stapleford Parish Council

St Andrew's Toddlers

Mondays in term time

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Charity concert



THE Karen Morris Memorial Trust (KMMT) is delighted to announce their first in-person fundraising event in three years, a concert by the Sampson Orchestra of Cambridge at West Road on 18 June. The programme will include Symphony no. 2 by Sibelius, the Leonora Overture no. 3 by Beethoven, a Nocturne by Mendelssohn and Elegiac

Variations featuring solo cello.

Tickets £18 (concessions £16, students £10, under 16 £5) are available from me at info@kmmt.org.uk.

As many residents know, the KMMT is a charity based in Stapleford supporting a local facility, Karen's Home from Home for leukaemia patients and their families at Addenbrooke's (as well as at the Hammersmith in London, the Churchill in Oxford and the Queen Elizabeth in Birmingham - with the fifth in advanced discussions in Plymouth). Please visit our web site kmmt.org.uk for further information about the Trust.

As you will appreciate, we are so grateful to the Sampson Orchestra for choosing the KMMT to be a beneficiary of their June Concert particularly in these very difficult times for fundraising. I look forward to seeing many Stapleford residents at West Road on 18 June.

"Thank you - taking Rob off the ward at Addenbrooke's to eat bacon sandwiches and stream the cricket on his laptop - a treasured memory amidst our sadness..... Karen's Home from Home at Addenbrooke's was a total lifeline for us. The meals we shared in the kitchen and being able to cuddle our son Rob to sleep (I know he was 19 but that didn't matter) in the peace and quiet of the flat were times I reflect on often. We thank you most sincerely for your kindness and hope that your work continues to go from strength to strength."

Sylvia Morris MBE Chair, Karen Morris Memorial Trust

Cambridge Cake Creators

ON 16 June Alison Henderson from Romford, who is part of the BSG Demonstrator group, will be demonstrating string work. The meeting starts at 7.30pm, you just need to have an interest to attend.

We meet in the Pavilion on Stapleford Rec. For more information, ring **Vanda Butler** on 561053.

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Floral delights of Ickleton

JUST six miles south of Stapleford is a village with many high flint walls that might leave you wondering what lies on the other side. Ickleton Open Gardens event on Sunday 19 June from 11am to 5pm offers the rare opportunity to look behind some of those walls to take in the floral delights of 20 varied private gardens. It is only the fourth time in 50 years that villagers are opening their gardens for charity.

As well as floral delights there will be lunches, teas & homemade cakes, sale of plants and local produce, beekeeping, and a willow sculptor weaving. Gardens open include established cottage gardens, newly planted or drought tolerant gardens, a family garden with quintessentially English planting, a magical 'fairy land' garden and the extensive formal gardens surrounding a large Manor house. Sunday 19 June is Father's Day; what better way to treat Dad than a stroll around gorgeous gardens followed by tea and homemade cake!

Tickets are £6 for adults, accompanied children are free. Entry tickets and parking are available on the day from: The Village Hall, Frogge Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SH.

Proceeds from the event are in aid of Ickleton Village Hall, Motor Neurone Disease Association and YoungMinds, a mental health charity for children, young people, and their parents. The last two charities were chosen respectively in memory of much missed Ickleton residents.

The event is kindly sponsored by: Bread & Mat, HSA Accountants, Wild Country Organics, Mr & Mrs P R Wombwell, and Hexcel. **Fiona Rose**

Cambridge Flower Club

WE meet at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford CB22 4NE at 7.15pm for a demonstration with refreshments from 6.45pm.

16 June Madeleine Bradley: 'Summer Blooms Aplenty'

21 July Stephanie Laing 'On the move'

18 August Open meeting with Katherine Kear President of National Association of Flower Arrangers (NAFAS) 'White Knights' 6pm with stalls and refreshments:

Tickets £15 New members welcome! Visitors pay £6

For more information about these meetings or to enquire about joining the Cambridge Flower Club please phone **Dr Sian Jones** on 07702 834065 or email drsiandavies@btopenworld.com

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Puzzle Corner

Back and Forth

Find the answers to each pair of clues
If you write the answer to one clue backwards,
you get the answer to the other clue

e.g. beat/sport (4) gives FLOG and GOLF (4 letters)

Group 1

hound/idol (3)

sack/chat (3)

hurting/Cupid (4)

look at/part of castle (4)

drink/fit for a king (5)

prize/part of chest (6)

Group 2

student union/star (3)

computer/river (3)

cosy/arms (4)

flower/assistant (4)

clever/vehicles (5)

Pavarotti perhaps/stomach extract (6)

Group 3

fish/shelter (3)

novel/cyst (3)

bear/basket (4)

stuff/Almond maybe (4)

fuss/makes jumper? (5)

controlled/unit of weight (6)

Set by Hermes – Answers on page 45

Áine is on her way to the top

IT'S all happening for Stapleford's own Áine Deane.

The singer-songwriter, who has just turned 22, will be appearing on the main stage of the Wilderness festival in Oxfordshire in August. And that's not all - the former Stapleford Primary School pupil will be making her festival debut at Latitude in Suffolk as well in July, appearing in the Saturday line-up.

Áine is gearing up for an exciting summer having seen her song *Handmedowns* featured as track of the week on Radio 1 and having supported both James Bay and Nina Nesbitt on tour.

She said: "*Handmedowns* was played on seven Radio 1 shows across the week - it is honestly the coolest thing that has ever happened to me. It was so fun - and my mum and dad were listening to the radio all day every day because you didn't know what time it would be played.

"*Handmedowns* was the first song I wrote with someone else. I wrote it with an artist called Oli Fox and it was the first time I had ever met him. We did it over Zoom because it was the pandemic - we had never even spoken before but we wrote this song, which will always be special to us



"I have just got back from the Good Karma Club tour, which is National Lottery-supported and so much fun. I supported James Bay's acoustic tour in support of Independent Venues Week - I was astounded at how quickly his hands move on the guitar - and supported Nina Nesbitt's London show a few weeks ago.

"I'm so excited about Wilderness and the fact that it is main stage as well is so mad - I'm very, very nervous. It will be cool to watch everyone else as well

"At Latitude I will be on the BBC Introducing stage. Phoebe Bridgers is playing on the BBC Sounds stage; it's baffling to me that I get to play the same festival as her. Lewis Capaldi and Foals are playing the main stage. Every child in Cambridge went to Latitude at some stage of their life but I never did so it will be really fun."

Áine's love of music was nurtured in the village from a young age when she and older brothers Matt and Paul attended school together.

She said: “At Stapleford Miss Major was my teacher and my piano teacher - she was probably the whole village’s piano teacher.

“Growing up, my biggest influence was Ed Sheeran. I used to do piano exams at the piano shop on the other side of town and if I did well my mum would buy me sheet music, including his first album. I also liked Taylor Swift when I was younger and now Maisie Peters.

“I can play piano, guitar and the flute and I’m teaching myself the ukulele. I am so grateful to my mum pushing me because if she hadn’t I wouldn’t be able to write songs.

“I write all of them on piano or guitar - I taught myself guitar but wouldn’t have been able to if I hadn’t had the foundation of piano.”

Áine - whose manager also looks after multi million-seller Sam Smith - is a graduate of Exeter University, where she studied English Literature and Drama. “My plan was to go to drama school afterwards and do musical theatre,” she said. “Then the pandemic happened and I turned to posting bits of music online as a creative outlet - it found me.”

Áine’s music can be found on all streaming platforms under her name or on social media under áinedeane as one word. She also has an EP due out soon which features a track called *Homegrown* which touches on her formative years in the village.

She said: “It is a love letter to everyone who helped raise me. Now I live in London I see Stapleford as the classic English village. Very cute and sweet - and you can’t walk down the street without seeing someone you know. I go back every couple of months.



“I lived across the road from Stapleford School and I had a very easy childhood, I loved going to school and had amazing teachers. I loved Miss Christie, who taught me in Year Four and Year Six.

“You could never say I was a quiet child, I always loved performing and getting on stage. I did ballet in the village and was always singing and having music lessons. I was always aware where my life was headed, I just didn’t know which niche it would be in.”

So look out for Áine in the next few weeks - and make sure you remember how to pronounce it. “People get it wrong probably about five times a day,” she says. “I get ‘Aynee’ a lot, some people go for ‘Annie’ and sometimes ‘Anya’. I have never had a new person get it right - unless they were Irish. I always say it is like ‘Sonia’ without the S. **Jon West and Frank Jacot** With thanks to **Kara Tinson of Method Music**, who manages Áine Deane.

Insect life on Magog Down

Know when to cut your hedge



ON Amazon TV's 'Jeremy Clarkson's Farm', he remarks, whilst driving his Range Rover through the patchwork of fields covering rural Oxfordshire, on how intensive farming has resulted in his clean windscreen in comparison to the blood-spattered coating it would have received just a

few decades ago.

The main cause for the ongoing steep decline of wildlife in England is the great fall in the numbers of insects on arable farms and the decline in suitable habitats for all types of wildlife. The reason why insect numbers are so vital is that they are the primary food source of most species of birds and generally sit at the bottom of the food chain.

Farmers have not intentionally reduced insect populations but the decline in numbers of grazing livestock requiring field hedges, the need for larger fields to make better use of larger machinery and the control of specific insect pests in amongst the harmless hoard have all taken their toll on our tiny six-legged friends.

At Magog Down we make every effort to encourage insects and in 2018 a year-long survey confirmed we have been successful in achieving unusually large populations of a wide range of invertebrates. The chalk grassland on North Down and all the sheep paddocks are ideal for many types of insects including Meadow Brown, Marbled White and Common Blue butterflies, various beetles, moths and grasshoppers to name a fraction. Nationally, skylark numbers have declined steeply but on the

Down the air is full of 'larks ascending' during Spring and Summer.

Well-maintained hedges are particularly important for wildlife; they provide overwinter shelter for insects and small mammals, nesting sites and food for birds, protection from predators, and wildlife corridors connecting otherwise isolated sites.



Nearly all the hedges on Magog Down have been planted since it was restored from arable 30 years ago, and in the last five years 700m of additional hedging has been planted to encourage even more wildlife.



The ideal hedge contains a range of shrub species grown into a thick wide structure, particularly at the bottom. This new hedge on the left below bordering the arable area on North Down is a good example. Contrast this with the boundary hedge on the right below providing little cover or shelter over winter particularly at the bottom. It would benefit from coppicing (cutting to ground level) or laying (partial cutting of each stem then laying them over), both methods encouraging regrowth at ground level and above.

On Magog Down the proliferation of insects has attracted and nourished a large array of bird species, who in turn fill the bellies of larger predators (both avian and mammal). You may have noticed red kites and, if you are quick, a dashing sparrowhawk plucking a poor unsuspecting songbird from its perch.

Check the map in the car park and then include 'Whitethroat Avenue' in your walk where you may see one of our warblers, the whitethroat, flying and singing – one of the few birds which like skylarks sing on the wing. Continue on to the furthest end of the Perimeter Path to see if you can spot a 'volery' of restlessly moving long-tailed tits (and remember their collective noun for your next pub quiz! – I had to look it up). And what underlies this diversity... hedgerows... lovely thick traditional hedgerows. So, if possible, please take care of your own hedges. Simply avoid cutting all hedges during the nesting season which starts in March and continues until the end of August, and to make them thicker, try where possible cutting them every other year. The rewards will be audible in the dawn chorus and on the birdfeeders and perches across the village. **Bryan and Simon Davies**



Sawston Open Gardens

FIVE Sawston gardens are opening their gates to visitors on Sunday 3 July for the National Garden Scheme. This important charity was founded in 1927 and has since raised over £63 million for a number of nursing charities, funded entirely by charging a small fee to visit participating gardens. Despite disruption and closures during the pandemic, the scheme raised £2.9 and £3 million in 2020 and 2021 respectively. The main beneficiaries are Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospice UK, Carers Trust and The Queen's Nursing Institute. See ngs.org.uk for more details.

This year there are four private gardens plus the Mary Challis Garden to visit from 1-5 pm. Start where convenient and collect a map. Details of the openings, with garden descriptions, are on the NGS website. Visitors are encouraged



to book their visit online or can simply turn up and pay at the first garden. Entrance fee is £6 for all gardens; children free. Do come along to view some of Sawston's finest gardens and support these important charities. Home-made teas and cakes in the Mary Challis Garden from 1.30pm to 4 pm. Enquiries: **Mike & Ann Redshaw**

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Viggo Mortensen | 6. Jules Verne |
| 2. Vivre Rire Aimer | 7. Vector |
| 3. Volkswagen | 8. Ve |
| 4. Vince Vaughn | 9. Vanadium |
| 5. Vinegar | 10. Vulcan & Human |

Tom Jones

Madingley Hall gardens



TOM Jones is a rip-roaring comedy set in the heart of the English countryside. It is based on Henry Fielding's classic story (adapted for stage by Joan Macalpine) and is regarded as the first and one of the most influential

English novels.

The play follows the hilarious adventures of Tom, a foundling and ward of a liberal Somerset squire. We journey with him through trials and tribulations as he seeks his fortune – and amorous entertainments along the way...



Fielding claimed that his purpose was to 'explore human nature' so generosity, hypocrisy, loyalty, jealousy and integrity all play their parts – until finally wisdom, forgiveness and love win out! The glorious gardens of Madingley Hall provide the perfect setting for this 18th century farce. With picnics to purchase (or bring your own), a bar available and plenty of parking – an enjoyable evening beckons.

8 to 15 July 7.30pm. Tickets: £12 Adult £10 under 18s

adcticketing.com/tomjones Box Office: 300085 **Madeleine Forrester**

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:

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- making appointments
- collecting prescriptions
- watering plants
- getting small items of shopping
- wellbeing contact

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juliet.hawksworth@ageukcap.org.uk



Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales with registered charity no. 1165856. Registered Office: 3 Victoria Street, Chatteris, PE16 6AP

Stapleford Strollers Walk 103

Two Counties - a circular walk from Heydon

To get to start of walk

Take the A505 towards Royston and take the second turn on the left, signed Heydon. Turn right at Heydon church and you will soon see the King William IV on the left (SG8 8PN). You can park in a **lay-by** on the left, not long after passing the pub, if you prefer.

Distance of walk

It's a decent leg stretch; 5.1 miles. It is best done when underfoot conditions are dry, as a couple of cropped fields need to be crossed.

OS Map

The walk route overlaps Explorer maps 194 and 209, so you might find it better to use the route map provided, taken from maps.the-hug.net

Extra Information

The name Heydon derives from Old English and means 'hay valley'. The village itself is on a ridge and was transferred from Essex to Cambridgeshire in 1894. Holy Trinity church in Heydon is noteworthy for having been hit by bombs in 1940, suffering some serious damage to the tower and nave. It was finally rebuilt in 1956.

Route of walk



From the King William IV car park turn left along the road. Take care. After the last house (number 87), turn left at a footpath sign. **Lay-by here.** Walk up a grass path between hedges. Just before a gate with a large 'Keep Out' notice on it, go left through a hedge gap into a cropped field. The path diagonally crosses this field and the next one, goes through a narrow tree line and carries on

along the left-hand side of the field beyond the trees, to the right of the houses.

At a footpath sign, turn left through a gate and walk past Green Den (a house). Look out for a concrete footpath sign on the right, set back from the lane. Follow this path along the left side of a field, cross a footbridge and then a cricket ground and keep on until meeting High Street in Chrishall, opposite The Red Cow. Cross over and turn down Hog's Lane.

At the end of the lane, turn left and walk along the field edge until a small side road is reached. Turn left on the road and then go left again at a larger road. Very soon, turn right at a footpath sign and walk along a wide track under trees. Take the first path to the left (red arrow on waymark post) and carry on ahead to reach the road through Crawley End.

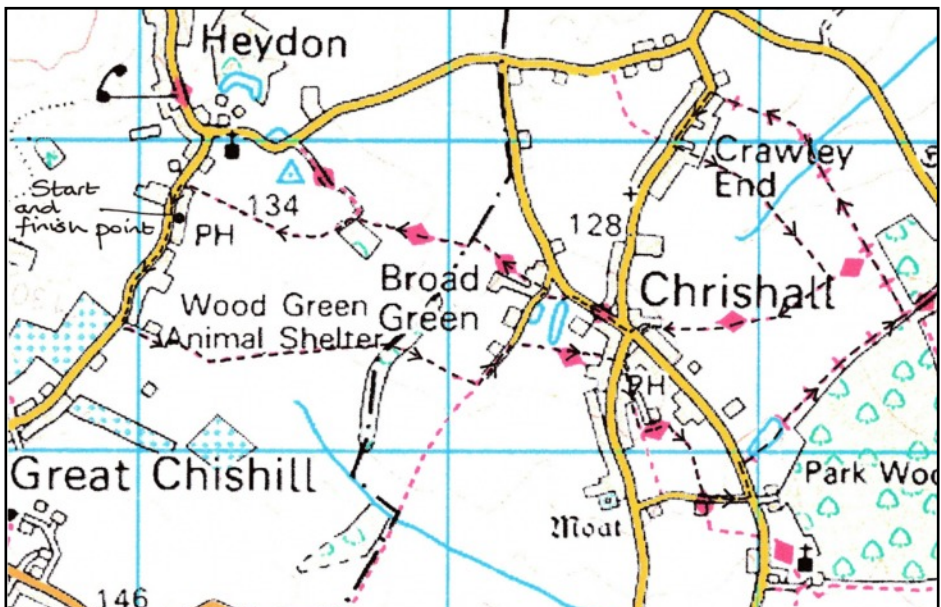
Turn left on the pavement and then go left at a concrete footpath sign. Cross a cropped field and go over a stile into a pasture. Leave the pasture via another stile and keep on until a cross path is reached. Turn right; the path enters a cul-de-sac in Chrishall. Go left. Exit the cul-de-sac, turn right and cross over the road by the Chrishall village sign to go up Palmer's Lane.

After Langford Drive, walk for about 100m, turning left at a concrete footpath sign. Follow the path as it wriggles about. When a small side road is reached, turn right and then, shortly afterwards, go left at a concrete footpath sign.

Walk ahead, skirting a garden and emerge into a field. Go left and then right on a grass strip between fields. Immediately after a small wood to the left (Arrow Plantation), turn left onto an unmarked track. This swings to the right after the wood.

Keep on the path until meeting a road. Turn left and return to the King William IV, using the roadside pavement. **David Barnes**

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



Kathryn Tickell & The Darkening

Friday 10 June | 7:30pm **COURTYARD CONCERT**

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Liz McGowan exhibition launch

Sunday 12 June | 11:00am

Cloaks, sculptures & earth works



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Kabantu **COURTYARD CONCERT**

Saturday 18 June | 7:30pm

Global award-winning folk collective



Stone Age Stories - Theatre of Widdershins

Sunday 19 June | 2:00pm

Prehistoric humour, puppetry & storytelling (age 4+)



Lewis Barfoot & Elisabeth Flett

Saturday 25 June | 7:45pm

Folk music inspired by woods & water



Matt Ford Trio

COURTYARD CONCERT

Sunday 26 June | 2:00pm

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2G3S



I'M sure many of you will join me in praising Stapleford Parish Council's policy of No Mow May – some of the verges have been looking beautiful, with buttercups, alkanet, and cow parsley.

Past events:

On 6 April Rob Mungovan of the Wild Trout Trust looked at what can be done to increase the habitat potential for plants and animals of our local rivers and beyond, focusing on the Granta, the Shep, the Mimram, and more. There is a recording of this excellent talk and discussion on YouTube, search for 2G3S Improving Rivers for Trout.

Events coming up:

- Come and meet us at our stall at the Village Show on Saturday 4 June, 2pm on Stapleford Recreation Ground. We plan on having some activities for you and your children to do which should be fun as well as informative.

- Action for Climate Justice Workshop Monday 6 June, 7.30 to 9pm in Cox's Close Community Room, Stapleford. Do you feel bamboozled by all the talk of carbon emissions and COP26? Do you feel helpless in the face of so much bad news? If so, come along to this friendly workshop organised by 2G3S and the UK Youth Climate Coalition. Katie Williams from the UK Youth Climate Coalition will introduce the workshop, addressing the following issues - What is climate justice? How are people around the world affected by climate change, and what are they doing about it? How is Cambridgeshire affected by climate change, and what can we do about it locally? This will be followed by general discussion. We want you to leave the workshop with a few good ideas for things you CAN do locally to make a difference, and some recommendations for books, websites, podcasts etc. for further information. Free event; all welcome! To reserve a place email greengroupsssss@gmail.com with the header line 'Climate Justice Workshop'.

- Nature walk Saturday 18 June 2pm, at the Parish Pit in Stapleford, led by John O'Boyle.



- Social cycle ride Monday 20 June, meet at Stapleford Pavilion at 10am. A leisurely ride on quiet roads and traffic-free paths of around 20 miles, to include a coffee stop. Returning to Stapleford by about 1pm. Book with Yasmin at greener@sawston.org.

- Stall at Shelford Village Feast 3 July
- Repair Café in Whittlesford 30 July, 2 to 4.30pm.

The Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group, based in Trumpington, has written to local Parish Councils about Natural England funding for creating ponds in this area. If you own land, even just a large garden, you may be eligible.

FWAG says: Wildlife Ponds - Funding Available!

'Ponds are a cherished part of the parish landscape; familiar historic features found at the heart of most village centres and in the wider countryside. Sadly, due to changes in land use and agricultural practices, the UK has lost around 50% of ponds in the 20th Century. Those remaining are often threatened by pollution. This means the many species of plant and animal that rely on them are also under threat.

Excitingly, funding is now available in certain parts of Cambridgeshire for the restoration and creation of clean water wildlife ponds capable of supporting great crested newts. The funding is part of Natural England's District Level Licencing scheme (DLL), a new strategy for compensating the loss of newt habitats, which seeks to provide new ponds and bigger, better, more joined-up habitat for this orange-bellied amphibian at a landscape scale.



In Cambridgeshire there is a high demand for such wildlife ponds through the DLL scheme. Most of the 150 or so pond projects we have delivered to date have been fully funded under the scheme. You can view

some of these projects at: fwageast.org.uk/ponds.

We are seeking local farmers, smallholders, large rural garden owners, land-based businesses and parish-owned land to create and restore more such ponds. If you have a location in mind in your parish, please email ponds@fwageast.org.uk to receive further information or arrange an informal chat. Let's do something brilliant for wildlife!"

Green tips which people with tiny or no gardens can follow: there is still time to plant some vegetable seeds. Garden for wildlife. Try and walk or cycle rather than drive in the summer weather. Buy local seasonal food -

new potatoes, salads, green vegetables, British soft fruit rather than grapes and blueberries from across the world.

And if the weather's not good enough for gardening, then try your hand at the Financial Times' Climate Game on ig.ft.com/climate-game. We all shout at the TV when politicians fail to address problems, here's your chance to have a go at cracking climate change!

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to greengroupssss@gmail.com to sign up for our newsletter, or to get more information about our meetings. Also see our Facebook page and our website. **Helen Hale**

Official playground opening

CHILDREN from Stapleford Community Primary School's student council cut the ribbon to formally open the updated Jubilee playground on 23 April. Families from across the village were then welcomed into the playground to enjoy the new equipment, with the slide on the hill proving a firm favourite. Many thanks to Stapleford residents for purchasing this with your donations!



Villagers were also welcomed onto the multi-use games area, or MUGA, to try their luck at football and basketball on Court 1 under the supervision of Shelford and Stapleford Strikers' U14



squad, or for a spot of tennis on Court 2 with Stapleford Tennis Club's new coach, Angelica Fachechi. Refreshments were available in the Jubilee Pavilion courtesy of the school PTA, and children were encouraged to leave their handprints in a creative collaboration (below) which will be used to inspire the design of a new playground fence, using a designated arts

fund awarded to Stapleford Parish Council.

Thanks to everyone involved in making this such a great event.

Rosie Brown





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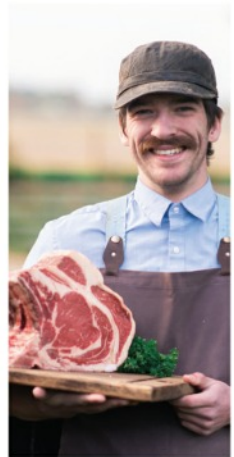
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For further information and to complete a Travel Risk Assessment form visit our website grantamedicalpractice.co.uk/granta-travel-clinic/

If you do not have access to the internet please feel free to ring our reception team on 0300 234 5555, and they will be happy to help you.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services sandra.east@nhs.net

Puzzle Corner Answers

Back and Forth

Group 1: DOG/DOG; BAG/GAB; SORE/EROS; PEEK/KEEP; REGAL/LAGER; REWARD/DRAWER

Group 2: NUS/SUN; MAC/CAM; SNUG/GUNS; IRIS/SIRI; SMART/TRAMS; TENNER/RENNET

Group 3: EEL/LEE; NEW/WEN; POOH/HOOP; CRAM/MARC; STINK/KNITS; REINED/DENIER



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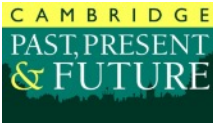
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Wandlebury events



HERE'S what's on at Wandlebury in June and July; for more information about these and events at other locations email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 243830 extension 207 or visit cambridgeppf.org/whats-on.

Tree Identification

Tuesday 7 June & Wednesday 29 June, 10am to 12 noon

Gentle guided walk around the beautiful Country Park to learn about native trees. Led by a knowledgeable CambridgePPF Warden, who will help you to identify tree species using features such as bark, leaves, flowers and fruits. Please wear footwear and clothing for being outdoors. Meet at the large noticeboard near the car park. Free event, suggested donation £3. No need to book.

Summer Wildflowers

Tuesday 21 June, 10am to 12 noon

Gentle guided walk to learn about summer wildflowers at Wandlebury Country Park. Led by a knowledgeable CambridgePPF Warden, who will help you to identify wildflowers using features such as colour, form and habitat. Please wear footwear and clothing for being outdoors.

Meet at the large noticeboard near the car park. Free event, suggested donation £3. No need to book.

Walk with a Warden

Wednesday 13 July, 10am to 12 noon

Gentle guided walk with a Warden to explore the wildlife and history of Wandlebury Country Park. This is also a great opportunity to see and learn about the work that the charity does to protect and improve the park for nature, heritage and people (including the Highland cattle). Please wear footwear and clothing for being outdoors. Meet at the large noticeboard near the car park. Free event, suggested donation £3. No need to book.

Holiday Bushcraft for children, 5 to 12 years

Monday to Thursday, 25 July to 28 July, 8.30am to 4pm

Monday to Wednesday, 1 to 3 August, 8.30am to 4pm

Monday to Friday, 8 to 12 August, 8.30am to 4pm

Monday to Friday, 15 to 19 August, 8.30am to 4pm

Monday to Friday, 22 to 26 August, 8.30am to 4pm

Tuesday to Friday, 30 August to 2 September, 8.30am to 4pm

Holiday Bushcraft is run by experienced qualified teachers from Wild Thyme & Embers who will inspire the children about the subject.



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The sessions focus on practical bushcraft and survival skills and follow a forest school approach, encouraging self-confidence and a sense of achievement. All basic bushcraft techniques suitable for this age range will be taught, including:

- Shelter building
- Knots and rope work
- Use of cutting tools and whittling
- Plant and tree recognition and uses
- Fire-lighting techniques
- Wilderness cooking skills
- Natural art and crafts

The cost for each day is £38 per child. Children need to bring a packed lunch and large water bottle (which can be refilled throughout the day) and dress for the weather. Please send children with a change of clothes and ensure they wear suitable footwear, preferably closed-toe shoes such as hiking boots, wellies or trainers. Wild Thyme will take care of everything else including providing all specialist equipment as well as delicious snacks cooked on the fire! Please book via the Wild Thyme & Embers website wildthymeandembers.co.uk/holiday-bushcraft-club/ **Lena Payne**

Liz McGowan - Art Exhibition

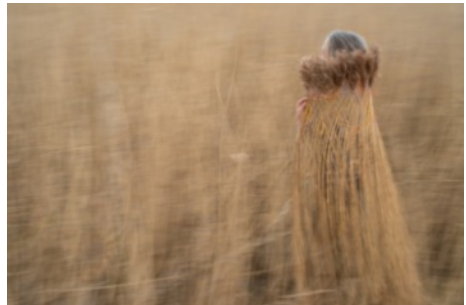
The spirit wraps around me: nature as a second skin

Stapleford Granary 12 June - 22 July Free entry

Launch event: Sunday 12 June, 11am, artist talk 12pm

FOUR years ago, on a warm sunny day in Brancaster on the North Norfolk coast, Liz McGowan wrapped herself in her Winter Reed Cloak. Made of reeds with soft brown plumes tied into a delicate lattice using fine cotton threads, it had taken her four months to make. She and celebrated landscape photographer Harry Cory Wright trod a path through the reeds, McGowan walking to and fro and Cory Wright walking a parallel route, taking photos as they went.

Liz McGowan is recounting this seminal day as we discuss her forthcoming exhibition at Stapleford Granary - 'the spirit wraps around me: nature as a second skin'. What



could be closer to wrapping yourself in nature than wearing a cloak made from the very fibres of the landscape you are walking in? But McGowan found it revelatory. “I didn’t design the cloaks for anyone to wear, let alone me,” she explains. She first tried one on, reluctantly, under pressure from friends when it was hanging on the wall of a barn. Her husband took photos. “When I saw the pictures, I suddenly realised I had to be wearing the cloaks” she said. But she stresses that the photos are about the relationship between herself, the cloak and the habitat: “I have to be there, but they are not about me” she explains carefully, as if still processing the intuitive act of subconsciously weaving herself into her own art. Cory Wright now photographs McGowan wearing all of her cloaks and each image is displayed near to its cloak in her exhibitions.

McGowan’s work grows directly from the Norfolk landscape and a lifelong fascination with the materials, details and patterns found in the natural world. As a child, she was an avid beachcomber, collecting treasures whilst on holiday in North Wales on the Llŷn Peninsula. “I know where the



cowrie shells fetch up” she says “...and the pelican’s feet. I know the way the colours of the pebbles change... reds, greens, maroons...” Alongside five cloaks, her work includes sculptures and earth works made from saltmarsh mud in liquid form.

McGowan calls herself an ‘environmental artist’, a label she adopted in the 1980s and has continued to feel at ease with. “Back then, I was a bit naive” she says. She knew the work of Andy Goldsmith and Chris Drury, but the transformation in her mind from ‘maker’ (she had always sewn her own clothes) to ‘artist’ took place via a series of discussions and collaborations with fellow artists of different disciplines, all offering constructive feedback on each other’s work. “Since then, I have always felt that my work is part of a conversation in some essential way” says McGowan.

Creating art ‘in conversation’ with the Norfolk landscape is a lengthy process, starting from scratch every time with “huge play and experimentation”. For her 2021 River Cloak, McGowan spent time walking by rivers and overgrown canals, looking at multiple layers: currents, patterns of reflection and refraction and the plant life growing beneath the

water. She dried out blanket weed in her studio, transforming it into a fine textured dark green mat (“exactly the same colour as the bottom of a river”) and ironed recycled plastic shreds together. She collected water snails and swan mussel shells. She teased her own hair from a brush and mixed it with chalk, water and pva glue to represent water currents on the cloak.

Art with an environmental message certainly isn’t new. In the 1960s and early 1970s artists started to create work that was not intended for gallery spaces, such as Robert Smithson’s Spiral Jetty (1970), a 1,500ft-long mud and rock piece in Utah’s Great Salt Lake, and Nils-Udo’s startling and temporary works made from borrowed natural materials. Greater public discussion on climate change in the 2000s has inspired a new range of works dedicated to climate change. ‘Environmental art’ now includes sustainability, energy, power and economics. “My saltmarsh mud earth works are about anger,” says McGowan. Not surface-level anger, but a “deep earthy roar...a planet in crisis, meeting an inner, empathetic roar.”

Removed from their wall hangings and reinstated in the landscape, McGowan’s cloaks meld into the environment they come from, sympathetically mimicking the organic patterns and shapes that nature creates. McGowan describes the cloak as “mediating between the human body and the landscape it emerges from. It’s an invitation to immerse oneself in more than the human world, like plunging into cold water.” McGowan’s work exemplifies what it is to be part of nature, rather than to observe it. It represents the natural not as a concept detached from human endeavour, but something at the very heart of who we are.

Kate Romano

Find more about the exhibition & other events:

WHATS ON staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/events

TWITTER @SGArtsCulture

INSTAGRAM @StaplefordGranary

Photo credits Harry Cory Wright



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.

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Duxford Saturday Workshop

Free musical instrument 'Taster Morning' at Duxford School on Saturday 2 July

WOULD you or your child like to play a musical instrument, but you aren't sure which one? Would you like to try out one or more instruments before making up your mind?

If so, Duxford Saturday Workshop Taster Morning is for you!

At this event, experienced tutors and players will help you to have hands-on, practical experience of several instruments. They are available to answer your questions and to help you to decide which instrument is the one for you.

This is completely free. There is no need to book in advance, and you do not have to be a current member of the Music Workshop to come along - so just arrive and have a go!

Of course, if you decide to join us for the next Workshop year (beginning in September) you will be most welcome. Our current membership rate is only £20 per year, with a weekly attendance fee of just £2 for adults and £1 for children.

If you need an instrument, items can often be borrowed from our hire stock for the year at low cost (currently £25 per year), meaning that it is possible to gain tuition and experience of playing, for a very modest outlay indeed.

Workshop takes place at Duxford School on Saturday mornings during term-time and is very much about enjoying music-making in a supportive and fun environment. All ages, abilities and experience levels are welcome, and we offer both ensembles and tuition to cater for a wide range of musical interests and tastes.

Instruments included in the Taster Morning are: Violin, Viola, Cello, Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet, Saxophone, Trumpet, Cornet, Trombone, Guitar and Ukulele.

When?

Saturday morning 2 July from 11am to 12.15pm

Where?

Duxford Primary School, St John's Street, Duxford CB22 4RA.

Further information

See: dxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk

or email: director@dxfordsaturdayworkshop.org.uk. **Peter Howarth**

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Great Shelford Library

The Summer reading challenge will soon be here!



GET ready for the Gadgeteers Summer Reading Challenge, arriving in the library this summer. Join the Gadgeteers to discover the amazing science and technology in the world around you.

Read amazing books, collect awesome *scratch & sniff* stickers and

join in with our marvellous science-themed activities. Complete the Challenge and claim your own special Gadgeteers medal and certificate! Sign up for free at Great Shelford Library from Saturday 9 July.

Other events at the Library (please pre-book):

1. Children's Jubilee Craft Event: Wed 1 June 2pm to 3.30pm.

Suitable for ages 3+. £2 per child.

2. Pop in and Chat: 8 June 2pm to 3.30pm: our new mutual support group for parents/carers of children with additional needs (eg SEND). Note: the time for these meetings may change, to avoid a clash with school pick up times, so please check the time when booking.

3. Engage Talk: 22 June 2pm to 3.30pm. Our free Engage talk this month will be about the Business and Intellectual Property Centre, a superb local and national resource (particularly if you have a new business idea). A donation of £2 is appreciated if you stay for a drink after the talk.

Library Opening hours:

Monday	3pm to 7pm
Tuesday	10am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm
Wednesday	10am to 1pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10am to 1pm and 2pm to 6pm
Saturday	10am to 1pm

(Note: the library will be closed on Friday 3 June for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.)

Contact details: Telephone: 0345 045 5225.

Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. **Rosemary Humby**





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Stapleford prepares to celebrate

THE Village Weekend is back, a little earlier in the year than usual, (3 to 5 June) but coinciding with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee extended weekend.

We kick off on Friday 3 June with a quiz night. Pavilion doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start. The cost is £8/person, including a glass of wine or pint of beer. A fish and chip van will satisfy cravings during an interval, (£10/person for cod and chips). Please try to book your table (parties of 8) and order your food in advance by emailing jonwest1392@gmail.com.

Saturday 4 June is a themed day celebrating the Jubilee, with a bouncy castle, tug-of-war, plenty of traditional stalls, an ice cream van, and a chance to learn some circus skills and toe-tap to a samba band. The organising committee also has an ambitious plan to make our summer event lead by example by promoting environmental issues and products that can reduce our carbon footprint. There will be opportunities to learn more about solar panels, air- and ground- source heating, biofuels and other eco-friendly products from local specialist providers, plus representatives from sustainable food companies, CamCycle and environmental group 2G3S. We will also have craft stalls where the whole family can create items for their gardens.

The ever-popular gardening and handicraft classes will be back. This year the latter comprise a piece of homemade upcycled jewellery, a soft toy (a 'Womble', in keeping with the sustainability theme), and a piece of graphic art ('our future'). We're also very much looking forward to a new item for the Village Show – a dog show, complete with professional judges. With pedigree and fun classes to enter, please register your dogs by 1pm, ready for judging to commence at 1.30pm. We hope to have a special guest joining the judging panel and awarding prizes, too.

On the evening of 4 June, highly respected Cambridge band, The Lonely, will be playing until late. There'll be a bar with draught beer/wine and BBQ food cooked to order. Tickets can be purchased on the door (£12), but if you can please book in advance (£10) through gillianpett29@gmail.com.

Activities start at 10am on Sunday 5 June with the Tour de Stapleford. Bacon rolls will be provided for all who return.... Cricket starts at 1pm, with an open-air church service at 5.30pm concluding the event.

Card and cash payments will be accepted in most areas throughout the Village Weekend.

If anyone has an hour or so to spare over the Village Weekend and can help out, please contact Gillian Pett or Michael Gatward (mgatward@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk). **Cllr Michael Gatward**

FUN DOG SHOW

Stapleford Village Weekend
& Queen's Jubilee

Saturday 4th June 2022
Entry registration 1p.m.
at Recreation Ground



3 x Pedigree classes
4 x Fun classes



Entry fee £2 per
class or,
3 classes for £5



Kennel Club Judge
for pedigree classes



Mystery Celebrity
Judge for Fun
Classes.



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Neighbourhood Plan update

Complete the survey and have your say NOW!



WE have been really encouraged by the number of responses so far to our first Neighbourhood Plan survey.

Thank you to everyone who has filled it in, talked to us at pop-up events and shared your views about what is important to you about the place where we live/work.

In a nutshell, we want to understand what's good, what needs fixing and what's missing, as we seek to meet our villages' planning needs and support a thriving community through to 2040 and beyond. Survey questions cover topics such as: what you like and dislike about living/working here; what kind of new homes you think we need and where they should be located; your views on our greenbelt and environmental challenges; and how you travel around our wider area.

Some common themes are beginning to emerge from the survey, but I won't prejudice further responses by reporting on them just yet. However, they are vital in helping us to focus the Neighbourhood Plan on the things which matter most to you. Once the plan is finished, our collective priorities will be reflected in planning policies specific to our villages and sit alongside the Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework when assessing planning applications in our area.

The survey will be open until just after Great Shelford Feast in July, and we will be out in the community talking to people at Stapleford Show (Sat 4 June) and Great Shelford's Jubilee Event (5 June). It can be accessed online through the link on our website, greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan, or via the QR code below. Hard copies and a Neighbourhood Plan display are available at Great Shelford library. If you are housebound, we can deliver a survey to you and collect it later. To arrange this, email SGSNPlan@gmail.com or call our Clerk, Libby White, on 616622.

Do take this opportunity to have your say in shaping our villages' future – the survey takes only a few minutes to complete, and anyone of any age who lives or works in Stapleford or Great Shelford is eligible to take part.

Cllr Jenny Flynn, Chair of the neighbourhood plan steering group



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Parish Council Chair's report

AT the Annual Parish Council Meeting, the Chair and Vice-Chair were unanimously re-elected. Cllr Ben Shelton was welcomed to the Parish Council. Congratulations were extended to the District Councillors, Will Jackson-Wood and Peter Fane, on their election to South Cambridgeshire District Council.

A member of the public outlined a suggestion for use of the Slaughterhouse as a bike loan and maintenance depot. Council decided that this warranted further discussion and investigation into insurance liability and practicalities. The suggestion will be taken further.

A discussion about portfolios concluded that councillor numbers are insufficient for portfolios to work efficiently, and projects and village matters will be prioritised as funds and councillor availability and numbers allow.

Favourable comments have been received following the decision to participate in 'No Mow May'. Reduced grass cutting during Covid has resulted in increased wildflower growth in the verges. It is intended, as part of the Queen's Green Canopy Project, to plant a number of fruit trees in the Slaughterhouse garden as a community orchard. Members of the public are invited to contact the Clerk if they wish to sponsor a tree.

A number of criticisms were levelled at the Parish Council at last month's Annual Parish Meeting. The Council were criticised for lack of consultation and communication.

The Council has consulted, and will continue to do so, through various means such as community surveys. Communication is addressed through the Parish Council website, Facebook, Stapleford Messenger and village notice boards. Minutes of meetings are also available on the Parish Council website. Faults, queries and problems should be reported to the Clerk.

The Parish Council now faces increasing external pressures, which did not exist in the past, including complying with complex legislation and standards.

Councillors are volunteer members of the public with an interest in maintaining and improving our village amenities and environment. We need more councillors – why not consider joining us or, if you feel you can't commit to that, come forward to assist with particular projects that you are interested in? **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
Ben Shelton	bshelton@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

Will Jackson-Wood
cllr.jackson-wood@scambs.gov.uk 07873 731597

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



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