

# Stapleford

*Ne Nuntium Necare!*

# MESSENGER

July 2024

Volume 83 No 7

Price 90p

The Stapleford Community Primary School PTA

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# Who's who at St Andrew's

[www.standrewstapleford.org](http://www.standrewstapleford.org)

## Vicar

Rev Dr Simon Taylor 840256

## Curate

Rev Lucinda Howard 07763 477821

## Churchwarden

Alastair MacGregor  
07855 269844

## Parish Safeguarding Officer

Rob Needle 844227

## Parish Administrator

Gillian Sanders 07752 373176

## Youthworker

TBA

## Children's Ministry

Sue Brown 01954 602248

## Director of Music

Tim Kwan 07745 803972

## PCC secretary

Nicky West 07927 531719

## Treasurer

Chris Bow 841982

## Verger

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 vicar.

## Stapleford MESSENGER

### Editor

Contact [staplefordmessenger@gmail.com](mailto:staplefordmessenger@gmail.com)

### Advertising

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# From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

I AM just back from a week walking the St Cuthbert's Way from Melrose to Lindisfarne. Very nice it was too, Scottish mini-mountains, then across the Northumbrian moors and down to Lindisfarne, walking over at low tide. Lots of abbeys. All the while the election campaign has been chugging away in the background, with the usual tax and spend spats.



And this, from Rishi Sunak on Twitter, caught my eye: "If you're a criminal, the law should show you no mercy." It got quite wide coverage. I wonder what you think of it?

First, of course, what does he mean by 'criminal'? Are parking fines, speeding tickets, and, say, fixed penalty notices for breaches of Covid regs included? It might be a pretty bold thing for him to say!

Leaving that aside, it is also not the law, so if this catchy tweet represents Tory policy, then the oddity is that they have not bothered to enact it in 14 years of government. Let me explain.



The aims of sentencing in this country are set out in statutes and statutory guidance. Statutes deal with sentencing in general and with particular types of sentence, and with any maximum and minimum

sentences set for particular offences. And there are guidelines for each offence set by the Sentencing Council, a statutory body. All that law is then applied by judges, corrected if necessary by the Court of Appeal. By law the sentencing process includes an assessment of the seriousness of the offence, looking both at the culpability of the offender and the harm caused. That assessment is made against a background of statutory sentencing purposes, namely punishment, deterrence, reform and rehabilitation of the offender, protection of the public and the making of reparation. Specific aggravating and mitigating factors are taken into account – a step required by the statutory guidance. Aggravating factors would include similar previous offending, group offending, use of weapons and so on. Mitigating factors can include previous good character, remorse, age (including lack of maturity), learning disability and a host of personal background factors.

So, is mercy baked into our system? Yes, in looking at individual culpability, in considering the potential for reform and rehabilitation, and in taking into account individual mitigating factors. Is that what we would want in a grown-up criminal justice system, or do we just want, in every case, to lock them up and throw away the key?

And even before charge and conviction our system includes the possibility of mercy. Police are rightly given a discretion as to who should be sent for possible charging. Then the CPS consider in every case whether the public interest requires a prosecution. At both these stages considerations may include what we could call 'mercy'.

So changing our system to a 'no mercy' approach needs rather more consideration than a tweet. It would be a huge change.



The PM's proposed change kept coming to me as I contemplated St Cuthbert on my walk. Cuthbert lived from 634 to 687. We know quite a bit about him because his biography was written by St Bede in 721. Bede tells us that on his deathbed Cuthbert "launched into a brief but significant discourse on peace and humility, and exhorted us to be on our guard against those who, far from delighting in these virtues, actively foster pride and discord". And then there was this, recording Cuthbert's own words: "Preserve among yourselves unfailing divine charity."

That phrase 'unfailing divine charity' has stuck with me since I preached on Cuthbert earlier this year. This is not charity in the modern sense of giving to good causes, but charity as a state of mind. That means having a willingness to see the best in others, to see in others the image of their Creator and to appreciate others as children of the same heavenly Father as ourselves. It's divine because it means seeing others through the lens of kindness, forgiveness and understanding that our Father extends to us and acting accordingly.

In setting such a high bar Cuthbert follows the lead of Jesus Christ, always merciful, always loving, always willing to see the best in others and give them a chance.

So, to exhibit 'unfailing divine charity' is a great aim for us as individuals. I know I don't always manage it, and I imagine you don't either.

But Cuthbert wasn't just talking to individuals. He was talking about how his community on Lindisfarne should govern itself. In other words, in a roundabout way what Cuthbert had to say in 687 is relevant to election pronouncements about societal issues today.



Back to 'no mercy' Rishi. His pronouncement is not in line with our long-established law and the societal attitudes behind the law, but it also conflicts, I think, with a deeper sense of how we want our society to be. I don't expect any PM to tweet that we must show unfailing divine charity. And it is right that the public are protected, crime deterred and criminals justly punished and made to make reparations. But don't we also want the sentence to fit the precise circumstances of the crime, the victim and the offender? Don't we want to embrace realistic possibilities of rehabilitation and reform? Aren't we basically in favour of mercy as a concept and a practice?

I am, for sure. Mercy is Godly. It may not exactly be a catchy election slogan, but my vote would be against 'no mercy' and for 'unfailing divine charity' any day.

Every blessing to you all, Simon

## Mothers' Union



ON 18 July Stapleford Mothers' Union is looking forward to welcoming our

friends from Milton, for tea and cake. Usual time, 2.30pm in the Johnson Hall.

The photograph is of baby hats, cot blankets and baby garments, knitted by our Knitting Group, to go to Hinchingsbrooke Hospital and the Ely Baby Bank, via the Diocesan MU Outreach Officer. **Hilary Street**



## We're waiting for your story!

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

# St Andrew's Noticeboard

7 JULY	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	CW COMMUNION Ephesians 2.1-10; Mark 6.1-6a <i>Saved by grace</i>
	6 PM	CHORAL EVENSONG Jeremiah 20.7-11; Romans 14.1-17
14 JULY	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP & BAPTISMS Ephesians 2.11-22 <i>No longer strangers</i>
	10.30 AM	MESSY FOREST CHURCH
21 JULY	9 AM	CW COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Ephesians 3.1-13; Mark 6.30-34, 53-56 <i>God made known</i>
28 JULY	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY SERVICE <i>Summer series: Jacob</i>
4 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY COMMUNION <i>Summer series: Jacob</i>

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

## FROM THE REGISTERS

- 22 JUNE – Wedding of Anna Wardell and Stephen Kenny
- 13 JULY - Wedding of Meredydd Luff and Shin-Fei

## Financial difficulties?



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

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## Deadline for the August Messenger

Please submit copy **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 12 JULY**

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

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

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# Explore Faith

## *St Andrew's Youth*

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## Sign of the times

IT has been easy to spot road works locally. Signs of significance created awareness. Dates for diaries March to June. Warnings of change. When we are not in charge it causes concern, worry and frustration. It does give



something else to talk or grumble about instead of disappointing weather or politics. Dust, dirt and debris on Station Road, Great Shelford. Thoughts were of an anti-social nature. Inconvenience, hassle and mess. Take Two, Hinton Way. Barriers to protect work and equipment advised to Keep Away. Yet wind and rain made them topple and fall. Like us

when we 'hit the buffers.' Picking up needs assistance. Often we are not as resilient as we imagine. Courage and strength needs stamina and determination. Digging deep. Helping hands, time and advice builds and renews.

Now in July work completed, fresh patches of tarmac road surface are visible. Unbelievably there are seventeen from Chaston Road to Orchard Road. They cover cables laid in Deep Excavations, a sign new to me. One was moved to the side of a house. I wonder if that raised alarm for the residents. Pedestrians walked over yellow boards, dodging between construction and destruction. Road Closed and Diversion signs indicated new routes. Direction important in life experiences. When access is denied fresh paths must be tried. Ways found. Pot holes to be avoided.

It seems that road works pop up randomly as if overnight. They include pavements and cycle lanes. Cones, bollards, tape. Tasks involve heavy labour. Instructions have to be observed, attempts coming together.

Skirting the areas has been a bonus. The scenic bus route was a treat. Bus Stop Suspended signage amused. I noticed the workmen were pleased to speak and explain. Obstructions were moved when needed. Friendliness always welcome. Seeing and hearing machinery has been fascinating, but much was manual. Reels of thick yellow cable stood impressively tall. I never saw how they gradually emptied.

In view of many road operations maybe our city needs renaming, CamSites? I'd much prefer CamSights. **Judith Lee**

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## The future of the Messenger

READERS may remember that in April we asked for volunteers to help with the *Messenger*. In particular we are looking for an Advertising Manager, an Inbox Administrator and a back-up for the Production Editor.

We also need deliverers to join the team and take responsibility for delivering to a road or two of subscribers, to make sure everyone keeps receiving their copy of the *Messenger*.

We did not receive any enquiries, hence this further appeal!

We expect real difficulties by the end of this year unless volunteers come forward.

The roles of Advertising Manager and Inbox Administrator are not too onerous. The Advertising Manager is mainly active from October to January with a limited amount of work in the rest of the year. The Inbox Administrator role covers several aspects of the magazine production.

The back-up for the Production Editor role is a more challenging and may necessitate learning new software.

We can give more detailed information.

Volunteers for the principal roles need to be used to working with email, and have a basic knowledge of Word (or equivalent) and, for the Advertising Manager, of Excel (or equivalent) and, of course, training and guidance will be given on the specifics.

**It's your magazine**

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Contact Helen Hale or Martin Ginger on  
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### 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:**

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# Stapleford-Nachingwea Link



THE Stapleford Link has been raising funds for various projects in Nachingwea thanks to the generosity of our supporters. For example we have had the May Bank Holiday lunch and the Quiz in the past couple of months where we have received very generous donations.

The funds have now arrived in Nachingwea and are being distributed.

The Nachingwea Link Chair, Kevin Bushiri, has written to thank us:

“Thanks for the funds. We have already given all responsible people who are supervising different projects. They all give their great thanks to you all for the support. Special thanks from our Priest in charge Rev Yusuf Masimosya and Assistant Rev Nickson Kantaule. They give their gratitude to Link not only for Sunday school's fund but also for other projects.

“We Nachingwea Link provide our GREAT THANKS to you all for the support you are always show us tirelessly. Under our leadership every coin will be spent faithfully.”

Once again we thank all our generous donors - without your help none of this would be possible. **The St Andrew's Stapleford-Nachingwea Link Committee**

*Photos from top to bottom: Nachingwea Link Chair, Kevin Bushiri (left) with fund recipients.*

*(left to right) Nickson Kantaule, Sunday school teacher Madam Modesta Millanzi and the Rev Yusuf Masimosya.*

*Link Treasurer Siamini with Modesta Millanzi and Yusuf Masimosya.*



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## Women's Institute



AT our meeting in May, following statistics read out by our Vice President, Celia Weir, and a discussion and comments from members, there was a unanimous vote to support the resolution about Dental Health Matters which was due to be put forward at the National Federation Women's

Institute Annual Meeting held in June at The Royal Albert Hall. The resolution reads "There is a chronic shortage of NHS dentists and people are suffering health issues as a result. The NFWI calls on the Government to increase investment in the training and retention of dentists and to review the current inadequate NHS contracts in order to ensure everyone can access an NHS dentist wherever they live."

Following this, members then enjoyed a fun session of the game, Blingo, as well as sampling pieces of Victoria Sandwich cakes which had all been baked using the WI recipe. These cakes were entries for the Liz Hodgkins tea light competition and the winner was judged to be Sallie Dixon.

Our delegate at the Annual Meeting in London on 3 June was our Secretary and Treasurer, Christine Wylde. Her full, detailed report sent to our members highlights not only the excellent speakers at the event, Nazir Afzal OBE, Melanie Brown and Timothy Watson, but also the atmosphere and enthusiasm radiated by thousands of voices filling the Albert Hall with their singing, accompanied by the wonderful organ there. Prior to the vote on the aforementioned resolution about dental health, the Chair of the British Dental Association, Eddie Crouch, pointed out that dentistry is not a luxury but part of our health fundamentals. The resolution was carried with a 95.5% majority. During her opening remarks the NFWI Chair, Ann Jones, noted that in the last twelve months there have been 24,272 new members in the UK. It should be mentioned here that our own group has welcomed some of these new members and we are always ready to offer a warm welcome to anyone who would like to visit one of our meetings, which are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7.30pm in the Pavilion. Our next meeting on 25 July has a guest speaker, the butcher Miles Nicholas (right), who will be talking about the stroke he had and his recovery.



Please see [staplefordwi.weebly.com](http://staplefordwi.weebly.com) for more details about our activities or contact Sallie Dixon on 843847 for more information. **Joyce Dobson**



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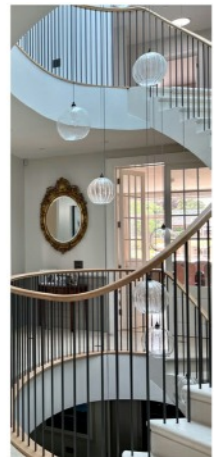


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# PTA Fun Run

## Stapleford Community Primary School

THE Stapleford Fun Run is back again, taking place on Sunday 7 July at 10am. Set at Magog Down, by kind permission of the Trustees of the Magog Trust, the event is ideal for both families and individuals.



You can choose from one of three distances (1km, 4km or 8km), and there will be medals for the top three male and female runners as well as a participant medal for everyone who completes the race. (Age limit applies to the top three 1km and 4km winners).

If you sign up for the event in advance, the suggested donation is £10 per adult and £5 per child. On-the-day registration will be £12.50 per adult and £7.50 per child. All donations go towards raising much-needed funds for Stapleford Community Primary School.

For more information about the Fun Run, including pre-event registration, go to [staplefordrun.com/](http://staplefordrun.com/).

*With thanks to our sponsors for their continued support of this event:* Gympo's; Wedd Joinery; Scotsdales; Shelford & Stapleford Strikers; Angelica Fachechi Tennis Coaching; Noel Young Wines; The Three Horseshoes; Laura Sigsworth of Travel Counsellors; Thorne Wines; Vantage Osteopathy. **Sarah O'Driscoll**

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# Yesteryear

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

**1807**

**DIED.** Yesterday se'night died, Mr. Jonathan Freeman of Stapleford, the most prominent features of whose character were a sincere devotion to the Supreme Being, and universal love to all mankind.

**1857**

**ANNIVERSARY.** The anniversary of the members and friends of the dissenting chapel in this place was held on Tuesday last. An excellent tea was provided, and a considerable number of persons were in attendance.

**1891**

**SUMMONED.** Damaging Grass. Alfred Webb, Henry Sutton and Ernest William Farnham, labourers, of Stapleford, were summoned for having done damage to certain growing grass, the property of Mr. William Samuel Heffer, farmer.

**1907**

**FLOWER SHOW.** Stapleford horticultural show was held on Tuesday, and proved one of the most successful held in recent years, both from the point of view of the number and quality of the exhibits and the attendance of the public. The number of exhibits was considerably in advance of last year, 60 or more, the total being 459, and the show, especially as regards fruit and flowers, would have done credit to a much larger and more important centre. Indeed the judges did not hesitate to declare that in the open classes for fruit the exhibits beat those which were to be seen at the Cambridge show. There was an excellent display of vegetables, though there was evidence of the disadvantages of the season; and the flowers were a charming and attractive feature, the roses being especially fine. The exhibition of needlework, which was judged by Mrs Armistead and Miss Balls, was a credit to the women and children who competed.

There was open-air entertainments and other attractions in the show field during the afternoon and evening. The school children, under the direction of the school mistress (Mrs Harvey), gave a little floral festival, with the crowning of the flower queen and dancing round the maypole.

**1960**

**STAPLEFORD CRICKET CLUB.** This club is very fortunate in having such hard working officers in L W Johnson (president), Frank Hardy

(chairman) and committee members Hoppitt, Barker, C Hall, and L Bridgeman. On the playing side the club has several well-known local personalities in T Chalk, "Albie" Ellis, Peter Mathews and R Dickerson. But what does impress one about Stapleford Cricket Club is not the personalities but the club spirit itself. Here is a club backed by a very strong second eleven, possessing a ground second to none in the county, and the spirit to win matches by going for their runs whatever total they have to face.

**1969**

**CHILD HEALTH CENTRE MOVE IRKS MOTHERS.** Stapleford mothers are up in arms over the transfer of the village child-health centre to Abbotsley House in Great Shelford. It is inconvenient, needless, and causes them hardship Stapleford Parish Council were told last week. The parish council have already written to the county medical officer of health deploring the move. And last week they decided to write again enclosing a letter sent to them by one village mother .... The letter asks the parish council to try to have the centre re-established in the village. It says the move means that young mothers have to get to Granham's Road to the new centre with their children causing considerable inconvenience and loss of valuable time. It also says a bus leaving Stapleford at 2pm to take mothers to Shelford to the clinic does not return in time for them to meet their older children from school.

Members said they felt that in view of the mother's letter and the opposition from many other mothers, moves should be made to turn the Johnson Memorial Hall into a centre where babies could be weighed and orange juice could be distributed. This would save the majority of mothers the trek to Shelford ...

## Bin collection dates this month

	GREEN	BLUE	BLACK
2 July	✓	✓	
9 July			✓
16 July	✓	✓	
23 July			✓
30 July	✓	✓	

# Stapleford History Society

## 'Geophysics and the Archaeology Rheesearch Group'



THE speaker, Ian Sanderson, was an industrial chemist by profession and interested in landscape history. Having attended a course involving the detailed study of the landscape and its archaeology, he and some other enthusiastic amateurs formed the Archaeology Rheesearch Group in 2004. The Rhee is one of the tributaries of the River Cam, together with Bourn Brook and the River Granta. These streams combine near Hauxton and flow through Byron's Pool. From there on the river is known locally as the Granta.

Many people have watched Tony Robinson and the Time Team archaeologists on Channel 4 and are probably familiar with the term 'Geofizz' without really understanding it. Similarly, viewers of BBC1's series entitled 'Egypt's Lost Cities' will remember Sarah Parcah waxing lyrical about the benefits of Lidar (light detection and ranging) over Radar (radio detection and ranging). While the speaker produced equations and other technical pieces of information, he was able to reassure the audience that we could understand what he was talking about as the group's equipment was nowhere near as sophisticated and expensive.

We were shown two pictures of a large area in the grounds of Wimpole Hall, the first showing a large expanse of grass. The second picture showed the outline of a fountain, garden walls and paths which had been in that space earlier. These were revealed by the use of a resistivity meter, a sort of metal detector, which can show what was under the ground, whether it was an iron axe, a wall, a hearth, a pit, a post hole, or something fancier like the fountain we cannot see now at Wimpole Hall.



The use of a magnetometer was described next. This apparatus detects ferro-magnetic materials such as iron, brick, tiles, bonfires and silted-up ditches. The problems associated with this form of investigation are trees, grass and even goats who will eat anything, even the group's equipment. At one point the field behind Stapleford School was investigated but, unfortunately, all that was revealed was the presence of rubbish, for example bottle tops and coins, none of which was historically significant.

For further information about the group and its activities it is possible to consult the very informative website [rheesearch.org.uk](http://rheesearch.org.uk). **Jane Steadman**



**AA**

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## Natural beauty



BY chance I just dropped into the Magog Down for a quick walk last week - I couldn't resist as it was such a beautiful day! I hadn't been for a while and have missed the view from the top! But what I wasn't expecting was the most amazing spectacle of flowers swaying in the wind, their colours made electric by the sun, absolutely covering the

huge open expanse of hillside! It was incredible!!! To see native wildflowers in their natural habit on this scale is such a privilege and I really hope some of you will pop up and take a look! Hopefully the blanket of white and yellow will greet you. We are so lucky to have the downland on our doorstep and to think that morning I had it all to myself?! I am so grateful to the trustees who do such a great job in managing the land for us. Sadly, my photos do not do it justice, but I wanted to share the experience with you - go and see it and I hope you get to see it the same way I did! **Diana Trower**

## Cambridge Flower Club (NAFAS affiliated)

### 2024 is our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

VISITORS are welcome at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford CB22 4NE on third Thursday evenings.

Refreshments from 6.45pm followed by a demonstration at 7.15pm.

Membership is £40 p.a. with visitors at £9 per meeting.

18 July Doreen Robinson: demonstration 'Fen Scape'

15 August OPEN MEETING with National Demonstrator Coral Gardiner: 'Put your Garden on a Pedestal'

Further information from Freda Orgee, [fredaorgee@gmail.com](mailto:fredaorgee@gmail.com) or 891464 or Alison Drake, [drakealisonn@gmail.com](mailto:drakealisonn@gmail.com) or 840117. **Sian Davies**

# Stapleford Strollers: Walk 126

## Blackbirds and Woods: a circular walk from Woodditton

### To get to start of walk

TAKE the A1307 past Babraham and turn left on to the A11 at the roundabout. Come off the A11 at Six Mile Bottom and take the A1304. Follow this until the horse sculpture roundabout where you take the 4<sup>th</sup> exit (for Stetchworth and Woodditton). Pass through Stetchworth and carry on until Woodditton is reached. The Three Blackbirds is on the left hand side in the main street (CB8 9SQ).

### Distance of walk

About 4.3 miles. It can be easily extended to nearly 6 miles by taking the path from the back of The Three Blackbirds and going round by Woodditton church, then coming back via the footpath to Little Ditton, turning right on the roadside pavement and then taking the first left down Parsonage Farm Lane. This walk extension is shown on the route map, highlighted in yellow. Parts of the walk can get muddy; if we ever get a dry spell this summer, it is well worth doing.

### OS map

Explorer map 210 or your smartphone. For free map extracts use [maps.the-hug.net](http://maps.the-hug.net). The route map provided should be helpful, too.

### Extra information

The name Woodditton (meaning 'ditch farm/settlement') feels like it ought to be two words, but the single word has generally been used since the Middle Ages and, after some discussion, this was finally settled upon as accepted usage in 2001. The 'Wood' prefix distinguishes it from the traditionally marshier Fen Ditton. It is an attractive village at the south east end of the Devil's Dyke (the 'ditch' in the place name meaning), but is somewhat visually marred by a large concrete water tower. St Mary's parish church is well away from the centre of the village, but is worth a visit.

### Route of the walk

With your back to The Three Blackbirds, walk to the left along the roadside pavement and keep ahead on this roadside route beyond Vicarage Lane. Pass the entrance to Limes Farm on the right then, immediately before a house to the right (24 Little Ditton) cross over and follow a footpath. Note: the footpath sign is somewhat set back from the road.

This path soon swings left and, after about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile, meets up with a cross track opposite Parsonage Farm (those who have done the long 6 mile walk

will come in from the left at this point). Turn right on the sandy-topped dirt track and keep walking for about 1½ miles until a T-junction of tracks is reached directly in front of a wood (Lucy Wood).

Go right at this point and cross the right hand side of a field. Ignore the two paths to the left, one very soon after the T-junction, and continue ahead until Woodditton Road is reached. This is not busy, but take care.

Go to the right walking along the roadside. Ditton Park Wood is on the opposite side of the road. The road soon bends to the left and then, just under ¼ mile further on, there is a clear track leading into the wood. Take this track and follow it until a T-junction is reached, then turn right.

The new path leads back to Woodditton and the somewhat unlovely village water tower will soon be seen. When the road is reached, cross over and turn right along the roadside pavement to return to The Three Blackbirds. **David Barnes**

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



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# 2G3S



FIRST of all, **an apology** if you turned up for the Electric Transport evening on 20 May, we had to cancel at short notice and couldn't contact people apart from posting on the website and Facebook. The evening will be rescheduled to run in the Autumn.

**Dr Bike** continues to run its volunteer-run weekly Bike Repair Sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3pm to 5.30pm every Tuesday. Children are welcome to bring their bikes for repair but please attend with them (for safeguarding reasons). If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers or have any questions on Dr Bike, get in touch using [drbikestapleford@gmail.com](mailto:drbikestapleford@gmail.com). Perhaps you came across the repairers at the Village Show, or at the Tour de Stapleford?



**South Cambs Organic Gardeners** meet out on location in the summer, details from [helen\\_harwood\\_uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helen_harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk).

**Stapleford Tree Project** – if you live in Stapleford, you should have received a flyer with more information about how to get involved in this move to improve our village. See the website and register your interest: [staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project/](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project/).

You cannot have failed to pick up there is a General Election on 4 July. 2G3S is not affiliated to any political party so we won't suggest which one you should vote for. But at a time when extreme weather, floods, mudslides, and wildfires are occurring all around the planet, affecting peoples' lives now, not at some distant point in the future, and when records for high sea and air temperatures are regularly broken, we hope you will look at the parties' policies on climate change and biodiversity (these are related). For example, which parties do you think are more committed to trying to do something, which parties might stop giving out new gas and oil licences, which parties might make the UK a leader in reducing to net zero, by reaching the targets set in Paris in 2015 (targets to keep the global temperature rise to around 1.5°C), which parties will support farmers to care for the nature on their land and still make a living? The i newspaper had an interesting article comparing parties in this way, see [inews.co.uk](http://inews.co.uk), search under Election 2024 for an article titled 'Experts rank environment

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policies.....'. We believe these issues are urgent and should be prioritised, so we can look our grandchildren in the eye and say "we tried".

You might despair that we can ever deal with climate change in time to avert nature and humans frying in heatwaves or drowning as sea levels rise, but remember that every little thing you can do helps – it's not just governments, or industry, or councils that need to act – we all can do our bit. By despairing we feel like giving up, but we may achieve much more by having optimism, by collaborating with others to make change happen. Every 0.1°C we can save will help reduce impacts on life on earth – so vote, write to MPs, reduce your flying, eat less meat, save water, reduce your consumption, garden to help wildlife, find out more by reading relevant articles in newspapers, maybe join a protest. Come along to a 2G3S meeting!

Some of you will have known Anthony Cooper, who sadly passed away earlier this year. He contributed to the work of 2G3S as he had great expertise in the planning system and law.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), do email [mail2G3S@gmail.com](mailto:mail2G3S@gmail.com) and sign up for our quarterly newsletter, or get more information about our meetings. We are a friendly group and welcome anyone who wants to come along to one of our events or to find out more about how we can live more sustainably. Also see our Facebook page and our website [2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk/](http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk/). **Helen Hale**

## Magog Singers



ON Tuesday 9 July we have the final concert in our 10th Anniversary series. Our programme is again across a wide spectrum of music covering Handel's Hallelujah Chorus, Ave Verum by Mozart, Linden Lea by Vaughan Williams, A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley

Square, a medley from Oliver, and Rogers & Hammerstein - Oh What a Beautiful Morning.

As always we will be directed by our enthusiastic conductor John Clenaghan and accompanied by Brian Watkins.

The concert will start at 3pm in the Pavilion. Light refreshments will be served with a retiring cash donation in aid of CamSAR, Cambridgeshire Search and Rescue.

Please contact [kathleenforeman047@gmail.com](mailto:kathleenforeman047@gmail.com) for information about the choir. **Kathleen Foreman**

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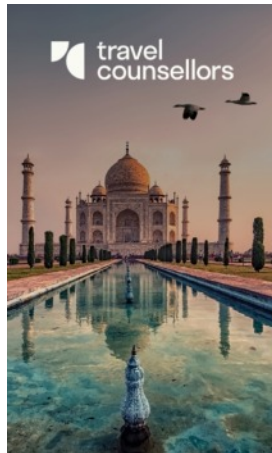


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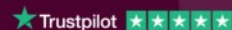
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# Puzzle Corner

## Two-letter sequences 3

Solve the clues to find words containing two-letter sequences

### *Examples*

Russian drink (DK) = voDKa

seal-like mammal (LR) = waLRus

digitalis (flower) (XG) = foXGlove

### **Group 1**

amaze (BF)

detest (BH)

bay lynx (BC)

subjugate (BD)

mingle/biscuit (BN)

spider's home (BW)

### **Group 2**

heat (MT)

opening (MH)

get round (MV)

Irish emblem (MR)

51-54 kg boxer (MW)

something unusually large (MD)

### **Group 3**

serviette

optimistic

co-operative

cartographer

temporary fix

occurring soon

using PG PM PK

PF PC PB

### **Group 4**

shame

drudge

undress

contempt

hand over

cross-dresser

using SB SG SD

SV SR SF

Set by Hermes – Answers on page 45

# MESSY TUESDAYS & CRAFTY THURSDAYS

## CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES THIS SUMMER

Drop-in activities between 9am & 12pm  
Suitable for age 3+  
£4 per child / participant  
All materials provided – no booking required

Thursday 1 August – LITTLE HERB GARDEN

Plant your own mini herb garden, decorating plant pots & making stick labels

Thursday 8 August – SUN CATCHERS

Choose one of our many creative ways to capture the sun, making something beautiful to hang in your window

Tuesday 13 August – CARDBIRDS

Inspired by the artwork of Peter Baldry, create your own cardboard cut out birds

Thursday 22 August – 'SHROOMS

Build & decorate a mushroom with recycled materials

Tuesday 27 August – FAIRY HOUSES

Using found natural objects & collaging paper, create your own tiny fairy & goblin houses

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# Stapleford Tree Project



LAST month I described the project in detail, and hopefully by now you will have found out more - at our stall at the Village Show, or on our web page, or via a flyer delivered to households. Children will hear about the project at school. Stapleford Granary's new Discovery Room (opening July) will be supporting the project, with information about tree planting and the local environment

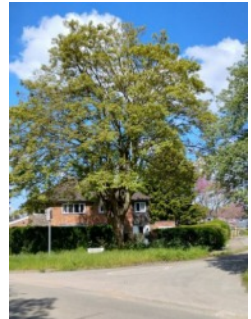
forming part of this hands-on exhibition.

People can register their interest in the project online, or on a paper form (drop off at Sophi's, 43 Bar Lane). Our web page is at [staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project/](http://staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project/).

Ways of supporting the project include planting a tree in your own garden, helping plant trees on public land, offering to water new trees for the first summer or two, and giving financial help.

Tell the *Messenger* about any village trees that you wouldn't want to lose - and send us a photo if you can.

**Helen Hale**



## Open Garden at 7 Dolphin Way

### A Thank You

WE would like to thank all those who supported us at our Open Garden on Sunday 9 June. Despite the rather gloomy day, the turnout was amazing.

With the help of wonderful friends and family, we managed to raise £1,218.50 for the Brain Tumour Charity, a charity not only close to our hearts, but also to many others whose lives have been affected by brain tumours and who turned up on the day to tell us their story. Thank you again for your support. **Lyn & George Wylie-Hill**



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The Travelling Companions, Augustus Stapleford Esq., 1912  
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# What's on in the library during July

IT'S fun, fantastic and free to join: sign up your children for this year's **Summer Reading Challenge** at Great Shelford Library from Saturday 13 July! The theme is Marvellous Makers and there'll be lots of chances to get creative. The Challenge is designed to keep children reading all summer, with rewards along the way and a medal and certificate for everyone who finishes. Reading is good for relaxation, interest and sparking imagination, plus reading through the holidays will help keep important skills in shape during the long break from school.

We will be holding lots of children's events at Great Shelford Library to add to the Summer Reading Challenge fun. In July we have:

**FAMILY LEGO / DUPLO EVENT** – Thursday 25 July, 2pm to 3.30pm, £2 per child. Build your own Lego and Duplo creations. Suitable for ages 2 to 10.

**THE MAGIC MAKING SHOW** – Wednesday 31 July, 2pm to 3.15pm, £5 per child. Come and be amazed by our magician. Suitable for ages 3 to 10.

For all children's events please pre-book in the library or via [Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## Regular activities

**Engage Talk - Marco Polo** – Presented by Dave Horan. Wednesday 24 July, 2pm to 3.30pm. A donation of £2 is appreciated. Please stay for a drink after the talk. Please pre-book in the library or via [Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

**Craft & Chat** – Every Friday morning 10.30am to 12pm. No need to book.

**Tea & Games** – Every Friday afternoon 2pm to 3.30pm. No need to book.

**Rhyme/Story Time and Duplo** – Every Tuesday in July at 10.30am. For children aged 0 to 4 years. No need to book.

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



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## Granta Medical Practices

WE continue to work hard to improve patient access. We have recently employed seven new GPs, who are starting at various times over the next few months. Remember though, GPs aren't the only healthcare professional you can see, depending on your medical need.

'Pharmacy First' is an NHS service available via high street pharmacies where, if eligible, you can obtain prescription medicine without seeing a GP. The conditions that are covered by Pharmacy First are:

- Earache (1 to 17 years).
- Impetigo (1 year and over).
- Infected insect bites (1 year and over).
- Shingles (18 years and over).
- Sinusitis (12 years and over).
- Sore throat (5 years and over).
- Uncomplicated urinary tract infections (women, 16-64 years old)

If you go to a pharmacy with one of these conditions, a pharmacist will offer you advice, treatment or refer you to a GP or other healthcare professional if needed. They will then update your GP health record.

If you are not within the above age ranges, a pharmacist can still offer you advice on these and many other conditions, and if they cannot help you directly they may signpost you to an alternative healthcare professional for treatment.

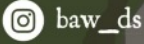
For further information go to [nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst](https://nhs.uk/thinkpharmacyfirst).

**Sandra East, Head of Patient Services**

## Sawston Open Gardens

FIVE of Sawston's finest gardens open their gates to the public on Sunday 7 July, to help raise funds for the National Garden Scheme (ngs) and the important nursing and caring charities they support. There are four very different private gardens plus the well-known Mary Challis Garden. The gardens are open from 1pm to 5pm. Collect a map at the first garden you visit. Entrance £6 covers all gardens; children free. Enjoy homemade tea and cakes at the Mary Challis Garden 1.30pm to 4.30pm, plus plants for sale.

The Co-op car park in the centre of the village is conveniently located but restricted to three hours. Enquiries: Mike Redshaw 834511 or [mjredshaw@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:mjredshaw@hotmail.co.uk). **Mike Redshaw**



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## Better Ways 4 Busways: update



THE Cambridge South East Transport bus road across greenbelt to the Biomedical Campus makes no sense, either economically or strategically, but inexplicably the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is still pressing ahead. Our alternative of a busway along the A1307 is £100m cheaper and far better connects with Addenbrooke's and the park and ride sites.



All Parliamentary candidates for South Cambs have been approached with the question “Do you support this project or do you oppose it?” Due to the early submission date for this article, we are still awaiting responses and will publish any we receive, but we note the following:

- Chris Carter-Chapman representing the Conservatives is already on record as stating that he is unequivocally opposed to the busway.
- the *Cambridge Independent* (5 June) quotes Miranda Fyfe, representing the Green Party, as saying “I want the viable alternatives to the C2C and CSET busways to be properly considered and Coton Orchard and the Gog Magogs to be saved.”
- at the Coton hustings, the Lib Dems’ Pippa Heylings is quoted by the *Cambridge Independent* (24 April) as saying she “did not think there was enough information on the table” to give a yes or no answer to the C2C busway and was keen for a full public enquiry “to give transparency”. However, it was pointed out to her by James Littlewood, CEO of Cambridge Past, Present & Future, that the public enquiry would in fact be automatically triggered by the legal process.



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- Labour candidate Luke Viner is quoted in the same article as saying he would support the C2C busway if it could later become a light rail link.

Given the environmental credentials that the candidates claim, we leave readers to make up their own minds as to which party candidate will stand up for our village setting and countryside

For more information on this illogical, wasteful and environmentally damaging bus road, go to [bw4b.org](http://bw4b.org) or come and talk to us during the afternoon of Saturday 29 June at Stapleford Village Show, when we will have some interesting exhibits on show, including farm machinery, and a competition to enter. **Howard Kettel**

*Better Ways 4 Busways is a politically neutral, highly inclusive campaign group which opposes the destruction of the countryside when better alternatives exist.*

## Miles Nicholas - farm shop of the year

LOCAL butcher Miles Nicholas has won the 2024 Velvet Magazine Food and Drinks Award farm shop of the year. Proud owner of Morgan's Butchery, Miles (featured in April 2022's *Messenger*) who started his journey as a butcher in the Spar in Stapleford has now reached new heights with this award. This achievement holds a special significance for Miles and his family who now run Morgan's Butchery at Baythorne Hall as it represents the hard work, dedication and perseverance that they've all put into getting the shop up and running after taking it over in 2023.

As a small independent family business, the journey to success is often filled with challenges and uncertainties. The award is a testament to the passion and dedication that drive Miles and his family every day to deliver the best possible experience to everyone who walks through their doors.

Miles says: "Winning the Farm Shop of the Year award is not just recognition of our efforts, but a validation of our commitment to providing quality products and exceptional service to our customers. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our loyal customers and well-wishers as we celebrate our achievement and look forward to seeing everyone at Morgan's." **Miles Nicholas**



# Cambridge Open Studios

CAMBRIDGE Open Studios is celebrating 50 years of sharing art with Cambridgeshire this year.



There are several local artists showing their work/opening their studios in Stapleford during July.

Studios are open between 10am and 5pm on some or all of the following weekends: July 6 and 7, 13 and 14, 20 and 21, 27 and 28.

Cambridge Open Studio (COS) membership consists of over 500 amateur and professional painters, jewellers, ceramicists, woodworkers, sculptors, textile artists, photographers, and much more, who promote the making of original works of art and craft through supporting networking, connections, and friendships amongst each other.

From textiles to digital art, printmaking to photography, watercolour to sculpture, COS artists represent a full spectrum artistic practice. COS promotes the making of original art and craft through networking, connections and friendships.

The main annual event is the July Open Studio Art Festival, which attracts thousands of visitors each year,

To find out which artists are opening their studios go to [camopenstudios.org/july-open-studios-2024](http://camopenstudios.org/july-open-studios-2024).

# Addenbrooke's Gardens

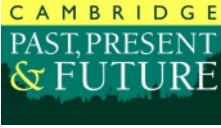
WE are delighted that one of the show gardens in the Chelsea Flower Show, the Bridgerton Garden (photo right), will be relocated to Addenbrooke's. For more information about it go to [cuh.nhs.uk/news/](http://cuh.nhs.uk/news/) and search for Bridgerton Garden.



In addition, the National Garden Scheme (NGS)'s garden at the Chelsea Flower Show will be relocated to the Maggie's centre at Addenbrooke's

hospital, which cares for people living with cancer and their friends and family: [ngs.org.uk/our-chelsea-garden](http://ngs.org.uk/our-chelsea-garden)). **Sophie Sengupta; Photo: Vicky Rimmer**

# Wandlebury Events



HERE'S a selection of what's on at Wandlebury in July. For more information, including booking, about these and events at other locations email [bookings@cambridgeppf.org](mailto:bookings@cambridgeppf.org), call 243830 extension 307

or visit [cambridgeppf.org/whats-on](http://cambridgeppf.org/whats-on).

You are advised to check the CPPF website before attending any event.

## Tree Identification

Tuesday 9 July, 10am to 12pm

Gentle guided walk to learn about native trees. Led by a knowledgeable guide 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 in the car park. Free event - suggested donation £3.

## Learn to scythe

Saturday 20 July | 10am to 4pm | £75 per person

You will learn how to select and set up a scythe to suit your stature and the basics of mowing and sharpening. There will be ample time to practise and you should be a confident mower by the end of the day. The course will be taught by Richard Brown, a professional scythe tutor.



## Holiday Bushcraft for 5 to 12 years

Monday 22 to Friday 26 July and

Monday 29 July to Thursday 1 August | 8.30am to 4pm

Holiday Bushcraft is designed for children aged 5 to 12 and is run by experienced instructors from Wild Thyme & Embers, who will inspire children and share their knowledge and skills of surviving in the wild. The cost for each day is £45 per child. Please book via [Wild Thyme & Embers wildthymeandembers.co.uk/holiday-bushcraft-club](http://WildThyme&Embers.co.uk/holiday-bushcraft-club).

## Meet the Cows

Wednesday 31 July | 10.30am to 12pm

Gentle guided walk to meet the Highland and Belted Galloway cows and learn how they improve our meadows for nature. Please wear footwear and clothing for being outdoors. Meet at the large noticeboard in the car park. Free event - suggested donation £3.





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Open Meeting



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Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024

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## Summer gardening trips

SOUTH Cambs Organic Gardeners have embarked on their Summer Outings. We have room on some of our trips for anyone who is interested.

### Monday 8 July. Challis Garden in Sawston.

Tour of the Garden from 7pm to around 9pm. It will include free hot drinks and cake at the end (please let us know if you have any allergies) and a short talk about the history of the site. We ask visitors to make a donation of £4 per person. Mike Redshaw, who is the lead gardener, will show us round.

### Monday 12 August. Guilden Gate smallholding at Bassingbourn.

Tour from 7pm to around 8.30pm. Cost is £6 per head. Guilden Gate is a working smallholding, and the tour will cover low energy house design, renewable energy systems, vegetable and herb-growing, orchard, woodland and beekeeping and a host of other topics.

If you are interested and would like to book, please contact Helen Harwood, tel 840393, email [helen\\_harwood\\_uk@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:helen_harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk).  
Rosemary Humby

## Cambridge Cake Creators

AT our meeting on Thursday, 18 July, we will be shown how to make sugar flowers.

We meet every third Thursday except In August and December in the Stapleford Pavilion, and our meeting starts at 7.30pm.

The cost is £10pp which includes coffee and cake.

For more details contact Vanda: 07557 518921 or [vanda.butler@googlemail.com](mailto:vanda.butler@googlemail.com). Vanda Butler



## Puzzle Corner answers

### Two-letter sequences 3

Group 1: dumBFound, aBHor, boBCat, suBDue, hoBNob, coBWeb

Group 2: warMTh, arMHole, circuMVent, shaMRock, bantaMWeight, huMDinger

Group 3: naPKin, uPBeat, helPFul, maPMaker, stoPGap, uPComing

Group 4: diSGrace, dogSBody, diSRobe, diSDain, tranSFer, transVestite



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# Parish Council Chair's report

CCTV INSTALLATION at the pavilion and recreation ground is now complete and active. This is intended to make the pavilion and grounds a safer place for all. Related documents will be available on the Parish Council website. Following refurbishment of the pavilion, some adjustment in the hall will be necessary.

Revised Standing Orders, new NALC model Financial Regulations and revised Risk Assessment Policy documents, Stapleford Biodiversity policy along with the revised CCTV document were agreed and adopted at the June meeting. The Annual Governance Statement and Accounting Statement for 2023/24 were agreed.

Plans for the refurbishment of the pavilion are going ahead. The kitchen will be enlarged, the small changing room altered to make a meeting room, the large changing room will have a toilet incorporated and have external access for sports players, and the walkway will be enclosed to enlarge the foyer. Work will also be done on the car park.

Good progress is being made in discussions with Stapleford Tennis Club concerning the use and maintenance of the MUGA (multi-use games area). It is regretted that a disruption in power when the CCTV was being installed caused a problem with bookings but this should not happen in the future.

A decision is awaited on the Parish Council application for 20mph speed limit on Haverhill Road.

A defibrillator is to be installed in the old telephone box by the Rose.

Various road closures continue because of the work being done by UK Power Networks (UKPN). When the Parish Council has advance notice of these, information will be posted on social media. Amended plans for Sawston Greenway involving Mingle Lane and Church Street are awaited.

Many compliments have been received from residents, and from people outside of the parish, about the wild flower areas around the village. The areas along Haverhill Road have received particular admiration, and the poppies were appropriately flowering for D-Day. Some tree work is planned on the trees surrounding the recreation ground to enhance the area.



*Poppies alongside Haverhill Road (photo: June Betts)*

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on Monday 22 July at 7pm in the Pavilion. Please note the change of date. **Gillian Pett**

# Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



## COUNCILLORS

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James Northmore	jnorthmore@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk

## CLERK

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## SOUTH CAMBS DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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peterfane1@live.co.uk 843861 / 07802 256 861

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

## CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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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