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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 for full

details. The services include:

9am BCP or CW Communion

10.30am Communions, 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

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To be appointed

From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

I WONDER if you think of what you do as somehow sacred? I mean your ordinary everyday stuff, work or looking after the family or volunteering or being a good neighbour or whatever. Or maybe that sounds a bit weird?



I ask because immediately after the election exit poll was announced, and then throughout the night, each of the parties developed their own meta-narrative. All of them seemed to have theological overtones.

For Labour the narrative was that they had been bad but had worked at transformation so were now good. Consequently they were now being chosen to save the country. And as saviours they had work to do.

For the Conservatives, they were rejected because they had not been good. They too needed to sort themselves out and become good. Then the country might put them to work again.

For Reform, everyone else had messed up and they were the good ones. Their task was to destroy the bad parties in order to become the saviours they were called to be.

For the Lib Dems, they are good and always have been (except when the Tories tempted them to be a bit naughty). They would try to make sure others were good like them.

Or something. What is your take as to what the parties were saying about themselves?

Certainly the elements of their different narratives were held in common. They all had a particular self-image, and a view about what they had done for themselves and could now do for others. I suspect that thinking in these sorts of terms – who I was, what I have achieved, what that prepares me to do – is a fairly fundamental human way of thinking.

This echoed with what I had been reading in the previous few days, the letter that Paul the Apostle wrote to the church he had established in Ephesus. a town in Asia Minor.

Paul often gets a bad press. I think we don't always like what he has to say. Chapter 2 of his letter to the Ephesians is a good example. He starts by pointing out the reality of the human condition. It's an assessment that we have trouble agreeing with individually, but with which almost all our political parties agreed, at least on election night, that we are not in fact intrinsically good, quite the opposite. We spend an awful lot of time doing,

thinking and saying bad things. Paul does use quite florid language, but it is well worth a read.

He then goes on to say that, for those who follow Christ, things have changed. And it is here that he departs from our political narratives. We have not made and cannot make ourselves good by our own efforts. Maybe the Ephesians thought that they had achieved reform themselves: pats on the back and gold stars all round.

Not so, says Paul. "It is by grace you have been saved through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no-one can boast."

"That is all very well," you might be saying, "but there is work to do, things that need to be sorted out, and we have to do them, not wait for God." You are right, and Paul agrees. There is always stuff to be done to make the human lot better. So after the 'saved by the grace of God through faith' bit he comes to this: "We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God has prepared in advance for us to do."

Christian or not, I guess we all like to see good works being done. Paul's point is that the doing of good things ultimately has to come from God – through human agency, yes, but in reality from God. Human attempts at good works by unreformed humans using only human strength often fail or at least fall short.

I wonder if you think that is true or a load of old baloney? When Luther was writing about this, the question he asked – I am paraphrasing - was "how can a baker be holy?" The prevailing idea others had at the time was that the church and priests were holy, but lay people and lay activities were not. Luther disagreed. His insight was that the purpose of human life is to do the good things that God has already prepared for us to do. Every task we have can be holy. Whether it is or not does not depend on us or our merits or our skill or on our self-reforming efforts, but on the merits and death of Jesus Christ. If we are in him – saved by grace through faith - and he is in us, then every moment of our lives is in and for him. You want to see the sacred? Look at the work of the baker, or the mother, or the businessperson or the doctor or the good neighbour or the one who is stuck at home but makes those caring phone calls or who prays for those in need.

On election night I was watching Channel 4's coverage. Krishnan Gurumurthy and Emily Maitlis. "How did this happen?" they were asking.

Here is an answer no-one gave. "Well, Emily, real, fundamental change comes about by grace, through faith, so none of us can really boast. And then the good work that needs to be done will follow."

Every blessing to you all, Simon

St Andrew's Noticeboard

4 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION Genesis 27.1-29; John 6.32-35 Jacob steals the blessing
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY CW COMMUNION John 6.32-35 The Runaway: Jacob's Dream
11 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION Genesis 28.10-22; John 6.35, 41-51 Jacob's Dream
	10.30 AM	MESSY FOREST CHURCH in the churchyard The Cheater Cheated
18 AUG		CW COMMUNION SUNDAY WORSHIP Genesis 29.1, 13-30; John 6.51-58 Jacob is cheated
25 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION Genesis 32.22-32; John 6.56-69 Jacob the Wrestler
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY SERVICE in the churchyard The Brothers Back Together Again
1 SEPT	9 AM 10.30 AM	BCP COMMUNION CW COMMUNION Genesis 33.1-20; Mark 7.1-8, 14-15, 21-23
	6 PM	Jacob meets Esau again CHORAL EVENSONG Exodus 12.21-27; Matthew 4.23-5.20

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

FROM THE REGISTERS

14 JULY – Baptisms of Arthur & Aria Stearn 10 AUG – Wedding Celebration of Hillie Lau & Will Wong

St Andrew's Little Fishes

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Please submit copy NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 9 AUGUST

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"It's a repeat!"

IN recent weeks have you shouted at the TV screen, "It's a repeat?" Politics and sport have made a strong bid to take over airways. Schedules are altered, listings not always matching what appears. Favourite programmes are replaced. Sport in particular runs over time inviting lengthy discussion, tearing games and strategies apart. Many apparent problems and analysis required. Hopefully some unity has been achieved in watching and participating.

Maybe I could produce a repeat. An article from past years could resurface as a fresh contribution. A Blue Peter moment: 'Here's one I made earlier.' Dishonest, but time saving. I could consider it recycling, Trendy, upmarket, green and practical. A repeat perhaps with a twist. In truth there is a treasure trove of fascination and intrigue on our door steps. Just needs spotting. Everyday events are repetitious; no need to explain what you already know. As individuals we recognise how routines shape us. Daily, instinctively, we do similar things. It is second nature. In fact rote learning begins in childhood. It is a learning, memorization technique based on repetition, helping recall of repeated information. With practice we become faster, gaining confidence.

A teacher saying, "Repeat after me," might prove daunting. Once timestables and spelling rules are understood it is satisfying. Encouraging. Words for songs repeatedly chanted means fun. 'Wheels on the bus,' plus 'Are we nearly there yet' on family journeys can be tedious. Nursery rhymes become familiar, words altered as we become adventurous, inventive or cheeky. Story and poem repeats are requested. The reader has to adhere to the text or risk the comment, "You've missed a bit." It is through repeating that such observations are made. Precious, patient learning.

At school, I was challenged to remember 'Hiawatha.' I helped myself with 'illuminating' the script. I remember repeating the Apostles' Creed in church services. It was only when my sister and I went to confirmation classes that I started to understand. Unpacking and sharing is so important. It was the same with the Lord's Prayer. Repeating words without understanding them misses the point, leaving emptiness.

Wallpaper can need pattern matching. If that is not managed patterns or scenes are disjointed. Plainly wrong. Maps if misaligned would send us in the wrong direction. Repeats are no use without pattern, flow, rhythm and continuity. Part of every day life; gently, efficiently organising. Judith Lee

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"We shall not cease from exploration And the end of all our exploring Will be to arrive where we started And know the place for the first time."

AS many will know, these words are from the final section of T.S. Eliot's 'Little Gidding', the last of four poems collectively known as 'Four Quartets', which meditate on existence, time and eternity. If you are familiar with the interior of St. Andrew's church you will also know that these words appear on the font cover, which was made and carved with great love and skill towards the end



of the 1980s by the late Frank Coe. This wonderful piece of craftsmanship was integral to the re-ordering of the baptistry necessitated by the relocation of the organ, the whole project being overseen by the then vicar, the Rev'd Colin Davison, who died suddenly in 1989, in post, at the age of 54.

On 20 June, along with others from Stapleford, I attended the funeral of Colin's widow, Pauline (who died in May after a short illness) at Great St. Mary's in the city, where she had worshipped after moving to Cambridge following Colin's death. She became very much part of that church community including serving as a PCC member and as a churchwarden. There were many echoes of Colin's memorable funeral 35 years previously almost to the day: the three sons, Matthew, Simon and Giles, were pall bearers as they were then; the hymns chosen by Pauline were the ones she had chosen for Colin's funeral; and as then, the day was hot and sunny, speaking of their years of ministry in South Africa before deportation due to their anti-apartheid activism. Most striking for me was that the first reading, so movingly read by their daughter Bridget, was the last two stanzas of 'Little Gidding', beginning with the words "We shall not cease from exploration". We had come full circle.

Pauline had visited Colin's grave in Stapleford Cemetery twice a year since he died, once on his birthday, and once on the anniversary of his death. She has now joined him there. May they both rest in peace and rise in glory. **Jeannie Green**

St Andrew's Choir - Come and join us!

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Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

From Keith and Sallie Dixon, Stapleford Re Stapleford Weekend

MY wife and I would like to thank the Village Weekend Committee for organising such a splendid and happy occasion. As one-time members of the committee and chairman, we know just how much planning and hard work goes into making the event such a success. Organising doesn't start at the beginning of June because most villages are holding fetes at roughly the same time, so planning starts now with the booking of the marquee for next year and you can't have the same games and side shows every year. There was such a variety of things to do for children and so many stalls etc. for adults. What a brilliant idea to have electric go-carts for children. Then there was the scaffolding with the names of sponsors and the big TV screens.

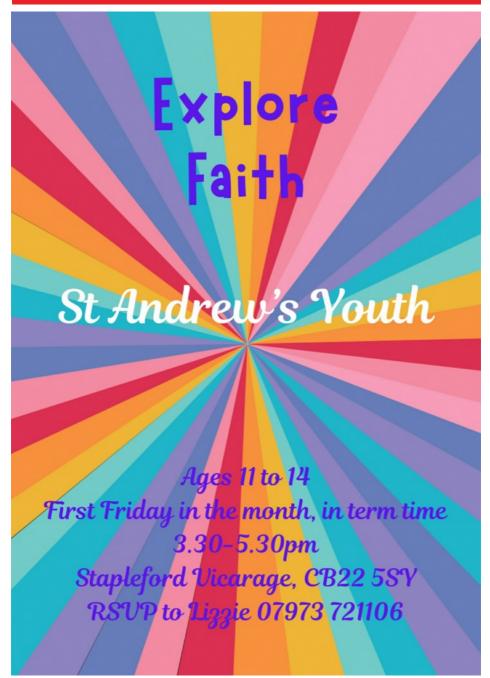
You think that everything is planned, then the unexpected happens. During my time as chairman the Three Horseshoes had provided the outdoor bar for several years and promised to do so again. However, three days before the event the owner at the time said they couldn't provide an outdoor bar because they were giving priority to their pubs in Cambridge. The Weekend relies on sales from the bar to offset other costs. The village rallied round. Bill French took his yellow van to a micro-brewery in Milton and returned with barrels of beer. Gillian Pett went to Costco and returned with cans of lager and soft drinks and also lent a large fridge. The Strollers ran the bar for the whole weekend. Now we run the bar and keep all the profits. [Ed-the Three Horseshoes provide the beer].

The Village Show, with a separate committee, has been running for over a hundred years and deserves equal praise for all their hard work: printing class sheets, collecting entry forms and money and then early on Saturday morning receiving the entries. Before that judges have to be found, and of course, tables have to be set out and cleared away at the end of the afternoon.

Just a few people put in a lot of hard work for the pleasure of many.

Keith and Sallie Dixon

Village Weekend, see page 18



Women's Institute

the WINSPIRING WOMEN

JUNE proved to be very busy and highly enjoyable, as not only did we have our regular monthly meeting, but we also hosted an Italian evening for members and partners, and then organised and ran a most successful stall at the Stapleford

Show the following Saturday.

Our speaker in June was Maggie James, who described the many and varied experiences she and her family had while living in Saudi Arabia during the 1980s. Her talk concluded with a vivid description of a sudden terrifying sandstorm which arose during a picnic, and which at one point meant Maggie and her husband were separated from their young daughter for a short time while the storm raged. This incident gave Maggie an idea as to how to turn her experiences in Saudi Arabia into a semiautobiographical book which has the title 'No Way Home: A Novelised Memoir'. During the evening Maggie judged the entries of our green arrangements for the Janet Smith Rose Bowl competition, and Pat Hughes was awarded first place.



Pat Hughes being presented with the Rose Bowl by our President Sue Clark

One Saturday evening members and guests enjoyed a meal based on Italian dishes which was prepared by the committee. The menu consisted of tuna dip together with an antipasti platter with focaccia, followed by Tuscan chicken, Italian roast potatoes, aubergine parmigiana and salad. Desserts included tiramisu and Sicilian trifle cake. The evening was a great success and even the weather joined in by giving us a warm, sunny summer evening.



The catering team with the antipasti led by Yvonne Allison who did a superb job organising the menu

Our final event in June was setting up and running our usual filled jam jar and mugs hoopla stall at the Village Show. Thanks to members' generosity there were lots of prizes and



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always a queue, as the stall proved to be extremely popular.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 22
August when Sarah Kirkpatrick will be telling us about 'The History of Saffron Walden'.
We meet at 7.30pm in the Pavilion. If you would like to come along as a visitor to find out more about the WI group then please do so, as you are assured of a warm welcome. Information can also be found on our website staplefordwi.weebly.com or contact Sallie Dixon on 843847 to find out more.

Joyce Dobson

The WI stall

Mothers' Union



FROM 1 to 14 August, there will be a Banner Exhibition in the Lady Chapel of Ely Cathedral (opening times: weekdays 10am to 4pm, Sundays

midday to 3pm) organised by the Diocesan Mothers' Union, to show off the banners and memorabilia of Branches across the Diocese and to celebrate the work of the MU. Stapleford's banner (designed and stitched in 1976 to celebrate the Mothers' Union centenary) will be on display as well as a Great Shelford banner, stitched by Kay Coe and her daughter Lynda, showing 'The Tree of Life'.



On Mary Sumner Day (9 August) there will be a service in the Presbytery at 11.30am to celebrate our founder, which members hope to attend. Mary founded the Mothers' Union in 1876 in Old Arlesford in Hampshire, an organisation that has spread to over 4 million

members in 84 countries across the world. She died at the age of 92 on 9 August 1921 and is buried in the grounds of Winchester Cathedral. **Hilary Street**

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CONTACT:

www.elydiocese.org/mothers-union www.elycathedral.org Further information from: MUElyDiocese@hotmail.com







Newcomers' Tea

HAVE you moved into the village in the last three or four years? Then you are warmly invited to our next newcomers' tea in the Vicarage garden (indoors if wet) at 43 Mingle Lane CB22 5SY, on Saturday 31 August from 3.30pm to 5pm. Come and meet others who have moved in and some village old hands too. Definitely not restricted to Christians or churchgoers. All welcome.



And if you have been here longer, but missed the last one in 2022, please come!

Or do you know any newcomers? Not everyone gets *The Messenger*, so please let them know about this invitation and bring them along – you are welcome too!

Please let Lizzie & Simon know you are coming on simontaylorstandrews@gmail.com or 840256. Simon Taylor

Puzzle Corner

4 x 4

Identify the four groups of four clues and the connections between the clues in each group

STORY ALERTING RISKY TRIANGLE

MARIMBA LOWER INTEGRAL HANDLES

RELATING CELESTA EVER WASHBOARD

GONG ALTERING AFFAIR TANGLIER
Set by Hermes - Answers on page 29



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

Stapleford Weekend



THANK you very much to everyone who attended and volunteered at the Stapleford Weekend, we hope you had a great time!

Below is an article from the Village Show and some pictures from throughout the weekend. Full

report coming in September on the Weekend. Photos credited to Elaine Mingay and members of the committee; staplefordweekend@gmail.com.

Village Show Round-Up

WELL, what a super day that was on the Recreation ground on Saturday 29 June for the Village Show. The Rec was buzzing with smiles and laughter and bathed in glorious sun!!!

The numbers of exhibits in the Show were up from last year in all categories, which was very pleasing, particularly in the children's 7 to 11 years section. A record number of people visited the Show and that, combined with all the other attractions on the Rec, made for a memorable afternoon. Thank you all for coming.

The winners of the Silverware are as follows – Tucker Gardner Challenge Cup – Margaret Gilmore. Challenge Cup for Flowers – Mary Northfield. Roy Burman Shield – Martyn Northfield. Rosalie Bowl – Dan Malin. The Flower Show Centenary Cup – Julie Rayment. St Andrews Millennium Trophy – Mary Northfield. Home Produce Cup – Sue Rose. Cambridge Building Society Cup – Michael Gatward. Rickett Cup – David and Hilary Gleaves. Mary Ward Cup – Franceska McGee. Jessie Salter Cup – Laura Boyce. The Joan Riley Messenger Cup – Sophie Paley. Marions Cup – Zero Wash. The Nick Pett Cup – Ella McCabe. The Stapleford Children's Challenge Cup – Amie Paley. The Stapleford Personal Choice – Amelie Mack. Stapleford Show Photography Award – Keith Taylor. The Joan Sudbury Allotment Cup - Mike Trower, and the BIG one – The Challenge Cup, for most points from all Classes, went to Sue Rose. Well done and thank you to all those who entered exhibits.

A BIG thank you also to all our judges, stewards, sponsors, committee members and everyone who helped to put on the Show in any way. We couldn't do it without you. If you'd like to get involved with organising the next fantastic community event, there are plenty of jobs, small and big, to be undertaken and we would love to hear from you. Please contact me.

Thanks. Julie Rayment - 07870 215776





























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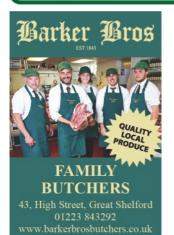
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Sawston u3a

New Activities, New Friends!



THE new term for the Sawston u3a starts at the beginning of September. Enrolment is any time after 16 July. Daytime activities are on offer for all who are retired or not in full

time employment, and it is a great way to meet like-minded people and add a bit of spice and interest to your life.

Don't let 'university' put you off, it is friendly and down to earth. Members are encouraged to join and even help provide classes and activities for all walks of life, ranging from sports such as Badminton, Snooker, Short Tennis, Golf, Pickleball, Table Tennis, Swimming and Bowls, London and Local Walks. If you prefer to take it easy, there are talks on General History, Music, Classic Cinema, Current Affairs, Money Matters, Art Appreciation, Book Club, Arithmetic, Famous Women, Travel, Quizzes and Psychology. Creativity is covered by Needle Crafts, Photography, Mah-jong, Knit and Natter, Rummikub, Phone Technology and Bell Ringing. Visits to Theatres and Places of Interest are enormously popular, and likewise, the Lunch Clubs.

Fees are so reasonable, just £25 for a whole year, plus £5 extra if you join the theatre and outings group. Take a look for yourself. The website is u3asites.org.uk/sawston. **Elaine Dwyer**

Cambridge Flower Club

70th Anniversary!

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

Refreshments from 6.45pm, Demonstration at 7.15pm.

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Stapleford History Society

A History of ARM Ltd by John Biggs



THE speaker is a distinguished consultant engineer, having been involved with Acorn/ARM since 1986. He was one of the twelve electronic and electrical engineers 'thrown out' of Acorn and instructed to start ARM in 1990.

He began his talk by reminding us of some significant developments in the field before ARM Ltd, as we now know it, began its rise to almost universal dominance of the 'chip' business. Currently ARM and Intel are the two major forces in the global industry, but the industry began in some sense with the creation of the first transistor in 1947. Twenty-four years later the Intel processor used 2,300 transistors and the first email was sent. Motorola made the first mobile phone call in 1973 and in 1985 the first chip was made in Cambridge. The first RISC (see below) microprocessor was the Acorn machine produced in 1985 for the BBC, with nine models and a total of 1.5 million sold before it was discontinued in 1994.

The label ARM means that the company produces Advanced RISC Machines. RISC stands for Reduced Instructions Set Computers. In this context a 'set' is a group of items. The older ones among us will remember studying the addition of pounds, shillings and pence. The shilling equalled a 'set' with twelve pence in it, while the pound had twenty shillings in its 'set'. Because the engineers had reduced the complex instructions 'set' for the earliest computing machines, they could refer to their development as 'reduced instructions' and were able to make much smaller chips. Bolstered by BBC money in 1983, Roger Wilson and Steve Furber were instrumental in producing the Acorn Archimedes. By 1996 ARM provided over ten billion chips for Nokia mobile phones.

The first home for Acorn/ARM was a barn in Swaffham Bulbeck, and the first chairman was Robin Saxby, for whom cash was king. When the company could not afford pay rises, the staff were given stocks and shares and agreed that their intellectual property belonged to the company. By licensing the employees' knowledge to others, ARM controlled the creation of chips without having to physically make any themselves. ARM Ltd employees are still receiving payments from deals struck in the early 1990s.

The ARM motto might be 'Simplicity, Elegance and Parsimony', the instructions given to Roger Wilson and Steve Furber who were instrumental in developing the Acorn computer for the BBC, without any extra company,

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www.karenjinksdesign.co.uk/workshops

money or people to help them. John Biggs ended his talk by reminding us that people are the biggest asset for any organisation and that for any job of work it will cost less if you employ knowledgeable people. **Jane Steadman**

Granta Medical Practice

New telephone system - call back option

SOME patients have reported the call back option not working for them. To use this service, when you are prompted please press option 1, **but then** you also need to listen to the next message and press option 1 again. There is also an option to receive a call back to a different telephone number.

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Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

cpicb.grantapatientservices@nhs.net Correspondence address: Granta Medical Practices, London Road, Sawston, CB22 3HU

Puzzle Corner Answers

STORY, TRIANGLE, HANDLES, AFFAIR - can be preceded by LOVE

ALERTING, INTEGRAL, RELATING, TANGLIER - anagrams

RISKY, LOWER, EVER, ALTERING - add F at start to make a word

MARIMBA, CELESTA, WASHBOARD, GONG - percussion instruments

Stapleford Strollers: Walk 127

In Old Huntingdonshire: a circular walk from Abbotsley

To get to start of walk

GO north on the M11 to Junction 13. Turn left for Bedford on the A1303 and go past the American Cemetery. Join the A428 and keep on the road, passing Cambourne. Keep ahead and turn left on to the B1040 (signed The Gransdens). Turn right after a few minutes on to the B1046 (signed Abbotsley). On reaching Abbotsley, pass The Eight Bells pub and, just before the church, turn left and use the Village Hall car park.

Length of walk

Just under 4½ miles. There is an extension that adds a mile to the route but it involves walking along the verge of the B1046 for some of the way. It is shown on the route map. Although the road is not always busy, you have been warned!

OS map

Explorer map 208. Alternatively, use your smart phone app (if you have one), run off a free map extract from the-hug.net or use the route map provided with these notes.

Extra Information

Both the village of Abbotsley and the countryside around it are rather pretty. The village name comes from Old English, meaning 'woodland clearing of a man named Ealdbeald'. It has only been in Cambridgeshire since 1974; prior to this it was in the county of Huntingdonshire until the mid 1960s, and then in the new but short-lived administrative county of Huntingdon and Peterborough.

Route of walk

From the Village Hall, cross the road and go left on the roadside pavement. St Margaret's church is passed almost immediately and, not long afterwards, the village green is seen on the left.

Keep on the pavement until it peters out and then carefully cross over and follow the roadside pavement on the other side, heading out of the village. Keep going until, just before the last house on the left (shortly before the 40mph signs), look right and a footpath sign will be seen pointing up a farm road. Cross back over and walk along this track.

After about ½ mile, a bridge is crossed. You will also come across some cattle grids on this route. There are good views of Abbotsley, looking back. Pass Caldecote Lodge to the right and keep going uphill until you come to

Caldecote Manor Farm. The farm track swings right immediately after the farm, but go left at this point, following a headland track with a hedge to the left.

When a cross track is met, turn left and walk downhill. This is an old drove road known locally as Hail Lane; follow it until meeting the B1046.

Cross over and go straight ahead on a track, which passes a wood to the left. The track bends right at this point, but carry on straight ahead on a grassy path. Look out for a cross path and turn left on to it.

Keep straight ahead, passing a small wood to the left at one point. The path crosses fields and heads back to Abbotsley, reaching the village via the Recreation Ground. When the tarmac road is met, go ahead until the village green is reached, then turn right and look for Blacksmiths Lane on the left.

Walk along it and turn left. Take the path opposite number 11, leading through the churchyard, and emerge on the main road at the far side. Cross over and turn right on the pavement. The Village Hall car park entrance will soon be seen. **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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Great Shelford Library



AS I write this I am truly hoping summer has arrived at last. The library has lots of resources to help you fill the long summer holidays. Why not pop in to borrow a travel book, find gardening tips, or discover a book

to cook the best barbeques. We also have lots of books on the British Isles from walks to places to visit. So, let's hope that August is warm and sunny and we can all make the most of the good weather.

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

Author and Crafts – Wednesday 7 August, 2.30pm to 4pm, £2 per child. Children's author Antonia Maxwell will be reading from her new book 'Terra Electrica', followed by mask making. Suitable for ages 5+.

Music Makers – Wednesday 14 August, 2pm to 3.30pm, £2 per child. Come and make some music with drums, ukulele and guitar. Suitable for ages 3 to 10.

Clock Making –Thursday 22 August, 2pm to 3.30pm, £2 per child. Create your own CD clock to take home. Suitable for ages 4 to 10.

Buzzy Bees – Wednesday 28 August, 2pm to 3.30pm, £2 per child. Bee-keeping demonstration. Honey will be available to buy. Suitable for ages 5+.

For all children's events, please pre-book in the library or via Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Regular Activities:

Craft & Chat – Every Friday morning 10.30am to midday. No need to book.

Tea & Games – Every Friday afternoon 2 to 3.30pm. No need to book. **Mel Abbis**, 0345 045 5225, cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk cambridgeshire.gov.uk

South Cambs Organic Gardeners

Guided Tour of Guilden Gate Smallholding, Bassingbourn Monday 12 August at 7pm

£6 per person

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The Natural World Discovery Room is in the Orchard Room in the Stable Block Monday - Sunday 10:00am - 3:00pm | Closed Wednesdays Suitable for ages 3+ Children must be accompanied by an adult

Admission is free & booking is not required (if the room is full, visitors are kindly requested to wait a little while) Find out more: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk/whats-on/exhibitions-overview

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Yesteryear

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

1855

DIED. Of a person after being Bedrid nearly Thirty Years. On Sunday morning last, Sarah Carter, of Stapleford, who has been confined to her bed for nearly thirty years, died rather suddenly. On the night previous to her death, her mother was up with her, she being rather worse than usual, but not so as to excite any alarms and on the following morning, upon her mother going to her bedroom, she discovered that she was dead. She was known by the name of the "Sleeping Beauty", and it is said that about fifteen years ago she laid asleep for seventeen weeks. She was daily visited by the gentry and clergy in the neighbourhood, and her mother has been frequently offered large sums of money by strangers for a personal view of the deceased; but this her mother refused. She was an example of Christian piety and virtue.

1909

FREE TRADE MEETING. An open-air Free Trade meeting was held in Bar Lane on Friday evening. Mr Alf Watson of Cambridge presided over an excellent attendance. He referred to the Budget protest meeting which was being held at Cambridge that night and claimed that, as it was a poor man's Budget, not a single working man in the country would be found against it, if he once understood that from the point of view of revenue. It was the only possible means of raising the necessary funds for imperial requirements, and also for those great and generous Government measures which were now being placed before the country to make life more secure for the people against the evil of unemployment. By the present Budget the knapsack was fitted to the shoulder, and not the shoulder to the knapsack. He declared the noblest patriotism that any man could conceive was to wage unceasing warfare against social wrongs, and the Budget would provide the most effective machinery for that purpose that a responsible minister had ever devised.

1969

MOTOR-CYCLING YOUTHS: POLICE ACTION SOUGHT. Youths on motor-cycles are disturbing people living near Stapleford recreation ground with their noisy machines. And they leave a trail of litter behind them, the parish council heard last Wednesday night. Mr Roy Burman said he was concerned about the paper and bottles being left in the entrance to the



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recreation ground. "It is mainly youths from the village and Shelford who gather round the entrance and just deposit their litter" he told the council.... Mr Travers Chalk said he had talked to the young people who congregated round the recreation ground entrance. "I asked them in as nice a way as possible to help us keep the recreation ground tidy. But I cannot say I got a terribly good response". The council decided to report the matter to the police.... The council decided to raise the salary of their clerk, Mr G L N Dunn, from £65 to £85 a year, with further increases of £5 each of the next three years. Mr Dunn last had a rise eight years ago.

Stapleford in 1939

In 1939 Stapleford, a small village of just over 600 inhabitants, was well served by shops and tradesmen. Stanley Smith ran the Post Office and an excellent grocery in a new building erected in London Road in 1931. In the old Post Office building next door, renamed "The Corner Shop" the Misses F MacAlister and Ethel King ran a sweet shop and lending library. In Church Street David Willers, a corn merchant, sold horticultural sundries, unrationed poultry food, dog food, seeds, plants and bird seed. Further along the street A L H Beavis had his coal-and-coke business (near where Cox's Close now stands) until it closed down in 1962 after 53 years.

In Bar Lane Alex Smith, a somewhat eccentric character, ran a small general shop; he pushed a hand-cart round the villages carrying a selection of his stock. Almost next door was the blacksmith, A C Gumbley, who also offered a general engineering service and, close by, was Worboys & Son builders, decorators and plumbers. From their dairies in Bury Road Edgar Baynes and Arthur Challis delivered milk daily, while Freestone's in Great Shelford brought round the bread.

Bin collection dates this month

	GREEN	BLUE	BLACK
6 August			✓
13 August	\checkmark	\checkmark	
20 August			\checkmark
27 August	\checkmark	✓	
3 September			✓

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Stapleford Tree Project



IF you live in Stapleford, you might have had a flyer with more

information about how to get involved in this move to improve the village. You may also have seen the stall at the Village Show, and the planting of a new tree on the recreation ground. Do look at





the website to find out more and register your interest.

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project/. You could plant a tree in your garden, or undertake to water a new tree on public land near you, and please let them know of any trees in the village that you think should be protected from felling or damage by building works nearby.

Helen Hale

Quiz Evening

Little Shelford Memorial Hall/Little Shelford Bowls Club



THIS will take place on Saturday 14 September for teams of up to 8 people in Little Shelford Memorial Hall. A fish/chicken and chips supper (or vegetarian alternative) will be served and there will be a licensed bar and raffle. The quiz will start promptly at 7.30pm (doors open at 7 pm) and cost £15/head to include supper.

To register a team, please contact Sarah Coppendale (coppendales@btinternet.com) or ring 842498 for an entry form.

As tables are limited, entries will be accepted on a first come, first served basis and need to be received by Monday 9 September so that the food order can be finalised.

All profits will be shared between Little Shelford Memorial Hall and Little Shelford Bowls Club. Thank you! **Sarah Coppendale**

2G3S



STAPLEFORD Village Show – what a lovely happy sunny afternoon it was too! Hopefully many villagers saw our stall displaying the things we do, such as repair cafes, bike checks, the book club, and

providing information about living more sustainably. Our neighbouring stall was Cambridge Sustainable Food, who have given an excellent talk to us earlier this year. We also showed the film 'Pure Clean Water' to an audience of over 50 people during the weekend.



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. You can also book a time slot at that address.

South Cambs Organic Gardeners meet on 12 August, with a visit to Guilden Gate smallholding at Bassingbourn. Tour from 7pm to c8.30pm. 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

2G3S Book Group meets on 20 August in the Three Horseshoes in Stapleford at 8pm to discuss 'Ravenous' by Henry Dimbleby. He was commissioned by the Government to produce a report on a national food strategy, which he duly did, but the resulting Government's Food Strategy is rather pale in comparison. This book is easy to read, and discusses the harm to our health and the environment brought about by our modern processed diet, intensive farming and the food supply chain. These changes have come about in the last 50 to 60 years. By taking out of food production about 10% of our least productive farmland and using it for nature and biodiversity, by farming in a more regenerative way (eg more hedgerows, less ploughing), and by us eating 30% less red meat and dairy, we can win on the nature front, without jeopardising our food security. Apart from supporting farmers through these changes, Government can use a carrot and stick approach (think sugar tax, ultra-processed food tax, subsidised fruit and yegs for those who need it, cookery classes, free school meals) and

peoples' behaviour can be 'nudged' towards a healthier diet that is also better for the environment. Cambridge Sustainable Food have plenty of information on these topics.

Repair Café - the next one is on 21 September at Great Shelford Free Church. Don't bin it, repair it! More details next time.

I daresay most of the No Mow May lawns have been cut now, but if you did let your grass grow longer for a while I hope you saw more insects and flowers in there. Wild corners of gardens are beneficial to small animals, insects and bugs, and as more of the UK gets covered in houses or roads or paving or horrible plastic grass, our gardens, however tiny, become ever more important for wildlife. Choose nectar-rich plants for bees, have a tree or shrub for birds to roost in, put up a nestbox and a bug hotel, feed the birds, leave a hole at the bottom of your fence to allow hedgehogs to move about, and provide water for animals. Growing anything is better than growing nothing, for absorbing carbon as well as supporting nature.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to mail2G3S@gmail.com to sign up for our quarterly newsletter, or to 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/. Helen Hale

Cycle Ride with Picnic: Tuesday 13 August

Pump up your tyres, pack your flask and join 2G3S for a trundle to picnic at Little Shelford Community Orchard. We'll meet at Stapleford Pavilion at 10am and use bumpy bridleways and quiet country roads to do a 12-mile loop to Little Shelford Orchard, pausing at Day's bakery in Newton for emergency supplies. We hope to have a guided tour of the orchard. Then it'll be straight back to Stapleford - total distance 15 miles.

The route is bumpy but mostly on traffic-free trails. Families welcome, so long as children are accompanied by a responsible adult. Please email Jane to book in advance: janechis48@gmail.com. Yasmin Emerson

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Midsummer Murders

EVEN by English standards, this summer has been wonderfully wet. This is not my own view; to me the days of endless showers have been frustrating and miserable - as they have been for so many. FOMO is replaced by FOMO - the *fear* of missing out replaced by the *fact* of missing out - endless rain robbing us of so many things, the thought of which got us through the winter. Long summer days, meals outside in the evening, not having to cart around jackets and coats 'just in case', the prickle of the sun on your skin, the simple joy of blue skies, blooming flowers, those almost-spontaneous summer parties. My flip-flops have barely been employed.

The slugs on the other hand are in rainlubricated paradise. Particularly common to our garden is the variety of slug called *Arion Rufus*. Every morning, the Caramac-coloured monsters are found brazenly guzzling their way through my half-drowned vegetables; potatoes, their foliage shredded into shrouds, suffer worst of all.



My resentment at this boomtime for molluscs has predictably turned lethal - but the choice of weapons available to the gardener-with-a-conscience is limited. No one seems able or willing to lend me a hedgehog, and I'm turned off slug pellets by equal parts Distaste-for-dumping-chemicals-in-my-veg-patch and Fear-of-poisoning-the-dog. I long ago learned to distrust mechanical methods too - sprinkling eggshells or coffeegrounds and the like. Instead, in what may turn out to be an equally pointless attempt to quell this sludgy tide, this year I've got serious about beer traps.

At first, I was sceptical about this method, used by so many gardeners. Nonetheless, I dutifully planted a few dishes among the plants and filled them with up-cycled (or is it down-cycled?) left-over must from last year's homebrew. I was soon proved wrong. The following rain-soaked morning, the evidence was inescapable; dozens of slugs and snails floated in pools of brown beery broth, like so many beached (and part-bleached) whales, and thus an unequal battle has been joined. Unequal, because no matter how many of these voracious creatures can be enticed to drag themselves into the drink and invited to quaff themselves to death, there are always, ALWAYS more - ready and waiting to slip into their slimy wake.

There are new jobs in my life now too, both unpleasant and tricky. The traps have to be emptied every couple of days to make way for new victims.



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That means a half-bucket of squishy corpses has to be tipped somewhere, which is unpleasant. And there always more slugs and snails to be picked off the plants and dropped into a further bowl of beer. Slugs are the worst, because at least snails by dint of shell have a handle that makes it easy to avoid their slime. Slugs by contrast cover unwary fingers with a glutinous mess that refuses to be rinsed off - or even soaped off. I read somewhere the best method is to rub the slime into a ball like copydex or snot, and flick it away. Personally, I find a single latex glove donned at dawn is a much better, if slightly Michael Jacksonesque solution.

The tricky jobs include sourcing new stocks of beer without breaking the bank. Apparently, each trap will only draw its prey from about three feet away, so that's a lot of dishes dotted around the garden and if each dish needs a couple of inches of beer every two or three days to be effective, the bar tab soon mounts up. This in turn invites whole new areas of research; what, precisely is it that attracts the slugs and snails? Presumably it must be smell, but is it alcohol, or malt, or yeast these gourmands so desire? Beer is less available in big bottles these days – which would make it cheaper. Would cider work just as well? If it is the alcohol they like, maybe so. If on the other hand it's malt, or yeast, presumably not. And aside from attracting the pests, what is it precisely that kills them? Do they just get drunk and drown, or does the alcohol poison them? If the latter, then just mixing up some old baking yeast with flour and water (as I heard one gardener recommend) might well draw them in - but fail to end them. Then all I've done is treat them to a slurp of batter at bathtime.

In addition to these Crippen-like ponderings, there has also been, I admit, some genuine soul-searching. Can I be sure I am not causing these creatures to suffer unduly? Certainly, they don't wince and writhe the way I've seen them do when sprinkled with salt – which put me right off that method. The truth is I cannot know.

I comfort myself with the thought that, if the end has come too soon for at least some of these marauding demons, I did at least see them off with a drink. And at least someone enjoyed a party in the garden this summer.

Fraser Grace

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.



CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB Open Meeting



Thursday 15th August 2024

Doors open at 6.15pm for a finger buffet & complimentary drink, plus stalls & raffle • Demonstration starts at 7.15pm



Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane, Whittlesford, CB22 4NE

Tickets cost £18 (£13 for Members) Available from Alison: Phone 01223 840117 or email drakealisonn@gmail.com

Parish Council Chair's report

THIS month the Parish Council meeting falls after the Messenger's copy deadline so there is nothing to report. The next meeting is 22 July at 7pm, the date being varied because of councillors' annual leave. There will be no Parish Council meeting in August. Normal service will resume in September and the meeting will revert to the usual first Thursday of the month.

Road closures continue in July and August, but your Parish Council is doing its best to mitigate inconvenience to residents. Work is ongoing to address The Tree pub and its dangerous hoarding.

The Parish Council would like to record a huge vote of thanks to everyone involved in the preparation, organisation and running of this year's very successful Village Weekend. The event was better than ever, not least because of the wide TV screens, with England winning their football match and live streaming of Glastonbury. The quiz attracted record numbers of entrants and the fish and chip supper was superbly organised. New attractions this year, such as Go Karts and different food options, proved very successful and the usual events, such as the cycle ride and church service, were as popular as ever. The bar provided liquid refreshment throughout the weekend. Sponsorship also made a big difference this year. You can read more about the event and see photos elsewhere in the Messenger. It is hoped that this year's success will be repeated or even exceeded next year! Gillian Pett, Chair, Stapleford Parish Council

Wandlebury Events



HERE'S a selection of what's on at Wandlebury in August. For more information about these and events at other locations email bookings@cambridgeppf.org, call 243830 extension 307 or visit cambridgeppf.org/whats-on.

Holiday Bushcraft for 5 to 12 year olds

Every Monday to Friday in August (except for 26 August) 8.30am to 4pm, Wandlebury Country Park. Outdoor activities for 5 to 12 years.

Mindfulness-in-Nature Wellness Walk

Friday 16 August, 3pm to 4pm. A contemplative walk around Wandlebury with a Mindful Green Coach.

Evening Walk with a Warden at Wandlebury

Walk with a warden at Wandlebury, Wednesday 21 August, 6.30pm to 8pm. Guided walk to explore the wildlife and history of Wandlebury.

Neighbourhood Plan

Reviewing consultees' comments from our Reg 14 Consultation



THE Neighbourhood Plan steering group, comprising a number of local residents and parish councillors from Stapleford and Great Shelford, has over the past couple of months been meeting

regularly to review all comments received during our Regulation 14 Consultation in March-April 2024. This is no quick task. Having collated all of these comments and matched them against specific policies in our draft Neighbourhood Plan, I can tell you that free text comments from statutory and other local stakeholders total 142 pages of A4, while residents and local businesses contributed a further 41 pages. This is in addition to the large volume of quantitative data generated from our tick-the-box questionnaire.

We are very grateful to everyone who took the time to respond to the consultation and I assure you that we are reading and deliberating over all comments, no matter how long or short they may be, how off-piste or spoton, how kind or curt, or how much work they might entail if we choose or need to act upon them.

All comments received and our responses to them will eventually be published in a Consultation Statement, a document which we must submit to the local planning authority together with the next version (the 'submission version') of our Neighbourhood Plan. Greater Cambridge Shared Planning will make this version available for a further six weeks of consultation so you can see how/whether we dealt with your comment(s) and appeal against this if you wish. Any such representations will be given to our independent examiner when they review our Neighbourhood Plan against a set of basic conditions that we are required to meet.

Until the Consultation Statement is published, I don't feel that it is appropriate to single out specific comments. However, you may be interested in a few general observations that I'm forming as we work through them.

Statutory and other local stakeholders include the local planning authority, local council, landowners (generally responding via their land agents, e.g. Savills, Bidwells and Carter Jonas) and other organisations or people with a vested interest in land within our parishes. Their Regulation 14 feedback typically focused on: policy content and coverage; our maps;

technical planning policy matters; and semantic issues which could affect the interpretation of certain policies (the devil really is in the detail!).

You may not be surprised to learn that land agents have been very robust in defending their clients' financial interests and have widely objected to policies in our draft Neighbourhood Plan which they perceive might limit the future development potential of their land. This is a serious charge because all neighbourhood plans must contribute towards achieving sustainable development; they cannot prevent it from happening. Our Neighbourhood Plan doesn't try to do this. Instead, it gives the community a say in its own future by influencing what type of development comes forward, how it comes forward and what (e.g. open spaces) should be protected from development. We are assured by the expert planning consultation supporting our Neighbourhood Plan that such land agent objections are completely par for the course.

Statutory consultees' feedback has been considered separately from that received from residents, local business owners and those working within our parishes. The latter typically contributed more general comments on our policies and focused more on the supporting text (i.e. that justifying the need for and content of each policy).

We received several passionate pleas to protect or improve various aspects of our parishes. Many reflect worries which understandably arise during times of change but are sadly outside the remit of neighbourhood planning. Some people expressed support for our Neighbourhood Plan but were concerned that it wouldn't work or be enforceable in light of economic growth pressures facing our area (whereas actually our policies will carry the same strength as those in the National Planning Policy Framework and the Local Plan). Other people highlighted perceived gaps in our Neighbourhood Plan, not realising that they are already covered by existing national or local planning policies. But, overall, we received very helpful feedback on relatively small things which we may have missed, misinterpreted or not properly explained, and it's precisely this kind of detail from people who know and love our area which is invaluable in helping us to dot the i's and cross the t's, and very much makes this *our* Neighbourhood Plan.

Jenny Flynn

Chair, Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Find out more at greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan or write to neighbourhood.plan@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Councillor Biographies

Michael Gatward

FOR those who may not know me, I am Michael Gatward. I first joined the Parish Council after I retired from my building business and passed it on to my two sons. This left me with time to fill and I decided that I would like to do something constructive with it. Joining the Parish Council seemed the perfect solution, giving me the ability to do something positive for the village where I have lived and worked for most of my life.

After three years I had to leave due to family problems, which was a difficult time for me, but towards the end of 2023 I re-joined to continue working on projects I had started previously, such



as the community orchard, wild flower areas and changes to the Jubilee Pavilion.

Being on the Parish Council can be extremely rewarding and I would recommend it to anyone else wondering what they can do to contribute to this community. We are a friendly bunch and would love your input.

Councillor Michael Gatward

Matthew French - your new(-ish!) Parish Councillor

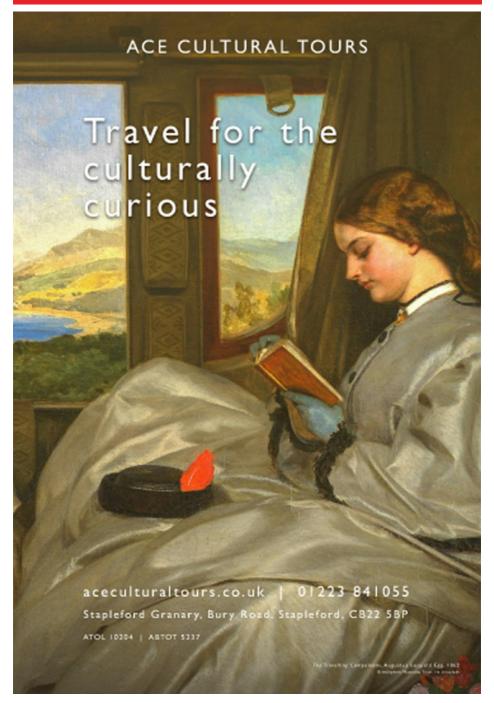
HELLO! I'm Matthew French.

I've been involved with the Parish Council since last autumn, officially joining in March 2024. I also actively participate in various volunteer committees in our community, such as the Stapleford Weekend and the Stapleford Tree Project.

I have a strong interest in technology and the environment. This drives my involvement in projects like cultivating the beautiful wildflower areas in our village, which I am really pleased with, and upgrading the Jubilee Pavilion's audiovisual system as part of its upcoming renovations.

I have lived in Stapleford all my life, attending the village primary school before moving to a local secondary school and then to Long Road Sixth Form College.

The other members of the Parish Council have been very welcoming towards me and, as a young person, I hope I can carry on making a difference.



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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