

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

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Shelford School Students' Triumph



Liljana Syposz, Daniel Cafferkey, Mr Mike Paduano (class teacher) Stefanos Narinian and Luke Towers celebrate their victory in the County English Challenge.

Photo: Mrs Cafferkey

New Home for the Post Office

Changes to Medical Practice Appointments System

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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

Summary from draft minutes of the December meeting

Half-term opening of the Pavilion toilets

The Parish Council is considering opening the Pavilion during the daytime over the February half-term to allow Rec users access to the toilets. It was agreed that it would be necessary for someone to take responsibility for the toilets whilst they were open. Cllr Nettleton will contact local organisations to see if there are volunteers who would be willing to supervise the opening of the toilets.

Sale of tractor, topper and derv tank

The Rec grass is now being cut by contractors. It was therefore decided to sell the old tractor and topper, which were proving costly to maintain, together with a tank of derv (diesel fuel). It was unanimously agreed to accept the offer of £5,555 for these from Rectory Farm.

Finance

14 cheques to a value of £8,313.28 were accepted.

Precept

The proposed budget requirement for each committee together with all other annual costs were presented at the meeting. The resultant precept proposal was recommended for approval at the full Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 18 January. The Clerk was requested to circulate the full detailed proposal to all Parish Councillors prior to the meeting.

Note: Full copies of the Minutes can be seen at <http://greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk> and at the library

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

S/3220/16/LB	Mr & Mrs Costa and A Munoz 3 Halatte Gardens	New outbuilding in rear garden.
No objections.		
S/3022/16/PA	Mr C Blay Chandos Farm Cherry Hinton Road	Change of use of building from agricultural to flexible use.
The range of uses seems very broad and we would prefer permission to be given for a particular use.		

S/3332/16/FL	Mr Harry & Miss Moy 38 Buristead Road	Single-storey rear extension and two-storey side extension.
In view of very similar extensions along Buristead Road, no objections.		

S/3350/16/FL	Mr J Lingard 41 Tunwells Lane	Erection of outbuilding in rear garden.
No objections as long as use is incidental to the residential use of the main dwelling.		

S/3351/16/FL S/3352/16/FL	Mr J Lingard 41 Tunwells Lane	Demolition of existing rear dormer and erection of new metal clad rear dormer. Demolition of rear extension, erection of new single-storey rear extension and two-storey side extension.
<p>Recommend refusal. 41 Tunwells Lane forms part of a group of buildings which are identified as positive buildings in the Great Shelford Conservation Area Appraisal and ones which could be candidates for article 4 directions. Hence there is a presumption that original features should be retained.</p> <p>The proposal to replace the original small dormer with a large flat-roofed zinc clad dormer would be contrary to advice contained in SCDC's Design Guide and would not preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area.</p> <p>The proposed two-storey side extension with a flat roof and a four-metre single storey rear extension would also be contrary to the advice in the Design Guide, and would both cut out light and be overbearing to the adjoining property.</p>		

S/3242/16/FL	Blue Property G.S. Ltd 48 Cambridge Road	Demolition of bungalow and erection of pair of semi-detached dwellings.
<p>As similar developments have been approved along Cambridge Road we have no objections but would like permitted development rights removed to avoid overlooking issues in the future.</p> <p>Is there adequate room in front for cars to manoeuvre so they can exit in forward gear?</p> <p>No recommendation.</p>		

COUNTY COUNCIL

Local Highway Improvement Schemes

Details of the 2017–18 round of the Local Highways Improvement scheme were circulated to Parish Councils in early September. Great Shelford Parish Council made a successful bid in 2016 and are making a bid for another pedestrian crossing in 2017. A panel to consider all the bids in the local area will meet on 30 and 31 January, and we will be supporting the Parish Council's bid. As in previous years, the maximum County Council grant is £10,000 and parishes are required to agree a financial contribution of at least 10% towards any approved scheme.

County Council motions

At its December 2016 meeting the County Council considered two important motions, one relating to winter gritting and the other to street lighting. In its spending plans for 2016–17, the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee decided to reduce funding for winter gritting and on street lighting. This then formed part of the overall budget approved by the council.

There was an expectation that there would be consultation with parishes before any winter gritting reductions were implemented, but there was no such consultation and parishes were surprised to be told in the autumn that many roads would only be gritted in prolonged periods of cold weather and not automatically whenever the gritting teams went out. Following many public expressions of concern, the County Council decided to reverse the decision and reinstate its previous pattern of winter gritting. In 2017 roads will therefore be gritted as in the 2015–16 winter.

The decision could not be implemented immediately because fewer vehicles were being leased and a smaller number of drivers had been trained. In the event, sufficient vehicles and drivers were available by noon on Thursday 12 January 2017 for the previous pattern of gritting to be fully implemented.

The County Council had decided to turn off some street lighting in the middle of the night and to further reduce the illumination levels of street lights earlier in the evening. Unsurprisingly this also proved to be controversial, and the County Council decided to reinstate lighting in the night and to stop reducing illumination levels. Unlike the reinstatement of winter gritting, this could be implemented almost immediately. However, the street lighting was only turned off in the night in those villages connected to the street lighting central management system, so did not apply to Great Shelford, Little Shelford and Stapleford.

*Tony Orgee and Gail Kenney
County Councillors for Great Shelford*

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HEIDI ALLEN NEWSLETTER

As this is my first newsletter of 2017 may I start by wishing my constituents health and happiness in the New Year. Let's make it the best yet!

In the twilight of 2016 I visited the Blood Donation Centre in Long Road, Cambridge for my first ever blood donation. I have to say, it was utterly painless, parking was free and I had my choice of biscuits afterwards! Giving blood is easy, very quick (I was in and out in less than an hour) and it saves lives. The blood service have come up with a great resolution for the New Year – 'don't give up, just give'. If you can donate, please go to www.blood.co.uk or call 0300 123 23 23 to book your appointment.



The Christmas period also gave me time to visit the Cambourne Food Bank, a poignant reminder that Christmas isn't easy for those struggling with basic needs. It is open every Thursday from 10am to 12 noon at the Old Blue School on Eastgate.

The Food Bank is run by kind, dedicated volunteers who try their very hardest to help with the many issues that bring someone to a Food Bank. I'm hoping to be able to work with them more in the future, unlocking some of the housing and benefit difficulties that are often at the heart of food poverty.

I'm delighted to share the launch of Cambridgeshire County Council's Communities Innovation Fund, which gives community groups the opportunity to apply for funding for initiatives which will improve lives. If you know of a scheme that would enhance your community and help people stay safe and independent, please see www.cambscf.org.uk/ccif.html for details of how to apply.

December saw the publication of the National Schools Funding Formula from the Department of Education. I'm still analysing the data and will be writing to my schools for feedback on proposals. If you want to contribute, please make your views heard at <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>. The consultation closes on 22 March.

I'm continuing to push for safer and more efficient roads in our region and joined the A1307 Forum last month. Constituents from Babraham or those who

work at Granta Park will know the impact this road has on the surrounding region and the A505. These roads are no longer fit for purpose, so alongside an improved road crossing at Foxton, I'll be pushing for these initiatives in 2017. With the city deal, devolution deal and the £1.1bn announced in the Autumn Statement for road congestion pinch points, I am confident we can build a strong case to put to Government.

Turning to buses and trains, I'm inviting constituents to contact me about any issues they have with existing public transport services. I have been contacted by a number of residents about unreliable services, so if you too have experience of this, please contact Nicola in my office on the contact details below.

One of the best parts of my job is getting to know you at my surgeries and events. If you have a concern you think I could help with, or some feedback you'd like to share with me, please get in touch.

You can find details of my no appointment needed surgeries at www.heidisouthcambs.co.uk/residents-drop-surgeries or you can phone 01954 212707 or email me at heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk.

NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR THE GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS

We have changed our email addresses.

General enquiries and articles for publication should now be sent to:
gsvneditorial@gmail.com (NOT to the previous yahoo address)

Commercial advertising enquiries should be sent to:
gsvnadverts@gmail.com. (Commercial advertisements are taken out on a yearly basis.)

We are pleased to receive articles, letters and notices for community events for consideration. Please send by email (preferably as a Word document), or send paper items to Judith Wilson, 11 Elms Avenue, Great Shelford, CB22 5LN. The copy date is usually the second Friday of the month. See the *Next Issue* box (page 17) for next month's date.

Contact Information

Subscriptions: 01223 842993

General enquiries 01223 842553

Editorial Committee

Bridget Hodge, Lorraine Coulson, Duncan Grey, Judith Wilson.



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SHELFORD MEDICAL PRACTICE

We had a complicated start to the year, returning from the New Year break to no phones or heating – thank you for your forbearance.

APPOINTMENT SYSTEM

Over recent months we have shared with you an increasing frustration over booking appointments. We are constantly looking to improve the quality of the service we offer and have been doing much research. We believe that fundamentally changing our appointment system will bring significant benefits and by Easter we plan to move towards a Rapid Access Clinic system which involves a formal separation of urgent and routine work.

Urgent medical problems, needing action today Rapid Access appointments will be available to anyone who needs to be seen today. They will be five minutes only, with the duty clinician, who will be able to give rapid assessment and treatment for single problems. (We will ask you to rebook for a routine appointment if you have more than one problem, or something which can wait for a routine appointment.) You can expect that when you phone to request an appointment, our Receptionists will enquire about the broad nature of the clinical problem so that they can guide you towards the most appropriate appointment. If you do not wish to describe the nature of your urgent request you will be booked for a telephone call rather than a face-to-face appointment.

Routine appointments These will be available to book online, via phone or in person, and will allow you to choose the clinician you would like to see. We hope to have routine appointments available within seven days and up to four weeks in advance – no more ringing at 8am!

Medication reviews When a medication review is due this often requires an appointment for a blood test or a blood pressure check before, or instead of, a face-to-face GP appointment. When you believe your medication review is due, please let our reception staff know, and we will review your records and ensure you are offered the most appropriate appointment.

Telephone appointments We are doing an increasing number of telephone appointments, which can be a real time saving for all. If you request a telephone consultation, please make sure we have your correct telephone number. If you are happy to receive texts, this is a great way for us to communicate test results to you.

Repeat prescriptions Please order online where possible, and please help us by giving us **at least** 48 hours' notice for a repeat prescription to be issued.

NEW STAFF

Over the next three months we are welcoming to the practice two new receptionists (Gemma Boudall and Annabel Burns), a new temporary secretary (Thelma Fison), two new project managers (Pete Grantham and Becki Davies), a nurse practitioner (Michaela Harris) and a new GP (Laura Armitage). Thank you for supporting us through these times of rapid change and development.

We are looking forward to serving you through 2017 with a changing team and an improving appointment system. At the time of going to press we have not set a start date for the new system but will update the website as soon as we know.

STAMPS FOR MS

Thank you for donating your used stamps – Marion Lockhart is still collecting used stamps to raise money for MS research.

Jackie Roberts, Practice Manager

01223 843661 Website: www.shelfordmedicalpractice.nhs.uk

CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB

Cambridge Flower Club will hold their AGM on Thursday 16 February at Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Whittlesford CB22 4NE.

The evening will begin at 7.15pm with a short talk by Dr Martin Wilson, who is an orchid expert. He will show slides and talk about the growing and care of orchids. The AGM will be held following refreshments.

For more information phone Freda Orgee on 01223 891464.

Freda Orgee

SHELFORD GARDEN CLUB

THE WORLD THROUGH PLANTS:

THE EDEN PROJECT

A SLIDE TALK BY NEW SPEAKER

ROBERT BRETT

TUESDAY 21 FEBRUARY at SHELFORD SCHOOL HALL

Join us for homemade refreshments at 7.30pm, with the talk at 8pm
Visitors are most welcome £2



GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH

www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/

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

Major roof repairs Steady progress is being made on the nave roof repair project and we appear to be on schedule to complete the works by mid-March. However, this is weather dependent and if we have periods of very cold weather in the next few weeks, then things may be delayed. It is not possible to work with lead if the air temperature is low.

Thankfully the church is now feeling warmer (relatively!) as a fair proportion of the new sheet lead is now installed. This means that the gaps between the ceiling boards are now covered, thus preventing heat loss.

Church security Given the number of lead thefts from churches in East Anglia in recent weeks, the police and our Diocesan authorities have asked rural churches to be especially vigilant. This applies in particular to parish churches where roofing works are taking place, as the scaffolding could provide easy access. Our contractors secure the site at the end of the working day and the scaffolding is alarmed and monitored. However vigilant eyes and ears locally are particularly valuable, so if you see **anything** suspicious around the churchyard at night or over the weekends, please report it directly to the police.

Come & sing Do you like to sing or have choir experience at whatever level? Then we would like to hear from you at St Mary's. The parish choir is keen to recruit new members who enjoy singing in a group and who would like to sing during some of our services. The choir meets for rehearsals on Friday evenings at 7.30pm in either the Community Room or in church. You do not necessarily need to read music as the standard is very inclusive. We promise fun, good friendship and the chance to sing with other adults.

Interested or want to find out more? Please contact our organist Kim Lane on 01638 603193 or Dianne Fraser on 01223 562731, or come along on a Friday evening.

Sad news As we go to press we have just learned that Dennis Doyle, whose story appeared in the December edition of the *Village News*, has died at the age of 96. Dennis was still singing every Sunday as a member of the parish choir until just before Christmas. A tribute to Dennis will appear in a future edition of the *Village News*.

Cambridgeshire Care Home The recently opened care home on Cambridge Road, Great Shelford now hosts a weekly celebration of Holy Communion on the third Wednesday of each month at 11am. Do let us know if you are aware of family or friends who would appreciate taking part.

Christmas alms A total of £797 was donated during the Christmas period. Your generosity has enabled us to send £411 to Christian Aid and £386 to the Children's Society. Sincere thanks.

Confirmation The Deanery is hosting a celebration of Confirmation and Holy Communion in November 2017. All parishes in the Deanery are being invited to prepare and present candidates.

If you are an adult or younger person and would like to be confirmed, please speak to Simon Talbott, Monica Cameron or one of the Churchwardens as soon as possible. Once we have an idea of numbers, we can start planning preparation session for later in the year.

St Mary's Toddler Group Weekly meetings in term time in the Community Room between 9.30 and 11.30am for children aged from 0 to 3 years of age.

First Steps For babies and toddlers from 0 to 5 years, meeting on Mondays from 2 to 2.30pm (term time only).

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@stmarysgreatshelford.org

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

Parish Administrator: Katharin Page: 07710 518220 or
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SHELFORD SCHOOL

As the long Autumn term came to a close just before Christmas, there were a lot of very special events in the Shelford School calendar.

Firstly, a team of four children from Year 6 were entered for the County English Challenge. After doing very well in their local heat they earned themselves a place in the final which was to be held at Ely Cathedral. The pressure was on as the Shelford team last year won, but I am very pleased to report that our team this year did just as well and also won! The Bishop of Ely was on hand to congratulate our winning team and we were able to bring the coveted cup back to school with us for another year (see cover photograph).

The KS1 nativity was held, and parents and carers were treated to some beautiful singing and acting from the youngest of our children at school – well done to them all for remembering their lines, the song words and where they were supposed to be. Such a great performance.

Similarly, the KS2 children hosted the annual carol concert in St Mary's Church. As always, the singing was beautiful and the songs varied, the orchestra and choir played and sang some outstanding pieces, and all performed splendidly in front of a 'standing room only' audience.

The term culminated in the Shelford School Christmas Day. This is always a special day for the children and staff, with plenty of Christmas jumpers on display and fun time for the children in their allocated houses as well as in their class groups. The day was finished off with a pantomime company performing in the afternoon, courtesy of the PTA – a super end to such a busy term.

Sadly, we had to say farewell to two of our members of staff. Mr Walker, our Year 4 teacher and Deputy Head and Mrs Newman, one of our longstanding members of the office team. Whilst we are very sad to lose them both, we wish them every success in the future. So 2017 has brought with it the promise of yet another busy term, and we are able to welcome two new members of staff to our team, Mrs Jackie Cladingboel, who is our new Year 4 teacher, and Mrs Catherine Hayes, who will join our office team. We are very pleased to have them both join us and we hope that they settle in and feel at home very soon!

Claire Grigson School Governor

CORRECTION

On page 9 in the January issue of the *Village News*, readers were invited to contact Mike Nettleton if they wanted a 30mph wheelie bin sticker.

However, a dot was left out of the email address – it should have been *mike.nettleton@eagleanalysis.co.uk*. Apologies to all concerned. *JW*



GOD LOVES A CHEERFUL GIVER

More and more studies are highlighting the benefits of generosity on both our mental and physical health. It not only reduces stress, supports physical health, enhances our sense of purpose, and naturally fights depression, it is even shown to increase our lifespan. It also promotes a social connection and improves relationships. It's not always about material things; it's about giving of yourself. Sometimes just being present and available to a loved one who is having a hard time is the greatest gift you could possibly give.

As a parent or grandparent, do you enjoy watching your children share with each other? One of the primary lessons of life is learning how to share. When you see your children being unselfish, you're happy about that, and God is the same. When He looks on us and sees us being generous with each other, He is so pleased because God is generous, and he wants us to become like him.

In *Contact with God*, Anthony De Mello writes: *'Give' says Jesus, 'and gifts will be given you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured out into your lap; for whatever measure you deal out to others will be dealt out to you in return.'* (Luke 6:38) *If you are tight-fisted and calculating with the poor, the needy, with those who ask you for help and service, how can you expect God to be generous with you?*

Although we live in one of the most affluent parts of the country, Cambridge is very much 'a tale of two cities', and to a certain extent our villages reflect that. Every day people turn up at food banks near here looking for their next meal. Often, they are already receiving help but have hit a crisis; their benefit has not been paid this week, or they have had an unexpected expense. A few suffer from an addiction, and this week's money has been wasted on that. Even very well-paid people can suddenly lose part or all of their income. Many families rely on free school dinners for their children's main meal; what do they do during the holidays?

Our nearest food bank operates from the John Huntingdon's Charity (JHC) at Sawston, serving Sawston and the surrounding villages. JHC works closely with the Great Shelford Parochial Charity, so it covers 'our patch'. Just inside the door of the Ashen Green entrance to our church, you will find a basket to receive gifts of food. A notice with ideas and guidelines is inside it, but items must not need refrigeration, so fresh or homemade foods can't be used. Really useful items are starchy food like pasta, beans or rice, some protein, vegetables and tinned fruit; the makings of a main meal for a couple of days. Something to give a spot of comfort too is always welcome; maybe coffee, tea and a packet of biscuits. We will take your contributions to JHC as the box fills up. So you help those in need, you help yourself and you make God happy too! As the saying goes, 'What's not to like?'.

Liz Jenkin (Elder, Great Shelford Free Church)

Worship Services at Great Shelford Free Church

Sunday 5 February @ 10.30am

‘Your will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven’ (Matthew 6:10)

Speaker: Rev’d Martin Cockerill

Sunday 12 February @ 10.30am

Communion Service

‘Give us today our daily bread’ (Matthew 6:11)

Speaker: Rev’d Martin Cockerill

Sunday 19 February @ 10.30am

‘Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors’ (Matthew 6:12)

Speaker: Richard Renouf

Sunday 26 February @ 10.30am

‘Lead us not into temptation’ (Matthew 6:13)

Speaker: Rev’d Martin Cockerill

Sunday 26 February @ 6.30pm

Communion Service

Kid’s Activities @ GSFC

Kids Club on Sunday

MEETS IN THE MAIN HALL

10.30–11.30am

Games, craft activities & bible stories

Have fun and make new friends

For children aged 3–10 years

Newcomers welcome

Other Term-Time only Activities

Tuesdays

Jump 3.30–4.45pm

After school activities club for 3–5 years

Heroes 3.30–5.00pm

After school activities club for 6–11 years

Wednesdays

Little Steps 10am–12 noon

Toddlers aged 0–3 years with carers

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PLAYSCAPE – A COMMUNITY EFFORT

We have been so encouraged by all the support we've received from you so far, and one of our biggest supporters, the SSYI, are truly getting their hands dirty for the cause.



SSYI starts work on the Copse

The young people have been busy building bird boxes, and work on the ground will commence at half term. So if you see lots of white wiggly lines on the ground between the second football pitch and the Copse, the line-marking machine hasn't been nicked and a prank executed, no! The team will have marked out where the new meadow areas will be leaving mown paths to explore when walking down near the river.

Calling all helpers

The meadow areas will also be planted with wildflower plug plants in March. Now, it will be the more the merrier (and the quicker!) to plant plug plants, so if you can lend a hand (and a trowel) we would be delighted to receive the help. There will also be a number of shrubs to plant too. We've pencilled in Saturday 4 March for this job, but please keep an eye out for notices on the new SSYI/Copse noticeboard on the car park railings. Feel free to email me if you are willing to help and I can keep you updated with details.

And the rest ...

After that, the SSYI will have a willow workshop on site to create the den and they will start working on pathways into the Copse from April. So by this summer there will be new trees, shrubs, meadows, logs to sit and balance on, stepping stones across the ditch and a fledgling willow den to picnic under.

Thank you SSYI for helping us make a huge difference to the local wildlife, both small and human!

Pop-up café: Friday 17 February, 10am–12 noon in the Pavilion

And finally, finish off your half-term by playing on the Rec and having some light refreshments in the Pavilion, courtesy of the Playscape committee.

Eleanor McCrone info@shelfordplayscape.org

MARCH ISSUE OF THE VILLAGE NEWS

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is *Friday 10 February* and it should be available in the shops on *Friday 24 February*. Subscribed copies will be delivered shortly thereafter.

NEW HOME FOR SHELFORD POST OFFICE

Regular readers will have been aware for some time of the likelihood that Shelford Post Office would close. So would the village be left without a Post Office? Given recent Shelford shop closures and Post Office closures across the country, we were worried that we might have no Post Office at all. So there was great relief when it was announced that Kash Stores will take over Post Office duties from 7 March – and redesign the shop to fit it all in.

Prakash Yadav and his wife Jayshri came from India in 1992 and have run Kash Stores in Shelford for 20 years. They took over the lease from Jerry Brown in 1997 and built up the business until they were able to buy the freehold in 2007. Now in 2017 Prakash is making another big step when he becomes Village Postmaster too.

They have made many changes in their 20 years, first improving the shelving and storage and bringing the shop up to date, then buying up the shops next door (who remembers *HairForce One* and *Tack 'n' Togs*?) to expand the space and range of goods. There isn't much you can't get from Kash Stores!

For a while the family lived over the shop before letting the flat and moving to their present home on Cambridge Road. Jayshri still has family in India but apart from his sons who still live in Shelford, Prakash's nearest relatives are in



Prakash Yadav

Leeds, and though he does go back to India occasionally he is in no doubt that Shelford is his home.

I asked him why he took on the responsibility of the Post Office branch. ‘At first I thought it would be too much work for me but I was persuaded by so many local people who said how much a local Post Office was needed. I see it as a public service in the same way as I offer free deliveries to people who can’t get out by themselves. Yes, it’s a big commitment – after all it’s like running a small bank, including currency exchange, but it’s a big help to the community. And of course people who come to the Post Office will also buy from the shop.’

Local people are delighted to retain a village Post Office and work has already begun to adapt the shop to its new role. The official opening date is 7 March but Prakash hopes the new arrangements, new counter and changed shelving will be ready well before then. You can find Kash Stores on Hinton Way, just beyond the railway crossing within short walking distance of the village centre.

The shop will have its usual opening times of 7am to 7.30pm, while the Post Office counter will be open from 7.30am to 7pm. It will employ an extra 1.5 people and offer the usual facilities such as parcel collection and currency exchange though not passports, at least for now.

Having kept the shop for 20 years, open more than twelve hours a day, closed only for Christmas Day, Prakash and Jayshri understand hard work and they know more local people than most: ‘Shelford people have supported us, so we hope to give something back. And if it benefits the business too, then we all win!’

Duncan Grey

PARISH COUNCIL COMMENT

The Parish Council is very pleased that Great Shelford will continue to have its own Post Office and that it will be run by Kash Stores in Hinton Way from 7 March.

In May last year Post Office Limited had exhausted its list of companies who might have run the Post Office and it was therefore likely that there would no longer be one in the village. A number of Councillors put a lot of effort into identifying and assisting an alternative.

Kash Stores will be offering almost identical services to those provided by the existing Post Office, but with greatly extended opening hours. We wish Prakash Yadav and his wife Jayshri luck and hope everyone will support them in their new venture.

Mike Nettleton

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MORE MEMORIES OF MOSCOW

A party of 23 set out from Sawston Village College on Saturday morning on the school's first trip to Russia. By teatime on the same day 19 children and four adults were in Moscow at the start of their week-long trip which will take in many of the sights rarely seen by people from Western Europe.

The cost has been estimated at about £200 per person, but for a holiday as unusual as this it should prove money well spent.

In our last issue Peter Dean described a Sawston Village College trip to Moscow in 1978. This has sparked memories from other readers, including Carolyn Clifford, who was also on the trip

and whose mother sent us this clipping and photo from the *Cambridge News* (October 26 1978). Carolyn is standing on the far left of the top picture, and Peter Dean is seventh from left (at the back in the striped jumper). Mr Dobbs, one of the accompanying teachers, is third from right in the lower picture. (See also the letter from Mike Roe on page 23.)



JW from information supplied by Frances Clifford

DIARY, February 2017

Date	Event	Time	Place
2	Carpet Bowls Home Game	7.15pm	Memorial Hall
2	WI Talk on Cambridgeshire History (page 25)	7.30pm	See page 25
9	Carpet Bowls Club Night	7.15pm	Memorial Hall
11	Cricket Club Quiz Night (page 37)	7pm	Memorial Hall
14	Granta Flower Club demonstration	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
15	Garden Gang	9.30am	High Street/ Buristead Rd
16	Carpet Bowls Home Game	7.15pm	Memorial Hall
17	Pop-Up Café (page 17)	10am–12noon	Pavilion
21	Garden Club: The World though Plants (page 9)	7.30pm	Shelford School Hall
22	Engage: The Clay Bats of Shelford (page 23)	2pm	Shelford Library
23	Carpet Bowls Club Night	7.15pm	Memorial Hall
25	Farmers' Market	9am–12noon	Memorial Hall

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

CHANGES TO BIN COLLECTIONS

From the week beginning 27 February, there will be a shared waste collection for South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City, in order to reduce the distance travelled on bin collection rounds, saving money and reducing traffic and emissions. This means there will be changes to some bin collection days. From February 27 onwards, Great Shelford, Little Shelford and Stapleford will have bin collections on **Tuesdays**. The first Tuesday collection will be black bins. This means that there will be black bin collections on two consecutive weeks, with the next green/blue bin collection on Tuesday 7 March. Any extra waste you have for your blue bin can then be left alongside the bin in a cardboard box or returnable container.

FEBRUARY BIN COLLECTIONS

Black bins Monday 6 February, Monday 20 February, **Tuesday** 28 February

Blue bins Monday 13 February

(NB There will be no green bin collection in February)

Information provided by SCDC

READER'S LETTER (MEMORIES OF MOSCOW)

Peter Dean's memories of Moscow in last month's *Village News* revived my recollections of my three weeks in the USSR as a 25-year old tourist in, I think, 1971. Tourism was just starting at the time and my trip included Leningrad, as it was called then, along with Odessa and Kiev. Peter's experiences of Moscow mirrored mine, but I had a room in the huge hotel in Red Square and I went to the state concert hall inside the Kremlin and saw the Bolshevik Ballet performing Swan Lake. Unforgettable!

Mike Roe

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

A heartfelt 'THANK YOU' to all who supported our annual village Community Carols event held outside the Memorial Hall on the evening of 20 December. It was well attended and enjoyed by all ... suitably heralding in the approach of Christmas Day.

We also appreciate the generosity of our local Tesco and Co-operative stores who provided us with mince pies and sweets as welcome refreshment after our efforts to 'raise the roof' (or heavens!) on that evening.

We have been pleased to present £206.00 from the collection to our village Mobile Wardens towards the continuation of their valuable work.

Margaret Moule (Band Leader)

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WI

The Shelfords WI began the new year singing! We were skilfully tutored by Lucy Barlow who soon had us singing like a choir. We were delighted with the sound we could make and all thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. It felt like a really good start to 2017.

At our next meeting on Thursday 2 February Honor Ridout will speak about Cambridgeshire history, and the following meeting on 2 March will be our Annual Meeting. In addition to these meetings there is a full and varied programme of events and excursions with the local Federation of the WI.

We are always happy to welcome new members or visitors who just want to see what the meetings are like. We meet on the first Thursday of every month (except August) at 7.30 p.m. in All Saints' North Room, behind the church, in Little Shelford.

Mary Talbott

TESCO AND LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

TESCO is inviting local community groups, green space projects and other organisations to apply for their share of a £12m carrier bag charge fund. The supermarket has teamed up with the charity Groundwork, and the Tesco Bags of Help initiative will see the money raised from the 5p bag levy being used to pay for a large number of local projects to improve green spaces in communities. Tesco customers will decide on a monthly basis which groups get grants of up to £5,000, £2,000 and £1,000 in regions up and down the country.

It's expected the new monthly format will see more than 100 projects receive vital funding across Cambridgeshire every year. Funding will be awarded to projects that use and develop outdoor spaces in ways that will benefit their local community. More information at www.groundwork.org.uk/tesco.

Katie Dean (Tesco Community Project Officer)

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.

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SHELFORD DAD OPENS ARTISAN BAKERY AT THE CITY STATION



Roberto (right) and his team

Photo: Alison Denton

Roberto Cavicchia, who has lived with his family for seven years in Great Shelford, has realised a long-held dream to open an artisan bakery and coffee shop in the city. *Zio Mario* (in Italian ‘Uncle Mario’) opened in December just a few yards from the railway station entrance. Alison Denton, a Shelford resident, interviewed Roberto in his new shop.

Why have you opened the artisan bakery? Baking is in my blood; my mother’s family have been bakers for generations. I learnt the craft by watching my Uncle Mario work in his bakery near Rome. Having worked in sales and marketing, it is great to now run my own business bringing the authentic Italian recipes and flavours of my birthplace to Cambridge.

There are already several food outlets near the station. What makes *Zio Mario* different? Everything here is made from scratch by hand in front of the customers. We have created a range of Italian baked food such as sweet and savoury muffins, focaccia, farinata (chickpea flour pancake) and speciality bread. In addition, we offer coffee, tea and soft drinks. There is seating for twenty-five and we offer the kind of personal touch you don’t get in a chain café.

Alison Denton

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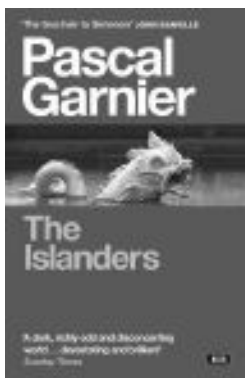
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READER'S BOOK REVIEW

THE ISLANDERS BY PASCAL GARNIER



It's a wonderful feeling when you discover a new author and the first book you read of their body of work is excellent. It's a sublime feeling when you read their second book and it is just as good, or even better.

I've been lucky enough to have this experience with the French novelist, Pascal Garnier. In this review column we've already had one of his superb books: *Moon in a Dead Eye* (2009). For February, we will have his funny, dark and addictive novella: *The Islanders* (2010), which romps along at a frantic pace.

Just before Christmas, Olivier returns by train to Versailles as his estranged mother has died. Knocking at her neighbour's flat he finds Jeanne, his lost childhood sweetheart, and her sightless brother Rodolphe. Over the course of several days, events darken.

The plot has twists and turns galore. *The Islanders* is just as weird as Garnier's *Moon in a Dead Eye*, but far funnier. The character of Rodolphe is reminiscent of John Kennedy Toole's gluttonous protagonist Ignatius J. Reilly in *A Confederacy of Dunces* (1980). And in a story without likeable characters, Rodolphe wins out with his witty one-liners. Also, this has a whiff of Albert Camus's novella *The Outsider* (1942).

Successes in Garnier's novella are plentiful: tight prose, zinging dialogue and shocking moments. A nod must go to Emily Boyce's lively translation making it feel as if nothing got lost.

You'll find a copy of *The Islanders* sitting on the orderly stacked shelves of the Great Shelford Library. I read this in a couple of hours; it is unputdownable! A marvellous story penned by a skilled author.

Garry Pope

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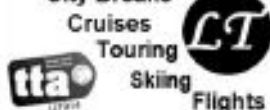
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BOTANIC GARDEN CARING FOR ORCHIDS



It's that time of the year again, the heady days of summer seem so far gone and spring is still a couple of months away. The garden is short on flowers, but for a few winter staples. This is when houseplants step into the fold to provide some much needed winter colour. Amongst these is the moth orchid (*Phalaenopsis*) which has saturated the market with its exotic blooms and affordable price. It does, however, remain an enigma to many when it comes to watering regime and re-flowering. This is one of the most common questions I get asked, so here is a quick guide to orchid care.

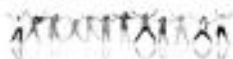
Phalaenopsis is a mainly tropical genus, so these orchids are best grown at temperatures above 18°C. In their natural habitat they grow on trunks and limbs of rainforest trees in medium to low light, and so when kept as houseplants they are best kept on an east-facing windowsill which receives the gentle rays of the morning sun. They should be potted in a coarse bark and watered with a wet-dry cycle allowing the roots to dry, but not desiccate, before re-watering. The key to keeping orchids healthy is to avoid overwatering them. Between Halloween and Valentine's Day watering should be reduced considerably, with moisture being added a couple of times during this period. And finally re-flowering: you can initiate this by a drop in temperature of 2–3°C for a couple of weeks. Do this during the winter period when you reduce the watering, or move the orchid to a cooler location in your house. It should then be a matter of weeks before you see a new flower stalk emerge. Watering should remain as described above, but also be governed by light and temperature.

If this has whetted your appetite for a bit of winter colour, then why not visit the Botanic Garden, where our Orchid Festival will run from 12 February to 12 March in the warmth of our Glasshouse Range? This year's theme is India and will showcase an array of South Asian orchids, many drawn from the Garden's reserve collections, to provide a colourful taste of the subcontinent – enough to brighten up any dreary winter day.

Alex Summers, Glasshouse Supervisor

The Cambridge University Botanic Garden is open from 10am–5pm in February and March, seven days a week. Please check the website at www.botanic.cam.ac.uk for details about opening times, admission charges, tours, courses and special events.

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GOODBYE TO THE ELMS

For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, every green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver. Martin Luther



Photo: Duncan Grey

As passers-by on the Hinton Way / Mingle Lane junction may have noticed, we have said farewell to two ancient residents: a pair of Huntingdon elm trees, probably over 100 years old.

The wonderful silhouette of the branches against the sky, especially in winter, was a delight; the equivalent to having our own giant sculpture on our property.

Spring brought the fresh, green leaves and hundreds of seeds drifting down like pale green snow. The cool giant sunshade was enjoyed by passers-by who stopped underneath to chat on a hot summer's day. The giant umbrella gave protection from the rain.

A good October treated us to the elms' wonderful autumnal colours. For the past 37 years sweeping and disposing of those golden leaves for several weeks was a seasonal chore, but cheaper than a gym subscription, and we all know that working hard in the fresh air is beneficial to our well-being.

However, the elms had both become very seedy-looking, producing very few leaves in the past two years. Experts assessed the health of the trees, and we all agreed to give them more time to see if they would produce leaves again. But this year there were no leaves at all. Disease and age have taken their toll. Because of the proximity of the trees to the road and to neighbours' properties we had to consider the possibility of huge dead branches breaking off and causing untold damage.

The high cost of having them taken down was a shock, but we had no choice. Believe me, if those trees could have been left just as they were we would have done that. However, the thought of winds and weather attacking dead wood (weighing several tons) and causing it to crash across Hinton Way meant we had no choice but to remove our beloved trees. Unfortunately, insurance companies only pay up after damage is done. Being responsible for any worst-case scenario by doing nothing would have been difficult to live with.



The extent of the damage to the very thickest branches became very obvious as they were removed, revealing enormous hollow tubes, like giant organ pipes with more hole than wood. The sap had stopped rising long ago. Although the remaining stumps look quite solid, those giant branches were certainly a liability.

Some words of praise for Eastern Tree Surgery. They did an amazing job. Both saws and wood are very, very heavy and to be high up in weakened branches requires strong nerves, physical strength, great skill and experience.

We regret to say that, although most passers-by were understanding, some were quite aggressive and rude to our team. Apparently, it is not uncommon for people to be indignant and a bit abusive to the tree surgeons when they see trees being removed, for it can be an emotive occasion. However, please ask, then listen to the reasons why it is happening, and consider how you would feel if you, or a loved one, was hit by falling branches of a neglected problem tree. Trees do all have a natural life span and someone has to be responsible for their maintenance and safety.

The gap created by the loss of our elms will eventually be filled by a new young tree for future generations to enjoy.

Hilary Doviak (who also took the photo on this page)



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CRICKET CLUB

2017 promises to be a momentous year for Great Shelford Cricket Club. It will be a season of firsts: we have entered a third team in the CCA League and we shall be represented at Under 15, Under 13 and Under 10 levels in the Cambs Youth League, our second team have been promoted two divisions after some rearrangement of the CCA League, and our first team will be facing its first season at the lofty heights of the Tucker Gardner League. The third team will play all its home fixtures at Stapleford Rec. as will all the youth teams. The firsts and seconds will continue to play on Great Shelford Rec.

We are interested in recruiting players for all our teams. The third team will consist of youth players and older heads, and will welcome players who are perhaps returning to cricket, or who want to play cricket at a gentler standard. The first and second teams are more competitive but are also looking for new recruits, as are the youth teams. Boys and girls are welcome at youth level.

Net sessions have already started for the adult teams. If you are interested in joining at whatever level, please contact Alex Stafford on 07809 463506. Parents of youngsters wanting to join us should also contact Alex. Net sessions and practices for the youth teams will start in March.

On **Saturday 11 February** Great Shelford Cricket Club will be hosting a quiz night! The quiz will take place at Great Shelford Memorial Hall, starting at 7pm, with six people per team. Entry to the quiz will be £12 per person, this will include a fish/sausage and chip dinner. Soft and alcoholic drinks and snacks will be available on the night.

The funds raised by the quiz night will go back into the cricket club, with 10% of all funds raised being donated to Addenbrookes Charitable Trust, our chosen charity for the year. If you are interested in entering a team, please contact Dan Heath at danheathcoaching@live.co.uk.

Brian Higgins

FOOTBALL CLUB



The first team ended 2016 on top of the Premier Division table after successive wins in their two remaining fixtures before the Christmas and New Year break. A young struggling Over side, who just three seasons previously had been league champions, were dispatched 7–2 at home before a nail-biting 6–4 away defeat of Cambridge City Reserves ended the year. As usual, goals were no problem but uncharacteristic mistakes at the back kept the game alive until the final whistle! The first fixture of 2017 was against local rivals Sawston United.

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Sawston United are another team struggling near the foot of the table; whether it was a slightly depleted team or a Christmas pudding hangover, the team were relieved to come away with all three points after a very tight 3–2 win. In contrast, the reserves' disappointing form continued and back-to-back defeats to Bassingbourn (5–3 and 3–1) brought the year to an end. Encouragingly, however, there was no Christmas hangover and a convincing 6–2 home win against Abington United in their first game of the New Year hopefully bodes well for a better second half of the season.

There are home matches on most Saturday afternoons so why not come along and support your local club? The clubroom above the Memorial Hall will be open for a drink after games and everyone is welcome – we'd love to see you!

Terry Rider (Chairman)

TENNIS CLUB



Some of the GSTC members who gathered for traditional Boxing Day tennis, mince pies and mulled wine
Photo: Stephen Chittenden

We were hoping there would be no news from the tennis club over the Christmas period. However on the night of 14 December that all changed. Coach Oliver Halliwell was on court teaching young Sam Seymour how to get a nice forehand when there was an

enormous BANG! At first Oliver thought it might be terrorism related. 'The explosion came from the direction of the swings or possibly the slide in the playground,' said Oliver. 'We downed racquets and walked calmly off court, then I phoned the police.'

It turned out not to be the work of Isis or the IRA, but some dodgy electrics in the floodlight pole which had caught fire. The Cambridgeshire Fire Brigade were called. They arrived swiftly, whereupon the blaze was extinguished and the electrics made safe. No more tennis that night, but congratulations to Oliver for his cool-headed reaction to our little crisis. Anyone know of a good electrician?

Stephen Chittenden



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WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

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

31 Jan to 4 Feb	<i>The Winter's Tale</i> Cheek by Jowl production
8–11	<i>Edward II</i> Marlowe Society production
13–18	<i>Gaslight</i> Thriller by Patrick Hamilton set in Victorian England
20–21	Richard Alston Dance Company
22–25	<i>Henceforward...</i> Alan Ayckbourne
26	Michael Portillo tells his story and answers questions
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: www.cambridgeartstheatre.com	

SAWSTON CINEMA

2	7pm	<i>Amadeus</i> (NT Live)
16	7pm	<i>Saint Joan</i> (NT Live)
23	7pm	<i>The Legend of Tarzan</i> (2016)
Telephone: 01223 712825 Web: www.sawstoncinema.org.uk		

SCOTSDALES

23	2.30pm	ABC Gardening talk with Sam Cochrane (booking required)
Telephone: 01223 842777 Web: www.scotsdalegardencentre.co.uk		

STAPLEFORD GRANARY

8	7.30pm	Talk: <i>Guy Fawkes to 7/7: Terrorism in London</i> (Patrick Mercer)
12	11am	Lunchtime Steinway recital by Tim Carey
17	7.30pm	Concert: <i>Ritual in Transfigured Time</i>
18	4pm, 6pm	<i>The Music Box</i> (music, narration and puppetry for children) with the Goldfield Ensemble
25	2pm	<i>Alice in Space</i> (lectures, discussions and a dramatic reading)
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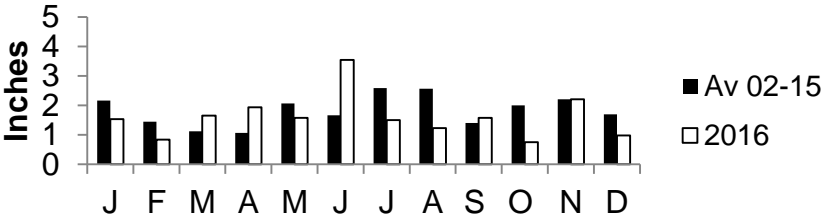
1	4pm	Talk: <i>The housing market – what does the future hold?</i> (Land Economy Departmental Seminar Series)
3,4	8pm	Bach's <i>St John Passion</i> (St John's College Chapel)
12	7.30pm	City of Cambridge Symphony Orchestra (West Road)
21	5.30pm	Talk: <i>From curiosity to treasure: Mr Selden's map of China</i>
25	11am	Cambridge History for Schools (Key Stage 2) <i>A night at the theatre in 19th century Paris</i> (Key Stage 3) <i>Remembering the reformation: personalities and pictures</i>
For information on these and other events see www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson		

WANDLEBURY

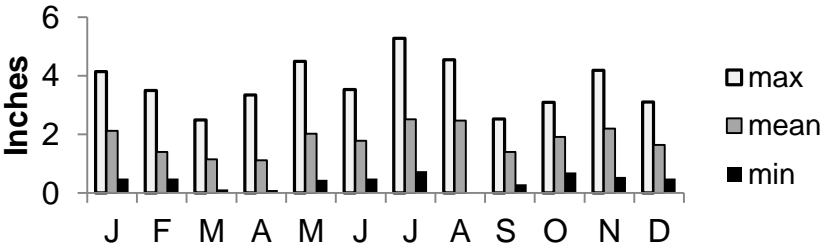
2, 9, 16, 23	Healthy Walking Keep fit and greet the changing of the season by joining our healthy walkers this February for one of our Walking for Health accredited sociable walks around the park. Meet at the Stable Rooms at 10am for a longer walk or 10.30am for a shorter stroll. The walks end at around 11am with tea and coffee in the Stable Rooms. All are welcome: suitable for all different abilities.
4	Advanced Basket Making This relaxed day for adults provides an opportunity for those with previous simple basket-making experience to refresh and extend their skills. Try out new weave patterns, learn how to add a handle or try making an oval basket! All materials, tea, coffee and biscuits will be supplied, but bring along your own packed lunch. 10am to 4pm. Adults only: £45 (members £40). Meet at the Stable Rooms. Booking required.
4	Conservation Volunteer Activity – Coppicing and Coppice Products Join the CambridgePPF team carrying out essential woodland management and conservation at Wandlebury, re-coppicing some of the park's hazel stools. This helps to increase biodiversity in the woodlands and produces a sustainable, useful supply of wood. If you can spare a few hours it's a great way of getting some fresh air and exercise too. 11am to 3.30pm. Booking essential. For adults only. Tools provided. Please wear sturdy footwear and bring a packed lunch. This is a free event, however donations towards the upkeep of the park are always appreciated.
Telephone: 01223 243830 Website: www.cambridgeppf.org	

RAINFALL SUMMARY

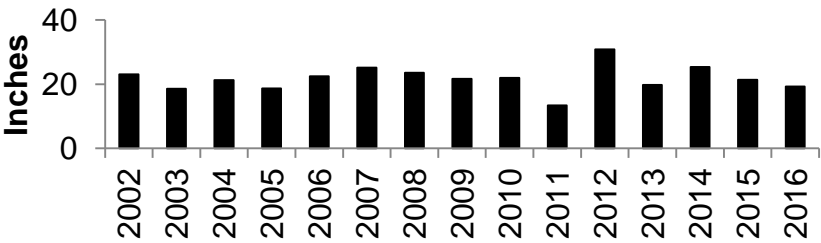
Great Shelford Village Rainfall
2016



Great Shelford Village Rainfall
Monthly rainfall ranges, 2002-2016



Great Shelford Annual Rainfall
Totals, 2002-2016



LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

2G3S	Linda Whitebread		843438
Badminton (Little Shelford)	Rosie Cranmer		513572
Bowls Club	Cheryl Peachey		836348
Brownies, Guides, Rainbows	Lisa MacGregor		843021
Bunch – Feast	Duncan Grey		842191
Carpet Bowls	Margaret Kelly		473520
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	Terry Rider		01354 680661
Free Church			842181
Friends of Shelford Library	Daphne Sulston		842248
Garden Club	Helen Chubb		845032
Great Shelford Friendship Club	Cheryl Mynott		845435
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 Men's Assoc.	Chris Everitt		846984
Shelford & Stapleford Strikers	Derek White		561753
Shelford Primary School	Alison Evans, Headteacher		843107
Shelford Support Group (transport to hospital etc.)	Biddy Wilkinson	843856	Pat Legge 843275
	Denise Newman	842514	Carol Bard 571380
	Rosie Cranmer	513572	
South Cambs DFAS	Sheila Tilbury-Davis		844384
Sunnyside Preschool Stapleford	Jane Doyle		707817
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

Village website: <http://greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk>

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