

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

VOL XV11 No 10

JULY 2015

PRICE 40p

Brownies take over allotment plot



2nd Shelford Brownies harvest their radishes! See the back cover for more pictures of the Brownies and their scarecrows.

Photos by L Coulson

Village charity aids Nepal

Shelford Feast Guide

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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
OTHER COUNCILLORS			
Mr S Chittenden	07801 207627	Mr M Nettleton	721366
Mr D Coggins	842598	Mr P Fane	843861
Mr B Ashhurst	07803 001985	Mr D Poskitt	07707 993473
		Mrs A Milson	841100
		Revd S Talbott	847068
CLERK TO THE COUNCIL Mr M Winter 07870 807442 parishclerkgreatshelford@gmail.com			
COUNTY COUNCILLORS			
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

Summary from 20 May 2015 Annual Council Meeting

Public session: members of the public expressed their concerns about the serious traffic congestion in Woollards Lane, the lack of progress on renewing white lines, the ability to provide a larger car park for the village, a serious pot hole outside 4 Mingle Lane and the consultation process to be adopted for village traffic issues. Cllrs Nightingale and Nettleton responded to questions and agreed to progress with South Cambridgeshire District Council enforcement teams and fully advise on consultation process to be adopted.

Election of chairman: The previous Chair, Cllr Nightingale, declared he was willing to stand as Chair for another year. No other nominations were made, so Cllr Nightingale was appointed Chair unopposed. Cllr Nightingale duly signed acceptance of office.

The previous Vice Chair, Cllr Hodge, was also appointed Vice Chair unopposed. Cllr Hodge duly signed acceptance of office.

Standing committees: Membership and chairmanship of each of the committees was agreed as follows:

Finance & General Purpose: Cllr Nightingale (Chairman), Cllr Hodge (Vice-chairman) and chairmen of each of the other committees.

Highways: Cllrs Nettleton (Chairman), Coggins, Milson, Talbott and Ashhurst.

Planning: Cllrs Hodge (Chairman), Shelton, Harwood, Coggins, Milson, Talbott and Fane.

Recreation Ground and Pavilion: Cllrs Watson (Chairman), Shelton, Talbott, Nettleton and Chittenden.

Cemetery and Allotments: Cllrs Harwood (Chairman), Milson, Chittenden and Ashhurst.

Police Liaison Officer and Community Association: Cllr Ashhurst.

Environmental officer: Cllr Fane.

Playscape: Cllr Talbott.

It was agreed that a critical succession and critical illness plan be produced for discussion.

Minutes: Minutes of the meetings of 13 April and 16 April were confirmed as accurate records and were signed by Cllr Nightingale.

Reports of Elected and Nominative Representatives: Cllr Kenny reported that the County Council would be required to make savings of £190 m over the next five years.

Cllr Orgee reported that comments on the new electoral arrangements for the county were required by 6 July. The council agreed to reiterate the comments sent in January requesting that Great Shelford should continue to be linked to Little Shelford and Stapleford.

He said the village traffic consultation was of high importance.

Reports of standing Committees:

Highways: Cllr Nettleton presented the report of the Highways Committee meeting held on 12 May at which 25 members of the public had been present. They raised concerns about various traffic issues in the village. Cllr Shelton explained that any proposals to deal with these issues would be fully debated by the Parish Council and would then go out to consultation before being put to the County Council. The specific short term proposals for Church Street, High Green and Woollards Lane were discussed, and it was agreed to present them to the Parish Council.

The council agreed to carry forward proposals in High Green to improve access for residents and to alter parking restrictions. Further discussion was needed on the proposals for Woollards Lane and meetings would be held with local businesses in July. As there had been objections from the school and some parents about the changes in Church St and a survey on the traffic on Church St had been commissioned no further action would be taken at this stage. All proposals will be presented to a full village meeting in early September. No action will be taken before then.

Cllr Hodge presented the report of the planning committee of 5 May 2015 which was accepted.

Playscape Play Area Initiative: A letter requesting expressions of interest for the Playscape project was circulated for comment.

Social Media: Facebook now 170 subscribers, showing support for proposed Christmas lights in village. Twitter is linked to Traffic Survey. Streetlife main topic is traffic problems in village.

Library: Cllr Harwood reported she had submitted comments on behalf of the Parish Council to the Library's consultation. She asked on behalf of a number of parishioners if the Parish Council would be willing to contribute to the cost of running the library. It was agreed not to at this stage.

The Parish Clerk said he would be happy to work occasionally from the library to give a more visible face to the Parish Council.

Pavilion: Omnis have replaced the defective timbers but there is still some outstanding work. It was agreed to release £5,000 of the retention as a gesture of faith to the contractor. The clerk will progress payment on recommencement of work on site.

It was agreed the Parish Council will register for VAT and charge same on priVATe hire functions in the pavilion. Revised contracts will be drawn up for all the regular club ground and pavilion users that allow exemption from VAT.

Cllr Watson will enlist the assistance of Robert Plumbly of PEM to assist with the VAT registration process, review of club contracts for VAT exemption and separation of the Parish Council's VAT claim from the VAT registered claim. The cost of this assistance is believed to be £250 contract review/VAT registration and £250 a year VAT assistance.

The RoSPA report on playground equipment was reviewed. The clerk will obtain quotes for the urgent work needed for the skateboard ramp for the next meeting.

Finances: Settlement of nine accounts for a total of £2,691.13 was approved.

Full copies of the minutes can be seen at www.shelford.org and at the library.

JOB VACANCY

SHELFORD SCHOOL BREAKFAST CLUB

Shelford School is looking for an enthusiastic person to work in their Breakfast Club, which operates from 8am until 9am term time only, in St Mary's Church Community Room, next to the school.

For more details or to apply, please contact the school office on 01223 843107 or email office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk.

Whitsers Pre-School

FAMILY FUN DAY

Sunday 19 July 2-4 pm
Memorial Hall, Whittlesford

- BBQ • Tea & Coffee • Treasure hunt • Craft stall
- Cakes • Tombolas • Face painting • Human fruit machine

plus a chance to look round Whitsers and talk to the staff

All welcome

PLANNING APPLICATIONS PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

S/0710/15/FL	Mr& Mrs S Richardson 14 Ashen Green	Single storey front extension with link to garage, amendments to garage roof
<p>Recommend refusal. This is an architect designed development with a coherent theme of stand-alone flat roofed garages. Where there have been extensions forward of the building line these have all been on the side away from the garage. This proposal to fill in the space between the front elevation and the garage, together with the proposed pitch to the garage roof, will upset the architectural integrity and does not preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area. In addition the forward extension will cut out light to 13 Ashen Green.</p>		

S/0955/15/FL	Alex Wilson 36 Davey Crescent	External wall insulation
No objections.		

S/1034/15/FL	Mr J Arnold, Magog Court, Shelford Bottom	Change of use from D1 (non-residential) to D1 and B1 (business).
No objections.		

S/1099/15/FL	Mr S Mills, Thatched Cottage, Shelford Bottom	Cart lodge
No objections.		

S/1144/15/FL	Mr Evans 6 May Pasture	Single storey rear orangery extension
No objections.		



The next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* should be available in the shops on Friday 31 July, and subscribed copies delivered shortly after that.

Contributions for the August issue should be received by 17 July.

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PLAYSCAPE NEWS



My friends will tell you that I've become rather tedious on the subject of playgrounds and how they're used! Ever since reading *Design For Play: A Guide To Designing Successful Play Spaces* (which you can

find online and there will be a link on our website) I can't help analysing how children and adults alike use outside space and equipment.

According to the report, successful play spaces are custom-designed for the location, make use of natural elements, are accessible to both disabled and able-bodied children, allow different ages to play together and provide opportunities to experience risk and challenge.

I've observed secondary school students enjoying stick-sword fighting in a nearby copse and then chatting on (and pretending to fall off!) a brand new accessible roundabout – but ignoring the zip-wire, which is what I expected them to use. Similarly, some five-year-olds divided their time between climbing precariously on top of a high tunnel (designed to crawl safely through) and running up and down the grassy bank at the edge of the playground. Natural elements? Tick. Risk and challenge? Tick. Even on our half-term break in Keswick (with its lovely new playground), my children dashed to the equipment, played on it for ten minutes and then developed an elaborate project of sand-moving for the next forty minutes. New equipment is always nice, but I've discovered it's worth watching to see how it's actually used and for how long. Perhaps we should create a meaningful list of experiences we'd like rather than simply a list of equipment.

Despite my enthusiasm for this topic, however, I am a novice compared with the three designers we've asked to tender for this Great Shelford Playscape. Two of them have literally 'written the book' when it comes to best practice and all have worked on ground-breaking projects large and small. It's going to be exciting to work with such creativity and experience, whoever wins the tender.

The Playscape team will be at the Feast on Sunday 12 July – come and see what we've been up to, view the submissions from the designers, learn how you can donate and/or help with fundraising events, and tell us your views about the project. We're looking forward to seeing you!

Eleanor McCrone

Email: info@shelfordplayscape.org

Editor's Note: Our apologies, but there was a misprint in the last edition, the email address should have been skate@shelfordplayscape.org.



GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH

www.stmarysgreatshelford.org

Welcome to our new Assistant Curate!

Monica Cameron is looking forward to getting to know the people of Great Shelford following her ordination on 5 July in Ely Cathedral. She will be serving the community as Deacon in the Parish of St Mary the Virgin. Monica lives in Cherry Hinton and has been training as an ordinand at Westcott House Theological College in the centre of Cambridge. Previously she has worked as a civil litigation

solicitor and a maths teacher. Monica has been a widow for many years and has three daughters Charlotte (24), Harriet (22) and Jessica (14) and a dog. She hopes to bring a listening ear, compassion and love in the Spirit of God to all that she does in serving the people of Great Shelford. Monica will be part time in the parish.

Come and meet Monica at a Welcome Reception and Open House at the Vicarage on Monday 6 July from 6.30–9pm, everyone is welcome!



Community Worship for Shelford Feast – Sunday 5 July 10am

St Mary's and Great Shelford Free Church will gather together in the Feast Marquee to host a joint community service for the start of Feast week. The Parish Communion at St Mary's that morning is cancelled (other services remain the same that day). The service is **open to all**, so please do come along and bring your friends!

Great and Little Shelford School – Foundation Governor Vacancy

There will be a vacancy in September for a Foundation Governor to represent St Mary's parish on the governing body. Ideally, it would be good to recruit a volunteer who worships at St Mary's and was keen to bring a wider experience into the role of school governance. If you are interested and keen to offer your skills, then please have a conversation with Simon Talbott.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land – February 2016

Bishop Stephen will be leading a Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in February 2016. The brochure giving details of the visit is now available (at the back of church). If you require further information, please contact The Revd Alan Partridge, email a.partridge7@ntlworld.com, who is coordinating the pilgrimage on behalf of the Bishop.

Pilgrimage Visit to Norwich Cathedral – Sunday 20 September

We are running a Pilgrim Visit to Norwich Cathedral later this summer and have had conversations with the Dean to look at the practical arrangements. A Sunday afternoon visit is planned; we would leave the village at around 12 noon, arriving in Norwich for 2pm. The Dean will welcome us and lead a guided Pilgrim Tour of the Cathedral; we would then attend Choral Evensong at 3.30pm. A Cream Tea will follow in the Refectory and we will return to be back for 7.30pm. The cost will be £17.50 per person (including transport, cream tea and a gratuity for the driver). Booking is open now via a list at the back of the church – a few places are still available. This will be a shared event with St Andrew's Stapleford.

From the registers:

Baptism: 28 June Austin Cook

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

Assistant Curate: The Revd Monica Cameron – 01223 779780 or 07985
304860 or curate@saintmarysgreatshelford.org

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

St Mary's Great Shelford is a Registered Charity – No: 245456

SHELFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE

Named allocated GP

All GP practices are now required to allocate a GP to each patient. That GP takes responsibility for the co-ordination of services for that patient. This does not mean that the GP is the only GP or clinician who will provide care to that patient. Patients may continue to see any GP that they wish.

Shelford Medical Practice has registered patients with the practice, not with an individual GP, and so the official registered GP may be any of our doctors. If you would like to know who your registered GP is, just ask one of our staff when you are next in the practice. Nothing will change with regard to the care you receive, whoever your registered GP is.

Electronic prescriptions

The practice has just enabled a facility to send prescriptions direct to pharmacies electronically. Pharmacies in England are also enabling the service at their end so that they can receive prescriptions without us having to print out paper.

Patients will see very little difference to how they manage their prescriptions. For repeat prescriptions, you will still request them from us, or from your selected pharmacy, and we will still accept paper requests. What has changed for us is that we can now use your request to transmit electronic messages through our system. This will make prescription details less prone to transcription errors, and easier to track.

When you see a doctor who 'writes' you a prescription on the spot, you will have the option of having a printed piece of paper or having the details sent electronically to your chosen pharmacy.

Nominated pharmacy for electronic prescriptions

In order to send a prescription electronically to a pharmacist for you, you must have given your consent. That is why the pharmacies in our neighbourhood have been asking you for some time whether you would like them to be your nominated pharmacy. Many of our patients have already nominated a pharmacy, and we can use these from now. If you would like to use this service, then our local pharmacies will be very happy to sign you up. You just need to ask them about it.

Jennet Ashton
Practice Manager 01223 843661
www.shelfordmedicalpractice.nhs.uk

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COUNTRY MARKET



If you have not been into the market on a Wednesday morning, then come and see what we have to offer. Everything we sell is home-made, home-grown and hand-crafted. Read more about us at www.greatshelford.info on the community groups tab.

There is plenty to find in the food section with fresh home-baked cakes and cookies, sweet and savoury pastries, jams, marmalades and chutney, local honey and free range eggs.

In the garden section, stalls are well laden with home-grown garden plants and freshly picked cut flowers which always provide such an amazing mass of colour when the market opens at 8.30am. Week by week, the new season salad crops, soft fruit and early vegetables will become more plentiful.

Head for the craft section and you'll find a rare choice and also be able to see some producers at work. We have cards for all occasions, fine needlework, seasonal knitwear, modern and traditional gemstone jewellery, stained glass and original artwork in different mediums, from framed pictures to gift tags. And, the section has just had a real boost – a former producer has returned to the fold. Since the age of seven, when she started making clothes for her dolls, she has never stopped sewing! Exquisite dolls clothes are on display at the moment and she aims to gradually introduce bobbin lace and corn dollies to the sales table.

Popular lines sell out quickly, so why not order in advance on 01223 843946 or early at the market on 07732 117892. If collecting goods is difficult, please don't be put off ordering. We can usually come to some arrangement for getting orders to you. The market is in the Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane every Wednesday morning from 8.30–11.30am.

Dorothy Doel

ANOTHER TELEPHONE BOX DECOMMISSIONED



The telephone box in Hinton Way, opposite Chaston Way, has now been decommissioned and equipment removed, but has recently been repainted in Royal Mail red! So what is to become of it now? Will it be removed by BT, or left in place for some other function such as a mini library like the one in Little Shelford?

John Wakefield

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Great Shelford Free Church

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Wisdom

'Knowledge is knowing that a tomato is a fruit, wisdom is not putting it in a fruit salad.'

It is some time now since May's general election, and most of us will have come to terms with the outcome, whether or not it is what we would have wished. Living in a democracy, we abide by the rule of those elected. The night before the election, we met at the Free Church to pray for God's blessing over the process, the candidates, and the workers in the polling booths. We prayed over the four corners of our nation, that God's will would be done. None of us knew how the others would vote on the following day, yet we were united in our prayers for wisdom.

Wisdom is not the same thing as knowledge, as Miles Kington's quote above wittily demonstrates. Living as close as we do to some of the most learned and intellectual academics in the country does not necessarily mean that we are near to the most wise. For God's wisdom can be found in the words of a small child, as anyone who is privileged to spend their days listening to young children will testify. However, we adults are also encouraged to seek wisdom, but need not worry that we are not intelligent enough to be wise. God's wisdom is defined as follows:

'But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.'

This is the kind of wisdom that we regularly pray for in our church each week as we bring our country's leaders before God. It is also the kind of wisdom we seek for ourselves, although it must be said it proves somewhat elusive at times. As we move ahead in our journey with God, He often surprises us with a word or an insight when we stop struggling so hard to find answers. We look forward with excitement to what He will show us next.

Liz Jenkin (Elder, Great Shelford Free Church)



Creative worship for all ages @ Tea Time Together

19 July – 3T BBQ @ Shelford Free Church

Join us for a relaxing BBQ and fun games before summer starts in full. This will include a chance to hear what our plans are for the Autumn term. The venue is still to be confirmed, so please contact us nearer to the time.

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.

For more details, contact Diana Parr:

Email: dianaparr@btinternet.com; tel: 01223 842181

Or consult the church website: shelfordfreechurch.org.uk

July @ GSFC

Community Service 5 July at 10am

A joint service between
St Mary's and
Shelford Free Church

held in the Shelford Feast marquee

*Services below begin at 10.30am unless
otherwise stated*

Series: 'Be Imitators of Christ' Communion Service 12 July

Give Your Life

Speaker: Revd Martin Cockerill

Worship Service 19 July Go Missing

Speaker: David Baslington

Worship Service 26 July Eat Supper on Earth

Speaker: Revd Martin Cockerill

Communion Service @ 6.30pm

MEGA MAKERS: Holiday Club @ Shelford Free Church

The Holiday Club is for children of Primary School age: Reception–Year 6 and will take place on Wednesday 26, Thursday 27 and Friday 28 August from 9.30am to 12.30pm, and Sunday 30 at 10.30–11.30am.

Entry is free of charge

We will be entering the 'Inventor's Workshop' and making some mega discoveries about how God's love is far wider, longer and deeper than we can ever imagine. These amazing few days will include games, craft, drama, food, fun and bible stories.

For more information contact:

dianaparr@btinternet.com
or telephone 01223 842181

For further information about Great Shelford Free Church (Baptist)

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SHELFORD SCHOOL

The first half of the summer term concluded with the Ascension Day service and picnic. Following a walk between the villages the school, family and friends appreciated an uplifting service in the wonderful setting of All Saints, Little Shelford. The service was led by the Rev Simon Scott, with children from Year 4 assisting with readings and prayers. Then it was off to the Wale Recreation Ground for the picnic and a variety of games enjoyed by all. For the first time the parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 were spared the duties of sandwich preparation because picnics were provided through the school as part of the provision of free school meals for those groups.

After half-term all returned on 1 June for what is always one of the busiest but most enjoyable parts of the school year. Swimming has resumed and all classes will swim twice a week to the end of term. Some Year 6 pupils may feel that they have outgrown the pool, but for the younger groups the classes are always very much enjoyed.

The first week back included Sports Day. Proceedings were started by Year 6 performing the Maypole Dance, a very welcome bit of tradition in school life. Clearly all the practice sessions had paid off, so well done to all the children, plus Mr Paduano and his assistants. All children took part in the 'Shelford Pentathlon', comprising shot putt, javelin, hurdles, long jump and shuttle run, wearing house colours and keenly supporting one another. The overall winners were the Stags, with the Eagles in second place. The House Relays were won by the Swans (girls) and the Eagles (boys), with the Squirrels and Otters runners-up.

Events concluded with the Year 6 sprint finals for the coveted positions of fastest girl and boy in Shelford School. Amelia Crew won the girls' race, chased hard by Pippa Mitchell and Clara Morgan, while Tafa Dambaza triumphed amongst the boys, followed home by Guy Semple and Finn Dalglish. The finals for Years 3, 4 and 5 had been held earlier in the week, but it is planned that these will be included in Sports Day in future years.

The choir and orchestra concert was a wonderful occasion as always, with huge thanks due to Lucy Barlow who leads both groups. Being at school for an hour before school on Mondays and Fridays certainly shows commitment. Quite a number of the orchestra will be leaving, but we don't want to miss out on those instruments next year – so come on you potential trombonists and others. Year 6 will spend a day at their new schools soon, and the other classes will have a moving-up day to get to know their classroom set-up for next year.

Peter Ede, School Governor

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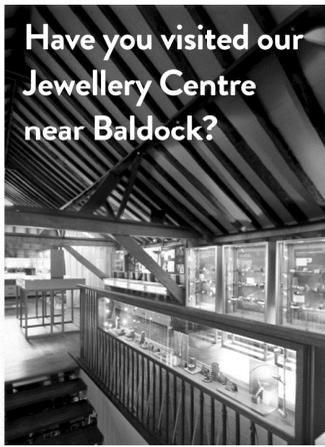
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TELEPHONE BOX

A conversation between Sir Cornelius Vermuyden and the Earl of Bedford.

Sir Cornelius Vermuyden was a Dutch engineer employed by the Earl of Bedford and King Charles I to drain The Fens. The King wanted The Fens drained so that more crops could be grown and he could get more money. He wanted the money to make weapons and train soldiers ready for the Civil War against Oliver Cromwell.

(Ring, ring. Ring, ring).

Earl of Bedford: Hello, I'm the Earl of Bedford. I need your help with a serious problem to do with The Fens.

Cornelius Vermuyden: What would you like me to do? How can I help?

Earl of Bedford: I know that you have done lots of good work in places similar to The Fens before, which is why I have chosen you. We need more land to grow crops and we have chosen this area because of the fertile peat soil that is under the water.

Cornelius Vermuyden: You are right; I've done lots of work draining parts of London and in my home country of The Netherlands. I've got some good ideas.

Earl of Bedford: I'd like to hear them, how would you like to do this?

Cornelius Vermuyden: We could use my ingenious idea of wind power to drain the water. We would need to build the pumps carefully, as one disadvantage is that, if there is too much wind and the sails rotate too quickly, the windmills could catch fire. The blades on the windmill need to be measured precisely and fixed in a certain way. If they are not at the same angle, then they won't spin efficiently. I met some lovely children from Shelford School on a trip and they experimented with different blades. It worked!

Earl of Bedford: Well what about the wind? It won't be there all the time. Are you sure this is an ingenious idea?

Cornelius Vermuyden: Yes I'm sure. It's the best idea there is. Nobody else has come up with anything better and they've tried.

Earl of Bedford: I'm sure there must be other ways but you have been successful in the past. Your experience has persuaded me. I've just got one more worry – what about the people who already live in The Fens? Won't they be upset when their lives change?

Cornelius Vermuyden: I'm sure that most people will be for the idea, but you are right, some people may not be happy.

Earl of Bedford: When can you start? I know that King Charles is very keen for the work to begin as soon as possible. I don't want him to lose his temper again!

Cornelius Vermuyden: I will need to get together some men to do the work, but you can count on me to get it done quickly.

Earl of Bedford: Thank you for your time and effort, I can't wait for The Fens to be drained. Goodbye.

Cornelius Vermuyden: I will let you know when I am ready to start. Goodbye.

*Written by Thomas Milne, Tejus, Hayden, Elliot, Jasmine,
Lucia, Olivia and Teddy from Year 4*

BOWLING CLUB

We started the season with our usual pre-season coffee morning. This is an informal gathering where old members can get together and have a 'catch up' over a cup of coffee and people of all ages can come and have a chat with seasoned members about the game of bowls. This proved quite fruitful as we managed to gain seven new members and so a good time was had by all.



It wasn't long before the newcomers were trying their hand at the open practice drive and enjoying themselves. Our new members have done really well and are already playing league games despite the fact that most of them have never played before which is a real credit to them.

Although we have these new members, we are still a small club and will welcome anyone who would like to join us. If you are interested please get in touch with either Wendy Seekings on 843417 or Jill Whaley on 845310 and have a chat and we can then arrange for you to come and have a go.

Wendy Seekings, Secretary

LOST HARE BROOCH

I've lost a copper coloured brooch in the shape of a hare (it may look like a rabbit to you!), with a heart in the middle. Although of no value, it's particularly precious to me in memories, so I am very sad to lose it. It was lost either in Great Shelford cemetery, or between Cambridge Road and High Street. If found please contact me on 01223 840393.

Helen Harwood

A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW MP

I am absolutely delighted to be able to write to you as your new Member of Parliament! In the early hours of 8 May 2015, I was elected to represent every person, every business, every school and every organisation in South Cambridgeshire and I can't tell you how proud that makes me feel.

During the election campaign I tried to meet as many people as possible and convey to them that if successful, I would always be approachable, available and, crucially, listening. I come to politics from business, having worked in both the public and private sectors and more recently running my own firm. In my working life I discovered that the best decisions I made were as a consequence of listening to the people who would be affected by those decisions.



I want to carry that ethos forward, so if you are worried about anything, need my help or want to talk to me – please feel that you can. You can call my office on 01954 211444, email me heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk, write to me at 153 St Neots Road, Hardwick, CB23 7QJ or you can tweet me @heidiallen75. I am here because you put me there, and I will NEVER forget that.

Heidi Allen

SUSTAINABLE PARISH ENERGY PARTNERSHIP

Since 2008 South Cambridgeshire District Council has been helping Parishes to explore carbon-reduction and energy-saving strategies through the Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership. Sustainability has become a major area of research and growth during the past decade. With this in mind, SCDC is looking to review its sustainability programme to ensure it best meets the needs and interests of parishes, residents and communities.



Please take the time to complete our online survey to let us know what you think of our current services and where we can improve! Take the survey at: www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPEP

*Kirstin Donaldson, Projects Officer
South Cambridgeshire District Council*



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A WALK ALONG CAMBRIDGE ROAD JULY'S HISTORY WALK

The third and final walk for this season will be along Cambridge Road. Until the 1920s, the road between Shelford and Trumpington was a long stretch of empty road. How it's changed! We'll explore the reasons for this, and various interesting sites along the way, like the Davey Brothers' Nursery and the Rugby Club.

The walk is on **Tuesday 14 July** at 7.30pm to around 9pm. Meet on Cambridge Road, opposite Davey Crescent.



Photo by Alec Bangham

Contact me for details by email helen_harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 01223 840393.

Helen Harwood

THE PAVILION ART GROUP

If there is sufficient interest, we plan to start a village art group in our new pavilion on the Wale recreation ground in Little Shelford on 28 September 2015.

Meetings will be held on Mondays between 10am and 12 noon over the autumn, winter and spring terms, at a cost of £25 per term (subject to numbers). Membership is open to beginners, as well as artists of all ages and abilities with interests in sketching, watercolour, oil or acrylics, pastels, calligraphy or any other art form or medium. In particular, we would like to start a photography section with a project on the village in mind.

You are welcome to come along and do your own thing or join in with some structured informal tuition, studies and exercises, visit exhibitions or attend demonstrations by visiting artists.

To sign up for the first term or to find out more please contact me on telephone 01223 842276 or email victorfranklin123@btinternet.com.

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FREE QUOTATIONS

DIARY – JULY 2015

Date	Event	Time	Place
4-5	Cambridge Open Studios (page 30)	11am-6pm	See article
5	Community Worship	10am	Feast Marquee
6-12	Shelford Feast – see pullout guide	Various	Shelford Rec
6	Meet new Assistant Curate (page 8)	6.30-9pm	Vicarage
11-12	Cambridge Open Studios (page 30)	11am-6pm	See article
14	History Walk (page 22)	7.30pm	Cambridge Rd
14	Granta Flower Club	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
18-19	Cambridge Open Studios (page 30)	11am-6pm	See article
22	Engage in the Afternoon (page 39)	2pm	Library
25	Farmers' Market	9-12 noon	Memorial Hall
25-26	Cambridge Open Studios (page 30)	11am-6pm	See article

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

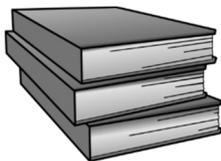
Black Bin Collection: 13 and 27 July

Green Bin Blue Bin Collection: 6 and 20 July

Old batteries: Recycle by placing in a plastic bag tied to the blue bin

CAKES, LOVELY CAKES, BOOKS, DVDS AND CDS

Even if you cannot attend the Shelford Feast on Sunday 12 July but would like to help, please could you make us a CAKE for teas? Either bring your cakes along to the main marquee on the morning of the Feast, or contact Kate Waldock at kjwaldock@yahoo.co.uk or telephone 01223 844526 and she will come and collect them.



Books, tapes, DVDs and CDs are also welcomed for the second hand book stall. Again, either bring them along or contact Liz Ulas at elizabeth.Ulas@ntlworld.com or telephone 01223 476872.

We always need more helpers, for serving food on Feast Sunday and lots of other tasks. Please volunteer! Contact me at coppendales@btinternet.com or 01223 842498. Thank you!

Sarah Coppendale

BROWNIES DO GARDENING BADGE

You may have already noticed the family of scarecrows that have taken up residence at the allotments in Cambridge Road. They've caused quite a few people to say hello and more than a few smiles. They were created by the 2nd Shelford Brownies to put on their patches for their Gardeners Badge.

The Brownies have been working towards their badge since before Easter, when they sowed peas, sweet peas and sunflowers. In April, they had their first session at the allotments, digging, weeding and removing stones ready to plant. They sowed radish, carrot and lettuces and planted onion sets, along with the baby peas and sweet pea plants they started in March.



They've been having unit meetings at the allotments regularly to care for the plots, planting flowers and alpine strawberries, and the runner beans, nasturtiums and pansies they also grew from seed. They were able to harvest their first crop, radishes, in June (photos on front and back covers). Didn't they do well!

Brownies would like to say a big thank you to the Shelford Feast for their grant for the Gardeners Badge, along with Scotsdales, who were very generous in donating seeds, tools, seed trays, compost and even a mini greenhouse to get the Brownies started. Thanks also go to Graham White for supplying the wood for the scarecrows and Bridget Hodge who came along to help.

The Brownies stall at the Shelford Feast will be selling plants (including lots of sunflowers), as well as items decorated by the Brownies and other garden related things so do come along and buy, and see what they've achieved.

See the back cover for more photos of the Brownies and their plots!

Charlotte Coulson, Brown Owl

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TENNIS CLUB

One of the year's great GSTC tournaments took place on Saturday 6 June. 22 players took part in the mixed doubles competition, thankfully 11 were ladies and 11 were men.

In burning sunshine and a gusty wind two pairs stood out: Jacqui Lloyd and Andrew Tindall along with welcome newbie Rebecca Stacey who partnered Grant Halliwell (all pictured). These teams will contest the final at the GTSC Grand Final Day on 12 September – why not put it in the diary now. The keener-eyed *Village News* readers may have noticed a huge discrepancy in the size of the players' racquets.



Andrew Tindall and Jacqui Lloyd



Rebecca Stacey and Grant Halliwell

Rebecca and Grant used traditional instruments while Jacqui and Andrew brandish vast weapons which look capable of downing a jumbo jet with a single swish. That is because GSTC is among a select group of English tennis clubs invited by the LTA to take part in an experimental supersize racquet trial. The new racquets have an 80% larger surface area than the traditional brand, giving a vastly increased 'sweet spot'. They

certainly took some getting used to for players and spectators alike and are not to everyone's taste, but we must move with the times. Andrew said, 'They're no heavier than my old racquet, but quite hard to use on a windy day. At one stage I felt myself being blown backwards, dragged by my arm.' His family also discovered a fantastic secondary use for the prototype, 'When I got home I expected to be congratulated for reaching the final, but instead the kids nicked my racquet to use as a trampoline!'

Stephen Chittenden

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RUGBY CLUB

We are in off season at the moment, which gives us time to tidy, paint, upgrade the club house, seed pitches and prepare for the 2015–16 season. There will be some pre-season games for the first XV and the Nomads – 22 August, Shelford v Bishops Stortford at Shelford and on 29 August, Cambridge v Shelford at Cambridge. The first official home game is on 12 September – kick off is at 3pm v Bracknell.

You will see a number of Shelford Rugby Club players at the **Shelford Feast on Sunday 12 July** where we will be running a stall and demonstrating some rugby skills from 2.15pm in the arena.

Youth Registration day is 6 September from 10am till noon. The children will be training every Sunday in September so it's a great time to come and have a go. The mini/youth season runs from the first Sunday in September through to the last Sunday in April. There will be home games, away games and tournaments. For the older children there is also mid-week training and some of the older teams have the opportunity to go on tour.

The Rugby World Cup is coming to the UK – www.rugbyworldcup.com. It starts on 18 September with England v Fiji, with the final on 31 October. All home nations' games will be shown at Shelford Rugby Club and everyone is welcome and the England v Australia match shown in the Memorial Hall (kick off 8pm) free of charge and again, everyone is welcome.

The club is always looking for sponsorship – we have pitch side signage, match day sponsors, kit sponsors. For more information, contact Laura Ringrose on interfloralora@hotmail.com.

If you would like any further information about anything at the Rugby Club please do not hesitate to contact me – email shelfordphysio@aol.com or telephone 01223 842103.

Stephanie Hatter, Youth Secretary

SHELFORD GARDEN CLUB 72ND ANNUAL SHOW SATURDAY 12 SEPTEMBER AT 2PM

Schedules are now available at:

Scotsdales	Shelford School
Shelford Library	Shelford Deli
Premier Stores, Hinton Way	Spar Stores, Stapleford
Sawston Library	Country Market, Shelford

CAMBRIDGE OPEN STUDIOS

Every year the artists and craftspeople of Cambridgeshire welcome the public into their homes and studios over four weekends in July. They reveal the processes that create their work and invite you to share their enthusiasm and expertise. As in previous years, the *Village News* is pleased to highlight the artists who are exhibiting in or close to our village.

This year, the open studios take place at the following dates from 11am to 6pm:

Weekend 1: July 4–5; Weekend 2: July 11–12;

Weekend 3: July 18–19; Weekend 4: July 25–26.

Sarah Walsh (Oil Painting, Life Drawing)

Exhibiting at her home/studio at Willow End, Kings Mill Lane, Great Shelford on weekends 2, 3 and 4. There is plenty of parking available.

Sarah previously exhibited in Open Studios in 2011 and in 2013. She spent her childhood in France, surrounded by art galleries and artists, but only took to painting after early retirement from a career in Cambridge. For Sarah painting is a very personal and emotional response to what she sees and perceives of her daily world. In looking at the detail around her, she presents an intimate image of light, form and colour – recollections of moments in time and special places, inspired by pattern and rhythms in space. As well as painting in oils, Sarah enjoys life drawing and even hosts a class in her garden in the summer. She is a member of the Cambridge Drawing Society and has shown her work at many Cambridge exhibitions. You can see more examples of Sarah's work on www.spacesplacescambridge.com



Astrig Akseralian (Pastels, Charcoal, Acrylics, Inks, Mixed Media)



Exhibiting at The Grove, 15 High Street, Great Shelford on weekends 1 and 2.

This year will be Astrig's first Open Studios. She studied Ceramics at the Central School of Art and Design and then ran her own ceramic studio for some years. She worked as a freelance painter and art finisher in the film industry, working on

many film productions in the Creature Effects and Prosthetic Make up Departments. She works mainly in pastels and charcoal on painted papers and

prefers to work quickly and directly from the subject as she finds that the results are more spontaneous and lively. Astrig is a member of the Cambridge Drawing Society and examples of her work can be seen at www.cambridgedrawingsociety.org/members/members-listing/astrig-askeralian.

Nadine Hébert (Mixed media)



Exhibiting at The Grove, 15 High Street, Great Shelford on weekends 1 and 2.

Nadine was bought up in Paris where she gained an Applied Arts baccalaureate before studying History of Art at La Sorbonne. Her blind contour line drawings are juxtaposed with text (written or Letraset). She decomposes text and writes in French to hide meaning and engage with the viewer. She is inspired by the work of many artists, in particular Aubrey Beardsley, Egon Schiele, Ernest Pignon, Ernest and Jean Cocteau. A simple blind contour line drawing forces her to commit to

her work and really engage with the subject. Examples of her work can be seen on her website at www.nadinehebert.co.uk.

Perveen Tayabali (Portraits in Oils, Pastels, Charcoal or Graphite)

Easy parking outside her studio at 14 Hauxton Road, Little Shelford. Weekends 2, 3 and 4.

Perveen has been a full time artist, painting for over 40 years. Her artistic palette is vivid; her paintings and portraits appear in commercial offices and homes in the UK and other countries. She accepts commissions for portraits of adults and children painted in oils on canvas, in chalk pastels and in graphite on heavy weight art paper. To her, the most important feature of any portrait are the eyes. She says that eyes in a portrait must speak and, in the finished painting, connect with the viewer. She aims to make each portrait as beautiful as possible, capturing the very best likeness and the essence of her subject. Examples of her work can be found at www.perveenart.com and at www.camopenstudios.co.uk.



DF from info from Open Studio and other websites

Free Cambridge Open Studios guides are available locally at the Shelford Library and various other venues as well as at the Open Studios www.camopenstudios.co.uk.

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LIBRARY SERVICE TRANSFORMATION LATEST NEWS

The Library Service has now published a report on the initial consultation on their vision for developing its approach to the future. The purpose was to get views from organisations about the broad approaches outlined. In the event there were only 15 responses from organisations, but 623 from individuals.

In summary, the consultation yielded a mixed response with a significantly higher proportion of people disagreeing (57%) with the overall direction than agreeing (27.6%). However the report states that the feedback was heavily weighted by the intense interest of Central Library users and the very high numbers responding from the Great Shelford area following a public meeting organised by the Friends of the Library. As far as Great Shelford is concerned this is a great outcome – your responses have been noticed!

The report summary continues ‘It is expected that more detailed proposals will be discussed at the July meeting of CCC Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee (H&CIC), followed by public and stakeholder consultation during July to September, with final proposals to be agreed at the Committee meeting in October, as part of the Council’s business planning process.

The report was presented to, and briefly discussed by, the H&CIC on 2 June 2015. Christine May stated that the responses had been mixed and somewhat contradictory but that there was a clear majority of respondents who wished to retain library services, with physical books (not e-books), who valued the expertise of librarians and were concerned that volunteers could not replace the existing provision. There was also concern of lack of alternatives for cost savings.

In essence, no decisions on the future have been announced so Great Shelford Library still remains at risk. Therefore we should continue to:

- keep in touch with our county, district and parish councillors to ensure that they are consulted and are accountable
- ask the Library Service when and how the next phase of consultation will take place
- be prepared to respond in even greater numbers when the next consultation takes place.

The report on the consultation and full comments from respondents can be viewed from the links at: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraryconsultation.

Alan Lyne on behalf of The Friends of Great Shelford Library

GREAT SHELFORD HELPS MOBILISE EMERGENCY RELIEF FOR NEPAL EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS



The Mountain Trust would like to give a big thank you for the generous donation of £250 received from the *Village News* towards our appeal for earthquake victims in Nepal. Great Shelford Villagers, together with Tayabali, Tomlin & White, have additionally contributed over £1,000 to the appeal.

As you will be aware, on 25 April, a cataclysmic disaster struck the small landlocked country of Nepal, with which the UK has long historical ties. The 16th poorest in the world before the quake, with half of the people illiterate, Nepal only emerged from a 10 year civil war and a feudal system in 2006. It



is hard to imagine the scale of disadvantage before the first earthquake struck, and harder still to appreciate the added scale of devastation it left in its wake. More than 8,000 people lost their lives in the first earthquake with 140,000 injured or dug out of the rubble alive. Four million became homeless and landslides blocked mountain roads into the epicentre. Help took a week or two to reach remote villages in the hardest hit areas and five weeks later some have still not been reached.

Following the first massive quake of 7.8 magnitude, there were more than a hundred aftershocks – and then another huge quake of 7.3 magnitude which flattened buildings damaged in the first quake. Hundreds of thousands are sheltering under plastic sheeting in the rain and cold temperatures at night as the monsoon arrives and water pipes have been widely broken along with power and phone lines.

Within hours of the first massive earthquake, the Mountain Trust despatched volunteers to Gorkha – as close as it was possible to get to the worst hit area to identify needs, in particular among the most economically disadvantaged communities – the Chepangs and other Dalit (low caste) groups who were getting no help at all. Within two days, we had assessed the greatest needs and

set about transferring what funds we had to buy the basics in Nepal (and when tents and blankets became scarce, from India). Our first imperative was to fund, source and supply the very essentials of life – tents, plastic tarpaulins, clothes, cooking and eating implements, stoves, water purification tablets, sanitary and medical supplies etc. Within days, we organised three trucks and a large group of Volunteers to begin distributing these.

We have since extended our efforts by providing the materials villagers need to rebuild their homes (to earthquake resistant standards) for £300. We have funding to do this for over 100 families so far. We have sent medical volunteers and organised a Health Camp, with Western and local doctors, nurses and medical students and are organising for builders to go as well.

The Mountain Trust has now raised over £60,000 to fund these efforts. We are run by volunteers and operate on a shoestring. We really appreciate the concern, compassion and generosity of everyone in the Village and across the

world for their sterling support and enabling us to bring relief swiftly and effectively. But the scale of this tragedy is so vast they are still in desperate need of support. We have extended our appeal to fund vital relief and reconstruction.



Please do what you can to support and promote our campaign by sharing our appeal with your friends, family and colleagues.

If you'd like to know more, please visit us online at www.mountain-trust.org email cmb@mountain-trust.org or ring Cambridge 844204 and do visit and share our fundraising link: <https://www.justgiving.com/NepalDisasterRelief>. Thank you.

The Mountain Trust is a registered charity in the UK (No. 1112841) and a registered NGO in Nepal.

Charles Malcolm-Brown, FRSA, Chairman, The Mountain Trust



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STAPLEFORD BIRD CLUB

Stapleford Bird Club has a new leader! Mike Foley, an experienced birdwatcher and member of Cambridgeshire Bird Club, is to take over the leadership on Saturday 4 July and will be waiting for you at 8am in the car park of the Magog Down, Haverhill Road, at the top of the hill in Stapleford. I have had a wonderful three years leading the group and will continue to join in each month.

The Bird Club has its origins in a survey done when the land was originally bought, 25 years ago, by the Magog Trust. That survey concluded that most of the birds on the Magog Trust land came over from Wandlebury and there was little evidence of breeding birds on the intensively farmed site. The original surveyors morphed eventually into Stapleford Bird Club which now meets on the first Saturday of every month at 8am in summer, 8.30am in winter. We spend about two hours walking the land and recording the birds we see and hear. Because of the surveys, we know that, thanks to the conservation work done by the Magog Trust, there are now plenty of birds breeding on the site.

A report goes to the Magog Trust after each meeting (and is uploaded onto their website). This information is a valuable long term record of bird life for the Magog Trust (although we are an independent organisation) and an indicator of whether the Magog Down is attracting and sustaining insects, bird life and small mammals. We look forward to providing feedback on the effects of the new hedgerow, 'perching trees' and crops, recently planted by the Trust, to encourage insect life and provide more food for birds.

At this month's walk we saw or heard 26 species of birds, including a buzzard, sparrow hawk and kestrel, migratory visitors such as whitethroats, a lesser whitethroat, chiffchaffs and blackcaps, plus all the usual 'garden' birds, a green woodpecker, jay, yellowhammers, mistle thrushes etc. (see the Magog Trust website for the full report www.magogtrust.org.uk).

If you have never given birdwatching a try, do come along on the first Saturday of the month (next meeting on 4 July at 8am). We need new members (of any age) from beginners (bird watchers are very generous at teaching newcomers about birds) to life time bird watchers (we value their expertise) to support our new leader. It is a very healthy way of getting fresh air and exercise, relaxing and de-stressing, while learning about birds and introducing children to the countryside.

Either just turn up on the day or email Mike Foley (mfpfoley@gmail.com) for further information. We hope to see you there.

Sue Bradley



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For adults only, please ask in the Library about children's events

**SAWSTON OPEN GARDENS
SUNDAY 5 JULY 1–6PM**

Seven gardens are opening in Sawston on 5 July under the umbrella of the National Gardens Scheme. Last year the national proceeds of £2.5 million were distributed to ten charities including Macmillan Cancer Support, Marie Curie, Hospices UK and the Carers Trust as well as some horticultural charities. All the details, including descriptions of Sawston gardens, are on the NGS website www.ngs.org.uk. This year's Open Gardens are at:

- Brook House on the High Street opposite Harding & Hutchinsons
- Drift House 19a Babraham Road
- 11 Mill Lane
- 35 Mill Lane
- Vine Cottage in Hammonds Road
- New Vicarage, Church Lane (behind the Church Hall)
- 22 St Marys Road.

Entrance is £5 to include all the gardens. Tickets and village maps are available at any of the gardens and parking is available behind Budgens supermarket. For more information, please contact Mike and Ann Redshaw on 01223 834511.

Mike Redshaw

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BIG TREE SPLENDOUR

A postscript to the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo last month recalls a spat with our friends in the other direction across the pond over the naming of one of the most impressive tree species we grow here at the Botanic Garden.

Commonly referred to as the big-tree, giant redwood or wellingtonia, *Sequoiadendron giganteum* is an evergreen tree originating in the foothills of the western Sierra Nevada in California. It remained unknown to science until the age of the great plant hunters, who travelled the world – often in conditions of great discomfort and danger – in search of new species. One such plant hunter, William Lobb, was appointed by the renowned Chelsea nurserymen, Messrs Veitch, to explore the American continent. Having heard tell

of a grove of gigantic trees he hot-footed it to Calaveras County where he was astounded by their stature, noting: ‘from 80 to 90 trees, all within the circuit of a mile, and these varying from 250 feet to 320 feet in height and from 10 to 20 feet in diameter.’ Such was the thrill of finding an exceptional plant with great commercial potential, Lobb cut short his trip and returned immediately to England with herbarium specimens and seed. Veitch’s Nursery was quickly offering seedlings at the price of two guineas each. Meanwhile, the type specimen (the original specimen from which new species descriptions are based) was passed on to the botanist John Lindley, who initially named this new discovery *Wellingtonia gigantea* to commemorate the Duke of Wellington. This caused great offence to American officials who proposed *Washingtonia gigantea* instead. After much debate the neutral name of *Sequoiadendron giganteum* was settled upon, although its common name of wellingtonia is still much used in the UK!

The Garden’s plantings of *Sequoiadendron giganteum* along the Main Walk originated from Lobb’s 1853 seed collection and are already magnificent trees. It is hard to imagine our landscape without them, but what of their future? Records suggest that plants have been found in California that are 4,000 years old. So, ours may continue to have an impact on the Cambridge landscape not just for the coming decades, but for many centuries, perhaps even millennia.



The type specimen herbarium sheet for *Sequoiadendron giganteum*

TWINNING ASSOCIATION

The Twinning Association held a very successful quiz evening on 15 May following the annual general meeting. As last year, our quizmaster was David Beresford and he organised an excellent quiz with a wide ranging mix of questions of varying difficulty. Each question was illustrated. From the first question he had us thinking, informing us that every answer in the first round was in alphabetical order – but it was soon apparent, with all the answers starting with z, that this was starting from the end of the alphabet not the beginning! An ongoing challenge was to name all the countries on the map of Europe – not easy (for some of us anyway!). Halfway through we gave our brains a rest and enjoyed fish or chicken and chips. Altogether it was a most enjoyable evening and our thanks go to David and the team who organised the event. A bonus was that we raised around £200 for the Association which will be a help towards funding the forthcoming exchange visit.

Our next event is one of the highlights of the year when, on 4–7 July, we will welcome a party from Verneuil for their annual visit. Groups, both French and our own (we went to Verneuil in April), comprise a mixture of ages, with numbers balanced evenly ideally, although inevitably not always, between adults and primary age children. The planned programme includes a day's outing to Hampton Court, a visit to Cambridge for the adults while the children spend the morning in Shelford School, and a ceilidh.

For further information on the Twinning Association and our activities please visit our website www.shelfordtwinning.org.uk.

Penny Pearl

HOW TO CONTACT

GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS

We are pleased to receive articles, letters and notices for community events for consideration. Please send by email (preferably as a Word document), or deliver paper items to Mrs Amis. The copy date is usually the second Friday of the month. See the *Next Issue* box for next month's date.

Contact Information:

General enquiries and articles for publication: gsvneditorial@yahoo.co.uk

Non-email contributions to: Mrs J Amis, 58 High Street, Great Shelford

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PARENTS CAMPAIGN FOR FREE SCHOOL BUS

Following April's announcement that the walking route to Sawston Village College has been assessed by Cambridgeshire County Council as being safe and available and that therefore free school bus places for pupils living within three miles of the school would finish at the end of the current school year, parents have continued their appeals against the decision.

Significant failings in the appeals process to date have led to an extension being granted at the 11th hour, following receipt of information under a Freedom of Information Request and complaints from parents about a lack of time to consult broadly on matters under consideration. The appeal hearing is now scheduled to be heard at Shire Hall on Wednesday 18 July.



Stijn Van Dongen, Dist. Cllrs Kevin Cuffley & Charlie Nightingale, Heidi Allen MP, County Cllr Tony Orgee, James Prisk, Harriet Graves discuss the route. Photo by Dan Staines

The campaign against the removal of the free school bus places, until such a time as the walking and cycling route is made safe, has gathered support and enjoyed good publicity. On the afternoon of 12 June, Heidi Allen MP, joined up with parents, County, District and Parish Coun-

cillors to review specific aspects of the route. All agreed that there are parts of the route which require further improvement to render it safe and to work together to pressure Cambridgeshire County Council to act towards a solution to the various serious safety issues along the route.

Previously a mass walk and cycle to school had taken place. Unfortunately in Sawston itself, a pupil was slightly injured and badly shaken in a collision with an aggressive adult male cyclist who cycled into the child and then proceeded to berate her for being in his way before parents intervened. This incident highlighted the dangers associated with using an already busy shared cycle and footway. It was, however, an incident where common sense and courtesy for

others should have prevented it happening, particularly on the part of the adult cyclist.

The dangers along the route are particularly apparent at Bridge End Cottage where parents have undertaken survey work which has recorded numbers of cyclists and speed of vehicles approaching from Sawston. Of serious concern is the tendency for some pupils to swerve off the cycle path beside Bridge End Cottage and into the carriageway of the A1301 to avoid other cyclists or pedestrians in the 1m wide pinch point. This is not a rare occurrence, although the speed limit is 50mph, a third of vehicles are speeding on this section of road and speeds of up to 78mph have been recorded.

Surprisingly, none of this had been collated by Cambridgeshire County Council in advance of it making a decision about route availability, nor had any risk assessment of the route been undertaken, nor (according to information received under FOI) were the route assessors qualified in road safety assessment or trained in assessment or working under any guidance whatsoever. The County was required to undertake a number of formal assessments before reaching the decision to withdraw free school bus places in 2014. Indeed, the seeking of a second independent risk assessment was the reason parents were given in a letter dated 23 June 2014, that Cambridgeshire County Council was deferring implementation of its decision until September 2015.

Parents have said that they have no confidence in Cambridgeshire County Council's decision nor their ability to deliver a fair and reasonable appeals process and that as more information comes to light through FOI it is apparent that the decision is unsound, that Council policy and best practice have not been followed and that the entire process is flawed.

A 'Sawston Bus Route' Facebook group has been established to allow the sharing of information between parents of affected pupils' current and future - www.facebook.com/groups/1640910926145492/

Parents of future SVC pupils and residents who wish to express their concerns for whatever reason are encouraged to email County Councillor Tony Orgee (Tony.Orgee@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) who is supporting parents at the appeal.

Anyone that has been involved in an accident as a cyclist or pedestrian, or has witnessed such an accident along the route, and particularly at Bridge End Cottage or the new crossing on the A1301 Sawston bypass is particularly encouraged to make contact.

James Prisk



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WHAT'S ON IN JULY 2015

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 has been taken from websites, can be subject to change and may already be fully booked.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE

1-4	<i>Romeo and Juliet</i> Shakespeare's Globe on Tour Production	
6-11	<i>The History Boys</i> by Alan Bennett	
21-25	<i>Mrs Warren's Profession</i> by Bernard Shaw	
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: www.cambridgeartstheatre.com		

SAWSTON CINEMA

14	6.30pm	<i>The Imitation Game</i>
16	7pm	<i>Everyman</i> National Theatre Live Screening
Telephone: 01223 712825 Web: www.sawstoncinema.org.uk		

SCOTSDALES

9	6pm	An evening of Jazz with Val Sinclair
19	11-3pm	<i>Meerkats</i> Meet Mitch and the team in the Greenhouse
Telephone: 01223 842777 Web: www.scotsdalegardencentre.co.uk		

STAPLEFORD GRANARY

16	7.45pm	<i>Come and Sing!</i> with Lucy Barlow
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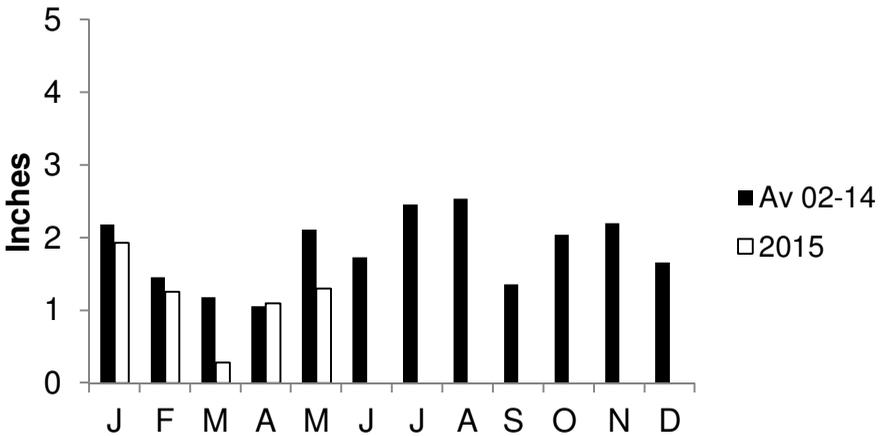
2-4	7pm	<i>Baby Boomer Revue</i> by Colin Walsh
For information on this and other events go to www.corpusplayroom.com		

WANDLEBURY

9-11	8pm	<i>From the Green Wood, From the Dark Wood</i> Open air production from In Situ Theatre Group
18	10-4pm	<i>Open Day</i> See what's happening at Wandlebury. Guided walks at 9.30am and 12 noon and pop-up Cafe
18	10am	<i>Young Archaeologists</i> Roman road sponsored walk

26	3.30pm	<i>Music Concert and summer picnic</i>
28	10-12	<i>Holiday Activity: Swishy-Swashy Grass for ages 5+</i>
28	2-4pm	<i>Holiday Activity: Fairy Giggles and Grubby Fun for ages 3-6</i>
29	10-12	<i>Holiday Activity: Forgotten Wandlebury for ages 6+</i>
29	2-4pm	<i>Holiday Activity: Fun in the Woods for ages 5+</i>
31	10-4	<i>Holiday Activity: Woodland Adventures for ages 6-10</i>
Telephone: 01223 243830 Web: www.cambridgeppf.org		

Great Shelford Village Rainfall 2015



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 accepts such contributions in good faith, but cannot take responsibility for the accuracy of information contained therein.** 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

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
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 Bellringers	Ann Smith		577980
Parish Church Community Room	Mary Lester		842411
Parish Church Friends	Bob Doel		843946
Parish Church 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 & Guide HQ	Jenny Grey		842191
Shelford & Stapleford Strikers	Derek White		561753
Shelford Primary School	Alison Evans, Headteacher		843107
Shelford Support Group (transport to hospital etc.)	Mrs Wilkinson 843856 Mrs Newman 842514	Mrs P Legge Mrs Carol Bard	843275 571380
South Cambs DFAS	Sheila Tilbury-Davis		844384
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	Penny Pearl		842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	Mr D Cupit		871527
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)		561053
Youth Initiative	Ollie Leonard		07768 545915

