

Stapleford

Ne Nuntium Necare!

MESSENGER

August 2025

Volume 84 No 8

Price 90p

What a lovely Weekend!



Memories and photos pages 25-33

Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan

REFERENDUM

Your village • Your voice • Your vote



4 September 2025

See pages 16-18 for full voting info...

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Who's who at St Andrew's

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Vicar

Rev Dr Simon Taylor 840256

Associate Minister

Rev Lucinda Howard
07763 477821

Curate

Rev Matt Lewis 07707 166834

Churchwarden

Alastair MacGregor
07855 269844

**Parish Safeguarding
Officer**

Rob Needle 844227

Parish Administrator

Sue Duncan 07579 091507

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

Church flowers

Jackie Nettleton 721366

Stapleford-Nachingwea Link

Trish Maude 826347

Mothers' Union

Hilary Street 840548

Johnson Memorial Hall

Parish Administrator
07579 091507

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 Vicar.

Stapleford MESSENGER**Editor**

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From the Rev Dr Simon Taylor

SOME things that are usually untrue:

1. Road closed signs.
2. Speed camera signs.
3. Your call is important to us messages.

Half-truths, aspirations, straightforward deceptions. Things we put up with because life is too short to moan about everything.

And here is another thing that is usually untrue:

4. Any estimate of life-expectancy.

It's that last one, estimates of life expectancy, that has been in the news, as the House of Commons passed the latest iteration of the Terminally Ill Adults (Assisted Dying) Bill.

My experience of this is in a broader context, that of awarding compensation for injuries. If someone needs, say, care costing a certain amount each year for the rest of their life, how much compensation do they need now to set them up for life? One judge remarked, years ago, that the one thing that was certain was that all life estimates would be wrong. Easily sorted in that context though: a few years ago judges were given power to award recurring payments for the duration of someone's life.

Everyone who has watched someone's last illness knows that predictions of life expectancy are notoriously difficult to get right. Esther Rantzen and her acolytes know this too, now. One study in 2012 of predictions of life expectancy in patients with prostate cancer concluded that doctors' predictions were only right to within one year in 16% of cases. Another study from 2019 was of an AI model used to estimate life expectancy. A group of doctors was used as a control. A 'correct' prediction was defined as one within 33% of actual life expectancy. Doctors' estimates of life expectancy were correct 20% of the time. The AI model was 3% better. Life expectancy predictions, the authors said, are important in end of life care.

Well, yes; and even more so if that end of life decision-making includes timing one's own suicide. That is one of the many flaws with the current Bill: its foundation, that life expectancy can be predicted, is untrue, and sometimes massively so, with variance not just of days or weeks, but months and years.

A second major flaw is the issue of coercion, or its politer cousin, pressure, actual or perceived. What are those care costs going to do to the kids' inheritance? Will I be a burden? Will I be in pain?



The Bill's supporters have, despite promises at the first reading, taken out the obvious safeguard of approval by a High Court Judge. They are, truly, expert at protecting the vulnerable and sniffing out when something is not right. Other professionals – doctors, social workers, whoever – assess evidence in different ways and for different purposes and with different training and experience. The point of the Bill, if one accepts its basic premise as reasonable, is to make sure that only the truly willing die. Taking out from the process the best professionals for the job of assessment is frankly sinister.

So on a secular basis, it looks like a flawed Bill. But neither of those things are, as you might guess, my main objection.

My main objection is that sanctity of life thing. The Christian perspective is that every minute of every life is a gift from God and is valuable to him and to us, and that every person is at every moment in his love and care.

In considering that Christian perspective one of my concerns is that changes in laws of this sort inevitably go on to change culture.

What I mean is this. A new law is never just about those who wish to make use of it. New laws can change how society views itself and its members and the way we interact, going far beyond the actual impact of the law for individuals. Over recent years we have seen cultural change, sometimes huge shifts in societal attitudes, as a result of laws concerned with gender and race equality, with gay marriage, and even with things like restrictions on the use of plastic bags and traffic light food labelling. And this is not a recent phenomenon. Other examples that are cited in the literature are very varied, things like the Catholic emancipation laws gradually removing the previous stigma attached to being Catholic, and the Rent Acts establishing the idea that the state has a stake in ensuring that people have decent housing.

A law which gives the state a role in killing people is bad for society because it will change culture, cheapening our communal view of life. Fix in the minds of a generation that their aged relative could choose to die, and in a short time the thought will routinely emerge that they are being unreasonable in not doing so.

This cheapening of life will represent a profound turning away from the idea that God values each of us, and that he loves and cares for each of us at every moment. In St Andrew's we are about to embark on our summer series. This year, Moses. You may remember the history: the Jewish people suffering abjectly in Egypt. And God says "I have seen the affliction of my people, and heard their cry. I know their pain and suffering." Seen, heard,

known. God there for his people. Fast forward 1,400 or so years, and there is a further step: God among us, as Jesus lived and experienced all sorrows and pains that we do too. God present in his Son, fully human: human life seen, heard, known and now experienced.

Love and care for those in need at the time of death was Dame Cicely Saunders' Christian vision that founded the hospice movement. It is still going today, but underfunded and overstretched. A better way than facilitating assisted dying, more Christian but better on any number of grounds, would be to fund it properly.

Every blessing to you all, Simon Taylor

Mothers' Union news



MEMBERS from all round the Diocese enjoyed the annual Summer Garden Party in the Bishop's Garden on 14 June – a chance

to catch up with old friends and a very pleasant occasion in the marquee.

Our next event will be on Friday 8 August. 9 August is Mary Sumner Day, in remembrance of our founder (right). We hope to have a small outing – members will be circulated about it in due course. Next year is the 150th anniversary of the founding of the Mothers' Union, so a lot of large events are being planned

If any members would like a 2026 diary (£4.95), please could you let Mary Cooper know. **Hilary Street**



Magog Singers

AN enthusiastic audience enjoyed a wide range of music from the Magog Singers on a sunny summer afternoon.

A collection taken to support Ocular Melanoma UK, a UK-based charity that provides support, information and community raised

£305. Grateful thanks to all who donated.

The term starts again on 16 September and if you would like to join this SATB Community choir, please email kathleenforeman047@gmail.com.
Kathleen Foreman



Introducing Rev Matt Lewis

MY name is Matt, and I'm the next curate who will be at St. Andrew's here in the village. What this means is that I'll be working with Simon Taylor, who now has a responsibility to train me to lead a church somewhere and somewhen in the future.



I must confess, the transition from teacher to curate has been pretty straightforward, and I have found the change from wearing a shirt to wearing a dog collar comfortable. Maybe the challenges of a transition are lurking around the corner, waiting to be discovered. What I've found so far in life is that, although challenges abound, we tend to have the capacity to grow from them. Change is good for us.

Truth be told, this is a change that I have anticipated for some time. Having taught in secondary and primary schools I could never shake the compulsion to leave and train to become a vicar (a longer process than I'd appreciated). It's been a steady process with much to learn along the way, and I look forward to continuing to learn while serving here in Stapleford.

Stepping out from the comfort of a stable career makes me think of Moses. His life is recorded in the book of Exodus, and it was disrupted by God calling Moses to go back to where he had grown up. What always strikes me about this is that Moses says "no," and then begins to reel off excuses, all the while conversing with God who is seen within a burning bush that does not burn up. Despite meeting God and seeing the miraculous, the possibility of shirking what Moses is asked to do is enticing. It even takes God sending him help through his brother, Aaron, to convince Moses to step out into this transition.

I find myself like Moses at times. It is easier to remain comfortable; to not step out into the unknown; or simply to find ways of shirking the requests of others even when I know I can help. Much to my amusement, when I now think back on the decades through which I have lived as a Christian, I can now notice the smaller changes in me that each transition has contributed to. I may have stepped into a new role recently, but I am confident God has prepared me for this for many years before I knew I'd leave teaching.

I wonder whether you find yourself in a similar position at all. When you look back, can you see the incremental changes in your life? Has each transition benefitted you? As a Christian, and now a Christian with the title "Rev.", I'd encourage you to perhaps consider how God has been at work, gently nudging you as well. **Matt Lewis**

St Andrew's Noticeboard

Continuing in our summer series on Moses.

3 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY COMMUNION In the churchyard Exodus 2.11-25; Luke 12.22-31 <i>Moses Escapes</i>
4 AUG	7 PM	MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING
10 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	MESSY FOREST CHURCH In the churchyard Exodus 2.1-21; Luke 12.32-40 <i>The Burning Bush</i>
17 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Exodus 12.1-13; Luke 12.49-56 <i>The Last Plague</i>
24 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	ALL AGE & FAMILY SERVICE In the churchyard Exodus 14.10-31; Luke 13.10-17 <i>The Great Escape</i>
31 AUG	9 AM	BCP COMMUNION
	10.30 AM	SUNDAY WORSHIP Exodus 16.1-20; Luke 13.22-30 <i>A Long Journey</i>

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

FROM THE REGISTERS

12 JULY – WEDDING OF REBECCA ENO & ROBBIE MOSS

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layminister@standrewstapleford.org or 478923

Deadline for the September Messenger

Please submit copy **NO LATER THAN FRIDAY 15 AUGUST**

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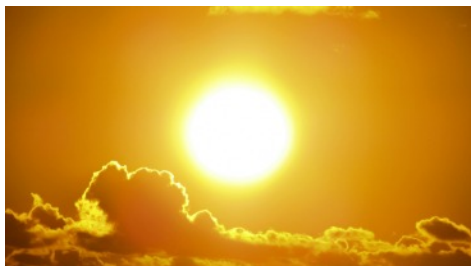


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Warmth

SHADES of yellow reflect warmth. Mellow, soft to sunshine and neon brightness. Yesterday before heavy rain a pale yellow haze developed. Experiencing intense heat, we saw the shimmering fuzz of exceptionally high temperatures. Worrying evidence of global warming. Seasons



seem confused. Farmers troubled. The land is drying up. Aconites, a favourite flower, did still herald spring. There were joyful buttercups, daffodils, celandines, and dainty dreamy primroses. Our Gogs were buttered with cowslips. Everyday yellows too, such as honey. lemons, cheese and mustard. How about canary yellow, corn, sand and glowing lit candles. What would you add?

There is another way of considering warmth, apart from more colours, using emotion, empathy and gentle encouragement. First, an explanation. Words can fail to say what is really felt. Speaking the truth could hurt. Tact and diplomacy seem best. Not always though. Hurt lingers, having an uncanny way of getting at us when least expected. Distress builds. Thoughts block paths of progress. Warmth is then sought and hopefully shared. That is best with the person you love. If that is not possible, in my case through bereavement, telling them as if they were here helps. When a relationship has been long and lives entwined the special warmth is missed. Sharing experiences remains important. Ongoing warmth, just different.

Life goes on, memories strong. Hope flickers, flagging spirits respond, jogging us on, giving purpose, lifting morale. Everyday something can be found to enthuse. Nothing greatly significant, often simple, humble yet lovely. Dazzling dewdrops, light flickering through trees, a robin wanting to be a friend, the smell of baking bread, cut wood, sea sounds and babbling brooks. Warmth of the senses lifting spirits and mood. Blankets of fog, wisps of mist, twinkling frost, brilliant colours from stained glass. Inspirational. Wonders to behold enhancing life experiences, not forgetting musical moments. Happiness comes in remembering.

The warmth of the human spirit can sing. A smile of understanding, looks of recognition, sharing a story. Listening, laughter. A hug, hand held, precious moments. Comfort, consolation. The depths of the heart and soul not always needing words, Surprising in positive ways. Empathetic warmth of support, freely given. **Judith Lee**

LET MY PEOPLE GO

Moses: chosen to lead
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Letters to the Editor

Please include a contact postal address with all correspondence.

From: Stephen & Pamela Sutton

Re: National Garden Scheme, Open Gardens 2025

WE welcomed many friends and visitors from near and far to our wildlife garden in Finch's Close on Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 June.

On both afternoons the garden was buzzing and visitors enjoyed not only looking around the garden and asking many questions but relaxing with tea and homemade cakes too.

We raised the fantastic sum of £694.72 for Nursing and Health Charities.

Stephen and Pamela would like to thank especially their school friends from the Midlands who served refreshments together with their neighbours Pam and Steve. Thanks also go to their neighbours Clare and young Lewis who conducted a risk assessment before the event. The County Organiser, Jenny Marks, provided support and advice leading to a very successful weekend.

The marvellous weather really was the 'icing on the cake!'

A big thank you to all!

From: John W Lamble

Re: Cycling on the school field

I WOULD like to respond to the letters in the July issue concerning cycling on the school field. No doubt we have all been horrified by the manner in which cyclists often regard the law as a sort of 'menu' from which they can choose which rules to obey. Who hasn't watched aghast as a vulnerable person at pedestrian lights get nearly or actually mowed down by a cyclist going through the red light. The same applies in principle to cycling on the school field where the official signage forbids cycling. The same signage forbids allowing dogs on the field and no doubt there are dog owners who think they have a God-given right to take their dogs there to defecate. Few of us would regard that as tolerable. No doubt the gates to the field are there to discourage this and other law-breaking.

As regards safety, there was a Council notice attached recently to a telegraph post in Church Street indicating that safety measures there for cyclists are planned. Regarding damage to the school field; fortuitously this correspondence has coincided with an exceptionally dry period but during the last rainy period the runnel caused by cyclists was already very visible. More rain and more cyclists will obviously exacerbate the damage caused.



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From: Julia Creed, Stapleford Community Primary School PTA

Re: *Messenger* Fund

WE wanted to express our thanks again for the notice board that the Stapleford *Messenger* Fund provided the funds for. I'm sure you'll agree it is a huge improvement to the previous one.



Stapleford – Nachingwea Link

Nachingwea – almost upon us!



IF you've read any of our previous *Messenger* articles, you'll know that my wife, Liz, and I are travelling through Tanzania, visiting places where my in-laws were posted during the 1950s, when the country was still known as Tanganyika. They were married at St Andrew's,

Nachingwea in 1952 by Rev Ronald Cox.

Planning your own travel offers the freedom to tailor your itinerary—provided you have the time, interest and patience. But it also demands effort and comes with the risk that, if things go wrong, there's no one else to blame. In Tanzania, the challenges are real: the extensive bus network is notoriously unsafe, the minimal rail services rely on ageing, unreliable Chinese-built trains, and most internal flights route through Dar es Salaam, making direct provincial connections rare.



That said, we're embracing a bit of everything: internal flights, a rental car with driver, one 10-hour bus ride, Bajajis (Tuk Tuks), Uber, an overnight train—and, of course, our wits. Hey Ho!

Part of our route involves taking the once-weekly overnight Mukuba Express from Dar es Salaam to Mbeya, run by Tazara Railway. Despite the website listing contacts for reservations, emails went unanswered, and calls weren't picked up. After weeks of researching and trying a dozen phone

numbers, we finally had success via a WhatsApp message (the Kiswahili has been omitted):

Robert: "Hello, please let me know if I can make a reservation for the Mukuba Express on this number? Thanks, Robert."

Tazara: "Yes."

Robert: "Great, our details are as follows..." We sent our names, the travel date, departure and arrival stations, the name of the train, 'Mukuba Express', class of sleeper compartment and asked what the cost would be.

Tazara: "Please send details of your train travel."

Robert: "What other details would you like?"

Tazara: "Your names."

Robert: Inclined to keep things simple, I resent our names.

Tazara: "It is reserved."

Robert: "Thank you. Please let me know the cost and do we pick up the tickets at Dar es Salaam station ticket office?"

Tazara: "TZS 210,000 . Pick up tickets from Tazara office, not from ticket office."

Robert: "Where is the Tazara office and is there a reservation number?"

Tazara: "Tazara office is in ticket office. No reservation number. Just say your names and pay in cash. Sometimes train doesn't run."

Robert: "When will we know if the train isn't running?"

Tazara: "On day or day after. If it doesn't run you can take train next week."

Clearly, train scheduling was not a priority for the railway company. But had the reservation been made? We'll only know when we find the Tazara office.

Another WhatsApp encounter with a hotel, 'The Dicoo Inn' in Mbeya went as follows:

Robert: "Hello, we would like to make a reservation. Is there anyone who can speak English?" (message repeated in Kiswahili).

Dicoo Inn: "You can make reservation with me."

Robert: "Thank you. We would like to reserve a double room for two nights. The first night is for 30-31 August, then we travel to Matema,



where we will spend a night and then return for another night at the Dicoo Inn 2-3 September.

Dicoo Inn: "We do not have hotel in Matema. "

Robert: "We just want to book the Dicoo Inn in Mbeya, we will book the Matema hotel separately.

Dicoo Inn: "You want to reserve three nights?"

Robert: No, just two nights at the Dicoo Inn.

Dicoo Inn: "Then why you mention Matema where we don't have hotel. "

Robert: "I should not have mentioned Matema. Please can we book the nights of 30-31 August and 2-3 September at the Dicoo Inn."

Dicoo Inn: "You don't want to book room when you go to Matema?"

Robert: "No. We will book Matema ourselves. Just two nights at the Dicoo Inn please."

Dicoo Inn: "Okay."

And that was the last communication with the Dicoo Inn.

We've had similar exchanges with several other reservations, so to say our trip is planned is to take too many liberties.

The exception to this is the focal point of our stay in Nachingwea. Kevin (St Andrew's Nachingwea LINK Chairperson) has been an enthusiastic contact brought about through the Stapleford LINK. Everything, from our arrival in Masasi to a drop-off at Lindi five days later, has been organised by Kevin. We have visits to the Bishop of Masasi - Right Rev James Almasi, the women's DARE group, two schools, the Stapleford Library, local dignitaries, the LINK Committee and their families, an extended three-hour church service, which we're going to struggle with, and a couple of our requests to visit sights that Liz's parents would have known.

We'll be taking gifts—some generously provided by the Stapleford LINK, others personal—which means an extra suitcase and the inevitable negotiation with Tanzania's ever-diligent customs officers upon arrival in Dar es Salaam. Seasoned travellers have offered one key piece of advice: bring cash.

We're spending the last week of our month in Tanzania at a lovely resort in Zanzibar. An unashamed reward for the endeavours of two elderly teens thinking they can still hack it on the road. **Robert and Liz Clairborne-Dixon**



Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan



REFERENDUM

4 September 2025



Neighbourhood plans give communities direct power to shape growth in their local area in line with local priorities. They are based on community consultation and written by residents.

It is now up to everyone living in our parishes to decide whether you want our Neighbourhood Plan to come into force.

If you choose to vote in the referendum, you will be asked:

Do you want South Cambridgeshire District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Stapleford & Great Shelford to help decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

If a majority vote 'yes', our Plan will be adopted and have the same legal status as the Local Plan in all planning decisions.

A majority 'no' vote means that it will be disregarded.

Please come along and use your vote!
In person (with ID) - by post in advance - by proxy

See your polling card for more details, and visit <https://bit.ly/4lyPrkE> or scan the QR code to view our Neighbourhood Plan.



Neighbourhood Plan update: our community referendum fast approaches...



IN the nearly four years that I have been updating you on progress with the Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan, this will be my lowest key entry. By the time you read this, both parish councils will have entered a pre-referendum period of 'purdah', in which they must exercise caution in making announcements that could influence the outcome of a democratic vote. I am not a councillor but my role as Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – a group formed to produce a plan on behalf of our parish councils – puts me in a difficult position. I will, therefore, stick solely to the facts.

What is a neighbourhood plan?

Neighbourhood planning is a way for communities to take a proactive approach to deciding the future of the places where they live and work. Communities can use a neighbourhood plan to help shape the future development and use of land in their neighbourhood. This includes the development of homes, shops, offices and infrastructure.

Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan is at its final stage

The Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan has passed independent examination. South Cambridgeshire District Council has agreed that it meets the 'basic conditions' legally required of it and that it can proceed to community referendum. This is the final stage of the neighbourhood plan process, and it is now up to residents to vote in a community referendum on whether you would like the Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan to come into force.

Arrangements for our community referendum

The referendum is scheduled to take place on **4 September 2025**. Everyone aged 18 and over who is registered and entitled to vote in local elections and lives in either the parish of Stapleford or Great Shelford can vote*. Voting may be done in-person (with ID), by post or by proxy. In-person voting will take place between 7am and 10pm at:

- Stapleford residents: Sheltered Housing Communal Building, Cox's Close (off Church St), CB22 5SP
- Great Shelford residents: Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane, Great Shelford, CB22 5LZ.

Look out for your polling card for more details.

A simple yes/no vote

If you choose to vote, you will be asked the following question:

Do you want South Cambridgeshire District Council to use the neighbourhood plan for Stapleford and Great Shelford to help decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?

You will be able to vote 'yes' or 'no'. If more people vote 'yes' than 'no', then SCDC will adopt the Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan and it will become part of the development plan for South Cambridgeshire, giving it the same legal status as the Local Plan. Our Neighbourhood Plan will be used when making decisions on all planning applications within our area. If more people vote 'no' than 'yes' in the referendum, then planning applications will be decided without regard to our Neighbourhood Plan.

How can I find out more about the Neighbourhood Plan?

You can view the Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents on SCDC's website at <https://bit.ly/4lyPrkE>.

Please come along on 4 September and use your vote!

Jenny Flynn, Chair of the Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

* If you are not registered to vote, you can do so online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote. You will need to do this at least 12 working days before the referendum.

2G3S Cycle Ride and Picnic

Wednesday 20 August



PUMP up your tyres, pack your flask and your favourite sandwiches and join 2G3S for a trundle to a picnic at Haslingfield Meadow, near the Methodist Church. We'll meet at the Pavilion at 10am and ride together, pausing at Mohak cafe in Haslingfield for emergency provisions. Then it'll be back to Stapleford - total distance about 15 miles.

The route contains a mix of quiet roads and traffic-free trails, bumpy and smooth. Families welcome, so long as children are accompanied by a responsible adult. Email Yasmin to book in advance: greener@sawston.org.

Jane Chisholm

Stapleford WI



THE June meeting of Stapleford WI featured a highly informative and instructive talk on 'Cyber Crime' by guest speaker Nigel Sutton. He is a former police officer and travels round the county raising awareness about this. Nigel provided members with practical advice on how to stay safe both online and when using a mobile, and the best way to use and store passwords. A key takeaway was the easy to remember acronym ABCD: assume nothing; believe nothing or nobody; check what you are reading; discuss any concerns with trusted family or friends.

During the meeting members were also advised about the wide range of outings and events available to them - both those organised by the Cambridgeshire Federation and those planned by our own group. These opportunities for outings, craft sessions, social gatherings, literary talks and theatre trips do help to highlight the social and community spirit of the WI; for example earlier in the month members and guests had enjoyed a sunny day trip to Southend and Leigh-on-Sea which included a delicious fish and chip lunch on the sea front after a walk or train ride along the famous pier.

Members were thanked by Celia Weir for their continued generous support to the Cambridge food bank. Celia reported on the refurbishment of the shop where she volunteers, the increase in numbers using the facility, and the decline in donations. Within the community, as well as supporting the food bank, we also make knitted twiddlemuffs which are given to patients suffering from dementia at Addenbrooke's, as well as small, knitted blankets for the Neuro and Trauma ICU.

The competition at this meeting in June was won by Myra Yick for a small colourful posy in a jam jar and she was presented with the Janet Smith rose bowl by our President, Susan Clark.

At the end of June our WI group was delighted to support the Village Show with our traditional hoopla stall, complete with jam jars filled with sweets and small prizes, all generously donated and prepared in advance by members. It was a real hit with children and adults as people tried their luck at tossing hoops onto the jars. Christine Wylde, assisted by a team of helpers, did sterling work in organising the successful stall on the day and remaining there throughout, while coping with the heatwave which Stapleford was experiencing. We enjoyed being part of the show and seeing so many familiar faces enjoying the fun.

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We meet on the fourth Thursday of each month and in August we will hear from a speaker, Kevin Pigney, whose talk is entitled 'My photographic story'. If you are interested in finding out more about the WI and our group, then please do come along as a visitor to one of our meetings. In addition, more information can be found at staplefordwi.weebly.com or please speak to Sallie Dixon on 843847. **Joyce Dobson**

Stapleford History Society

Eleanor Whitehead - Chivers and Sons Ltd. (1873 - 1959) - their contribution to the development of the European preserves industry.



ELEANOR Whitehead is a retired Science teacher (Impington Village College) and became intrigued by the history of the Chivers family and its work. She is the author of 'The Chivers Story', a history of the family and firm from 1806, when the family established itself in Cottenham. The Chivers family eventually owned as

many as 10,000 acres, mostly devoted to orchards. They sold all their fruit as fruit until in 1873 when there was a glut of plums. With the help of women staff from Pembroke College, quantities of relatively expensive jam were made. All the jam was sold so it was decided to keep the jam making going as another income stream.

In 1876 the tax on sugar was halved so more people could afford to buy jam. The need to keep the jam pure and mould-free necessitated the use of silver plated cooking utensils and this led to the formation of a silver plating department. At that time the jam was sold in ceramic and glass jars. Unfortunately, the tin lids were attacked by the acid in the fruit so there was a need for more innovation. Albert Ivett was a brilliant industrial chemist and Charles Lack was a brilliantly innovative mechanical engineer so, by the 1890s, the company was making its own tins and by 1920 introduced vacuum sealed jars, with a patent awarded in 1923.

By the 1920s the product range included jam, jelly, marmalade, mincemeat, custard powder and soup and the effect of this was to improve the health of its customers and provide lots of work for both men and women. During World War I government contracts necessitated the doubling of the workforce in the factory and farms, with job opportunities created for women while the men were away fighting.

Unfortunately, the speaker ran out of time so we will be treated to the rest of her talk at some later date. **Jane Steadman**

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Tree Project



HOPEFULLY many of you came along to the wonderful but very hot Village Weekend. We had a stall there with information about the project, the benefits of planting trees, and a quiz which proved very popular. The lovely hamper, full of tree-related goodies, was won by the girls who scored highest on the quiz and also had a good guess at the age of a tree pictured on the quiz sheet.

Two local woodturners generously made lovely pieces from local wood, pruned or fallen, for us to sell.

If you have been kind enough to 'adopt' one of the trees we have planted on public land, please keep watering it in this incredibly hot dry summer. Its root system is very small at present so it will need lots of watering for a year or two, till the roots are established.

If you have a favourite tree in the village and haven't yet told us, please do so. We will endeavour to protect these important trees against developers.

If you think there is an area of public land that would benefit from having a tree, please contact Sophi. We have many ideas but welcome more suggestions. You will see that trees we have planted on public land are numbered, and we have



compiled a list of the trees we have and their species, and where they have gone to. This list is now on the Parish Council website so you can see what's planted where. We will monitor the trees' growth and keep a record of their progress.

We will resume planting trees and hedging in the Autumn. We will have regular working parties to plant, probably on Sunday afternoons, do please join us.

We are seeking donations to purchase some larger saplings, also more stakes and guards, for the Autumn. For more information about the project or to donate, see staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk/stapleford-tree-project or contact sophiberridge@gmail.com. If you would like to plant a tree in the Autumn, we can give you a small tree (a whip) to plant in your garden, or you can source your own tree if you prefer. **Helen Hale**

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Stapleford Village Weekend

For the community, by the community

PHEW it was a scorcher this year, wasn't it? With temperatures rising to over 32 degrees on some days, this year's Village Weekend from 26 to 29 June, was one to remember. Thanks to everyone who came down to the Rec and took part, and an extra thank you to everyone who volunteered or helped in some way. A big part of the Stapleford Weekend is giving people the opportunity to contribute – so whether you served real ales and cold prosecco, directed traffic, ran a stall, baked a cake for the café or the show, marshalled the bike ride, played cricket in blazing sunshine, sang in a choir or served teas and scones, this weekend only works because so many people choose to get involved. Well done, Stapleford – you did us proud.

This year we had our most varied programme yet. The committee tries to make sure we are catering for all parts of the Stapleford community. We kicked off proceedings on Thursday with a magic show for primary aged children, organised with Stapleford school PTA. Mr Bean the magician had adults and children alike roaring with laughter – especially the dads' conga! Thursday evening, in partnership with green group 2G3S, we showed 'Wilding', a beautiful nature documentary, and people enjoyed pizzas in deck chairs and on blankets outside the marquee into the evening.

Friday afternoon was our first 'Ritz Afternoon Tea', in the Pavilion in partnership with the Stapleford Warden Scheme – this was a huge success, with guests enjoying beautifully prepared cakes and sandwiches on dainty china, served up by uniformed waiting staff! This was accompanied by some wonderful singing which could be heard across the Rec. Friday night saw the return of the quiz, with delicious fish and chips. Our quizmaster Jon West delivered some particularly tricky questions this year, so congratulations to local team 'Thicker Edge' for winning the cup once more.

Of course, Saturday is Show Day – proceedings started early in the morning with residents rushing their exhibits to the marquee before 10am. You can read more in the Village Show article, but it was a bumper year for entries which was lovely to see.

The rest of the day was filled with entertainment of all kinds. We had a new addition onsite this year – our outdoor stage! This was used by the school choir who kicked things off at 1pm, through to the Royston brass band and local pop choir Vocal Remix who sang their way through various pop songs including an impressive George Michael medley. Another local band 'Blame the dog' took us into the early evening.

Speaking of dogs, sadly we had to cancel the dog show – it was just too hot. Our friends at Church Street Vets advised us of this and we emailed everyone who'd registered. We were sad to miss it, but it was definitely the right decision given the temperatures.

We were lucky enough to get an RAF flypast during the Saturday afternoon – an impressive Lancaster bomber flew directly over the show, as the brass band played the Dambusters tune. It was a memorable moment!

The rest of the Saturday was filled with people browsing the stalls, getting drinks at the bar, eating cakes in the café, playing on the inflatables, admiring the large farm machinery, playing on the football equipment and eating some of the fantastic selection of food available. We tried to get a lot more food options in this year – and all vendors were busy right into late evening! Thanks to Morgan's Butchery, Coco's Crepes, Java Coffee, Pizza Passione, Ocean Tree Fish and Chips and Manna Seoul for delivering delicious food in very warm conditions.

Saturday evening, we had Glastonbury playing on the big screens and lots of people stayed around to drink, chat and eat. It was a wonderfully warm night and the bar served cold drinks while people watched Raye, The 1975 and Neil Young, to name but a few! The festival feel certainly came to Stapleford that night. Huge thanks to our good friends at the Three Horseshoes pub, who helped us set up and run the bar. And a big thank you to AlleyCat who provided a refrigerated van for the entire event – those drinks would certainly not have stayed cold without it.


Sunday was another warm day, but this didn't stop more than 50 riders taking part in the Tour de Stapleford. This is a marshalled family bike ride that ends with a delicious bacon or halloumi bap and a cold drink. Well done everyone who took part!

After the church service in the marquee, the afternoon saw the bar open again, and the cricketers needed a cool drink in that heat. The pavilion was open serving cream teas, which went down a treat. Many thanks to our friends at Boswells Bakery for their generous donation of scones. Lots of people got a hat and a deckchair and watched the cricket, narrated wonderfully by Jon West. Definite undertones of Test Match Special....

Finally, Sunday evening saw our free family film night – The Greatest Showman, a musical about PT Barnum, as selected by the community via a social media poll. The deckchairs were full, and people brought blankets and picnics. The bar made a big effort to get the real ales finished for another year and then we closed the weekend at 9pm. Thanks to everyone who helped tidy away the deckchairs and the rubbish – it made clearing up so much easier.

We hope you enjoy looking at the photos from the event – many thanks go to our ‘official’ local photographer Daniel Pilkington, who’s studying Photography at sixth form.



 So – that's it for another year. We're keen to get feedback for 2025 and ideas for 2026 so please do fill in the survey using the link below or the QR code <https://forms.gle/V4CZpitQAMDHpGUq5> . Many thanks to everyone involved in helping bring the event to life. It really is an event **for** the community, **by** the community. And, if you want to get involved, please just email staplefordweekend@gmail.com. Til next time! **The SW Committee**
(Photo credits: Daniel Pilkington, Helen Hale, Martin Ginger, SW Committee)





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Village Show round up

FIRSTLY, I'd like to say how lovely it was to see the round up of the first ever 'Village Show' in 1888, featured in the 'Yesteryear' section of last month's *Messenger*. Although it's had several different names over the years, the spirit of the show is still the same as it was at the beginning.

So, on to this year's show. What a super day that was on the Rec on Saturday 28 June. The Rec was busier than ever, with music, smiles and laughter and bathed in glorious sun!!!

Nearly 100 exhibitors displayed a record number of exhibits – 469 to be exact, which is a massive jump from previous years and is really inspiring. Many more people visited the Show and that, combined with all the other attractions on the Rec, made for a memorable afternoon and hopefully will encourage even more people to enter next year.

Thank you all for coming.

The winners of the Silverware are listed on the next page.

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 this 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 on 07870 215776 **Jools Rayment**



Village Show Winners

Tucker Gardner Challenge Cup	Pat Hughes
Challenge Cup (<i>Flowers</i>).....	Julie French
Roy Burman Shield (<i>Sweet peas</i>).....	Julie French
Rosalie Bowl (<i>Roses</i>).....	Roger Hall
Flower Show Centenary Cup.....	Margaret French
St Andrew's Millennium Trophy (<i>Flower arranging</i>)	joint winners Ann Deane and Rachael Wash
Home Produce Cup.....	Sue Rose
Cambridge Building Society Cup (<i>Crafts</i>).....	Joanne Holbourn
Mary Ward Cup (<i>Children - Baking</i>).....	Kiara Werren
Jessie Salter Cup (<i>Children - Art</i>).....	Agatha Garman
Joan Riley Messenger Cup (<i>Children - Photography</i>).....	Eleonora Esposito
Marion's Cup (<i>Children - Flowers</i>).....	Arc Wash
The Nick Pett Cup.....	Laura Boyce
The Stapleford Children's Challenge Cup (<i>Most points overall</i>).....	Sophie Paley
Rickett Cup (<i>Front Gardens</i>).....	Martin Fabb
Joan Sudbury Allotment Cup.....	the Community Plot
Stapleford Show Photography Shield (<i>Best photo in Show</i>)	Ed Ridgeon
The Stapleford Cup (<i>Personal Choice</i>).....	Amelie Mack
Challenge Cup (<i>Most points in all classes</i>).....	Margaret Gilmore





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Rainbows, Brownies and Guides



SHELFORD & Stapleford Rainbows have been looking at fire safety this term as part of the Rainbows Have Adventures theme in the Girlguiding programme. They've practised their fire drill and discussed how to make it safe. They learned about safety near fires and put this into practice gathering wood and lighting a fire to cook s'mores on.

Shelford Brownies completed a challenge badge about the Azores this term and finished off their Express Myself Theme award. They've enjoyed making structures out of food, creating artworks with tape on canvas, designing inventions to solve problems (such as parents!), and making and decorating ceramic owls. A highlight was one of the Brownies achieving her Brownies Gold Award - the highest award a Brownie can achieve. Term will finish with a campfire s'mores and hotdogs.

Shelford Guides have been doing lots of outdoor activities this term including an escape room style team challenge, cooking on fires and practising pitching tents ahead of a camping trip in September. A group of us also took part in Forward 2025 — a 12-mile challenge hike with other local Guides and Scouts.



We're always glad to hear from adults who'd like to help with any of our unit meetings (Rainbows 4-7 year olds, Brownies 7-10 year olds and Guides 10-14 year olds). Find out more at: bit.ly/volGuiding, get in touch at shelforddistrict@gmail.com.

Lisa MacGregor

Hedges

A SIGNIFICANT number of hedges are seriously encroaching on footpaths in the village, causing inconvenience and hazards to pedestrians, particularly those with mobility issues, those with children in pushchairs and wheelchair users. Please take care to ensure that your hedge is not one of those causing problems. Thank you.

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2G3S



DR Bike continues to hold its volunteer-run weekly bike repair sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3pm to 5.30pm every Tuesday. Children are welcome to come and learn how to look after their bikes and do simple maintenance and repairs, but please attend with them (for safeguarding reasons). For more information, contact drbikestapleford@gmail.com. You can also book a time slot

at that address, though this is not essential. The group are considering providing one or two sessions at other times, and maybe a Back To School session at the end of the summer holidays – email them for details or check our website.

Village weekend – our film showing of ‘Wilding’ attracted around 50 people, and we received very positive feedback on it. A low-productivity farm in Sussex with very depleted soil was transformed into a biodiversity hotspot, with rich soil teeming with bugs. Obviously we need to produce food on our land, and rewilding isn’t a good use of high-grade agricultural land, but our present large-scale intensive agriculture is ruining our soils which we all depend on. There is a growing interest in regenerative farming, which produces high quantities of food but in a more nature-friendly way.

Meet our MP – a number of local ecogroups have worked together to meet regularly with our MP, Pippa Heylings, to ask questions about her views and actions on various topics and to ask her to take action on these fronts. She will report back in February, at which point the group will have further ‘asks’ for her. Issues discussed and formed into ‘asks’ at the most recent meeting included warm homes, water, transport, wildlife and planning, renewable energy, access to green space, a fair transition to a green economy, anti-protest laws, and plastics. All these areas involve legislation or policies being worked on in government at present that Pippa can work to influence.

Our next planning meeting is on Wednesday 27 August. Email us at the address below for more details. We will be planning conversation evenings for the autumn and winter months as well as arranging our other regular activities.

Our next Book Group meeting is on Tuesday 19 August at 8pm, featuring a pair of books, ‘Life after Capitalism’ and ‘Prosperity without Growth’ by Tim Jackson. The group meets in the Three Horseshoes in Stapleford, do come along if you are curious about how people can thrive without relentless growth.



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Water - as I write, we have had hardly any rain in months. Please try to save water: collect the water you run in the sink when rinsing vegs and fruit and use it to water your plant pots, don't flush every time, have short showers, keep a bottle or jug of water in the fridge so you always have cold water to drink without running the tap. Any spare water you have is better poured on the garden to soak into the aquifer (or at least help plants grow) than put down the drain to go into the rivers and out to sea.

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 monthly 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 sustainably. Also see our Facebook page and our website 2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk/. **Helen Hale**

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4.7 miles. For Essex, this is a somewhat hilly area but it is not a difficult walk. Parking in the village is tricky, but try the Village Hall car park, just past the church and on the right.

OS map

It is in the south west part of OS Explorer map 210 (except for a very short section which is on map 195). Use your smartphone or run off a free printout from the website: the-hug.net. The route map provided should help.

Extra Information

Bumpstead is an unusual place name suffix but is normally taken to mean 'a place where reeds grow'. Helions derives from the man who held the local manor at the time of Domesday Book and who came from Helléan in Brittany. Parts of the Three Horseshoes date back to the 17C, rather older than the present church tower - the original collapsed in 1812. The pub is village-owned.

Route of Walk

Take the path next to the pub car park (waymark sign). Go under trees, up some steps into a field and turn right. Exit the field via a footbridge and go left; the path meets a road soon afterwards. Walk left and, 50m along the road, turn right at a waymark sign, walking down the side of a field. The path swings left; shortly after take a grassy track to the right, across the field (old footpath sign in hedge).

The track meets a road; turn left and, after some time it swings sharp right. Pass a sign saying 'Quiet Lane Ends'. Immediately after, go left on a stony farm track (decrepit footpath sign). Head towards a tree-line and when this is reached, go left (waymark sign) on another farm track. This soon swings left but walk on ahead, always keeping the tree-line to the

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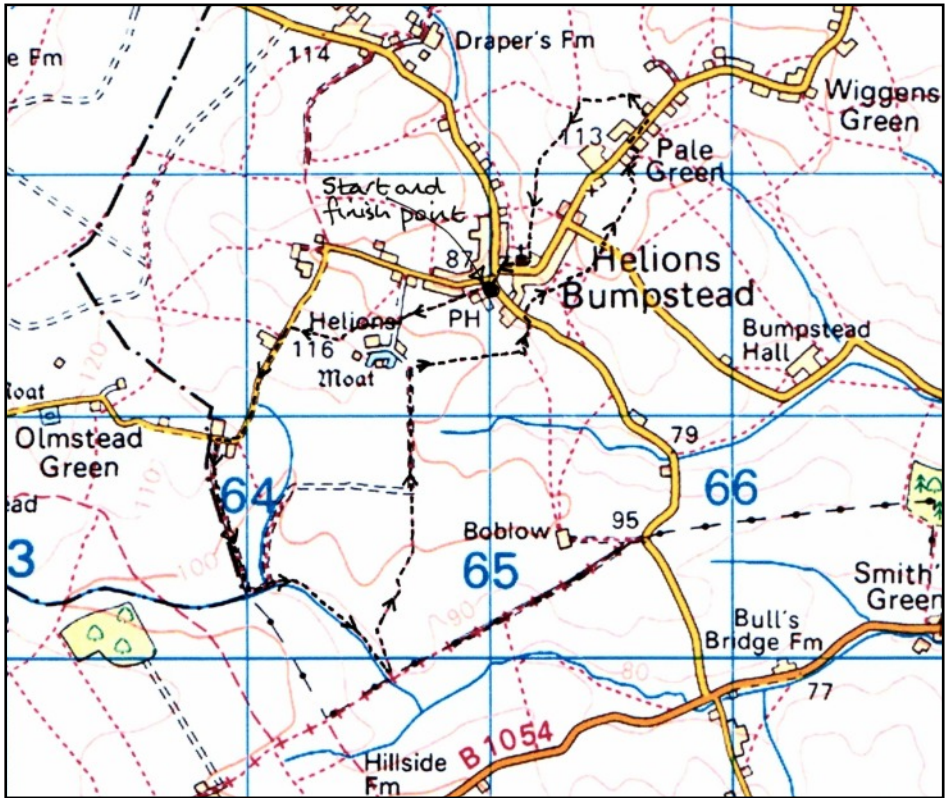


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Church
Street
Vets





immediate right. Cross a wooden footbridge and enter a large field with a deep ditch on the right.

Just before a farm track is reached, look back left and a path running diagonally right will be seen going through the field. Take it, turning right at a line of trees. Walk along the edge of the field, cross a wooden footbridge and then turn right along the side of another field. Follow a waymark sign which takes the route away from the hedge-line, on a grassy strip between fields. This becomes a track and heads towards the right hand side of a small wood in the distance.

Turn sharp right when the wood is reached (waymark sign) and walk along a wide grassy strip towards another wood. When reached, go right and very soon go left at a waymark following a winding path, through the trees, as far as a road.

Turn left and then go right at a footpath sign after about 100m. Pass through a gate and walk past signs, one saying 'No Photography'. It is a farm with alpacas. When a post is reached (footpath sign pointing left) ignore the sign and walk on the grass path up the slope behind the post.

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RANGEFORD VILLAGES

Go through a gate and cross the cricket field beyond, aiming for a mid-point in the tree-line at the far side (tall waymark post). The path then carries on straight ahead, crosses a field and meets a road. Turn left and go right at a footpath sign after about 50m. Carry on ahead along a wide path between crops.

When a boundary for a garden is reached, turn right and follow the path round past another garden. Go sharp left when the path meets a house wall and come to a road. Go right and walk for a couple of minutes until a footpath sign is seen on the left hand side.

Walk on this path, between high fences, then straight ahead on a strip between crops. Go left at the hedge-line (waymark arrow) then cross a wooden footbridge and turn immediate left, with the hedge-line now to the left. At the end of the hedge-line look just to the right of straight ahead. A path will be seen running through the cropped field; take this, walking downslope. After a telegraph pole is passed, the path swings left and now heads towards a house, with a wood to its right.

When the trees are reached, carry on ahead and enter a churchyard. Go right to pass the front of the church and carry on to exit the churchyard. Cross over a road and walk past the bus shelter. Turn left onto Water Lane and the sign for the Three Horseshoes will 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

British Cactus & Succulent Society



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Let's Grow Together

OUR next meeting is on Wednesday 13 August in Great Shelford Memorial Hall commencing at 7.30pm. Parking available nearby.

We welcome Alan Brown to our meeting this month who will give an illustrated talk about his visits to Namibia, the Etosha National Park and also on Lithops (also known as Living Stone Plants).

Mainly autumn flowering, lithops are fascinating - these succulent plants have interesting leaf shapes, colours and textures. There are up to 70 species and given the correct conditions should live for many years. The growing season is summer and early autumn and they should not be watered outside this period.

At our meetings refreshments are available, as well as a raffle and cacti for sale. We look forward to welcoming you.

Let's Grow Together. **Jacqui Arbon, Branch Secretary**

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Yesteryear

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

1807

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

SALE. By auction. On Monday 23rd March, on the premises of Mr. Wm. Brand, a Stapleford, farmer. A very excellent Corn Thrashing Machine, with a four-horse-power, complete, the inside work of which is chiefly of Elm and the outside of Oak timber, and quite as good as new. The machine contains two good drums, one of which will thrash five loads of grain within an hour, the other is calculated for thrashing seeds or short barley. Also, a very good chaff-cutting machine.

1815

COLLECTION. The sum of £6 10s. 3d. was collected at Stapleford on Sunday last, after a sermon by the Rev. J. J.D. Wigglesworth, for the benefit of the families of the sufferers in the battle of Waterloo, etc.

1830

SALE. By auction. At the Rose and Crown, Stapleford.

Lot 1. A convenient dwelling-house, Three cottages, Barn, Stable, Cart and Cow Lodge, and other Outbuildings, Farm-Yard, Garden, Orchard, Plantation, and a Close of fine old Pasture, called Jacques Close, with all the fruit and timber trees thereon and situate near the Turnpike and containing 1A 2R 16P.

Lot 2. A close of fine old pasture and garden ground, called the Fardell's, and adjoining the turnpike Road and containing 1A 3R 6P.

1853

WANTON MISCHIEF. On Saturday night last some evil-minded fellow stabbed and maimed a sheep, belonging to R. Collier, Esq., of this place. We are pleased to state that a police officer from Trumpington is on the alert, and we hope ere long the guilty party will be brought to justice and receive the reward he so richly deserves.

1892

DEATH. From Lockjaw. An inquest was held at the "Three Horse Shoes", Stapleford, on the body of Harry Cockerton, aged 18, a farm

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labourer. He died from tetanus, consequent upon the injuries received when he was kicked in the abdomen by a colt.

1893

RENT REMISSION. The Duke of Leeds has returned his tenants 25 per cent of their last half year's rent, making a reduction for the year of 50 per cent.

1937

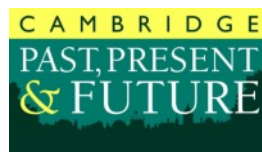
"Col Canning moved and Mr Beavis seconded that a letter be sent to Mr and Mrs Gray expressing the warmest thanks of the Council for their generous offer to provide a pavilion on the Recreation Ground and their continued interest in the Village (Carried Unam.)" *(From the Parish Council Minutes)*

Free walks at Wandlebury

Meet the Cows

Tuesday 5 August, 10.30am – 12pm

Join a gentle guided walk to meet the Belted Galloway cows and learn how they help improve our meadows for nature.



Evening Walk with a Warden

Wednesday 27 August, 6.30pm – 8pm

Join a Warden for an evening walk to explore the wildlife and atmosphere of Wandlebury. This is a great opportunity to learn about the charity's work to protect and improve the park for nature, heritage, and people.

Please wear appropriate footwear and clothing for being outdoors. A torch or headtorch would be useful for the evening walk.

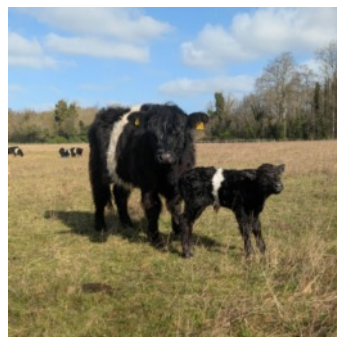
Meet at the large noticeboard near the car park.

These are free events, with a suggested donation of £3.

You can book online, or feel free to just turn up.

Please pay for your car parking on arrival or consider becoming a member to enjoy free parking all year round.

For more information on these and other events, go to cambridgeppf.org.



Puzzle Corner

Anagrams 4-6-8

REARRANGE the letters of the clues in each group to make new words.
Then rearrange the initial letters of those answers to make another word

4-letter words

AUNT INTU SIRI FURS

6-letter words

STEVEN PIERCE SUNLIT SCYTHE EIGHTH STOREY

8-letter words

EINSTEIN STRESSED SCHUBERT GUNSLIDE

CAMSPIES INFRINGE PARASITE RELATION

Set by Hermes – Answers on page 57



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Great Shelford Library news

NOT planned your summer holidays yet? Then come into Great Shelford library as we have lots of resources to help you. From travel books to gardening, barbecues to walking, there are books to help. And of course, we have lots of wonderful fiction books to relax with on the beach or in the garden.

For children, the Summer Reading Challenge continues, it's not too late to sign up. Just pop into the library to get started on collecting your six stickers. Read just six books during the holidays to collect a certificate and medal. We have four lovely events on during August to support the Summer Reading Challenge.

Tom's Midnight Garden– Wednesday 6 August 2-3.30pm. Did you know that Tom's Midnight Garden was based on Great Shelford? Come and learn about Tom's Garden, make his clock and design your own garden. Suitable for ages 5-10. £2 per child. Please pre-book and pay in the library or via Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Lion Learners– Wednesday 13 August 2-3.30pm. Come and learn about some amazing animals. Suitable for ages 5-10. £5 per child. Please pre-book and pay in the library or via Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Garden Magic with Magician Steve – Wednesday 20 August 3-3.30pm. Come and be entertained with tricks and laughs. Suitable for ages 4 years plus, £5 per child. Please pre-book and pay in the library or via Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Garden Craft – Wednesday 27 August 2-3.30pm Come and make hedgehogs and pictures using garden materials. Suitable for ages 5+ £2 per child. Please pre-book and pay in the library or via Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Please note parents and carers must stay with their children at all times during activities. **Mel Abbiss**

Library opening hours

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



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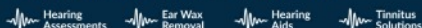
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Granta Medical Practices

Flu vaccinations

IT'S that time of year again already! If you book your flu vaccine with us, we can also check that you are up to date with all of the other vaccines you may be eligible for.

The flu vaccination programme starts in October for all eligible adults, except pregnant women and children, who will be offered the vaccination from late September. Pregnant women are vaccinated to protect both mum and baby in first few weeks of life. Children get flu earlier than adults as they are 'super spreaders'.

You should get vaccinated because:

- getting vaccinated against flu can help protect you, your family and friends.
- everyone is susceptible to flu, even if you are in good health and eat well.
- you can be infected with the virus and have no symptoms but can still pass the flu virus to others, including family and friends, patients or residents.
- the flu vaccine has a good safety record and will help protect you. It cannot give you flu.
- the impact of flu on frail and vulnerable patients can be fatal and outbreaks can cause severe disruption in communities, care homes and hospitals.

You are eligible for a free NHS flu vaccination if you:

- are aged 65 and over.
- have certain long term health conditions.
- are pregnant.
- live in a care home.
- are the main carer for an older or disabled person, or receive a carer's allowance.
- live with someone who has a weakened immune system.

Additionally, eligible children include:

- children aged 2 to 3 years.
- school aged children (reception to year 11).
- children aged 6 months to 17 years with certain long term health conditions.

This year we are also giving the Covid-19 vaccination at the same time as the flu, if you are eligible.



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You are eligible if you are:

- a resident in a care home for older adults
- aged 75 years and over
- aged 6 months and over and are severely immunocompromised

Flu clinic dates

Saturday 27 September – Granta Sawston (children and pregnant women only)

Sunday 28 September – Granta Royston Health Centre (children and pregnant women only)

Saturday 4 October – Granta Sawston

Sunday 5 October – Granta Royston Health Centre

Saturday 11 October – Granta Linton, Granton Barley, Granta Shelford

Saturday 18 October – Granta Sawston

Sunday 19 October – Granta Royston Health Centre

Saturday 25 October – Granta Linton and Granta Shelford

All flu clinics run from 8.30am to 4.45pm

To book your flu vaccination please call 0300 234 5555 and choose the Granta site of your choice or wait to receive your SMS link via your mobile phone to book your appointment.

For further information about the flu vaccination please go to nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu-vaccine **Sandra East**

31 bus service changes to 17

THE number 31 bus service is now the number 17 with new times but still runs on the same route around Stapleford, London Road, Bury Road, Haverhill Road, Gog Magog Way and Mingle Lane. It now runs between Guilden Morden and Drummer Street Monday to Saturday (not Bank Holidays). There are still four journeys per day each way. This gives Shelford and Stapleford residents a direct bus to Royston.

Local times:

Stapleford (St Andrew's Church) to Drummer Street: 7.54, 9.36, 11.27, 13.16

Stapleford (St Andrew's Church) to Royston and Guilden Morden: 10.27, 12.27, 14.27, 16.27 (Sat), 17.05 (Mon to Fri)

The bus service is operated by A2B Travel Group telephone 0800 001 6255 under tender to Cambridge & Peterborough Combined Authority. Timetables can be accessed from a2bbusandcoach.com. **John Wakefield**

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Parish Council Chair's report

PAVILION renovations: An application for a Zero Carbon Communities Grant (helping communities tackle climate change) has been made. At the recent Parish Council meeting four sealed tenders were opened and considered, with one being dismissed because of perceived lack of viability. The remaining tenders are being analysed by the architect for correctness and other factors, including loss of hirer income. All contractors have been asked for further information. The tenders will have been discussed at an extraordinary meeting of the Parish Council, including a review of funds available, by the time this edition of the *Messenger* is published. Further information about the renovation will be disseminated as soon as available.

The piano in the pavilion will be disposed of as it is unusable.

Cemetery matters were discussed, including benches. Repairs to benches in the cemetery, and in the village, have been made where possible, but some are in such a state of disrepair that they will be removed. Applications for memorial benches in the parish must comply with regulations ie made from recycled wood look plastic. The unsafe gate at the cemetery entrance has been removed. The regulation regarding inscriptions in the new cemetery has been amended. The invasive plant, ailanthus, will be treated by the groundwork contractors.

A tree survey of trees in the village has revealed a significant amount of work needed, some of which is a priority. The cost of this work was approved.

A grant of £2,500 to SSYI for their work with teenagers was approved.

Remedial work on Haverhill Road was discussed, as the 'troughs' are considered a safety issue. A reply from CCC is awaited as to progress with this.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting is Thursday 7 August at 7pm in the pavilion. Residents are invited to attend. There will be no meeting in September. **Gillian Pett**

Puzzle Corner answers

Anagrams 4-6-8

4-letter: TUNA, UNIT, IRIS, SURF (SUIT)

6-letter: EVENTS, RECIPE, INSULT, CHESTY, HEIGHT, OYSTER (HEROIC)

8-letter: NINETIES, DESSERTS (or DESTRESS), BUTCHERS, INDULGES, ESCAPISM, REFINING, ASPIRATE, ORIENTAL (DEBONAIR)

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The Travelling Companions, Augustus Leopold Egg, 1862. Birmingham Museums Trust via Unsplash.

CSET Busway

OUR preparations for the public inquiry are well in hand.

We are making great progress on our Statement of Case for the public inquiry - our solicitors are putting together with our appointed experts a solid case for the alternative route that provides greater transport benefits, is £100 million cheaper and doesn't trash our countryside!



We have appointed a strong team of solicitors, a barrister, transport, landscape and environmental consultants.

The submission deadline has been put back to 8 August for all objectors who wish to give evidence and speak at the inquiry.

To date the public fundraiser has covered all our costs - this is a great result - but more work is needed. For more information visit bw4b.org where you can still make a donation. **Howard Kettel**

Royal British Legion



THE Sawston and District Branch is preparing for this year's Poppy Appeal. The Appeal begins on Saturday, 25 October and runs until until Tuesday, 11 November.

Before we begin our drive for donations, we need to ask for volunteers to assist our plans for October and November. If you are able to, we would welcome your help for as long as you wish, either for one day or for a couple of hours over a couple of days or for the duration of the Appeal, as and when you can. Any time will be a tremendous help during this busy period. You do not have to be a member of the Legion to help us and we will be very grateful for it.

We hope to hold a VJ Day Band Concert in the Challis Gardens on 24 August with the Newmarket Town Band entertaining us. Tea, coffee, soft drinks and cakes will be available, but you are advised to bring your own seating. The afternoon will also include a Drumhead Service.

When the fighting ended after Japan's surrender the men and women came home. There was a tremendous amount of work to be done for those POWs who had been held in unbelievable deprivation. On their return, the Royal British Legion played a significant part with the delivery of this work.

The Royal British Legion has been helping our veterans and their families since 1921 and this work continues today. The freedoms we enjoy are provided by those who went before us. We hope to see some of you at the Band Concert in August. You will be most welcome. **John McCarthy**

Stapleford Parish Council

staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



COUNCILLORS

Gillian Pett (Chair)

Mick Davies

Matthew French

Barbara Ann Kettel

Howard Kettel (V Chair)

Anna Disley-Stevens

Michael Gatward

James Northmore

Please address any matters needing attention from the Parish Council to the clerk.

CLERK

Max Barrett 07472 398823

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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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