

# Stapleford

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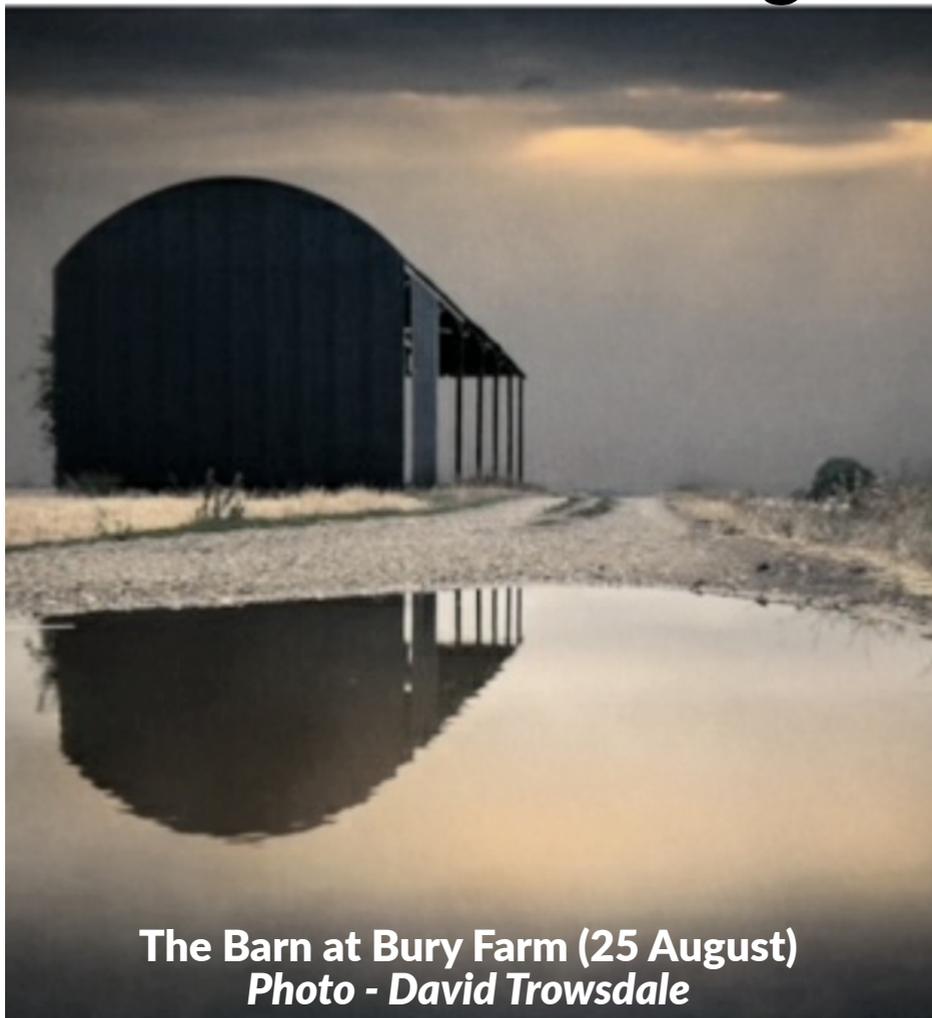
# MESSENGER

October 2022

Volume 81 No 10

Price 60p

## First rain after drought



**The Barn at Bury Farm (25 August)  
Photo - David Trowsdale**

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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

## Assistant priest

Rev Clare Coates 07818 618795

## Curate

Rev Lucinda Howard 07763 477821

## Churchwarden

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

## Vergar

Clare Kerr 842984

## Captain of bellringers

Tony Smith 843379

## Church flowers

Jackie Nettleton 721366

## 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

## Gift Aid secretary

Lisa MacGregor 07523 668731

## SERVICES at St ANDREW'S

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

## 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

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# From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

I AM writing this during a 'sitting' week for me – that is, I get to 'sit' as a part-time judge at the Crown Court, this time in Cambridge. The barristers' strike is full-on this week, so things are all a bit haphazard, though cases are still getting done. I have been reminded just how good our criminal barristers are – real experts, totally essential to society, doing an excellent job, but being paid a pittance. And not just them but the court staff too, and the much-maligned CPS, prison and transport staff, probation officers and the police. We all want those accused – one day it could be you or me - to be judged fairly, and that means that every part of the system needs to be properly paid for and to work well.



Despite the system crumbling I enjoy being the judge. It is enjoyable, interesting and worthwhile. Those are the publishable reasons, anyway.



Cambridge Crown Court

Deep down I suspect I just like judging others, as many of us do in our own ways. I hasten to add it is not at all about handing down tough penalties. The good bit is trying to see the hope in all the mess. Punishment, retribution and deterrence, yes, but what is the best way of attempting rehabilitation?

The *Guardian* plays with the idea of judgment in a weekly series called 'You be the judge'. Readers 'solve' domestic disputes. Here are a couple of headlines to give you a flavour. 'You be the judge: should I let my boyfriend have three games consoles?' Or 'You be the judge: should my housemate water my plants while I am away?' And my favourite for sheer banality: 'You be the judge: should my boyfriend close the kitchen cupboards after himself?'

In the series each protagonist has their say, then a 'jury' of readers' comments, then the public vote. In kitchen Doorgate, Daisy for the prosecution says that Donald permanently leaves kitchen cupboard doors open, and drawers too. Aesthetically it looks terrible. And poor Daisy bangs her hips on the drawers. Even her parents comment on his habit, apparently: 'Oh, we can see Donald has been here.' Defendant Donald says he forgets to shut them, and anyway it is a waste of energy closing them. Six or so hot drinks a day evidently amounts to a lot of door energy.

There's more, but I will spare you. The jury was with Daisy. Cupboards should be shut. Drawers too. And the public was too: 3% said Donald is

innocent, and a whopping 97% said guilty. The great British public feel strongly about cupboards, and about Daisy's hips.

It is all a bit of fun, I guess, though I wonder what it does for the relationships, and it is a rather narrow, right or wrong, sort of judgment that is being asked for.



Equally simple, on the face of it, was what Jesus said about judging others. His most well-known and basic message was 'don't', but, as ever, there was a context. To put my defence up first, he certainly wasn't trying to do away with a properly-run criminal justice system.

Jesus' saying 'Do not judge, or you too will be judged' is in Matthew's gospel, part of the Sermon on the Mount. It comes in the same passage as the 'take the plank out of your own eye first' saying, just after 'Do not worry about what you will wear ... seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness', and just before 'Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.'

So this is a passage which says don't spend energy on negative attitudes to ourselves ('Do not worry ...'), or to others ('Do not judge ...'), and goes on to say we can and should depend on God because he will provide for us. 'Do not judge' when it comes from Jesus is, as one commentator put it, not a requirement to be blind, nor a statement that we don't need judges for some things, but a command to be generous to others, just as God is good to us. We should be kind to ourselves, generous in our attitudes to others, and look to God in all things.

And in case we miss the point there is a warning that goes with the command not to judge. If we are judgmental – all those negative attitudes – about friends and neighbours and those we come across, then, says Jesus, we are inviting God to be judgmental towards us. If we carry on like that, then he, who sees our hearts and knows all our thoughts and words and deeds, may not be best pleased. Mercy and generosity is his favourite currency by far – ask and you will receive and all that – but that is not his only way of operating.

So, back to Cambridge Crown Court I go. The cases are more important, I guess, than Doorgate, but even so I am put in my place again by Jesus' ancient and timeless wisdom. A judge, yes, but working for the Lord of all forgiveness, who wants everyone to seek him and find him, and to ask for and receive his all that he has to give.

**Every blessing to you all, Simon**

# St Andrew's Noticeboard

2 OCT	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	CW COMMUNION Philippians 2.1-11; Luke 17.5-10 <i>Every knee shall bow</i>
	10.30 AM	FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
	6 PM	CHORAL EVENSONG Nehemiah 8.9-18; John 16.1-11
	9 OCT	9 AM
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Philippians 2.12-30; Luke 17.11-19 <i>God works in you</i>
16 OCT	9 AM	CW COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Philippians 3.1-14; Luke 18.1-8 <i>Righteousness through faith in Jesus Christ</i>
	10.30 AM	MESSY FOREST CHURCH
23 OCT	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE SUNDAY WORSHIP
30 OCT	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE FOR ALL SAINTS' Ephesians 1.11-22; Luke 6.20-31 <i>In him you were chosen</i>
6 NOV	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	CW COMMUNION 2 Thessalonians 2.1-5, 13-17; Luke 20.27-38 <i>He is the God of the living</i>
	10.30 AM	FOREST CHURCH COMMUNION
	6 PM	CHORAL EVENSONG FOR ALL SOULS' 1 Kings 3.1-14; Romans 8.31-39

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

## FROM THE REGISTERS

- 26 August – Funeral of Betty Baynes
- 28 August – Baptism of Rowan (Rory) Cooke
- 11 September – Baptism of Barnaby Wigzell

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# Broken

*JUST before copy date our remarkable Queen died. I offer sincere gratitude for her unbroken life of devotion and duty.*

I FELT sad recently when a favourite pottery leaf, hand-made by me, was broken. Most favoured items so often meet an unfortunate end through mishap. Sometimes when achievement and endeavour come together and something is prized, it is surprisingly upsetting when it is taken away.

'Precious' items seem prone to an unfortunate end through mishap.

Disappointment. No point in trying to replicate, instead remember what was. Some ceramics are fixed together again using strong gold lines. It is a Japanese technique, greatly admired and sought after. Cracked pots are regarded favourably as light is let in; necessary in life.

As children, my brother, sister and I trustingly laid broken toys on our father's work bench for mending. Dolls lost limbs. They were fixed inside by sharp hooks and rubber bands which snapped or perished. Design then was different. Health and safety laws not known. Belt and bag stitching was replaced. Being allowed at the operating table to assist was an honour. Thanks should have been expressed more often. Kindness, patience, loving devotion are little things meaning a lot. A laugh, smile, touch of the hand make an impression. When feeling low, broken through pressures of life, people make a difference. Friends help mending which is why fallouts feel so awful. Hearts ache, minds dull, mood hopeless. Family relationships, as marriages have ups and downs; it is being human. Disagreements, broken promises make for misery, loss of respect and trust which can escalate. Establishing diplomacy and peace might mean loss of face, hard work in trying to understand, compromise; worthwhile though. A saying states that, 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words may never hurt me.' Actually words can be deep set and damaging.

We speak of a broken world meaning pollution, climate change disasters, extinction of flora and fauna, differences between leaders and nations... Our local villages are welcoming, seeming safe and secure. Like a Marple or Poirot saga, behind closed doors may be fractured, shattered lives; hopefully not. I find a welcome, friendliness, desire to help. The word broken can be applied frequently. The comment, 'you sound like a broken record,' crops up. Perhaps a fall was stopped which might have caused injury. The garden might have a broken gate, bench, wall or fence. A shoe heel might be broken, or the car won't start, adding to a broken spirit or confidence. Hopefully they can be mended, unlike Humpty Dumpty, 'who had a great fall and couldn't be put back together again.' **Judith Lee**

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# Mothers' Union



ON Saturday 8 October there is the Autumn Diocesan Day at Milton All Saints, starting at 10am and finishing by 2.30pm. Coffee and tea provided but bring a packed lunch. I will be going if anyone wants to accompany me.

We have our regular monthly meeting on 27 October (2.30pm, Johnson Hall) when Mary Dicken will speak about the 'History of Sawston Hall'. Mary is a Trustee of the Challis Garden where we had such an enjoyable outing in August on Mary Sumner Day, and as a resident of Sawston is very

knowledgeable about her town. All are welcome to what should be a very interesting talk.

Hope to see some of you at either or both these events.

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# Stapleford-Nachingwea Link



ON 12 August the committee had a very useful Zoom meeting with Bishop James of Masasi and his wife Mama Veronica who are in England for the Bishops' conference.

Bishop James said that the Masasi Diocese was 'in good harmony' and is making plans to celebrate their centenary

in 2026. His main centenary goal is to train more priests as there are 450 parishes in the diocese but only 50 priests. He would like to boost this to 100 priests.

His other dream is to complete a girls' secondary boarding school on church land in Masasi so that girls would have a secure place to learn. Four classrooms and two houses for teachers have already been built and two dormitories are still to be completed.

Bishop James sends his thanks and good wishes to all those who support the Link.



## St Andrew's, Nachingwea seminar

As part of a seminar on understanding the word of God, attendees enjoyed gospel songs from local choirs.



## Tanzania census

Chair of the Nachingwea Link, Kevin Bushiri, has been acting as one of the 1,000 census clerks in the Nachingwea district during the national census carried out at the end of August. At the end of July Kevin and the other clerks received three weeks training from the National Bureau of Statistics in the asking of questions and the collection and transmission of data using tablets - this is the first census to be conducted using electronic devices. Tanzania conducts a census every ten years. **Mary Cooper**

# The Jubilee Table in Ely Cathedral



IF you are visiting Ely, it's worth going into the Cathedral to look at the Jubilee Table, which was made from bog oak found in the Fens.

In 2012 a bog oak was unearthed in the Fen by a farmer in Wissington in Norfolk, who was ploughing his field. Bog oaks were growing more than 5,000 years ago (and considerably taller than the oaks found today – almost the height of Ely Cathedral, in fact). When sea levels rose the Fens were flooded, and the trees fell into the peat, thus preserving them and creating one of the most valuable British hardwoods, known as black oak.

The tree was excavated (with the aid of a mobile sawmill, borrowed from a Canadian company) and then dried artificially and very slowly – apparently air-drying is not suitable. Over nine months, 1,795 litres of water were extracted in a purpose-built dehumidifying kiln, reducing the weight of the trunk by 1.8 tonnes. A multidisciplinary design team considered how to proceed, so that a table could be made, maintaining the shape and character of each individual plank. Finally in May this year the table – a gift for the nation – was unveiled by Princess Anne.

The Table is 'in residence' at Ely Cathedral until next March, after which it will go on tour round the country. For more information – and fascinating details – visit [thefenlandblackoakproject.co.uk](http://thefenlandblackoakproject.co.uk). **Hilary Street**

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# Stapleford WI



ANTHONY Browne, the MP for South Cambridgeshire held an event entitled 'Homes for Ukraine' at Stapleford Pavilion on the first Saturday in August. This was an opportunity for him to welcome Ukrainian guests and obtain feedback about the experience from the families and hosts. WI committee members were pleased to volunteer their help by providing and serving refreshments during the morning. It was very humbling to talk to some of these people and hear their stories firsthand.

We meet in the Pavilion on the fourth Thursday of each month and we try to provide a variety of speakers to suit different tastes. At our August

meeting a very lively evening took place. Following the interesting, informative talk by Alison Giles from the Burwell Museum about Fen and Molly dancing, the traditions surrounding these, and the way they are performed, six members volunteered to be dancers and to engage in the general mayhem which Molly dancing causes. The dancing was originally designed for drunk peasants, but our members participated whilst sober! Alison played her recorder and fun was had by both participants and onlookers.



*WI members with Anthony Browne MP*

Activities such as the book and craft groups, and the walking group, continue to be enjoyed by our members and in September we enjoyed a curry evening, with food prepared by our committee. One of our Vice-Presidents, Celia Weir, has introduced a scheme called Stapleford Cares whereby we each bring an item to our meetings to be donated to a local Food Bank.

If you think you would like to know more about your local WI group please contact Sallie Dixon on 843847, or speak to any of our members and arrange to find out more. You are able to attend some meetings as a visitor where I can assure you of a friendly welcome and where you will be introduced to members. You can also find photos of what we do on [staplefordwi.weebly.com](http://staplefordwi.weebly.com). **Joyce Dobson**

## Phoenix flies overseas



IT was an invitation that was impossible to turn down - the chance for Stapleford Phoenix Cricket Club to make its international debut in a competition that just happened to be sponsored by a beer company.

The tiny island of Heligoland - some 30 miles off the coast of Germany and once part of the British Empire - was the destination, and the Atlantik Cup up for grabs, thanks to

hosts the Heligoland Pilgrims and sponsors Erdinger.

So off set a happy band of 12 sportsmen, their ages ranging from 19 to best not mention, to represent the village in a match played over two days on a sandy, artificial football pitch while German holidaymakers looked on in bewilderment.

Travelling to the North Sea to play cricket in September had always seemed an eccentric idea but reality turned out to be all we had hoped for. True, there was no shortage of wind but bright sunshine from a cloudless sky illuminated our efforts while swimmers and seals frolicked in the waters of an unspoiled beach just a few yards away.

The first day was a 40-over game that saw the Pilgrims choose to bat first but our hosts quickly saw their top order dismantled by father and son opening pair of Jon and Alex West.

The middle order repaired the damage but wicket-taking deliveries from skipper Gareth Everson, Jeff Wilson and Simon Lancaster plus a few run outs saw our opponents limited to just 190 runs.

Aidan Swain did not linger long in our reply, although he did smite a couple of fine boundaries, but Gareth, Jeff and Ralph Minter all retired not out with fine fifties as we posted a first-innings lead of 51.

The competition rules stated that the side with the smaller first-day score would bat first the next day, which started early and finished the





same way as we had to hot foot it to the ferry by four o'clock.

A lengthy night of Erdinger-sponsored hospitality had taken its toll on certain Phoenixers however and the hosts cashed in on wayward bowling to eradicate the deficit in double-quick time.

It took quality spells from Jeff and Nusrat Hamid to stop the Pilgrims racking up an enormous score but we still had to make 143 to win with only 15 overs guaranteed to be bowled before time had to be called.

We went for it in true T20 style but a devastating spell by one of their opening bowlers saw the stumps of Aidan, Jeff and Gareth castled - and the same man ran out Ralph as well with a direct hit.

That meant we couldn't win it but sterling batting from Simon ensured we wouldn't lose either - and some astonishing late hitting from man-of-the-match Nusrat, which featured four sixes, saw the game end with him having reached 50.

The Atlantik Cup was shared therefore and we made our way back to Hamburg to fly home having thoroughly enjoyed ourselves on one of cricket's most obscure outposts.

**Jon West**



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# Calling all tennis lovers!



WELL, it's been a super tennis season, even if sometimes a bit too hot! The Wimbledon excitement, as each year, led to many of us dusting off our rackets and heading to the

Stapleford Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) for a few sets of tennis. And for Stapleford Tennis Club (STC) it's been a wonderful summer - thanks to our energetic members, and to our Lawn Tennis Association accredited coach Angelica Fachechi, who has breathed new life into our coaching programmes.



Coach Angelica is running group and private sessions for all ages and tennis abilities: there are a range of sessions for children and teens aged 4 to 15, whilst for adults aged 16+ there are sessions for beginners, improvers and beyond. Although the next block of 10 lessons started in September, it's never too late to join in! For information on the latest courses go to [clubspark.lta.org.uk/AngelicaFachechiCoaching](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/AngelicaFachechiCoaching). She offered free taster sessions at the official opening of the Stapleford playground opening in April which were very popular.

STC Club Night runs on Monday evenings from 7.30pm, where STC members play under coach supervision into the evening. The Club Night will continue into the winter due to popular demand, and thanks to the excellent Tweener LED lighting which Stapleford Parish Council installed at the MUGA when it was built. We have also had a great turnout for our 'Friday Ladies' group, which as the name suggests, comprises a group of members who play on a Friday morning - whatever the weather (almost!).

STC also collaborated with the PC to offer free tennis access to lower income families and Ukrainian refugees across the school summer holidays, and thanks to members that donated rackets to this initiative.

Looking ahead into 2023 we are excited to be working with Coach Angelica to plan further coaching as well as tennis tournaments for various age groups. Do come down to the courts for a game soon! You can play through SPC's pay-to-play system, which is currently from £5 per hour, or come and join us as a STC member where annual adult membership is £45 and annual junior is £15.

See [clubspark.lta.org.uk/StaplefordTennisClub](http://clubspark.lta.org.uk/StaplefordTennisClub) for all the latest details, and for more details about coaching see the website given earlier in this article. **Rosie Brown**

# Yesteryear

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

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

**1812**

**SALE.** By auction. In Lots, at Stapleford. The valuable flock of Sheep, Cows, and part of the Implements in Husbandry, etc. of Mr. H. Headly.

**1867**

**HARVEST THANKSGIVING.** On Sunday last, the feast of St. Michael and all angels was chosen as the day of special thanksgiving for the recent harvest. There were the usual services in the church, and the occasion was marked by appropriate decorations of corn and flowers. The offertory alms and the afternoon collection were devoted to the Church Restoration Fund, and amount to £8 10s. Those of our readers who take an interest in the work of making God's houses amongst us decent and convenient for congregational worship, will be glad to learn how well this work has been done in Stapleford. Upwards of £800 has been raised and expended in a way which leaves nothing to be desired, and rather more than another £100 is required to cover the cost of restoration.

**1898**

“Resolution – That the annual appointment of Parish Constable should be discontinued, the appointment being merely formal for neither the present or the past Constable have been called upon for more than two years”. (*From the Parish Council Minutes*).

**1901**

**VICAR'S RESIGNATION**

To the deep regret of the people of this village, the time has come when the resignation of the Rev C Butler must take effect. The vicar has won the respect and confidence of both churchgoers and dissenters, a fact, perhaps, which is almost unique in a village life. Consequently every villager has been pleased to subscribe towards a present as a token of their appreciation, love and respect for their recent pastor.

**1935**

“The principal business was to discuss the question of the supply of water from the Cambs. Water Co and after the Clerk had read correspondence from the RDC including a report on existing wells by the Medical Officer of Health the matter was fully gone into. After which Mr

Cook proposed and Mr King seconded that the Parish Council are unanimous that the water supply would be advantageous to the village, but consider the cost excessive and would like the RDC to ascertain the reason for the big difference in the figures of the guarantee now asked for viz £178 compared with the figures submitted about 3 years ago which were approximately £82. (Carried)" (From the Parish Council Minutes).

1940

AIR RAID SHELTERS ... Mr Stanley Smith and Sgt Leach put forward a scheme which was carried unanimously, and a committee was elected to carry it out ... Mr Kerridge has generously consented to supply the materials at cost price, and there have been generous loans of tools and equipment.



By the kindness of their officers, soldiers did the initial digging, and over the weekend many men of the village finished the work and laid a concrete floor. All the work is to be unpaid, and it is hoped that the collection in the parish will cover the cost of the materials.

The siren was situated in a wooden shed at the corner of London Road and Church Street.

## Stapleford Horticultural Society



ON 8 September we resumed our programme of talks, welcoming back Nigel Start who covered the very topical subject of Coping with Climate Change.

Nigel explained that gardeners in East Anglia would have to cope with more extremes of climatic conditions in the future. Strategies to live with these include better water management, mulching, doing more Autumn planting, and choosing plants which were better able to cope with the conditions. Summer bedding may become a thing of the past, whereas evergreens could take advantage of the changing climate. A thought-provoking talk which attracted a number of questions afterwards.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 13 October, when Sharka Baxter's talk is entitled "The Forward Thinking Gardener". As usual we meet in the Johnson Hall, with the talk starting at 7.45pm, and guests (whom we hope will become members!) are welcome. **John Sherwell**



**AA**

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## 2G3S



THE talk on 5 September, 'Heat Pumps Explained' by Warren Pope, from Peterborough Environment City Trust, gave a wealth of information and links to companies supplying equipment. For a full set of his slides see our website. He stressed that if you decide to go for a heat pump, use a Microgeneration Certification Scheme (MCS) installer, and ensure their proposals meet the design

specification MIS 3005 – that is a guarantee that their proposals will keep you warm and work well. He gave us details about costs, longevity, and space needed outside and inside the house for equipment. He suggested alternative low energy heating solutions, such as Warmstone, Laminaheat, and infrared heaters. He also discussed hybrid systems, such as a heat pump, topped up with another energy source for very cold weather. He advised that as the cost of electricity was high and very volatile at present it may be best to wait awhile before installing a pump system, but that in the meantime it makes sense to insulate your home (borrow an infrared camera from Cambridge Carbon Footprint to check where the cold spots are in your house) and



to install solar photovoltaic panels if you can. That way you will save money on your energy bills and save carbon emissions, whatever energy source you use. If the electricity prices settle you can decide about a heat pump.

The Repair Café on 10 September, as part of Great Shelford Free Church's Eco Festival, was very busy. Why don't you book in your broken electricals, household items, jewellery, pieces of clothing, etc to the next Café, and get a repair done for the price of a small donation rather than having to buy new? Future Repair Café dates are on page 23, also details of how to book a repair slot. Plus there's coffee and cake while you wait!

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### Future Events

Monday 3 October - our conversation evening will complement the one on heat pumps, and is called 'Low-Cost Energy Saving Measures' by Bart Hommels, who has retrofitted his own home and featured in Cambridge's Open Eco Homes. 8pm at Cox's Close Community Room, just off Church Street or by Zoom if you prefer (contact details at end of the article).

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Read what Bart says in the latest 2G3S newsletter:

*"My retrofit journey started when I got a home energy display. It made me acutely aware of our energy consumption and I was mesmerised by the stream of numbers. The game of bringing these down quickly caught on! It led to fitting solar panels a year later, another device producing many numbers to look at.*

*When the opportunity arose to extend our 1940s semi, I wanted this to be the starting point of a whole-house upgrade instead of increasing energy consumption. Little did I know this would take many years to complete!*

*I managed the build and chipped in with specific eco jobs, doing a lot of homework to better understand low-energy retrofitting practices. The result is almost complete, and I want to share my experience with you because, besides the lower fuel bills, I am over the moon with the transformation in comfort.*

*In winter, we used to huddle in the living room and have blankets within reach, and in summer we would swelter. Now, the whole house is at an even temperature throughout the year: warm in winter and cool in summer, at a fraction of the carbon footprint. With my talk I hope to enthuse, motivate and empower you to start retrofitting your home and begin enjoying the benefits!"*

### **Nature walk**

Saturday 15 October from 2pm to 4pm with John O'Boyle at Dernford lake. See our website for more details.

For all our walks, sturdy footwear and appropriate outdoor wear are advised. These walks are intended to raise awareness of our local wildlife sites and are open to all.

### **Social cycle ride**

Monday 17 October at 10am starting from Stapleford Pavilion. Join us for 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. To book in email [greener@sawston.org](mailto:greener@sawston.org).

For cycle rides and walks, it is important that you are aware that you attend at your own risk. We do not accept responsibility for any accidents or mishaps that might arise during the activity.

### **Future Repair Cafes**

St Ives 8 October; Chesterton 15 October; Cambridge city centre 29 October; Fulbourn 12 November.

For more details and to book in repairs, go to [cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/repair-cafes/](http://cambridgecarbonfootprint.org/repair-cafes/) and click through.

### **2G3S planning meeting**

Wednesday 2 November for 2023 talks and activities. Please bring along your suggestions.

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### Other News

You will recall the climate conference Cop26 hosted in Glasgow last November – lots of fine words but not much action. Instead of insulating homes and speeding up renewables our government seems hellbent on increasing oil exploration, which will not provide any more energy for about 30 years and will increase climate change. The next climate Cop, number 27, is in Egypt this year. Developed countries need to commit more to helping less-developed countries deal with the floods, droughts, and other climate disasters that they suffer - we have all been moved by the plight of people in Pakistan who have lost everything, again.

Around the same time there is Cop15 for biodiversity, where it is hoped that all countries will sign up to measures to reverse the loss of species eg to protect 30% of the landscape by 2030. As with mitigating climate change, developing countries will need support from the richer countries to enable improvements to be made.

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. We are a friendly group and welcome anyone who wants to come along. Also see our Facebook page and our website (type 2G3S into Google and you will find us). **Helen Hale**

## Cambridge Flower Club

WE meet at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane. Whittlesford CB22 4NE at 7.15pm for a demonstration with refreshments and raffle from 6.45pm. New members welcome! Visitors pay £6. Our next meetings are:

20 October: Alan Smith NAFAS demonstrator - 'Autumn Glory'

17 November: Gill McGregor NAFAS demonstrator - 'Festive Flowers and Fun'

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

## 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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# Kate Romano's journey

**STAPLEFORD GRANARY** *ONE of an occasional series of profiles of village people with interesting stories to tell.*

ARTS, CULTURE & EDUCATION

KATE Romano is CEO of the Stapleford Granary and a lot more. *The Messenger* sent Martin Ginger to interview her. This interview is probably as much about the Granary as her, but the two are completely intertwined.

In case you do not know, The Stapleford Granary, in part of the old Bury Farm buildings, is a beautifully restored centre for art, music, local events, and now also hosts a café.

Kate came to work at The Granary two years ago, but had been involved with the building for some years before. She has an impressive academic background, studying at the Royal Northern College of Music with first class honours, then an MPhil from Cambridge University and a Doctorate in composition from Kings College, London. She has also held a senior academic post at the Guildhall School of Music. Kate is a professional clarinet player, she writes for the BBC and presents on Radio 3. She is the founder of the Goldfield Ensemble and has worked as a freelance producer for many years. In addition to all that, she also has two children.

My first question was “How do you fit it all in?” and the answer was, “I don't sleep much, I juggle a lot of seemingly different things, but it does all sort of link together!”

Kate was already a freelance artist and performer, but came here to be the CEO during the pandemic. This was acknowledged as a massive challenge, but made her look at business in different ways. “Because nothing was ‘normal’ when I started here and we weren't running any concerts and because nobody was here, I looked at the site in different ways. When a courtyard isn't full of cars, for instance, you can start to imagine it as a potential outdoor performance space”.

The Granary has a wide range of performers from classical, through folk to jazz and I asked how she finds so many artists. Her reply was that some artists write in, there is some scouting, but mostly artists are found through the wide personal and professional network of the artistic planning team. That is Kate and Ian Buckle along with Trevor Barlow. “We go to a lot of events at other venues too, and we are always listening to new things, online or live”.



### Dallahan

Saturday 1 October | 7:45pm

Folk music forged in Scotland & Ireland, drawing on traditional music from the Balkans & North America



### Apollo Saxophone Quartet: Journey Across the Impossible

Friday 7 October | 7:45pm

An assortment of quirky silent films from the Georges Méliès era, with newly-composed live soundtracks



### Liam Noble Trio

Sunday 9 October | 12:00pm

Experimental & inventive jazz from pianist Liam Noble, Tom Herbert, electric bass & Sebastian Rochford, drums

### Espen Eriksen Trio

Friday 14 October | 7:45pm

Acclaimed Norwegian trio present their unique brand of lyrical & ambient jazz



### Martin Roscoe, piano

Saturday 22 October | 7:45pm

A glorious programme of Haydn, Mozart, Brahms & Beethoven from one of the UK's best loved pianists



“...the most beautiful setting for  
the best live music...”

I asked how her own music fits in and she said she still plays chamber music concerts regularly (including at the Granary) and has recorded two chamber music albums. She loves chamber music, although when I asked what music she likes, her reply was that it is whatever she is currently playing. She said “There is nothing nicer than playing music with like-minded musicians”. Kate said “You fall in love with the music you are playing – this week happens to be Schumann, but another week it will be something else”.

It is clear that she wants to put on a wide and sometimes challenging range of music and definitely does not want to dumb down. “We want to introduce the music we love to our audiences” Kate said. That might be Martin Roscoe playing the repertoire he is especially admired for, Haydn, Brahms, Beethoven – but it also might be the Pixels Ensemble playing Sergei Taneyev’s lesser known but outstandingly brilliant piano quintet.

She has an excellent back-up team in Tamlyn Barber, Trevor Parker and her pianist Ian Buckle.

Her emphasis is not just on music, with steady support for the arts in many ways, including exhibitions, art shows and presentations. An Annual Village Day showcases the work of local artists and makers along with live music, and last year’s Christmas Market is set to be a regular feature on the Granary calendar. The Granary is owned by a charity (The Association for Cultural Exchange, an educational trust) which also owns a cultural travel company – ACE Cultural Tours. “Our charitable mission – the furthering of cultural understanding – is at the heart of all we do”, explains Kate.

I have rarely met someone with so much energy and enthusiasm for the arts in general and the Granary in particular. When she started here she asked herself what was the purpose of an arts centre. She wants everyone to have a really good experience, which the comfortable concert hall provides perfectly. Kate likes to meet and support the artists and to get the public and performers to intermingle.



Her latest venture is the Granary Café which is already showing great promise through good food and friendly staff. This is driven forwards by Tamlyn Barber who joined the team as Business Development Manager in April of this year. Future plans include gradually expanding the offer from snacks through to a fuller menu. Kate lives for her work and this

shines through with her staff, and the Granary looks set for a rosy future. If you don’t believe me, pop in for a look around, a coffee, a concert, or just a chat. **Martin Ginger**

# Stapleford Strollers: Walk 107

## Even Bigger Skies: a circular walk from Swaffham Bulbeck

### To get to start of the walk

TAKE the B1102, which passes Anglesey Abbey, and keep going until Swaffham Bulbeck is reached. Pass the village green area. The road then swings sharp left by The Black Horse and, after a double bend, take the first left: Commercial End. Park near the far end on the left, by The Merchant's House (CB25 0ND).

### OS Map

OS Explorer map 226. For a free map extract go to [maps.the-hug.net](http://maps.the-hug.net) from which the route map provided is taken.

### Distance of walk

About 4.7 miles. It can be shortened to just under 4 miles by starting and finishing by the NRDC 1927 bridge on Fen Lane (CB25 0NJ). You can park your car in an old farm produce loading area.

NRDC means Newmarket Rural District Council - now defunct.

### Extra Information

Swaffham Bulbeck has a pub and a shop. The walk is on very flat ground and the views are extensive, with traditional Fenland big skies. Usually, the going is good, even in winter. The track near the start of the walk can get a bit puddly after rain, but avoid this by walking on the grassy flood bank of the lode, particularly after the old railway bridge (Cambridge to Fordham Junction and Mildenhall line: closed 1962).

### Route of walk

From The Merchant's House, walk along the pavement and turn left on to Fen Lane. This is a very minor road with little traffic, but take care. Keep walking around a left hand bend, then turn right just before a bridge (NRDC 1927) over a lode, walking up a loose-surfaced track also part of Fen Lane, heading for Speyside Farm. The lode is to the left of the track.

Keep going beyond the farm, passing an old railway bridge and then either walk on the grass bank of the lode or along the track. The latter soon becomes grass-surfaced. Keep going until, just before a set of overhead wires, cross the lode using a pedestrian bridge and turn right (visit Norman Moore Pond if you wish: National Trust sign and Information Board). After a short time, another bridge is reached. Do not cross but go left on the solid-surfaced track, part of The Lodes Way, and pass a sign announcing White Fen (Information Board).

Keep going until a set of metal barriers is reached and then turn immediate left on a track composed of old concrete. Carry on, ignoring a green footpath sign pointing right across a field. Follow the hedge-line, ignoring two further side paths, one with a dodgy stile. Keep the hedge-line to the left and, in the far left hand corner of the field, go left through a gap in the hedge-line fence. Walk ahead along the right hand side of the field beyond.

The route follows a grassy farm track visible to the left of a long line of trees. It is indicated by a waymark sign with arrows. Keep walking along this track for some time, until some farm buildings are passed on the right (The Grange). Now look for a footpath sign pointing left across a field at a point where the farm track swings sharp right.

Follow the path across the field and then along a grassy strip between crops. A solid surfaced track is reached. Turn right, go past a metal gate and go left on the minor road. Carry on, passing the NRDC 1927 bridge seen earlier in the walk, and keep on round the bend in the road. Turn right into Commercial End to return to your vehicle. **David Barnes**

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



# Jazz at Stapleford Granary this Autumn

**STAPLEFORD  
GRANARY**

ARTS, CULTURE & EDUCATION

*"THERE'S something very special about returning to the Granary's concert hall as the nights draw in. Perhaps it's the warmth of the soft yellow brick walls and the woody smell of Douglas fir combined with the thrill of live music-making - an unbeatable blend of familiarity and*

*exploration. From delicate instrumentals and swinging classics to a brass-fuelled party band, we present a season of world class jazz to while away the longer autumn evenings and bring an upbeat twist to your Sunday lunchtimes."* Kate Romano CEO.



LIAM NOBLE has earned a reputation as one of Britain's most versatile and inventive pianists, as a soloist, leader and sideman. The Guardian described his recent album - *The Long Game* - as 'a terrific, rhythmically wily, electronics-steeped adventure'. Discover a compelling mix of acoustic piano and electronics from Liam Noble Trio on Sunday 9 October at 12pm

Espen Eriksen Trio was formed

in 2007 and has released six critically acclaimed records on the Norwegian label Rune Grammofon. The trio's unique and acclaimed sound is founded upon highly melodic and lyrical instrumentals, described by the Independent as '*delicate, ambiently inclined*'. They play at the Granary on Friday 14 October.



A jazz saxophonist with a gift for melody, Josh Kemp is known for his lyrical improvising style and imaginative compositions and collaborations. As part of a major UK tour, his 'Coltrane Project' - Kemp's personal tribute to John Coltrane and his 1964 studio album *A Love Supreme* - comes to the Granary on Friday 28 October. Josh is joined by Alex Hutton (piano), Dave Mannington (double bass) and Steve Storey (drums).





Following his sold out performance last year, we welcome back Bill Laurance on Friday 4 November. This multi-GRAMMY award-winning pianist, composer and arranger was initially known for his work with Snarky Puppy and his subsequent flourishing solo career has yielded four acclaimed albums as a bandleader. Mike Flynn in Jazzwise Magazine described his 2019 album *Cables* as *'heartfelt and complex, sophisticated and soulful, menacing and*

*mesmerising'*.

The prolific and versatile British saxophonist/composer Trish Clowes has been described as *'one of the most agile and original jugglers of improv and adventurous composition to have appeared in the UK in recent times'* (The Guardian). She plays at the Granary on Sunday 6 November with Ross Stanley, one of the UK's leading jazz pianists and organists.



Saxophonist Tim Garland and pianist Jason Rebello are two of the UK's most celebrated jazz musicians, whose unique rapport draws on 3 decades of friendship, touring and recording. Tim has played with Ronnie Scott's band and joined Chick Corea on his global tours, winning a Grammy for his symphonic orchestrations on Corea's 2007 album *'The New Crystal Silence'*. Jason Rebello's reputation as a veteran pianist rests on his superb ear, fine technique and sharp improvising reflexes. He collaborates with some of the biggest names in jazz and popular music and his solo album *Held* won the best British Jazz album award in 2016.



Stapleford Granary is a beautiful Arts Centre with outstanding facilities set in a converted 19th century farm complex. It is situated at the foot of the Gog Magog Downs just five miles from the centre of Cambridge. A home for the culturally curious, it hosts an all year-round concert programme of indoor and outdoor events, art exhibitions and educational workshops. For details and booking see [staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/events](http://staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/events).

# Launching Messenger Marketplace

WE are now accepting small ads from villagers who want to sell, lend (free of charge - FOC), or give away items that they don't need any more. Items up to the value of £50 can be advertised. We will accept ads offering free help, and also requests for items. Please send your ads into the magazine with the words 'Messenger Marketplace' in the subject heading.

## To start us off:

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- Humax PVR-920T digital personal video recorder, for recording TV programmes to watch later. In working order, just needs a SCART lead. £10. Helen, 842403.
- Small sturdy pine table. 12" square, 26" tall. £5. Linda, 843438.
- Child's garden table, chair and parasol. £5. Sylvia, info@kmmt.org.uk
- Chad Valley cook and play Kitchen £5. Sylvia, info@kmmt.org.uk
- Amazon Fire Stick. To see BBC iPlayer, YouTube, Netflix, Amazon Prime and more on your TV. Help with installation if needed. £15. Bill, 843415.

### GIVE AWAY

- Strong pickaxe used to remove tree roots, but now too heavy for me. Bill, 843415.
- Tractor toy for 4+ year old. Digger attachment doesn't work very well. Helen, 842403.

### WANTED

- Over-bath clothes rack. Linda, 843438.

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6. Only individuals can advertise. No businesses.
7. Adverts can be for sale (limit £50), to give away, to lend (FOC), or offering help (FOC). Wanted adverts can also be accepted.
8. No living creatures may be offered or asked for.
9. Adverts should be 50 words maximum, with no pictures.
10. Adverts should give a first name and phone number or email address.

## Stapleford History Society



### Cambridge Scientific Instruments

A talk by Alan Osborne at the Jubilee Pavilion

Tuesday 11 October at 7.45pm

An insight into the workings of this well-known company famous for making precision scientific measuring instruments.

Free to members - Non-members pay £3.

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

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## Library update



WITH the rising cost of living at the forefront of people's minds, please remember that membership of Cambridgeshire Libraries is free and you can choose from books and online magazines/daily papers, e-audiobooks and e-books. Use of the public computers is free, as is our public WiFi. We also offer photocopying and printing for a small charge and free scanning. There is a free bus pass application/renewal service and we also offer short computer lessons with our volunteer Digital Buddy (these need to be pre-booked).

Families with children can come to our free Storytime sessions for children aged 0 to 4 years (10.30am on the first and third Tuesday each month during term time). Colouring pictures, stickers and certificates are also available for children in the library and there's an accessible customer toilet with baby change facilities.

If you're looking to learn, joining the library gives you free access to online dictionaries, family histories, biographies, newspaper cuttings, maps, plans and much more.

Would-be entrepreneurs can get a helping hand with advice on starting businesses through the Business and IP Centre. The resources will allow you to research your market, identify opportunities and make well-informed decisions when developing your business plans.

Here are three events at the library during October:

During week commencing 3 October the Friends of Great Shelford Library will be holding their Annual Book Sale at the library to celebrate Libraries Week, with proceeds being used to help the library. Their lovely blue tote bags will also be on sale so do come and fill them up!

During Libraries Week, there will also be a Sensory Storytime held at Great Shelford Library on Thursday 6 October at 2pm. Please contact us to book a place as numbers will be limited.

Our October Engage talk will feature Tony Kirby on the History of the British Seaside on 26 October at 2pm. Please contact the library for further details and to book a place. There's no charge for the talk but if you stay for refreshments a donation of £2 would be appreciated. **Rosemary Humby**

### Contact us:

Web: [cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries](http://cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries)

Phone: 0345 045 5225

Email: [Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)



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# Stapleford Twinning Association

## Bingo, Bottles and Baguettes!

SATURDAY 15 October at 7.30pm, Community Rooms, Cox's Close.. All welcome!

Join us for a light-hearted evening of Bingo, with French wine and cheese for refreshment. (*Loto*, as Bingo is known in France, is one of the money-raising events the twinning association in Villedômer runs annually for a large audience with large prizes. The prizes at our event will be a bit smaller, but a large amount of fun is guaranteed!)



There is a charge of £8 per person to attend the event which includes refreshments and a glass of wine. A high turnout is expected and space is limited. Please contact us at [staplefordtwinningassociation@gmail.com](mailto:staplefordtwinningassociation@gmail.com) preferably no later than 7 October to book your place.

## Barbeque

On 21 August, some 20 Twinners met for a social BBQ in Tony Smith's lovely garden enjoying Barker's sausages and burgers accompanied by a wide range of salads. There was just room to indulge in the tasty desserts which had been brought too. The slight drop in heat from the recent high temperatures made it a very pleasant afternoon sitting in the garden, with lots of chat all round. [twinning.staplefordvillage.org](http://twinning.staplefordvillage.org). **Tim Jessop**

## Playworker required

### Stapleford Out of School Club

WE require a caring, fun loving play worker to join our committed team of play workers who run our essential and expanding out of hours club.

We are looking for someone who

- is caring, patient and enthusiastic, with good communication skills and has high expectations;
- is able to help plan with pupils and staff to deliver exciting activities for all pupils who attend the out of school hours club.

If you are an excellent play worker with passion for learning, please contact Mrs Jane Groser, our secretary on 508720 or email [office@staplefordprimaryschool.org](mailto:office@staplefordprimaryschool.org) to arrange a visit and application pack. Visits are strongly encouraged and welcomed. **Christine Spain**

# New Art Exhibition

Five British contemporary artists

4 September to 13 November



STAPLEFORD Granary are proud to host an exhibition of pictures by five living artists, curated by Alan Kluckow in collaboration with the Granary. Christopher Farrell, Nicholas Herbert, Boo Mitford, Sally Moore, William Balthazar Rose.

Opening Sunday 4 September, 9am to 2pm, with curator Alan Kluckow. All welcome

Open every day (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4pm, Saturday 8.30am to 3pm and Sunday 9am to 2pm). Also open during evening events.

Alan Kluckow writes:

*"The phrase 'contemporary' when used together with 'art' in today's world, usually presumes we are talking about the more extreme forms of the practice, but the dictionary lists the meaning as 'belonging to or occurring in the present' which is a reminder that contemporary also includes large numbers of artists who work in what would be called traditional or old fashioned ways. This number has been steadily growing in recent years as young painters and sculptors return to these tried and tested ways of expressing themselves, and this exhibition showcases a small selection of paintings by five practitioners who use traditional methods and materials to make their art".*

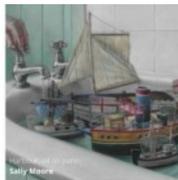
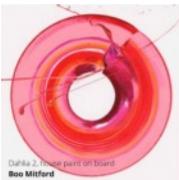
Boo Mitford is the only one who could easily be categorised as an abstract artist, the others fall into what we loosely call realist or representational. However, one look at the styles and techniques used by the four representational painters in this exhibition shows us how diverse a small group of realists can be.

Sally Moore and William Balthazar Rose are narrative painters, Sally using herself as the featured model in all her work to tell stories about her life, real and imagined. William invents extraordinary visual tales, almost always featuring his favourite subject - chefs.

Nicholas Herbert and Christopher Farrell are probably best described as landscape artists, but the contrast in what they have to say about this subject could not be greater. Nick uses meticulous detail and a darker palette to carefully observe the mysteries of the rural countryside, while Chris employs a much brighter and energetic approach to record the buzz of cityscapes’.

Kate Romano, CEO said: “We’re thrilled to work with Alan on this exhibition; the diversity of styles amongst these contemporaries is striking but what binds them all together is the quality of the work and the clarity of their individual expression”

## The Five Artists



### William Balthazar Rose

Born in Cambridge into a family of artists, William Balthazar Rose taught at Princeton and the University of California and practised architecture before returning to Europe in the early 90s. His acclaimed series ‘Cooks’ has been collected by renowned chefs Michel Roux Jr. and Jason Atherton and is celebrated for its intrigue, symbolism and dark, macabre humour.

### Sally Moore

In 2005, Sally Moore won the Welsh Artist of the Year award for the painstaking, detailed style of her work. Her distinctive figurative compositions are typically created with oils on synthetic board. Each painting is a mini psychological drama, often absurd, sometimes surreal and invariably humorous which Sally hopes will unsettle and amuse the viewer.



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### **Christopher Farrell**

Cycling six hours every day between his home in Reading and his studio in London, Christopher Farrell is bombarded with lines, forms, sunrises and sunsets as he moves through the streets. Alan Kluckow describes the experience of his eclectic and abstract landscapes as being 'transported through a futuristic world of light and shadow, catching a glimpse of the forms of the buildings around you'.

### **Boo Mitford**

Boo is a descendant of the famous, stylish and controversial Mitford sisters. She had a very successful career as a graphic designer before returning full time to painting in 2004. With a preference for spoons over brushes and an abiding love of the 'capricious nature' of paint and colour, Boo is fascinated by the complexities of the human character which serve as a rich source of inspiration.

### **Nicholas Herbert**

Nicholas is a mixed media artist and designer. His large and small scale landscapes have been shown throughout the UK. Since 2012 he has been developing a body of work called 'Silent Spaces' - small landscapes on paper informed by his personal experience of the chalk uplands of the Chiltern Hills and combining his interests in visual mark-making and history.

### **Alan Kluckow Fine Art - curator**

Alan has spent his entire working life in the artworld; as artist, consultant, curator and gallery owner across three continents. He moved from the USA to the UK in 1993 to start Bonham-Kluckow Art Consultancy London. He later established Alan Kluckow Fine Art in Sunningdale, Berkshire, to promote contemporary British and International artists and collaborate with arts organisations. **Kirsty Laifa**

## **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).



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# Puzzle Corner

## Scramble 2

SOLVE the clues in each group. The first answer is a 2-letter word, the next a 3-letter word, the next a 4-letter word etc.

Each answer can be obtained by adding a letter to the previous answer and rearranging the letters. For example:

thank you	TA
brown skin colour	TAN
small biting fly	GNAT
anxiety	ANGST
spies	AGENTS
odd	STRANGE
police rank	SERGEANT
enormity	GREATNESS

### Group 1

musical note  
beer  
ornamental fabric  
... in Wonderland  
fish  
exceptional  
copies  
round

### Group 3

not out  
wrongdoing  
trigonometric ratio  
irresistible woman  
give up office  
wiping out  
most enraged  
personal mark  
walking casually

### Group 2

concerning  
anger  
boy's name  
historical object  
cream cake  
item  
instrument  
sure (informal)

### Group 4

father  
equality  
harvest  
reduce in thickness  
plunderer  
artist  
larders  
freshwater turtles  
turned out

*Set by Hermes - Answers on page 51*



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# Quiz Time

## Four by four

THIS month's quiz has been supplied by Jon West.

People who have eight letters in their names; four in their first name and four in their surname.

1. The only member of Take That to qualify for this round.
2. Well-red German who moved to London but only 11 people attended his funeral there.
3. 51-year-old South African who moved to the United States but is now keen to relocate much, much further away.
4. The member of Monty Python who also wrote and sang the theme tune to One Foot in the Grave.
5. Ocean's Eleven actor who was also in Thelma and Louise.
6. Pop diva who has sported outfits made from, to name but three, plastic bubbles, Kermit the Frog dolls, and raw beef.
7. Footballer with exactly 51 Premier League goals and 37 appearances for England.
8. Runaway who loved rock and roll, especially in 1982.
9. Comic actor from New York who is now 86 and whose real name is Alphonso D'Abruzzo.
10. Strictly Come Dancing icon who changed her name because her agent was obsessed with a Nastassja Kinski film.

*Answers page 59*

## Cambridge Cake Creators



AT our meeting on 20 October meeting at Stapleford Pavilion we will be welcoming Estelle Mann who will be giving a demo on Stencilling. Estelle is a member of the British Sugarcraft Guild (BSG) and her evenings are always full of hints and ideas. We are a friendly group and all abilities are welcome, you only need to have an interest in baking. £10 a visit, which includes Coffee/Cake.

For more information ring Vanda 561053 or email [vanda.butler@googlemail.com](mailto:vanda.butler@googlemail.com)

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# The Solar System

## Walking to the edge



THROUGHOUT August, Cambridge played host to an art installation called “Our Place in Space” which was a self-guided trail through an 8.5km scale model of the Solar System. The trail began in Midsummer Common with a giant model of the Sun that was over two metres wide, and went across Midsummer Common then followed the river all the way to Waterbeach. Along the way, each planet was represented as a model strung into an arch (see photo), and both the relative distances between, and relative sizes of the planets, were to scale with each other and with that giant Sun.

For the brief period that this trail was in Cambridge, tens of thousands of people came to enjoy it. I joined a team of “Trail Guardians” who worked to keep the trail tidy and clean, as well as help visitors with information and guides when needed. This entailed me travelling up and down to Pluto and back many times on a bike over those weeks, but nevertheless I was keen to experience the Trail at least once in a ‘pure’ sense by walking it from beginning to end. So I was delighted that a clutch of Stapleford Strollers were able to join me on the last Wednesday in August to do just that: we took the Citi7 bus into town, walked the Trail, pondering the vast size of the Solar System and by extension the Universe as we did so. A sort of modern-day pilgrimage – it was certainly a meditative experience. Conveniently there was a pub just round the corner from Pluto for lunch, and a good train service back from Waterbeach too.



The project was conceived by internationally renowned artist and author Oliver Jeffers, who those with small children or grandchildren may have heard of for his very popular children’s books. His latest picture book “*Meanwhile Back on Earth*” is due to be published in October 2022, and was inspired by this art installation. He said: “For centuries, we’ve defined ourselves by who we are and who we’re not. Which side we choose, on

what ground we stand, who and what we fight for. A human story, that lives merely in human minds. But with distance comes perspective – and what happens to our perspective on everything when we look back at Earth from space? Our Place in Space is a playful experiment that asks: What is the difference between ‘us’ and ‘them’? Which side are we on, and if we look back at ourselves from vastness of outer space – alone on our tiny planet, the only one that can harbour life – should there be any ‘sides’ at all?”

For those who missed the installation when it was in Cambridge, you can still create your own walk through the Solar System using the interactive app that went with the Our Place in Space Trail: pick any 8.5 km walk (that’s just over 5 miles) of your choice, and as you walk along, the app will tell you where the planets would be. As an illustration, I’ve worked out where they would be in territory familiar to us all.

Starting with the Sun on Hinton Way, at the junction of Mingle Lane, the inner planets would all fit into Mingle Lane with Mercury around number 6, Venus next to number 12, the Earth and Moon in front of Mingle Pen, and Mars roughly near the gate of number 28 Mingle Lane. You could then continue on, along Vicarage Lane to Bar Lane, cutting through the allotments, and turn right on Haverhill Road, where you would finally find Jupiter just about on the corner by the Granary. From there, stroll out along the bridleway towards Babraham, and you’d find Saturn pretty much next to our iconic black barn; continue on, over the river, and along Rowley Lane towards Babraham, where Uranus would be next to where you get that lovely view of Babraham Hall, shortly before reaching the road. From there, if you wanted to continue on to the next planet, you’d need to walk out on the path towards the A11 footbridge, over that and into Abington where you’d find Neptune part way along Bourn Bridge Road. Finally, Pluto would be roughly at the junction of High Street and Church Lane Abington.

Any number of other routes are possible of course. Wherever you may walk, I encourage you to think about the size of our world compared to the vastness of space, and ponder as the artist encourages us to: should there be any ‘us’ and them’ at all? **Miranda Fyfe**



## 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)

# Michaelmas Daisy



FROM an early age I've associated the Michaelmas Daisy with the beckoning of Autumn. It was the most distinctive and colourful flower in my father's garden at this time of year and I remember being fascinated as a child by butterflies and bees visiting the flowers to enjoy a late nectar boost. With our changing climate they seem to be flowering earlier each year so they now seem to give more advanced notice of

Autumn.

Michaelmas (Michael's mass) is associated with Saint Michael and All Angels feast day on 29 September - just after the equinox when days shorten. St Michael is one of the angelic warriors, offering protection from the forces of darkness. Michaelmas is also one of the traditional quarter days when servants were hired, lawsuits settled and debts such as rents paid. It was also known as 'goose day' when geese were fattened on the post-harvest stubble and goose fairs were held. Some universities designate Autumn term as Michaelmas - the start of a new academic year.



Like the Michaelmas Daisy many plants have a story. In our modern society we've largely lost traditional knowledge of the flora that surrounds us. I was struck by this recently on reading Flora Thompson's 'Lark Rise to Candleford' where the community is closely integrated with its environment and the plant life around it.

It's easy not to give a plant a second glance but with a bit of background information a common flower can be transformed into something much more interesting. **John O'Boyle**

## Puzzle Corner answers

Group 1: la, ale, lace, Alice, plaice, special, replicas, spherical

Group 2: re, ire, eric, relic, eclair, article, clarinet, certainly

Group 3: in, sin, sine, siren, resign, erasing, angriest, signature, sauntering

Group 4: pa, par, reap, taper, pirate, painter, pantries, terrapins, transpired

# Granta Medical Practices

## 24/7 Prescription Collection Points

AT Granta, we recognise that modern life is pretty busy, which often makes remembering to order and collecting your medication challenging.



With our 24/7 prescription collection points, you can pick up your repeat prescriptions on a day and at a time that suits you – even when our dispensaries are closed. You can collect day or night, weekends and bank holidays.

### Where can I find the collection points?

We have 24/7 collection points at Granta Sawston and Granta Linton, and have just installed a new one at Granta Shelford.

### How do they work?

- Order your prescriptions from your surgery in the usual way.
- When your medicines are ready to collect you will receive a text on your mobile phone with a unique collection pin.
- Simply type the pin number into the machine and pay any charges via card (if you pay for prescriptions) and the machine will dispense your medication.

### Are there items that cannot be collected from a 24/7 collection point?

There are some items the collection points cannot be used for, for clinical or regulatory reasons. These include:-

- Controlled drugs like morphine and oxycodone.
- Drugs that need to be stored in a fridge.
- Very large bulky items.

### More ways to manage your repeat prescriptions

The 24/7 collection points add to the range of ways you can now access your medications – direct at the dispensary counter, in the comfort of your own home with our free home delivery service, and now at a date/time of your choice.

### Try them out for yourself

For further information and to register, pick up one of our collection point forms or contact us via [granta.dispensing@nhs.net](mailto:granta.dispensing@nhs.net), stating which collection point you would like your medicines dispensed from. Our friendly team is here to help.

Please note that you do need to have a smartphone to use this service.

### Flu Clinics - Reminder

Have you booked your flu jab appointment yet? If not, but you are eligible, ring 0300 234 5555 now to book your appointment. The flu clinic dates are as follows:

Saturday 24 September – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU

Saturday 1 October – Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS

Sunday 2 October – Market Hill Surgery, SG8 9JN

Saturday 8 October – Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY

Sunday 16 October – Linton Health Centre, CB21 4JS

Sunday 16 October – Barley Surgery, SG8 8HY

Friday 21 October – Sawston Medical Practice, CB22 3HU

Saturday 22 October – Shelford Health Centre, CB22 5FY

**Sandra East** [sandra.east@nhs.net](mailto:sandra.east@nhs.net) T. 0300 234 5555

## Little Shelford Badminton Club - new season!



LITTLE Shelford Badminton Club meets every Thursday night at 7.30pm at Little Shelford Memorial Hall for very sociable games of doubles. We have a good group and are always keen to see new faces.

This season started on 1 September, with 15 weeks before Christmas and another 15 weeks taking us to 20 April.

New members can come free for the first night to make sure it is for you. Thereafter pay £5 per session for up to six weeks. Then if you and we are agreed you join us properly and pay the subscription that works out at only £3 per night.

In the past we have run coaching session for the juniors and entered teams in the Cambridge league. Not just now but coming again soon – we hope!

For more information, contact James Newman on 07717 394176 ([james@jamesnewman.org](mailto:james@jamesnewman.org)).



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# The Slaughterhouse

## Have your say – a new community orchard or wildlife meadow for land behind the Slaughterhouse?



IT might surprise some readers to know that there is a little pocket of green space behind the Slaughterhouse on Church St which belongs to Stapleford Parish Council; others will be very familiar with its charms and history. The land was spare after Collier Way was built and was sold to the Parish Council in 1982 (the idea of there being 'spare' land post-development these

days is absurd!). Part of it was used by the District Council for a footpath leading from Cox's Close to Church Street. A further part has been devoted to the Villedômer garden, celebrating the village's twinning with the place of that name in France, and a millennium capsule has been buried in the centre. The area currently accommodates a few seating areas and children's play activities. It is valued by the community but not widely used.

The Parish Council proposes a new chapter in the land's history, using mainly grant funds to develop it as either a community orchard (with fruit freely available to residents) or a wildlife meadow. With respect to the former, we have sought expert opinion regarding the site's suitability for an orchard and have been told that it can accommodate around 15 fruit trees. Rowan, crab apple and hawthorn would dominate if the land was to be a wildlife meadow. It might also be possible to incorporate a pond into the plan, recognising that it would need maintaining and to be made secure. The Villedômer garden and millennium capsule would stay broadly as they are, unless there are very good reasons for change.

We would like to know whether residents support either of these plans. A Facebook poll to gather opinions is active on the 'Great Shelford and Stapleford Community' Facebook page, but some residents may prefer to email or write to the Clerk with their thoughts (clerk@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk; 14 Crawley End, Chrishall, Herts., SG8 8QL). If this is you, we would very much like to know:

1. Overall, do you support a modified use of the land behind the Slaughterhouse? Yes/No
2. Would you prefer it to become a community orchard, mainly with fruiting trees and plants? Yes/No

3. Would you prefer it to become a meadow, mainly with plants designed to benefit wildlife? Yes/No
4. Would you prefer a mixture of meadow and orchard, benefiting both residents and wildlife? Yes/No
5. Do you support the inclusion of a secure pond? Yes/No
6. Would you be prepared to volunteer a few hours 2-3 times a year to help with establishing and maintaining the land? Yes/No
7. Please feel free to add any further comments.

To ensure that feedback is useful to SPC's decision making, please only respond to the poll either via Facebook or to the Clerk, not multiple times and not via multiple channels! The closing date for receipt of responses is Friday 21 October, so outcomes can be discussed at the Parish Council's November meeting. **Cllr Michael Gatward**

## Your village needs you ...



THE village weekend has been an annual event for several years now. We are looking for more volunteers to keep this event running. A friendly and eager committee is ready for new ideas and members. We are looking for a variety of ages and experiences. Please get involved in your village....

The village show that runs on Saturday in the marquee has been running for more than 100 years in Stapleford. We need help to keep it going and would love to meet anybody interested in becoming involved and supporting their village.

There is a social evening to invite interested villagers and to meet the committee on Friday 21 October in the Pavilion at 7pm. Refreshments will be provided. This evening will also be your opportunity to give the Parish Council your ideas for updating the Pavilion. It is now 10 years old, and we would like to alter its layout to make it easier to use and more convenient and adaptable. Ideas so far are reorganising and enlarging the kitchen, altering the layout of the changing rooms and toilets, and improving the fuel economy and environmental impact of the building.

Do you have other ideas? If you are unable to attend, ideas can be sent to any of the Parish Councillors by email.

Hoping to see you there - get involved, nurture our village. Any questions contact **Gillian Pett** - [gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:gpett@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk) or **Jools Rayment** - [joolsrayment@gmail.com](mailto:joolsrayment@gmail.com)

# Neighbourhood plan

## Initial public opinion survey results

AT the time of writing, the neighbourhood plan steering group is preparing to publish a report on the outcomes of its initial public opinion survey. Conducted between April and June 2022, our survey sought to understand what matters to local people about issues over which a neighbourhood plan may have some influence.

Broadly speaking, residents' concerns could be described by five main themes, although we recognise the interdependence of many issues. Below, each category is illustrated by a handful of examples:

1. Changing village identity – expansion of Greater Cambridge; loss of village character and community feel.
2. Housing design and unmet needs – new build design should complement existing vernacular; lack of small, starter and affordable homes.
3. Environmental degradation – loss of greenbelt and biodiversity; protection of important views; planning conditions to protect and enhance wildlife.
4. Travel and transport woes – growing congestion; poor public transport; reliance on cars.
5. Inadequate amenities – demand for better local shops and services; improved countryside access.

The outcomes of community engagement will be combined with other information (such as a local housing needs analysis, landscape character assessment and local plan data) to create a large evidence base to underpin development of our neighbourhood planning policies. 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.

The full report is available at [greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/sgsnplan](https://greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/sgsnplan) and in hard copy at Great Shelford Library.

The steering group and Parish Councils would like to thank everyone who has supported the development of our neighbourhood plan so far. There will be further opportunities to participate as the process moves forward.

**Cllr Jenny Flynn** Chair of the neighbourhood plan steering group; Vice Chair, Stapleford Parish Council

# Stapleford Parish Council

AFTER a break in August, Parish Council meetings resumed in September. We were pleased to co-opt a new councillor, Anna Disley-Stevens, and look forward to her joining us at the next meeting. We are still looking for more councillors, so please contact the Clerk if you have an interest in looking after the character and management of our village.

Other matters discussed included the potential for setting up a 'warm hub' in the village for the winter, bearing in mind the cost of heating homes in cold weather. There is a grant available to assist with this and the Parish Council is keen to support any initiative which benefits the community. *(Editor's note: the library in Shelford welcomes people when it is open, it has plenty to read and free wifi).*

Greater Cambridge Partnership's proposed £5 congestion charge was discussed but it is not yet clear where exactly the boundary into the City of Cambridge will be. Stapleford and Shelford will be outside this boundary, but it will still have an impact on our travels, whether for work, shopping or pleasure. Note that the plan is to improve bus services and introduce reduced fares alongside the charge. District Councillor Peter Fane was present and took part in the discussion.

Further possible housing development in Stapleford in the future was discussed in light of the additions and amendments to the 'call for sites' by the emerging Local Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan will be instrumental in ensuring that the village has some influence over development, and work on this is proceeding, with the likely engagement of an external consultant to support the overall process.

A proposal for a community orchard or wildlife meadow on land behind the Slaughterhouse is gaining momentum. Parishioners can have their say on this, with details of how to participate provided elsewhere in this edition of the Messenger. The Slaughterhouse itself has been cleared and preparations are underway for a bicycle repair workshop, run by volunteers. There will be more information to follow about this.

Work on making the Pavilion more user-friendly and up to date was discussed. Members of the public will be invited to put forward their ideas at a social evening on 21 October (see page 56).

Two box plants killed by box blight in the cemetery have been removed. Hedges overhanging footpaths were discussed, particularly where paths are narrow, such as near the Spar. Parishioners are asked to cut back vegetation and dispose of it in their green bins so that those who are less able can use footpaths safely. People are also asked not to park on footpaths for the

same reason. The County Council’s Highways department is responsible for maintaining footpaths and roads, so potholes and other issues should initially be reported via [highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk). A recent dangerous pothole on the pavement near the Three Horseshoes has been repaired.

Parishioners are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings and time is allocated in the agenda for matters of concern raised by members of the public. **Gillian Pett**, Chair of Stapleford Parish Council

## Junction of A1307 with Haverhill Road

### Parish Council’s response to proposals of realignment

THE Parish Council has submitted its comments on Greater Cambridge Partnership’s planning application CCC/22/072/FUL, which seeks to realign the junction of the A1307 and Haverhill Road. Vehicles will be prevented from turning right from Haverhill Road and the Gog Farm Shop onto the A1307. After providing a comprehensive review of the proposals, the Council summarised its position thus:

*“Whilst Stapleford Parish Council welcomes safety improvements at the junction of Haverhill Road and A1307, the planning application seeking to achieve this is over-engineered for its rural location, introduces a significant amount of light pollution in an environmentally sensitive area of otherwise comparatively dark skies, and does not fully consider the impact of the junction’s realignment on diversions through the wider neighbourhood. It also misses the opportunity to tackle speeding and parking issues along Haverhill Road.*

*Stapleford Parish Council submits that clearer crossing points for active travel, and minor road and junction redesign to reduce traffic speed and enforce compliance, could achieve similar benefits to this far more expensive proposal.”*

You can read the Council’s full submission via [staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/highways](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/highways). The deadline for comments on the planning application has now passed, but a full set of documents are still available to view at [planning.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://planning.cambridgeshire.gov.uk). **Cllr Jenny Flynn**

## Quiz answers

- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| 1. Mark Owen | 6. Lady Gaga  |
| 2. Karl Marx | 7. Dele Alli  |
| 3. Elon Musk | 8. Joan Jett  |
| 4. Eric Idle | 9. Alan Alda  |
| 5. Brad Pitt | 10. Tess Daly |

# 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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