

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

VOL XVII No 7

APRIL 2015

PRICE 40p

Street Lighting: Call for Details of Unfinished Work

Village Hero Award for our Stationmaster



Shelford Stationmaster Angela Milton receives her certificate from Dr David Bard
Photo: Stephen Chittenden

A Happy Easter to all our Readers

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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL				
CHAIRMAN	Mr C Nightingale	844763	VICE CHAIRMAN	Mrs B Hodge 842553
CHAIRMEN OF SUB-COMMITTEES				
Cemetery and Allotments	Mrs H Harwood	840393	Highways	Mr B Shelton 841085
Planning	Mrs B Hodge	842553	Pavilion	Mr M Watson 844901
			Recreation	Mr A Smith 562474
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Mr D Coggins	842598	Mr P Fane	843861	Mrs A Milson 841100
Mr B Ashhurst	07803 001985			Rev'd S Talbott 847068
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Dr G Kenney	211547	Mr A G Orgee		891464
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS				
Mr C Nightingale	844763	Mr D Whiteman-Downs		845954
Mr B Shelton	841085			

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Extracts from minutes of February Meeting

Cllr Nightingale announced that Mike Winter had resigned as a Parish Councillor, but would continue, on a volunteer basis, as Pavilion Manager. Mr Winter has been selected to fill the position of Parish Clerk from 1 May. This is for 20 hours per week. His pavilion responsibilities will be additional and voluntary. This was **agreed**.

PUBLIC SESSION Two residents of High Green spoke about dangers caused by parked vehicles (including Royal Mail vans), degraded road markings and the bus stop. These also caused great difficulty for drivers using the narrow driveways. **Agreed** that these issues be considered by the Highways Committee.

Tracey Mann, Sustainable Communities Team, South Cambridgeshire District Council, spoke about traffic issues and the work of the Southern Fringe Community Forum. Traffic and Transport will be an agenda item at the Forum's next meeting in June. She urged the PC to invite a Transport Planning Officer to attend its meetings. She agreed to take forward a number of issues raised by Councillors. These included: additional traffic generated by the trucks of the Cambridge Health Partnership (i.e. Addenbrookes, AZ, Glaxo and Papworth) driving through Great Shelford, poor timekeeping by buses during rush hours, reporting Forum conclusions to SCDC Cabinet and unlocking funds from the City Deal for local traffic issues.

MINUTES of the PC Meeting on 21 January 2015 were received, confirmed and signed. The following new issues arising were identified:

- PCSOs will still attend Village meetings
- SCDC have been asked by Cllr Nightingale to take on enforcement of traffic and parking regulations
- S 106 payments in respect of Welch's site not yet resolved
- Cllr Nightingale still investigating parking by Royal Mail vans
- Pavilion – a timetable is awaited from Omnis in respect of timber replacement
- Cllr Harwood was concerned that the Library still faced considerable difficulties as a result of further funding cuts
- Cllr Nightingale was in touch with Scotsdales concerning additional bus stops on Cambridge Road.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED AND NOMINATIVE REPRESENTATIVES

County Cllr Dr Kenney spoke about the Better Care Fund intended to speed up the discharge of patients from hospital.

County Cllr Orgee spoke about traffic and parking issues. He and Dr Kenney had met Mr Wiseman (City Council Highways Officer) to discuss issues at High Green and elsewhere. He urged the Parish Council and the Highways Committee to consider the proposals that had been made.

District Cllr Shelton said SCDC would be increasing its budget by 1.99%, i.e. just under the Government imposed 2% penalty threshold and advised that he had tabled a question to Cabinet about apprenticeships and job opportunities.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Recreation: Cllr Smith reported that work had been completed behind Barclays Bank, and would shortly be finished at the goal post storage area. There had been a positive meeting concerning the Riverbank – a proposal would be put to the full Council soon. Decisions were needed on the rope climbing frame and the skateboard ramp, both of which were deteriorating – it was **agreed** that the Recreation Committee should put forward recommendations. He will be installing two new litterbins. He will be standing down as a Councillor at the end of April; a new Chairman of the Recreation Committee was needed.

Pavilion: Mr Winter (Pavilion Manager) would fit the new notice boards soon; this followed meetings with the football managers. Rubbish bins had been requested for each of the changing rooms. There would be a football sponsors night soon (date not yet fixed) in the Social Club; members of the PC would be invited. Fees for the 2015–16 season should be negotiated soon.

Cemetery and Allotments: Cllr Harwood recommended acceptance of the CGM quote for grass cutting at the Cemetery. **Agreed.** She thanked the *Village News* for donation of funds for a rose arch. There would be a Volunteers' Day at the Cemetery on 23 March. Cllr Milson was reviewing arrangements for the Allotments. The Clerk noted that rent notices were due after 1 April.

SECTION 137 GRANTS POLICY: **Agreed** that draft policy notice and application form be issued.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING: After discussion it was **agreed** that a Hustings be held immediately following, and separate from, the Annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Meeting would start at 7pm; the Hustings at 8.30pm, or later, if the Annual Meeting ran over.

GRASS VERGES: installing, maintaining and removing hanging baskets: **Agreed** to accept CGM quotes.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING ISSUES: Church Street, Woollards Lane, High Green, Maris Green: recent meeting with Mr Wiseman (County Council Highways Officer) had been helpful. A forthcoming Highways Committee Meeting would take these forward. Cllr Smith asked that the situation around Davey Crescent, where verges were deep in mud, be included.

FINANCE: payments of £8,386.18 and receipts of £2,230.98 as presented by the Clerk were approved. Bank Reconciliation carried out on 17 February was noted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Agreed that PC support Arthur Rank Hospice's application to reduce speed limit on Cherry Hinton Road to 40mph. PC had so recommended on Planning Application;

Agreed that child play research proposal could proceed subject to caveats identified by the Clerk being fulfilled;

Agreed that PC be represented at forthcoming SCDC Awards Celebration.

MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION: Cllr Smith asked the Clerk to send letters to residents at 19 High Green and Malyons, High Green requesting them to trim their hedges. The Clerk noted that the hedge at 19 High Green was to be cut in February.

Full copies of the Minutes can be seen at www.shelford.org and at the Library.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AND HUSTINGS

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place at 7 pm on **Thursday 16 April** in the Memorial Hall. This is when all local organisations (not just the Parish Council) report on what they have been doing during the past year and answer your questions.

If you are on the village Register of Electors and want to have a matter debated at the meeting, you should send a copy of the relevant motion, including the names of the proposer and a seconder, to the Clerk at 8 Halatte Gardens Great Shelford CB22 5LE, to arrive by **Saturday 4 April**.

Immediately following the Parish Meeting (probably from 8.30 pm) there will be a Hustings, which is your chance to hear from each of the candidates hoping to become our MP at the 7 May General Election and to challenge them on local and national issues.

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PLANNING APPLICATIONS PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

S/0291/15/FL	Manhattan Corporation Ltd. The Railway Tavern Station Road Great Shelford	Demolition of the Railway Tavern and building of 12 dwellings.
--------------	--	--

Recommend refusal. The siting, scale and massing of the proposed building would have an unacceptable visual impact on the residential character and appearance of the Station Road street scene. The current design forms a massive block fronting Station Road with a largely flat façade that will dominate and be overbearing to occupiers of neighbouring dwellings. We are also concerned that the proposed layout may preclude the provision of a footbridge at Shelford Station. In view of the prominent location of the development and its proximity to the Conservation area we hope the advice of the Urban Design Team is sought.

S/0167/15/FL	Dr James McCrone The Lodge Kings Mill Lane	Timber climbing frame with raised platform and roof.
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No objections in principle to the climbing frame but it is located quite close to the boundary with 3 Kings Mill Lane. As long as the occupiers of no. 3 are happy with the proposal, no objections.

S/0152/15/FL	Mr Haslam & Dr Hussain 1 Mingle Lane	Demolition of existing house and erection of new house and garage
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Recommend refusal. The two-storey rear element of the proposed house will overshadow 1b Mingle Lane. The location of the rear building line of the proposed house is contrary to pre-application advice given by SCDC's planning officer. The location of the drive and the new garage will be intrusive to the occupants of the neighbouring properties.

ADDITIONAL BUS SERVICE

There will be a new bus service linking Trumpington Park and Ride directly with Cambridge Rail Station in the morning and evening (not going via Addenbrookes). This will run in addition to the existing service which runs via Addenbrookes. The new service will run up to every 15 minutes between 6am and 9am, and between 5pm and 8.40pm. For exact times contact Stagecoach on 01223 433250 or see www.stagecoachbus.com.

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A PLAYSCAPE FOR GREAT SHELFORD

A group of local residents has the Parish Council's blessing to pursue a radical transformation of the children's play area on the recreation ground. Our ambition is to combine new play equipment with interactive landscaping to create a 'Playscape' – a beautiful place that benefits the whole community.

The Playscape Working Group will be fully consulting the village and bringing forward plans in due course. Right now we seek offers of help to make all of this happen. If you have expertise that could benefit this initiative (e.g. fundraising, PR and community liaison, charity operation, planning, landscape architecture, contract management, etc.), or are simply willing to volunteer your time to support this cause, then please contact Eleanor McCrone at shelfordplayscape@gmail.com.

We expect to have a website launched soon and hope to give regular updates in the *Village News*. We are producing an initial study that will review the existing facilities, look at options available to us, and gauge the potential scope of the project. We will be presenting this study with recommendations on how to proceed to the Parish Council and then the Village at the Annual Parish Meeting (Thursday 16 April, 7.30 pm, in the Memorial Hall). Please do come along. More news as it comes!

Mike Nettleton

COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council Budget 2015 At its last County Council meeting the members agreed by a large majority to increase the County's share of the Council tax by 1.99%, or by about £20 to £1144.26 per home for band D users. The District is putting up its share by 1.99% but the Police and the Fire Brigade are holding their share to the same as last year. The average parish precept overall is rising by 0.87%.

New Building on the A10 at Hauxton Any organisation that wishes to carry out work on a public highway in Cambridgeshire must book the necessary road space with the County. As of March 4, Redrow the builders had not booked any space on the A10 or on Church Street Hauxton. This site has planning permission for about 250 houses and Redrow have now put in an application for four large blocks of flats. It is felt this is completely out of character for a village.

Cycleways Cambridgeshire has been successful in acquiring Government funding of £6m for cycleways, some of which will be used for an improved cycleway in Harston. We understand that some residents would prefer the cycle route to be close to the A10 while others would like it on the western side of

Harston. Please send any views on this to mike.davies@cambridgeshire.gov. Consultation on a new bridge over the Cam between Abbey Stadium and Chesterton using £4 million from the Government and the City Deal is also underway. This will be a cycle and footbridge and will reduce travelling time to the new station in Chesterton Sidings and the Science and Business Parks.

Roads A major programme to maintain and improve road surfaces is starting this month, using micro-asphalt, a thin coat surface treatment of bitumen and small aggregates in two layers. Several other roads in Sawston are also being resurfaced.

Connecting Cambridge 55,000 homes and businesses are now connected to superfast broadband throughout the County and we should reach more than 90,000 by the end of the year. The difference that fibre broadband is making in rural communities can be seen in a series of short videos on www.connectingcambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Lottery fund grant A Heritage Lottery fund grant of over £70,000 has been awarded to Cambridgeshire Council and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology to identify stories, artefacts and memories which will help build up a picture of childhood in Cambridgeshire over the ages, from Roman feeding bottles to childhood in World War II. Progress can be viewed at <https://archaeologyofchildhoodproject.wordpress.com/>

Speed Limit at the New Arthur Rank Hospice The new Arthur Rank Hospice is to be built at Shelford Bottom and it is proposed that the speed limit will be reduced to 40mph on Cherry Hinton Road. If you have comments or queries please send them to gtaylor@peterbrett.com.

Cambridgeshire Archives For the last few years the Cambridgeshire Archives have been housed in the basement of the Shire Hall, which is not a suitable place for such important and historic documents. CCC has found a new site which will be at the Strikes Bowling Alley Building in Ely. This will bring together the Cambridgeshire Collection from Cambridge Central Library and the Archives from the Shire Hall under one roof. Many more documents will also be available online.

Cllr: Gail Kenney

NOTE

The *Great Shelford Village News* is published by the Editorial Committee, whose members are delighted to receive the many regular and occasional contributions that make it all possible. The Committee, of necessity, reserves the right to amend or reject items, for a variety of reasons. In these cases (unless the changes are minor), every reasonable effort will be made to contact the contributor to obtain agreement.

Editorial Committee

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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH

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A very Happy Easter to you all!

A very warm welcome to your historic parish church – please call in and enjoy the sacred space.

A Thought for the Month: Nigel Pett, one of the lay ministers at St Mary's writes: Lent will nearly be over by the time that many of you read this short extract, however it is not too late to reflect on the original meaning of Lent as penned by Dr. Marcellino D'Ambrosio to help us add another dimension to our understanding and experience of our life in general. Traditionally Lent is somewhat like New Year's resolutions. We set aside work on ourselves for forty days so we don't end up wandering around in the wilderness for 40 years. We do things to burn off the excess fat that's weighing us down, try to improve our spiritual diet, and do some meaningful spiritual exercises to strengthen the muscles we call 'virtues'. But he argues that Lent is not a time to focus inward on personal growth but to focus outward. It is a time when we should encourage people to return to church life, especially in the great celebrations of Easter.

Marcellino illustrates how we should work in deed and in word. Jesus comes to a town where everyone is a member of a heretical sect and sits down by a well. A woman comes to draw water. Israelites usually don't talk to Samaritans, much less drink out of their ritually impure vessels. To boot, men usually don't make conversation with women. But Jesus recognizes her existence and affirms her by being willing to accept a drink from her. Once she gets over her shock, a dialogue ensues. It starts out about water, wells, Jews and Samaritans, but Jesus asks her questions that throw her off a bit and make her think. He finally asks a question that leads her to admit her need. She's hungry for love, and has run through quite a few partners looking for the real thing. Jesus' soul-piercing glance tells her that his is the love she's been looking for. She abandons her water jar and returns to town to tell everyone about Jesus. Did she wait till she had a master's degree in theology? Did she sit down with people and demonstrate from Scripture why he was the Messiah? No. She simply told people, with joy, confidence, and conviction, what Jesus had done for her. And she invited people to come and experience him for themselves. So maybe we can all reflect on this and think about how we relate to one another at all levels to better serve our neighbours.

So Easter will soon be here but in Holy Week we have a range of services and activities as listed on the next page.

Holy Week services

Here are our main services for Holy Week and Easter – please come and join in this special time of celebration and joy (full details on the website).

Maundy Thursday

7.30pm Eucharist of Maundy Thursday, followed by Watch of prayer

Good Friday

10.30am Family Service for Holy Week (short service for children)

1.00pm Good Friday Devotions (two brief led meditations)

2.0 pm Liturgy of the Passion (marking Jesus' last hour and death)

Easter Saturday

8.00pm Easter Vigil (first celebration of Easter – Blessing of new fire)

Easter Day 5 April

6.30am Joint Dawn Holy Communion (Magog Down)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)

10.00am Parish Communion (Main Sunday service) with Easter Egg Hunt for the young at heart!

6.30pm Sung Evensong (BCP 1662)

Annual Parochial Church Meeting: Sunday 19 April 11.20 am

The Annual Meeting will be held in the parish church; full details on the website and by documents at the back of church. Please come along to find out what has been happening in the last year.

From the registers

Baptisms:	Sunday 1 March	Edith White
	Sunday 29 March	Tristan Foley

Regular services

Daily 9am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

Wednesday 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)

Sunday 8am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)

10am Parish Communion, our main Sunday service.

6.30pm Evensong (BCP 1662)

For further information about Great Shelford Parish Church

visit our website: www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/

Priest in charge: The Revd. Simon Talbott: 01223 847068 or 0705 0042616 or

vicar@saintmarysgreatshelford.org

Parish Administrator: Katharin Page: 07710 518220 or katharinpage@yahoo.com.

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SHELFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION FILM AND PANCAKE EVENING: FEBRUARY 14

An enjoyable time was had by all this Valentine's evening which began with a welcome opportunity to chat to new and old friends whilst tucking into delicious pancakes (with savoury or sweet fillings) washed down with a glass or two of wine. We then settled down to watch *Romuald et Juliette, 1989*, a Valentine's Day comedy with a difference. Juliette is a beefy French North African cleaning lady and single parent of five children, all by different fathers. Romuald is an excitable white business executive, living the dream life with a glamorous wife and two pampered teenage children.

Juliette works nights cleaning the offices of Romuald's company, leaving her offspring in the care of their eldest sibling. One night Juliette overhears a conversation between two of Romuald's plotting executives and, kind-hearted and honourable as she is, gets drawn into supporting Romuald through a series of murky commercial battles. The plot twists through juvenile crime, issues of economy and race, business ethics, passion, romance and fun – a really interesting and different sort of film for adults.

Anne Debenham

STREET LIGHTING PROJECT

As the Parish Council was so critical over the quality and timeliness of the work being undertaken by Balfour Beatty, the County Council will not pay Balfour Beatty for their work until the Parish Council has said it is satisfied.

The Parish Council is now being asked, on a street-by-street basis, to 'sign-off' the Project. Parish Councillors will check each street but would welcome input from Villagers where it is clear work has not been completed.

The more frequent examples of this include verges and pavements not fully restored where columns have been replaced and old columns removed. In some places, signage has disappeared and not been replaced. There are also barriers which have not been removed.

If you are aware of any work still to be completed, please could you inform the Clerk to the Council as soon as possible by emailing the details to him along with the address closest to where the work is still to be completed. The email address is: parishclerkgreatshelford@gmail.com

Please understand that at this stage the Parish Council cannot take up issues over which lights have been removed or where new columns have been positioned. Nor can the Council deal with individual concerns regarding lights shining into bedrooms and requests for baffles to minimise this. Such requests should be directed to Balfour Beatty at: enquiries@lightingcambridgeshire.com

Ian Kydd

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DECISIONS



A survey found that we will make 773,618 decisions over a lifetime and we will regret 143,262 of them. I wonder how you make decisions in your life? Many will weigh everything up, looking at the pros and cons of any decision, others will just ignore all of that and do or buy what they want. Whether you weigh everything up or just plunge in, we have to make decisions – about work, where we live, where our kids go to school, holidays, cars, clothes and the colour of our socks. We might in

our life regret certain decisions we have made when dealing with the consequences, but we cannot get away from the fact we have to decide consciously or unconsciously on all sorts of things every day of our life.

Beyond the everyday life decisions we make, there are eternal ones. These can often be ignored and only come to the forefront when we have to deal with a doctor or an undertaker. We might think that's the best way of dealing with them and it might be, the eternal decisions will however not go away.

I think it's fair to say that we spend a disproportionate amount of time thinking about what clothes, car, food and gadgets to buy, compared with thinking about who made us and what happens when we die. Christians do not have the monopoly on this conversation as many faiths will speak into this issue. But as the minister of the Free Church in Great Shelford I would challenge you to consider the bible verse: *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.* John 3v16

It is within eternity that the greatest decision in our life has to be made, will you choose to ignore that or will you think upon such things. I'd encourage you to think, to think beyond the next decision that *has* to be made, to spend some time thinking about eternity and either weighing up a life of faith or just plunging headlong into it. Either way you would be in good company as our church is made of people who are seeking to do the same thing, me included.

Rev'd Martin Cockerill, Minister, Great Shelford Free Church



Creative worship for all ages @ Tea Time Together

19 April: 3T Forest Church @ Wandlebury Country Park

Join us for the 'whatever the weather' event. A chance to explore and reflect outdoors and, most importantly, it will finish with hot chocolate and cake. Meet at Wandlebury Car Park @ 3.30pm (There is a £3 car parking fee)

For more details, contact Diana Parr:

dianaparr@btinternet.com or tel: 01223 842181

3T is an informal event for all, whatever age or phase of life you are in. Some events are outdoors and will require suitable clothing, some inside in a more relaxed, 'civilized' setting. **3T** will always be creative, informal and spiritual. **3T** gathers on the 3rd Sunday of every month at 3.30pm – venues will change so please see the GSFC website (*shelfordfreechurch.org.uk*) for event details.

Easter @ GSFC

Palm Sunday March 29

Speaker: Rev'd Martin Cockerill

Maundy Thursday April 2

The church will be open for prayer & communion 6.00pm–12 midnight.

8.00pm Communion Service

Good Friday April 3

12.30pm Lunch followed by Communion

Easter Sunday April 5

6.30am Sunrise Service @ Magog Down

Breakfast @ Johnson Hall, Stapleford

10.30am All Age Service @ GSFC

Rev'd Martin Cockerill & Diana Parr

Create & Share

@ Shelford Free Church Hall

Thursday April 11

9.30am–12.00 & 1–3.30pm

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Bring your current project ... or even start a new one. Bring a friend; everyone's welcome regardless of skill level. Let us know if you wish to come for the morning, afternoon or full day so we have an idea of numbers for refreshments and resources.

For more information, contact Church Office: 01223 842181
email: *janet@frenchfrogs.net*

For further information about Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist)

visit our website: *www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk*

Church Office (Access via Ashen Green): 01223 842181

Email: *administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk*

Office Hours: Tues 9am–4pm; Weds 9am–1pm; Thurs 9am–1pm

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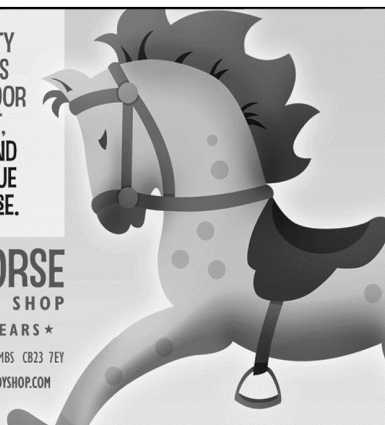
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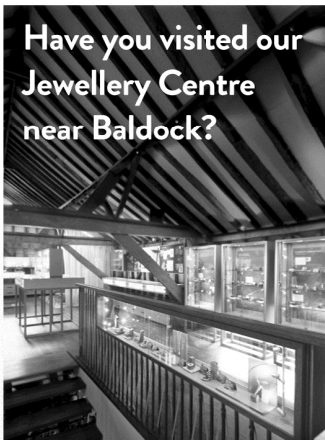
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SHELFORD STATIONMASTER AWARD

Congratulations to Shelford Stationmaster Angela Milton on her nomination as a Village Hero in the South Cambs District Council Annual Awards. In our cover picture she collects her certificate from Council Chairman Dr David Bard during a celebration at South Cambridgeshire Hall in Cambourne on March 5.

Angela was nominated for turning a humble railway station into a hub of the community. Among other things she has run a library in the ticket office, held a Christmas party, looked after all the flower pots, and offered free coffee and sweets. All this on top of providing an excellent ticketing service for all the passengers.

The parish council believe Angela was rightly nominated as a village hero. She's First Class!

Stephen Chittenden

RETIREMENT OF MP ANDREW LANSLEY

The following letter was sent from MP Andrew Lansley to Cllr: Nightingale, copied to readers of the Village News.

As we approach my retirement from Parliament in May, I wish to extend to you and, through you, to your Parish Council and constituents in Great Shelford, my thanks for the privilege of being able to represent you. I have benefited often from the advice of Parish Councils in tackling the issues we have faced together and I hope you have found our collaboration helpful over the years.

I do think we can continue to be proud of South Cambridgeshire. We are consistently seen as one of the best places to live in this country. We achieve this whilst also being amongst the most dynamic places for growth. The 'Cambridge phenomenon' is in reality often to be found in South Cambridgeshire. We are a high-tech magnet and now, I would argue, the best place in the world to undertake life sciences research and development.

This dynamism is reflected not least in the increase in employment, up some 35% over the last five years. We are amongst the constituencies across the country with the lowest unemployment rate; currently at just 0.6%. Youth unemployment, too, is down by two-thirds over the last five years.

We know all of this success has led to great pressure for development in South Cambridgeshire. We have worked together, with considerable success, to identify how we can accommodate new jobs and housing, without sacrificing our environment and quality of life. Developing new settlements, at Cambourne and now Northstowe has been important; and organic growth in villages which have the necessary infrastructure. However we have needed to

resist inappropriate housing development, e.g. at the so-called 'Hanley Grange' and in the 'QTSQ' South West of Cambridge. We have successfully maintained the integrity of our village pattern of settlement.

In recent years, we have seen major positive investment decisions, such as AstraZeneca coming to Cambridge, the new Papworth Hospital and developments on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, dramatic growth at the Wellcome Trust at Hinxton, and in taking forward the A14 and A428 improvement plans.

We have fought to get a fair deal on funding for our public services. We got change on the Area Cost Adjustment, help through the New Homes Bonus, the City Deal, a big step towards an improvement in the national formula for school funding, and a 5% increase in NHS funding locally next year also taking us closer to our fair target formula. Through Connecting Cambridgeshire, we are also seeing 21st Century infrastructure essential for our South Cambridgeshire villages.

Over the years, many thousands of constituents and I have corresponded; we may not have always agreed, but I have always tried to help and have appreciated the countless helpful views I have received. I hope I stand down with South Cambridgeshire continuing to be the best place to live for us and for our children; as a family residing in South Cambridgeshire ourselves, I can honestly say, I can't think of anywhere better to live.

I should like to thank all of our Parishes, and District and County Councillors for all they do in public service; and ask if you would kindly convey on through Parish newsletters, etc. my warmest thanks not only to you all, but also to my constituents.

Andrew Lansley

HOW TO CONTACT GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS

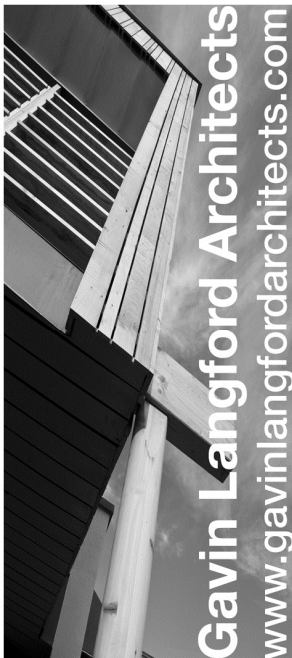
Your articles, letters etc (including notices for community events etc) can be sent to us by email at gsvneditorial@yahoo.co.uk. Paper items should be delivered to Mrs J Amis, 58 High Street, Great Shelford.

COPY DATE FOR NEXT GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS is Friday 10 April.

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Editorial Committee:

David Fuller, Bridget Hodge, Judith Wilson, Lorraine Coulson.



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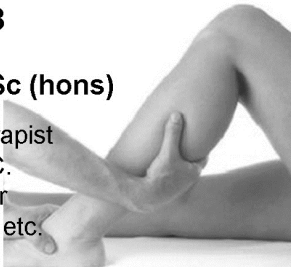
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MEMORIAL HALL

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MORE ON THE HIDDEN POST BOX



Last month we reported on the moving of the High Green post box from its position outside the Post Office to a new location tucked behind the bus shelter on the opposite side of the road.

Ian Kydd, Clerk to the Council, contacted Royal Mail on February 24 explaining and illustrating the problems related to the new location, suggesting alternative locations, such as on the pavement in front of the Post Office, and expressing concern at the lack of consultation with the County, District and Parish Councils as well as the public.

A reply was received from the Public Affairs Manager of the Royal Mail claiming that they were unable to resite the post box on the pavement immediately in front of its original location because of underground utilities and the narrowness of the pavement, and that the present site was the only one they could find in close proximity to the Post Office. They were not required to consult, he said, since this was a 'business decision'.

JW from information provided by Ian Kydd

***Engage* at Great Shelford Library** **The Gardens of the National Trust**

Talk by Veronica Bennett



Wednesday 22 April 2.00–3.30pm

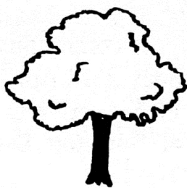
Free event, but tickets required – available from the library

Tea, coffee, biscuits (donations asked)

Please note that due to the increasing popularity of Engage, tickets will now be required for entrance. Numbers will be limited to 30.

Library Contact No. 0345 045 5225

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DIARY, April 2015

Date	Event	Time	Place
9	Carpet Bowls AGM	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
9	WI: Patchwork (page 23)	7.30pm	All Saints Com. Room, Lt. Shelford
11	Bowling Club Coffee Morning (page 27)	10am	Bowls pavilion, Rec.
16	Annual Parish Meeting (page 3)	7pm	Memorial Hall
18	Model Railway Exhibition (page 39)	10am–4pm	Sawston Village College
20	Little Shelford Local History Society Talk (see below)	7.30pm	Little Shelford Memorial Hall
22	Engage: National Trust Gardens (page 20)	2–3.30pm	Great Shelford Library
25	Farmers' Market	9am–12	Memorial Hall
25	Stapleford Umbrella Association Dance (page 37)	8–11pm	Stapleford Community School

The Country Market is held in the Memorial Hall each Wednesday
8.30–11.30am.

BIN COLLECTIONS

Black bins Tuesday 7 April, Monday 20 April

Green and blue bins Monday 13 April, Monday 27 April

(We are sorry that last month the collection for March 16 was stated to be for blue bins only, instead of green and blue bins)

Little Shelford Local History Society

Little Shelford Memorial Hall

Monday 20 April

7.30pm AGM

8.00pm a talk by Dr Anthony Cooper

**'The impact of the Second World War
on South Cambridgeshire'**

WI NEWS

The Shelfords WI held its first Annual General Meeting on 5 March; we were joined by Ruth Bond, a WI advisor and former national president who has recently been awarded the OBE for this work. Ruth congratulated The Shelfords WI on becoming a thriving group since our formation in December 2013 and offered valuable advice for our future. Deborah Record, the outgoing president, was warmly thanked for all her work in setting the Shelfords WI on such a strong footing, Janice Layer was elected president and there were a good number of volunteers for the new committee.

The April meeting will be transferred to Thursday 9 April to avoid the Easter weekend. This meeting will be a talk and practical session on patchwork. Normally we meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in All Saints' Community Room (behind the church) in Little Shelford. New members and visitors are always welcome.

Mary Talbott

LE GOÛTER

On a warm spring day, March 7, we had our annual French goûter (or afternoon tea), which was held in the hall at Shelford Free Church from 4–7pm.

We were served with lovely cakes, a variety of jams, French bread, both sweet and plain and also copious cups of coffee, tea and soft drinks.



Photo: Penny Pearl

Approximately 40 people attended and about six children who were able to play games, and decorate cakes and biscuits with icing and sprinkles. A number of friendships were renewed and plans talked through of the forthcoming trip to Verneuil in a few weeks' time.

At about five-thirty a number of us watched a film in the Tintin series *Le Temple du Soleil* (Prisoners of the Sun) with subtitles. £58 was collected in donations. Our thanks go to those who bought and brought the goodies which we all enjoyed.

Fran Foreman

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TENNIS CLUB



There are three primary signs that Spring is upon Great Shelford. Firstly comes the chirrup of birds in the village trees. The second is the appearance of daffodils on the road to Little Shelford. The third is when a bin-full of old tracksuits and t-shirts turns up outside the tennis club; a sign that the GSTC spring clean is underway (and time for a certain coach to head down to Sports Direct for some new gear). Pictured enjoying the clean-up on March 14 are our new chairman Lydia Seymour holding the vacuum cleaner, and new social secretary Jacqui Lloyd riding the broomstick with characteristic skill. Thank you to the committee members who helped out, but special gratitude to all the volunteer (sic) who joined in.

Matches start soon, and before that are the team practices. Check the website gstc.org.uk for details. For non-team players, there are club sessions at 7pm on Mondays and Wednesdays, and 4.30pm on Saturdays. If you'd like to join in for the first time, come along on a Wednesday when you'll be given a warm welcome by a cold coach who needs a new tennis top. *Stephen Chittenden*

GREAT SHELFORD CRICKET CLUB

We have two youth teams now, an under 11 team and an under 12 team. If any parents are interested, ring Paul Ellum on 01223 842394. Likewise if you are an adult looking for a game of cricket this summer. *Brian Higgins*

STAPLEFORD FUN RUN

The Stapleford Community Primary School PTA Fun Run is back! It will be held on Sunday 17 May, and we are very excited about the return of this popular family event for children, parents, communities, and runners. The running will take place on Mago Down, with the kind permission of the Mago Trust. We aim for it to appeal to runners and walkers of all ages and abilities. Visit www.staplefordrun.com or email staplefordrun@gmail.com to register or to find out more.

Key Details Distances: 1, 2.5 and 5 miles Start time 10:30am Free parking
Measured courses First Aid available Marshalled courses

Stapleford Primary School PTA: registered charity no. 1151770. *Sarah Barnett*

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REGISTRATIONS NOW ACCEPTED FOR SUNDAY 10 MAY

Registrations for the Sawston Fun Run and Walk can now be made online or with a form available on the website (see above) or from branches of The Cambridge Building Society and Sawston Village College. There are categories by age and gender with entry fees of £5 for entrants in school years 1 to 11 and £10 for adults of 17 years and over. As well as the traditional 7.5km (4.7mile) course there will be a new short route of 4.0km (2.5 miles) for walkers, small children and those wanting to accompany them.

This will be the thirtieth year of this popular annual event, which engages with a wide cross section of the local community and has already donated over £397,000 to local good causes. The organisers, the Rotary Club of Cambridge Sawston District, aim to raise at least another £15,000. The beneficiaries include the deserving local charity *Tom's Trust*, set up in 2011 as a legacy to Tom Whiteley, who died aged 9 of a brain tumour, as well as 18 other local charities and organisations.

Tony Collett

GREAT SHELFORD BOWLING CLUB

We are a well-established and friendly club where you will find a warm welcome, whether you have some bowling experience or none at all. We have about 32 members but there is room for more.

We have a wide range of talent within the club. Enjoyment of the game and each other's company has priority over competitive honours, although we have gained our fair share over the years – this last year we were runners up in the Cambs and District Gilbert Cup. Beginners can be introduced to the game informally and most new members progress quickly and soon enjoy playing in friendly and league games.

Should you be interested in giving it a go, please contact either Ron Nutt (564272), our chairman, or Wendy Seekings (843416). They will be pleased to answer any questions you may have. Alternatively, come along to the club's coffee morning at 10am on Saturday 11 April (in the bowls pavilion behind the tennis courts on the recreation ground), or to our first practice afternoon, which is on April 19. All newcomers will be welcome at either or both of these events.

Wendy Seekings (secretary)

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RUGBY CLUB



It is getting to that time of year when the rugby season finishes and we start to play **touch rugby** again!

There will be sessions at Little Shelford Wale Rec for adults and children from 6:30 to 8:00pm on Tuesday nights starting on 5 May. Sessions are for both adults and children with the aim of teaching a few basic rules and then generally playing as many games as we can. Touch is a great way to develop your fitness and skills. It's fast and non-contact so everyone can participate. Many credit the amazing ball handling skills of the NZ All Blacks to the fact that they all play touch competitively! (Check the youtube clip www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fiy-6opH1aM) It would help us plan the sessions if we had an idea of who will be playing. If you would like to give it a try please let Jo Whitehead know at jo.whitehead@ashbridge.org.uk. You will also be added to an email list so we can let you know if there are any changes in venue or if sessions have to be cancelled because of the weather

Stephanie Hatter

LIBRARY NEWS

A TALK THAT HAS BEEN AND ONE TO COME

Dr John Rhodes, a distinguished immunologist who has worked both for Cambridge University and the pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline, gave an informative talk on *The story of vaccination from Smallpox to Ebola* on Tuesday 17 February at Great Shelford Library.

Most people were familiar with the story of Edward Jenner's discovery of vaccination when cowpox from the hand of the dairymaid Sarah Nelmes was used to inoculate a boy called James Phipps, thus protecting him against smallpox infection. John led the audience through the movement to eradicate the world's most feared diseases such as polio, influenza, tuberculosis, whooping cough and measles with ever more refined immunological strategies. He touched on the chance of biological warfare with stockpiled diseases and the work being carried out on vaccines for HIV infection and malaria. He ended with the current state of research into a vaccine for Ebola and the hopes for the future of eradicating many of the worst diseases which have ravaged populations throughout history.

The talk was one of a series arranged by the Friends of Great Shelford Library in order to promote library use and raise funds for library equipment. The next event will be on Tuesday 5 May at 7.30pm when Rose-Marie Mowatt, classical guitarist, will play and talk about the instrument.

Sarah Coppendale

COUNTY LIBRARIES IN THE FIRING LINE

The County Council is faced with a major funding crisis. The current libraries budget is £4.542m. For the year 2016 this needs to be reduced by £1.835m, a reduction of roughly 40%. You can see the magnitude of the problem.

The Library Service has now presented its outline strategy for 2016 onwards. So far there is not much concrete detail, but if it is implemented, one thing it makes clear: things staying as they are is not an option. The County Council is currently running a consultation on the strategy, which lasts until 30 April.

The full details of the Library Service's vision for the future can be found on the internet at http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/site/custom_scripts/cons_details.aspx?ref=357, where it is described in full.

Please consider expressing your views. You can find the online survey at <https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=142246176596>, or you can contact the Friends of Great Shelford Library.

In this newsletter, we are outlining their proposals. There are no real details of what this new vision will mean for Great Shelford Library as yet. The Friends Committee has been invited to the Annual Meeting for library Friends Groups on 25 March, and we are promised that more will be revealed. We will let you know what we are told as soon as possible after that date.

The Library Service's vision for 2016 and beyond, mentioned above, is a lengthy document, and not very readable, so here are the key points:

- The Library Service would shift towards 'enabling' rather than delivering services, supporting communities to support themselves. It aims to put the local community at the heart of deciding where its library should go, and in practice this is likely to mean a library run by volunteers rather than paid staff.
- Library buildings could evolve into community hubs, 'flexible multi-purpose spaces', serving a variety of uses, only one of which is as a library. This model has been successfully adopted in a number of libraries such as Chatteris and Melbourn. The model relies on co-locating other services within the library building, such as GP surgeries, advice centres, a post office, a coffee room or meeting rooms. The Library Service also aims to target its resources where they are most needed. Working with other providers, it would be looking to work with children and families, the elderly and the disadvantaged. Existing activities like Rhymetime and Engage groups at Shelford are examples, but a much wider spread of activities and agencies is envisaged. The library as we now understand it would only be one of the functions of the building. If the hub housed a

number of county council functions, then money on buildings would be saved; if other organizations were housed in the building, they would bring money in to help pay for the existing library building.

- Libraries in villages are likely to be operated by local volunteers with the support of the Library Service (there are currently 10 community libraries).
- Overall, 'digital first' is to be the aim with the library. The library will become a prime mover in helping people to engage with the digital world, providing access, training and support with technology within libraries. E-books are expected to increase significantly and be accessed from home, and paper books decrease, so that there is less and less need to physically visit the library.

If you have concerns about the future of the library, you can express your views in a number of ways:

- By filling in the on-line consultation form.
- By expressing your views to the Library Friends (via the Friends box in the library), to your Parish Council and/or to your County Councillors, Tony Orgee and Gail Kenney. If you need details of how to contact any of them, please contact the Friends to ask.

Committee of the Friends of Great Shelford Library

IN THE TELEPHONE BOX

(We have been reading *The Smartest Giant in Town* by Julia Donaldson)

Giant: Hello, is that the clothes shop? It's the giant here. I need some new clothes ... Yes I did just buy some new clothes from you but on my way home I met some animals who needed help and I gave the clothes away. Please order me a warm scarf as my neck is cold. I gave it to the giraffe, he's here with me.

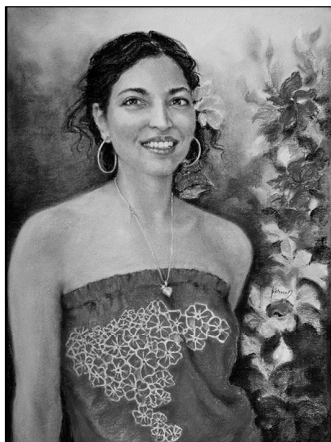
Shopkeeper: Oh your friend the goat was here and he wondered if you wanted a new shirt?

Giant: Yes please. Plus some new shoes as I gave one of my shoes to a little white mouse, who is also here with me.

Shopkeeper: Mr Fox popped into the shop this morning and wanted to thank you for his sleeping bag ... Should we order you some new socks as well?!

Giant: Yes please plus a new belt, I gave that to the dog so he could cross the squelchy bog. Could you put a poster up in your shop window? I want to thank all the animals for their letter and crown and to invite them all to my Birthday Party.

Written by The Reception Class



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SAWSTON ST MARY'S MOZART REQUIEM CONCERT

New ground was broken for performers and host on Saturday 7 March when, before a packed audience, St Mary's Church Sawston welcomed Stapleford Choral Society and the Academy of Great St Mary's Cambridge under their conductor Adam Pounds to perform a programme of choral and orchestral music. Two sacred motets by Elgar dating from the 1870s – Ave Verum Corpus and O Salutaris – opened the concert, followed by the playing of Haydn's symphony No. 104 in D major. After the interval the main event of the evening, Mozart's Requiem, was given a soul-stirring performance by orchestra, choir and soloists – Madeleine Seale (soprano), Katy Edgcombe (alto), Antony Warren (tenor) and Matt Wilkinson (bass).

The Stapleford Choral Society president expressed thanks to St Mary's for the hospitality extended to the choir and orchestra who now move on to study Brahms' German Requiem which they will perform at the Emmanuel United Reformed Church in Cambridge on Saturday 20 June.

Stapleford Choral Society always welcomes new members. There are no formal auditions but some ability to read music is a requirement. If you are interested in joining, contact us via the website: www.staplefordchoral.org.uk or phone our conductor, Adam Pounds, on 01223 843468.

Anne Duncumb

WANDLEBURY PROTEST

Following the protest meeting held by Friends of Wandlebury in January over the redundancies of the three rangers and other developments (see our March Edition) and the petition sent by members of Friends of Wandlebury, an email was received from Donald Hearn, treasurer of the Board of Trustees of CPPF, reacting to issues raised at the meeting. It stated that the Rangers' redundancy was an ongoing HR process and could not be discussed. Changes made were 'not intended to be a major change of priority of direction needing members' approval, merely a reordering of the way in which visitor and land management functions are delivered ... We believe the new structure should be properly implemented and be tested by a review ... carried out in 18 months time, following which any necessary adjustments can be discussed.'

In reply, the Friends disputed the claim that nothing could be done about the Rangers' redundancy, saying that the process could have been reversed at any time and expressed concern that SPPF had not responded to the distress and anger of members demonstrated at the protest meeting in January. A demand for an Extraordinary General Meeting was presented by the Friends on 10 March supported by 124 votes.

Judith Wilson



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BOTANIC GARDEN: FABULOUS FRITS

Fritillaria is a bulbous genus of around 130 species found from western Europe to east Asia with about 20 species native to North America. Just one species, the beautiful snakeshead fritillary *Fritillaria meleagris* is native to Britain and is at its best from April through to May. A lover of water meadows and ditches, the snakeshead fritillary has bell-shaped flowers gorgeously marked with a checkerboard of purple and white; naturalised in grass, they make a spectacular show if conditions are damp enough. We have established a small colony along the stream that feeds the Lake, but for a really good show, you must visit the Other Place – Christ Church or Iffley Meadows in Oxford!



Very few bulbous genera have the kind of variety in form, colour and growth habit that is seen in fritillaries. This makes them an exciting and very collectable genus for keen gardeners. They range in colour from almost black, bruise purple and mauve to green, yellow, cream; several exhibit beautiful, tessellated patterns. Some are just a few centimetres high and naturally occur in snow melt areas in mountains – these make a wonderful display in the Mountains House of the Garden's Glasshouse Range throughout April; some reach up to one metre, often growing along woodland edges or in open meadows. The orange and yellow crown imperials *Fritillaria imperialis* (pictured) are also at their best this month, producing circlets of bell-shaped blooms on tall stems in lightly wooded areas. Crown imperials are the only UK plant species to have been documented to be, occasionally, bird pollinated, when a Cambridge-based researcher observed blue tits hanging upside down on crown imperials in the Woodland Garden here. In probing for nectar, the blue tits effected pollination. Bird pollination syndromes are often seen in South and Central American and South African flora, but rarely in Europe. Fritillaries are also of particular interest to plant scientists as they have been found to contain enormous quantities of DNA – in fact the highest quantities known in any plant or animal species – for absolutely no discernible reason!

Juliet Day

The Botanic Garden is open April–September 10am–6pm. Admission charges to the Botanic Garden are as follows: adult: £5.00, adult gift aid £5.50, concession: £4.50, gift aid concession £4.95. Please visit the website for details at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk.

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READER'S LETTER

Could I draw your attention to the deplorable condition of our pavements; not only are they full of potholes, but their camber is such that I cannot ride my tricycle along them without the constant danger of tipping over (I shop by tricycle because using a car involves finding a parking space and in any case it is better for the environment and my health at the age of 90+). I note that in contrast to the footpaths (lacking altogether along Granham's Road) the roads for through traffic are kept in good repair – another illustration of how motorists are favoured above pedestrians in our automobile culture.

As things are, sooner or later someone is going to trip up, break their hip and sue the council for allowing the pavements to become a danger to elderly walkers.

John Davies

DIABETES SUPPORT GROUP

Diabetes UK is setting up a network of peer support groups for adults with Type 2 Diabetes called **Type 2 Together**. The new groups will connect people with others who have Type 2 diabetes in their local areas, giving them the chance to share experiences and information. The sessions will be led by volunteers who themselves are living with diabetes. The service is completely free. If you are interested in joining a group, email Type2Together@diabetes.org.uk or call 0345 123 2399. If you would like more information on the project visit the Diabetes UK website: http://www.diabetes.org.uk/How_we_help/Talk-to-someone/Type-2-Together/.

Alan Devereux

GARDEN CLUB: ALPINES AND ALPINE TROUGHS

Angela Whiting of D'Arcy and Everest Alpine plant nursery near St Ives, who have won many medals for their alpine displays, spoke about growing and exhibiting alpiners and sempervivums. Alpiners grow up above the tree line, in meadows in open areas on stony soil or in rock crevices on vertical cliffs. Low cloud and mists provide moisture but as the soil is usually free draining the roots of some alpine plants can penetrate quite deeply into rock clefts. Most alpine plants therefore grow best in light conditions without excessive moisture.

When planting an alpine trough a gravel layer should first be placed in the base for drainage, and then an old tea towel on top, which will allow water through but will stop the compost above being washed away. The compost should have some grit in it to aid drainage and does not need much in terms of feeding. If using an old sink with a plughole at one end, then the sink should be tilted slightly to prevent water sitting in the base. Thin slabs of rock or slate can be placed vertically in the trough to protrude above the top, so creating a series of planting pockets at various levels for different alpiners. Ideally, plants displaying a variety of shape, texture and colour and flowering at different times should be chosen to provide interest throughout the year. Once planted, the compost can be topped with grit or coloured gravel.



Dwarf *Dianthus* plants form an attractive mound but their crowns need to be planted well above the ground surface and gravel placed underneath for good drainage. There is a wide range of these available, some of which now have scented flowers. An attractive plant is a compact form of *Anacyclus depressus* (illustrated), which has a low mat of feathery foliage with large

white daisy flowers, which close to reveal red-backed petals. The dwarf *Linaria aeruginea* 'Neon Lights' has lots of different coloured flowers. A suitable bulbous plant is the Alpine Squill, which has dainty leaves that die back tidily after flowering. Planting a dwarf conifer in an alpine trough is not recommended as the roots will spread and take all the nutrients out of the soil.

Sempervivums generally require full sun and much sharper drainage than alpiners so are best planted in a separate trough. The many varieties available, with differing leaf form and colour which can also change throughout the year, provide an opportunity to create an interesting plant tapestry. Different sized, broken terracotta pots placed inside one another, old bricks or rocks with holes

in, or any suitable unusual object can be planted up, providing it has good drainage. Sempervivums require little maintenance apart from removing the dead leaves from the base of their rosettes after winter.

Rock gardens can be constructed on different levels by using tiers of rock such as York stone. Notable plants suitable for full sun and dry conditions include *Delosperma* 'Firespinner', which has large blooms of fiery colours, from May onwards into summer, and *Moltkia petraea*, a sub shrub from Croatia which has rich blue hanging, tubular flowers.

Plants suitable for a damp shady area of the rock garden include *Arunchus aethusifolius*, which has upright panicles of white flowers with feathery green foliage that turns red in autumn and the monkey flower *Mimulus primuloides*, a petite plant with tiny yellow flowers produced over a long period. It forms little bulblets which lie dormant in winter until the plant re-emerges in spring.

More information about alpine plants can be found at www.darcyeverest.co.uk.

Helen Chubb

ANNUAL CAMBRIDGE MODEL RAILWAY EXHIBITION

The 2015 Cambridge Model Railway Exhibition will be held on 18 April at Sawston Village College. The displays will include working model railway layouts on various gauges (from N to O), and will be supported by Trade Stands covering all aspects of model railways. Refreshments will be provided by the Sawston Women's Institute. The large venue provides a large number of free parking spaces. We aim to cater for both the enthusiast and the mildly interested and 31A Club Members will be on hand to answer questions regarding the hobby. This year there will be 13 working model railway layouts, supported by 13 Trader Stands.

OPENING TIMES: 10am to 4pm (Last admission 3:30 pm)

ADMISSION: Adults £4.00 Concessions £3.00 Children £2.00

For any group with two or more children, one child will be admitted free and children under five years of age are admitted free, however all children must be accompanied by an adult. For more information see www.cambridge31a-mrc.org.uk or email modelrail.club31a@ntlworld.com.

Neil Chapman, Secretary and Exhibition Manager

The next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* should be available in the shops on Friday April 24 and subscribed copies delivered shortly after.

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SAWSTON MEDICAL PRACTICE

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF DR JAMES MORROW

Thursday 5 March

0645: It is rather better with the days getting longer. It is now daylight when I leave home, a real contrast from just a few weeks ago.

0705: I arrive at the surgery, grab a cup of coffee and log into the computer. Since leaving the previous evening my inbox has filled up again with 38 results. I run through these, generating 12 SMS text messages to patients and write one letter to someone who doesn't have a mobile phone. Being able to text really has made this bit of the job much more efficient.

0730: As Managing Partner, part of my remit is to ensure that we have the right level of staffing. I review yesterday's performance – on top of our fully booked normal surgeries we saw 63 emergency appointments with an average waiting time of just 3.4 minutes for the day. We already have four doctors seeing patients from 7am this morning. All appears to be running smoothly so far. Another quick cup of coffee and then onto my morning surgery.

0800: 16 booked appointments at ten minute intervals. In general we are very lucky in that most people turn up for their appointments but this morning I have one non-attender. These occasional 'DNAs' eat into our ability to deliver the service we want. I use the ten minutes to ring a patient to review how the changed pain medication from the day before has gone. I then dictate a quick letter to the hospital.

1045: Finish morning surgery, dictate two letters to hospital colleagues, sign repeat prescriptions, deal with several medication queries from pharmacy, another cup of coffee.

1100: Weekly executive meeting with one other partner and the practice management team. The practice has 47 staff – all employed by the six GP partners, not the NHS itself. We review standing items such as patient safety, any complaints (none this week), staffing issues, rota cover, building matters, employment issues and practice finances.

1230: Grab a sandwich to eat during a fifteen minute meeting with the other partners to make some strategic decisions before starting our weekly clinical meeting where all the doctors and nurses sit down together. This week we cover some difficult clinical cases before being joined by the community matron, Macmillan nurse, OT, Physio and district nursing team together with our multidisciplinary team coordinator. We review our high-risk patients, recent admissions to hospital and those with palliative care needs. This time is

well spent and ensures that we all know what is happening to patients with rapidly changing needs.

1400: Hop into the car and drive to Huntingdon. A14 traffic even worse than normal and it takes nearly 45 minutes. Afternoon meeting of the Cambridgeshire Local Medical Committee (LMC), the elected representative body for all local GPs. A full agenda with much debate around the future of general practice. Of particular concern are the dramatic funding shifts within the NHS. The meeting overruns and I have to leave before the end to drive back to the practice for evening surgery.

1827: Arrive back in the surgery with three minutes to spare before my first patient. I grab yet another coffee and log back into the computer. A dozen incoming letters, another 20 results and a raft of internal emails will have to wait until the end of surgery.

1955: The last patient of the evening. And so on to the emails and results. Thankfully nothing too unexpected so I am able to log off and head home by eight fifteen. I reflect on another 13½ hour day without a break and think about the increasing pressures on general practice. We are working pretty much flat out, with no time to spare. We manage thanks to a great team at the practice – both clinical and non-clinical as well as the active engagement of our patients in managing their own health. But there is no slack in the system and little capacity to do more, especially in the face of the financial squeeze on Primary Care from a national level.

SAWSTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

Sawston Village College has enjoyed a successful year so far with our Adult Learning courses. Our cookery courses have been especially popular. We are planning to do a lot more in the summer term commencing 20 April, such as *Cooking for Beginners* and *Dishes from Around the World* so be quick to enrol as these courses fill quickly. We also have the Beginners *Photographing the World Around You* course starting on 22 April. In the meantime, courses such as *Tai Chi*, *Pilates*, *Fitness Yoga*, and *Pottery* all have spaces left. So if you are interested in any of these, please contact us as soon as possible to enrol.

Several Saturday workshops are planned for 16 May such as *Family Pizza Making*, *Alexander Technique*, *Emergency First Aid*, *Knitting Socks on 4 Needles*, and a repeat of *Make Up for over 40s* course, which was very successful in March. For more information on all our courses, please visit our website www.sawstonadulthood.org, email community@sawstonvc.org or phone 01223 712424.

Wendy Carpenter

WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

A round up of what's on at some of the venues near us. For more information, times, ticket prices and bookings, please contact the organisation. Please note that this information can be subject to change and events may already be fully booked.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE

30 March – 4 April	<i>Arcadia</i> Tom Stoppard
7–12	<i>Peter Pan Goes Wrong</i> ‘Cornley Polytechnic Drama Society’
13–14	Ballet Black
17–18	Cambridge Footlights
21–25	<i>A Mad World My Masters</i> Update on Thomas Middleton's Jacobean comedy
28– May 2	<i>The Absence of War</i> David Hare's political drama
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: www.cambridgeartstheatre.com	

SAWSTON CINEMA

16	7pm	<i>The Hard Problem</i> (Play by Tom Stoppard: NT Live)
21	6.30pm	<i>What we did on our holiday</i> (Film set in Scottish Highlands)
Telephone: 01223 712825 Web: www.sawstoncinema.org.uk		

SCOTSDALES

2	11am	<i>Butterfly News</i> (5 years and up) Booking required
9	11am	<i>Get Stuck In</i> (5 years and up) Booking required
16	3pm, 6pm	<i>Get the Look</i> – Create striking colour combinations. Andy McIndoe. Booking required
21 23	2.30pm 6.30pm	<i>Eat from your Garden</i> – Flowers etc that can be used in cooking. Sam Cochrane. Booking required
29	10am 11am	<i>Little Seedlings – Magic Beans</i> (2–5 year olds)
Telephone: 01223 842777 Web: www.scotsdalegardencentre.co.uk		

STAPLEFORD GRANARY

16	Memoir Writing course begins: recording memories of the past
18 & 19	Exploring Drawing – weekend course
19	Clarinet Afternoon with James Rae
23	Come and Sing! with Lucy Barlow
24	Tony Pay and the Instruments of Time and Truth (Haydn,

	Mozart and Weber)
30	Willow Garden Sculpture
Telephone: 01223 849004 Web: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk	

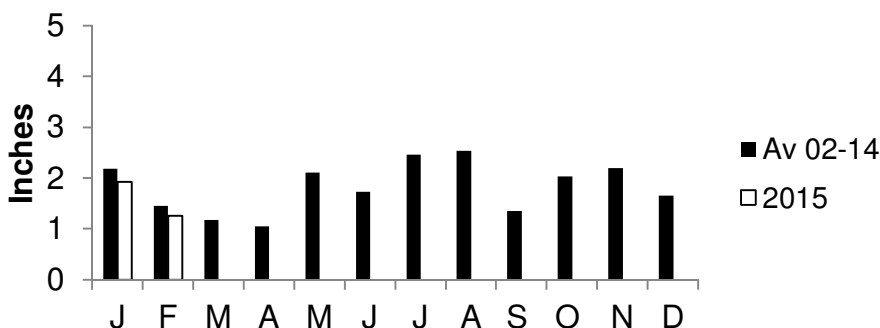
UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

12, 26		Free drop-in art workshops for families with children in Kettles Yard (01223 748100)
13	7.30pm	Lecture (Fitzwilliam College) Parkinson's UK's Research Strategy: Fast-tracking new treatments and drug repositioning. Booking recommended (020 7963 9309)
25		One day animation workshop Adults only, £30, booking essential, Kettles Yard (01223 748100)
For information on these and other events see www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson		

WANDLEBURY

4	11am	Photo-trail egg hunt and Easter crafts: booking essential.
7	10am or 12.30	Archery Taster (children aged 8 and above): including making a bow and arrow. Booking essential.
8	10am	Family Orienteering: map reading and learning to navigate new routes through Wandlebury Country Park. Booking essential.
11	10am	Garden Wildlife Day: making homes for animals, talks, guided walk, keeping a nature notebook. Free drop-in event.
Telephone: 01223 243830 Web: www.cambridgeppf.org		

Great Shelford Village Rainfall 2015



LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

Badminton (Little Shelford)	Rosie Cranmer	513572
Bowls Club	Wendy Seekings	843416
Brownies, Guides, Rainbows	Lisa MacGregor	843021
Bunch – Feast	Duncan Grey	842191
Carpet Bowls	Jenny Cater	842995
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cambridge	0844 8487979
Community Association	(for booking Memorial Hall) Sheila Tilbury-Davis	844384
Country Market	Dorothy Doel	843946
Cricket Club	Mrs M Ellum	842394
Darts League	Mr D Matthews	845287
Football Club	Peter Ellwood	562733
Free Church		842181
Friends of Shelford Library	Daphne Sulston	842248
Friendship Club	Cheryl Mynot	845435
Garden Club	Helen Chubb	845032
Health Centre	Ashen Green, Great Shelford	843661
Mobile Warden Scheme	Jackie Noble (Wdn) 700920	Jenny Morris (Chair) 846332
Parish Church	Bell Ringers: Ann Smith 577980	Community Room: Mary Lester 842411
Parish Church	Friends: Bob Doel 843946	Sunday Club: Joanne Staines 07790 415732
Parish Church Wardens	Dianne Fraser 562731	Stella Nettleton 832290
Parochial Charities	Mary Lester (Clerk to the Trustees)	842411
Police	Non-emergency number	101
Rainbow Pre-School	Alison Tomlin	07985 216603
Royal British Legion	Gillian Farrar	840947
Rugby Club	Colin Astin	842154
Sawston Sports Centre	The Village College	712555
Scouts and Cubs	Jillian Hardwick	840066
Scout and Guide HQ	Jenny Grey	842191
Shelford & Stapleford Strikers	John Swinton	510680
Shelford Primary School	Alison Evans, Headteacher	843107
Shelford Support Group (transport to hospital etc.)	Mrs Wilkinson 843856 Mrs Newman 842514	Mrs P Legge 843275 Mrs Carol Bard 571380
South Cambs DFAS	Sheila Tilbury-Davis	844384
Sports Pavilion Bookings	Mike Winter	07870 807442
Sunnyside Preschool Stapleford	Jane Doyle	707817
Sustainable Shelford	Mike Winter	07870 807442
Stapleford Choral Society	Adam Pounds	843468
Tennis Club	Lydia Seymour	07790 498875
Twinning Association	Penry Pearl	842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	Mr D Cupit	871527
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)	561053
Youth Initiative	Jamie Sawtell	07768 545 915



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