

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

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JANUARY 2018

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Happy New Year To All Our Readers



*Changes on the Way in 2018:
Going, Moving, Merging*

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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/

Summary from the draft minutes of the 15 November 2017 meeting

ADDITIONAL PARISH COUNCILLOR

Mr Mark Carey was accepted as an additional Parish Councillor by unanimous vote.

VILLAGE BIG ISSUES: PLANNING AND HOUSING IN SHELFORD

Cllr Bridget Hodge presented an overview of the current status of planning in Great Shelford. It is likely that the local plan will be approved in the New Year and we will know then whether the inspector has recommended the inclusion of any of the additional housing sites or the Jesus College proposal for housing and a Science Park. The impact of the A1307 off-road bus route from Sawston to Addenbrooke's on the open landscape was noted.

Cllr Hodge said that rural exception sites should be taken forward by the Parish Council and not by the Neighbourhood Plan group. It was agreed to form a Parish Council working party to liaise with Cambridgeshire ACRE (Action with Communities in Rural England) and Housing Associations to look at possible sites to meet the needs identified in the Housing Needs Survey.

Public Questions

A resident asked if any housing plans were proposed for the Waverley Park site and was informed that it is understood that any redevelopment would have 40% of affordable homes.

Councillors asked about:

- the feasibility of a Church Street ban on HGVs
- the garage site and land in the central village and whether it is part of the business plan
- the ageing Memorial Hall and whether it is an efficient use of space
- plans for the Health Centre.

The Chair confirmed that these issues would be investigated.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

County Councillor

The County Councillor, Kevin Cuffley, reported that all applications for the local highways improvement scheme have been received and Parish Councils will be contacted by Highways Officers soon. The Parish Council requested that Cllr Cuffley be directly involved with Highways over the increased costs being indicated by Highways for various previously agreed village projects.

District Councillor

No District Councillor was in attendance and no report was received.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**Highways**

Two flashing school lights for Church Street are to be solar powered and therefore costs are below budget.

Costs for the zebra crossing in Woollards Lane are well in excess of budget and of quotations provided in 2016. Highways were requested to investigate and justify the increased costs without any further delay.

The request for bus stop real time information displays has been accepted, and a unit is to be installed in the parking bay adjacent to the bus shelter in High Green.

Following complaints about cyclists on the Granhams Road to Chaston Road cycleway, signs have been installed at each end of the cycleway advising that pedestrians have priority.

Planning

The Clerk is to progress quotations for the felling of one tree at Freestones Corner, three trees in the cemetery and three on the Memorial Green as indicated in the village tree survey report.

Recreation Ground

The level of sand in the play pit has been increased and more will be added in early summer 2018.

Chafer grub infection has been identified in a number of areas in the Recreation Ground. The areas affected will be sprayed.

Criminal damage has been carried out to the side rails and rolling board of the skateboard ramp. This will require closure of the ramp until repairs can be made.

Police Liaison

Crimes reported from October to November included three burglaries and antisocial behaviour around the Pavilion. A small number of parking tickets were issued.

Pavilion

The new Tennis Club lease is under discussion.

Private bookings for the Pavilion are increasing. Discounted rates are to be reviewed after March 2018.

Cemetery and Allotments

The cemetery garden gang shed was broken into. The clerk is arranging repairs to the security fixings.

Playscape

Playscape have donated £2,000 towards Parish Council costs on the project. Bluebells and woodland plants have been planted around the copse.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

Parish Council support for such schemes had been requested. The Parish Council gives any such scheme its support and will respond to requests from coordinators, but it is not considered the responsibility of the Parish Council to provide the coordinator.

VILLAGE SHOPPER BUS SERVICE

Service costs will increase by 20% from the start of January 2018. An alternative quotation is to be sourced, with options on extending the service. The Mobile Warden Scheme is to be contacted about potential extensions of the service.

FINANCE

18 cheques were presented valued at £8,372.59.

Full copies of the minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council website and at the library.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Christmas Fair and Lights (see back cover photos)

Over 200 local residents attended the Christmas Fair and Lights Switch-On at the Memorial Hall on Saturday 2 December. Carols were sung by Shelford School KS2 children, led by Mrs Jenkins and introduced by Revd Simon Talbott, Priest in charge of St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford. The illuminations were then switched on by Shelford School head girl Elizabeth Cousins and head boy Daniel Lockey.

Villagers enjoyed a visit from Santa, a nativity photo booth, stalls in the Memorial Hall, hot dogs, mince pies and mulled wine dispensed by Playscape, and the City of Cambridge Brass Band playing Christmas carols.

Shelford Health Centre

Dr Chris Schramm has made the Parish Council aware of two significant issues.

- Over the next few months, the practice is likely to combine with Granta (which covers Sawston, Linton, Barley and part of Royston and has 33,000 patients registered). See page 10 for more details.
- The practice is in dispute with its landlords (NHS Property Services) and is therefore potentially looking for new premises in the centre of the village.

A public consultation on the merger has been scheduled for **Thursday 1 February** at 2pm in Great Shelford memorial hall.

Shelford Co-op

Parish Councillors met representatives from the Co-op in mid-November and were told two pieces of news.

- The Great Shelford Co-op is being relocated to the old Jones & Jones site on the corner of Granhams Road and High Green. The planning application will go in shortly. This is mixed news: the retail space will expand from 1,800 to 2,700 square feet with more storage and parking, and more jobs, but it does mean the store is moving out of the centre of the village.
- The Co-op is opening a store in the ex-Pemberton Arms pub in Harston.

Criminal/Antisocial Behaviour

We have had several further incidents of criminality and antisocial behaviour centred on the Recreation Ground. Some of it is low-grade – under-age drinking and littering. Some is far more serious – criminal damage (including attempted arson), illegal drug taking, intimidation of people using the Pavilion. We are determined to tackle these issues and are working closely with the police. We know this is a mindless minority, but we would urge parents to make sure they know where their teens are and what they are up to.

On a more positive note, the Parish Council is exploring what additional provision can be made for activities for teens in the village in the evenings.

Highways

There may be light at the end of the tunnel – the County Council has promised that the zebra crossing in Woollards Lane, the central 20mph limit and all the other minor changes planned will finally be implemented in February 2018.

In a similar vein, highways is the Big Issue topic at the Parish Council meeting on 17 January. Barrie Ashurst will be leading a discussion on all the contentious issues – parking, one-way systems, traffic calming, etc.

For more information see <http://greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/> or contact one of your Parish Councillors.

Mike Nettleton, Parish Council Chairman

PLANNING APPLICATIONS PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

S/4012/17/FL	Mr & Mrs Addley 22B Mingle Lane	Single storey front extension and 2½ storey rear extension. Carport/cycle store in front garden.
No objections to the extensions. However suggest the long window on the SE elevation is removed to avoid overlooking of the adjacent property.		

S/4127/17/FL	Mr & Mrs Fraser 45 Tunwells Lane	Demolition of garage and lean-to. New single storey rear extension and alterations.
No objections.		

S/3042/17/LB	Mrs A Evans 2 Rectory Farm Barns	Creation of steps between access road and front door.
No objections.		

S/3982/17/PA	Mr & Mrs Eldridge 75 Hinton Way	Prior approval for single storey rear extension.
No comments.		

S/3847/17/FL	Mr I Mitchell-Jones 36 & 38 High Green	Conversion of loft spaces.
As both properties are to be extended in the same manner no objections to the conversion. However the windows in the dormers are too large and would appear dominant in the street scene when viewed from Maris Green and should be reduced in size.		

S/4176/17/FL	Mr J Aujla 275 Hinton Way	Proposed first floor and refurbishment of house.
No objections to the principle of a second storey being added to this bungalow but the proposed design appears overly fussy in terms of the fenestration and balconies for this prominent location.		

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HEIDI ALLEN NEWSLETTER



Many of you will be aware of the plans from Uttlesford District Council to create North Uttlesford Garden Community which, if permitted, could have an adverse impact on the Southern part of the constituency. As such, I attended a meeting with Hinxton, Ickleton, Duxford, Pampisford, Whittlesford and Sawston Parish Councils to discuss their concerns. I too am worried these plans may negatively impact on us by significantly increasing congestion. I have submitted my views to Uttlesford District

Council and will continue to keep residents aware of developments as they occur.

You will know there are plans to reduce the number of MPs from 650 to 600, so that each constituency has a similar number of electors. On 17 October, the Boundary Commission published their revised proposed boundaries for South Cambridgeshire. I was bitterly disappointed to read that their proposals **still** see South Cambs losing the wards of the Mordens, Bassingbourn, Melbourn and Meldreth. The Boundary Commission's report on the previous consultation acknowledged that I had put forward a counter-proposal which had garnered significant public support and that most responses received generally opposed their suggestion. However, they still felt these Cambridgeshire villages should be moved to sit under a Herts regional authority, in spite of acknowledged strong local ties to the area. I will be challenging these proposals again.

The Department for Transport have launched a consultation on accessibility issues for disabled people using public transport. I have been working with local and national groups to bring about improvements for disabled people. BBC Look East kindly filmed a piece for me at Whittlesford Parkway station, demonstrating issues disabled people face when there is no lift connecting the platforms. South Cambs District Council have coincidentally also launched a consultation on taxi licensing which aims to provide more stringent standards. The Council is proposing to introduce a policy requiring all hackney carriages to be wheelchair accessible vehicles. This important consultation closes on 5 January 2018. You can find details on <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/consultations>.

The next drop-in surgery will be held on Saturday 6 January from 10am to 12 noon, at the David Rayner Centre at Scotsdales (120 Cambridge Road CB22 5JT). To contact me at other times, please email heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk. You can also phone my Westminster Office on 020 7219 5091 about national issues or my constituency office on 01223 830 037 to raise local concerns.

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CLOSURE OF LOCAL BANK

The Great Shelford branch of Lloyds Bank will close on 27 February 2018. The cash machine outside the bank will also be discontinued. This decision has been taken following a recent review of customer use, which indicates that use of the bank is declining and that the majority of customers are also using alternative ways to bank.

Account numbers and sort codes will be unchanged and standing orders, Direct Debits, cards and PINS will continue as before.

Following the closure, the nearest branch of Lloyds Bank will be Cattle Market, Cambridge (78–80 Cherry Hinton Road, CB1 7BH). This branch also has a cash machine outside it. The nearest cash machines will be outside Barclays Bank in Woollards Lane, and in the Co-op.

JW from information provided by Lloyds Bank

READER'S LETTER

Customers were informed in writing on Thursday 30 November that after a recent review of how customers use the branches in the Cambridge area, the Great Shelford branch of Lloyds Bank would be closing on 27 February 2018.

This is nonsense as the Shelford branch is always busy with long waits to get served, and this needs to be challenged and stopped, as next Barclays may close as well.

They are transferring business to the Cattle Market branch in Cherry Hinton Road, which is NOT AT ALL EASY TO GET TO.

This decision is not good for the health of our village, please can someone help?

Roy Guy

FEBRUARY ISSUE OF THE VILLAGE NEWS

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is **Friday 12 January** and it should be available in the shops on **Friday 26 January**. Subscribed copies will be delivered shortly thereafter.

See page 27 for a complete list of deadlines for 2018.

PROPOSED MERGER OF SHELFORD AND GRANTA MEDICAL PRACTICES

The NHS is changing rapidly. General practice remains the bedrock of the NHS but needs to adapt to be able to meet both current and future needs of our populations. Nationally there is already a significant shortfall in GP numbers and this is going to get worse. With an ageing population, healthcare needs are more complex and patients are attending the surgery much more frequently than in the past.

Put simply, the traditional general practice which has worked so well for so long is no longer able to service patient needs. Government policy is that only large general practices will get access to new funding streams. Without this additional resource, patient care will suffer.

The GPs of both Shelford Health Centre and Granta Medical Practices (Barley, Royston, Linton and Sawston) believe that the best option for maintaining and improving services for our patients is through coming together to form a single practice. At present the practices are consulting on this proposed merger. We are keen to seek the views of all those who might be affected.

The practice teams already work very closely together. We believe that by coming together, not only will the existing services provided to our patients be more sustainable but we will also be able to add new services, enabling us to provide improved care in our practices. A merger also facilitates the hoped-for integration of community nursing and support teams with the practices as part of the nationally recognised 'Primary Care Home' model of integrated care.

There is no intention to shut any of the surgeries down nor to stop providing core general practice consultations from each site. However, some administrative and specialist services may be delivered from a single location.

Already the Granta merged practices are better placed to retain and recruit clinical staff than many surrounding practices, ensuring high levels of continued service despite the national shortage of doctors and nurses in primary care.

Shelford and Granta Medical Practices are committed to providing the best possible care for our patients within the NHS system. We are keen to evolve to remain as relevant to our community in the next half century as we have been since the foundation of the NHS. Together, with some 44,000 patients, we will be big enough to deliver modern healthcare while remaining small enough to care and be responsive to our patient needs.

If you have any queries about the merger, please contact:

Sandra East sandra.east@nhs.net
Administration & Communications Manager
Shelford Medical Practice
01223 843661

or

Gerard Newnham gerard.newnham@nhs.net
Practice Business Manager
Granta Medical Practices
01223 727555



DO YOU RECEIVE THE SOUTH CAMBS MAGAZINE?

All households in Great Shelford should receive a free copy of the South Cambs Magazine every quarter. The most recent issue was Winter 2017 (illustrated on left).

Several Great Shelford residents have complained that they don't receive this magazine. The Development Officer at South Cambs District Council has been contacted about this, and would like to know the extent of the distribution problem.

If you aren't receiving the magazine, contact Kathryn.hawkes@cambs.gov.uk.
JW

THANK YOU

Great and Little Shelford School PTA would like to say a huge THANK YOU to everyone for supporting our Christmas Fair last month. The children had a brilliant time and we hope you did too! At the time of going to press we await our fundraising total. All proceeds will help towards the outdoor play area and other items on the school's wish list. On behalf of the children, thank you very much.

Here's to a wonderful New Year and we look forward to welcoming you to our Summer Fair in 2018!

The Shelford School PTA team

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SHELFORD SCHOOL

December is always a busy month in the school calendar. In addition to our day-to-day life in school we've enjoyed an exciting Opera workshop, an RE day about respect, resilience and responsibility, and some parent briefings focusing on safeguarding, and mental health and wellbeing – all vitally important issues for our young people and top priorities for all those in charge of their care and education.

In sport, a team of Year 5s and 6s have represented the school at a big inter-school cross-country tournament. It was a super effort from the whole squad and they represented the school very well. Our highest placed runner was Tom Bullock who came second in the Year 6 boys' race.

This year, for the first time, our head boy and head girl – Daniel Lockey and Elizabeth Cousins – had the honour of switching on the village Christmas lights! Thanks to pupils who came to sing carols that evening. It was a lovely way to begin seasonal festivities in the village.

The annual nativity performance was very much enjoyed by all. In well-established tradition the Reception class sparkled as the heavenly host, the Year 2 children eagerly took the main roles and the Year 1s brought ribbons and their dancing skills to remind us that the events of 2000+ years ago are still relevant and celebrated today.



PTA [Christmas Fair](#) — Photo: Eleanor McCrone

Our Christmas Fair has once again been a very successful event bringing the school community together for an afternoon of festive fun and raising some much appreciated funding for the 'extra' bits of school life. Huge thanks must go to Maria Lazarus, our PTA chair, and her incredible team who coordinate the event, and to all the pupils, staff, governors and family members who helped too. It was a really great day!

At the time of writing we still look forward to the Key Stage 2 Carols by

Camden, and the highly anticipated School Christmas Day, although I dare say some are looking just one day beyond that to the school holidays and a brief rest before the new year and term begins again!

Happy New Year from all at Shelford School!

Anna Caroe, Foundation Governor

OVER-70S CHRISTMAS PARTY



Photo: Helen Harwood

Great Shelford's annual Christmas Party for the over-70s is a special event in the Great Shelford calendar, and took place this year on 22 November. Fifty-six guests arrived promptly and enjoyed an afternoon which consisted of torturing their brains over my quiz, and lots and lots of conversation. Interesting facts emerged from the quiz answer sheets, like the fact that everyone except me knew that a male turkey is called a stag or a tom, and that a substantial number of the attendees remembered a band called Spike Jones and his City Slickers (before my time, I'm afraid)!

A big highlight of the afternoon is always the tea, with cheese scones, sausage rolls and cakes provided by Dorothy Doel and Hazel Webb from the Shelford Country Market. It's a great testimony to their cooking that no sausage rolls or scones are ever left over!

I'd like to thank all the ladies who worked so hard in the kitchen preparing tea: Margaret Provis, Pat Legge, Dani Grant, Jane Wilkey, Lynne Brown, Jackie Nettleton and Jenny Morris, and also those who baked cakes for us. The nice thing about the party is that so many people help out.

And I have two more thank yous. The party was funded in part by a legacy from Mrs Joy Campbell who, you may recall, lived in the house beside the library and died last year aged 95. But the major funding came from Shelford Feast who do so much to keep all the really worthwhile things in the village happening. So a huge thank you to the Bunch. We all enjoyed ourselves!

Helen Harwood

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Joint Men's Fellowship Our meetings continue on the second Thursday of each month in 2018 – so here are the dates for the first part of the year to note in your diaries:

11 January, 8 February and 8 March.



Toy Collection – Thank You Sincere thanks for the splendid annual toy collection in aid of the Salvation Army which took place on 3 December.

New Year Resolutions Here is some real wisdom I read recently from David Wolpe, the Max Webb Senior Rabbi of Sinai Temple in Los Angeles. Happy New Year!

1 Engage with people more than pixels. Looking at a phone is quick and undemanding. Texting is easier than talking – it gives you intimacy without danger. This year, resolve to spend more time looking into someone's eyes when you communicate with them. Replace an extended exchange on text with a meeting for coffee. Make a promise of presence.

2 Take your soul seriously. It is easy to pretend that what we watch and how we speak have no effects on us. But the constant pounding of hatreds and dehumanization that marks so much of our media has consequences for our character. Part of who you are is the sum of the influences you choose: what you watch, who you associate with, how you speak about others both publicly and privately. Life is a continuous journey of soul shaping, and this year, resolve to keep your deep journey in mind. Turn away from something seductive but corrosive – Twitter rants full of bile, or people who continually insult those around them, or depictions of violence that take savage delight in suffering. You only get one soul; don't squander it in things unworthy of its majesty.

3 Increase your kindness. If you wish to feel kind, do something good. The great secret of moral growth is that it often begins from the outside. Rather than your joy leading you to smile, your smile can lead you to joy. Behave generously even when you do not feel like it and the habit will grow as will your innate quality of kindness. The act can be small or large; it can be a charitable contribution or a gentle word or help with a heavy bag on an airplane. Do it.

4 Choose someone to forgive. All of us have legitimate grievances in our lives. Some people are very hard to forgive but you need not begin with the toughest cases. Small acts of grace will grow. Forgive the guy who cut you off in the street; after all, you have cut people off as well, on purpose or inadvertently. Forgive the person who made an unkind remark about you. Choose a place to begin. The more you forgive, the less the world can injure you; forgiveness is a soft shield for your soul.

5 In forgiving, include yourself. Fight against perfectionism. Leave a dropped stitch in the knitting of your life. There will always be more possibilities to get something wrong than to get it right. Allow yourself the latitude of mistakes, without self-punishing. God is supposed to be perfect, not human beings. Have expectations of yourself, but don't enforce them with a hammer.

St Mary's Toddler Group

For children from 0 to 3 years of age with their parents/carers, meeting on Thursdays in the Community Room 9.30–11.30am (term time only). Contact details from Gillian Pett – gillian.pett29@gmail.com.

From the Registers

Funeral: 28 November Joy Nunn

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 email vicar@stmarysgreatshelford.org

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

Parish Administrator: Katharin Page 07710 518220 or email pagekatharin@gmail.com

St Mary's Great Shelford is a Registered Charity, No. 245456

PLAYSCAPE IN 2018

WITH OVER £60,000 RAISED TO DATE, 2018 COULD BE PLAYSCAPE'S YEAR!

The planting plan is ready and the surface water management plan commissioned for us to apply for planning permission. Once the plans have been approved we can go out to tender and apply for the large local grants to get phase one done (the top play area, pedestrian entrance and new car parking).

Yippee!

Momentum is Building

The Parish Council and Shelford Feast have secured plans and dedicated funds for the new services on the Recreation Ground, which will be in place for this year's silver anniversary Feast Week. For you this means toilets next to the tent, for us this means space for the Playscape!

So a huge thanks to the Shelford Feast Bunch as without their generosity and can-do attitude to relocating, the Playscape and future skate park wouldn't happen. They also kindly awarded us £350 towards maintaining the much loved red horse.

Thanks to all those who voted for us in the Aviva Community Fund. Unfortunately we didn't have enough votes to make the final, but we are very grateful for the donations from the Christmas Lights Switch-On: a fantastic £770! Thank you to the local resident who generously donated the wine, those who baked delicious cakes and the Parish Councillor who donated the hotdogs. A real community effort and a great evening.

2018 To-do List: How You Can Help

- Raise the remaining non-grant £30k (donations and fundraising ideas gratefully received) and apply for large grants.
- Sunday 16 September 2018 – the Fun Run will be coming back!
- Maintain the copse and meadows.
- Build a Playscape! Autumn 2018?



Eleanor McCrone info@shelfordplayscape.org

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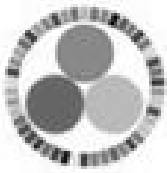
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Great Shelford Free Church

BIG QUESTIONS

What about big life questions? I'm not talking about the little questions we have to ask and answer every day, things like, what will I wear today? Will I drive or cycle? Will I go out or watch TV? I'm talking about the big 'What is life about?' questions. Why does my heart beat? Why do I think or feel a certain way? Why are we here on this planet, spinning around in this universe? Why? Why? Why?

The big questions are often so big we choose to ignore them, pretend that they are not there. But like the proverbial 'elephant in the room' they never really go away. I've been around long enough to see many people having to deal with big questions. Such questions normally crop up when someone has died, or is in a hospital bed. They hardly ever crop up when life is going well, and full of distractions. But I strongly feel that we will all have to think about the tough questions of life at some point – that elephant just won't wander off or disappear.

When Jesus walked this planet, he seemed to cut through all the junk of people's lives, the money, the status, the sin and the hurt. He often did this by feeling compassion and love for those that he met along life's journey. I wonder if we might take some time to stop and allow the tough questions to linger for a while; not be afraid to stay in the uncomfortable thoughts, to risk addressing them, so that we might see beyond our here and now and grasp some of the fullness of life.

Here at the Free Church we want to share the love and grace that Jesus shared with those on life's journey. We often talk together, pray together, laugh together, eat together as a way of walking with each other through life's ups and downs. One way we are doing that this year is by doing the Alpha course on a Friday morning. Alpha is a great way to find space to ask some of life's big questions, so whether you want to join us or not, why don't you see if you can find some time to ask the big questions of life.

Rev'd Martin Cockerill

SERVICES AT GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – SERVICES AT 10.30AM

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Refreshments are served in the hall after the service



ALPHA COURSE 2018 Starting Friday 19 January in 10 weekly sessions

A series of interactive sessions helping those who attend to freely explore the basics of the Christian faith. The course is tailored for anyone who is curious and has questions to ask. Each week a video is shown followed by a talk, with the encouragement to join in conversations and explore in a friendly, open and informal manner.

Sessions take place on Friday mornings **11am–12 noon** followed by lunch 12.15–1.45pm.

Course details available on the website: www.shelfordfreechurch.org.uk or ring 01223 842181.

CHILDREN'S WEEKLY/TERMLY ACTIVITIES

Kids Club on Sunday

10.30–11.30am

Children aged 3–10 in the Main Hall
Youth Activities School Year 6+ in the Loft
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Wednesdays

Little Steps 10am–12 noon

Toddlers aged 0–3 years with carers

Tiny Toes 1.30–3.30pm

Babies under 1 year and their carers

Term Time Only – After School Club activities

Jump 3–5 years Tuesdays 3.30–4.45pm

Heroes 6–9 years Tuesdays 3.30–5pm

Mix 10+ years Tuesdays 3.30–5pm

For further information – visit our website:

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Church Office (access via Ashen Green):

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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF ...



BRIDGET HODGE

PARISH COUNCIL VICE CHAIRMAN, CHAIRMAN OF PLANNING COMMITTEE

I don't really have a typical day. Some days I might do a lot more than others. So one day last week I had a planning meeting, and that meant I had to go through all the planning applications beforehand and look at the history, to see if there'd been any previous applications, and also I went out before the meeting to check there wouldn't be any problems such as overlooking. If there's an application for works to trees in the conservation area I'll go and look at that as well. People are supposed to replace a tree if it's been cut down but that doesn't always happen, so I inform the District Council if it hasn't been replaced. And I'm always conscious when I walk round the village of what's going on. Is that tree being looked after all right? Have they got the right sort of guards in place round the trunk? Has it been done according to the plan? Are the notices on the noticeboards up to date or do I need to remove some of them?

I don't get so many phone calls as I used to in the past. I used to get sent the paper planning applications and then I'd take them round to people and discuss them, whereas now everything's online, so in a way it's less onerous than it used to be. There are always some that you know are going to be more contentious than others but people are generally quite amenable.

At the moment I'm involved in the Neighbourhood Plan as well, so some of the day is spent on that. I'm looking at housing, so we're investigating exception sites, which are sites for affordable housing for those in need in locations where housing wouldn't normally be allowed. Last week we also went to South Cambs about the Grange Field, which we've been trying to buy for the village for many years. We were told we have to make a case for it as part of the Neighbourhood Plan, so that's going to involve more work on the planning side of things.

I always have things in the background to do. For example all the planning applications are sent to us as paper copies. A lot of them are stored in boxes in my house so that if a new application comes in then I can look at the old one and compare them. But sometimes I have to go to the store in the Pavilion because we've also got applications in store there going back to when I started in 1997 and so what's lurking in my mind is the fact that I need to go down there and get rid of some of them. But I know that there are certain ones there I need to keep, so it will be quite a big job.

Bridget Hodge as told to JW

SHELFORD FEAST



From left: Theo Lury, Andrew Heather and Isis Read Photo: Will George

The Shelford Feast was again a success this year and at an enjoyable gathering in the Memorial Hall in November The Bunch were able to donate a massive £22,900 to local good causes. The full list is on our website but in summary, 32 groups received £350 each, SSYI received £500, there were donations of £100 each to Magpas and Different Strokes and £2,000 each to The Sick Children's Trust, who provided first aid for us throughout the week, to the Mobile Warden Scheme, which provides care for the elderly in their own homes, and to the School – always in need of funds and for whom The Feast was revived.

We will also be able to give £5,000 to the Parish Council to provide extra services for the Recreation Ground, enabling convenient access to water, electricity and sewerage – not only for The Feast but also for other users.

Thanks to all those who attended and made it a pleasant evening. Thanks also to everyone who helps us at the Feast in whatever capacity; your efforts benefit the whole community.

Next year is the 25th anniversary of the modern Feast and we hope to make it a special year. If you have any suggestions for new events or ways of using our marquee and equipment in Feast Week, do get in touch. As always we need volunteers, and we have been asked particularly to think ahead and see if there was anything we can donate to the Grand Auction on Quiz Night. If you have something you no longer need but that might make an appealing present, keep it until Feast Week and donate it!

And put it in your diaries now: Shelford Feast, 15 July 2018, with events the whole of the previous week. See you at The Shelford Feast!

Duncan Grey

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DIARY JANUARY 2018

Date	Event	Time	Place
4	WI Talk (page 29)	7.30pm	(see page 29)
9	Garden Club Talk (page 27)	7.30pm	Shelford School
11	Carpet Bowls Club Night	7pm	Memorial Hall
13	Twinning Jumble Sale (page 42)	2pm	Memorial Hall
18	Carpet Bowls Club Night	7pm	Memorial Hall
24	Engage Talk (page 29)	2pm	Library
25	Carpet Bowls Home Game	7pm	Memorial Hall

The Country Market is in the Memorial Hall each Wednesday, 8.30–11.30am except on 3 January 2018.



BIN COLLECTIONS

Black bins Thursday 4, Tuesdays 16 and 30 January

Green + blue bins Wednesday 10 January

Blue bins Tuesday 23 January

Place paper directly in blue bin. Caddies are no longer collected.



POSTAL COLLECTIONS

Collections from most local post boxes are between 4pm and 5pm weekdays, 9–9.45am Saturdays.

Later collections

High Green Bus Stop 5.15pm (noon Saturdays)

Cambridge Road / Stonehill Road 6.15pm (noon Saturdays)



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ADVANCE NOTICE OF CRAFT FAIR

A craft fair will be held on 24 March 2018 at Harston Village Hall.

To book a table, please contact Brenda on 01223 872810 or email
colinandbrenda1@hotmail.com.

GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS
COPY DEADLINES FOR 2018

Deadline	Issue
January 12	February
February 9	March
March 9	April
April 13	May
May 11	June
June 15	July

Deadline	Issue
July 13	August
August 10	September
September 14	October
October 12	November
November 9	December
December 7	January 2019

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WI

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We held our Christmas meeting on Thursday 7 December and it was a great success. We began with each member making a Christmas table centre under the expert guidance of Jayne Norris; everyone was pleased with their result. We were then entertained by our team of handbell ringers, followed by a quiz with supper and mulled wine.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 4 January when Andy Malcolm from The Fishermen's Mission will speak about 'The True Price of Fish & Chips'. His talk will include a look at the history and work of the Fishermen's Mission Charity, the life of a UK trawlerman, the history and trivia of fish and chips, sea shanties, sea poetry and a quick fishy quiz.

New members and visitors are always very welcome. Make a New Year's Resolution to join us on the first Thursday of every month at 7.30 p.m. in the North Room behind All Saints' Church in Little Shelford.

Mary Talbott



engage

at Great Shelford Library

Wednesday 24 January

2–3.30 pm



A talk by Annie James

The Life and Times of Madame Geneva – the 18th Century Gin Craze

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SHELFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION WINE TASTING EVENING: NOVEMBER 18

Having been to the Shelford Twinning Association Wine Tasting Evening once before, I knew that we had a great evening ahead of us.

Over our first glass of bubbles (a *Vouvray* from *Les Quinze Arpents*), Colin Jefferson, who organised the evening, welcomed us and introduced us to Jillian Hardwick. Jillian shared her knowledge of the wines throughout the evening giving a brief introduction to each. She encouraged us to check bubble size, to trap the aroma to intensify the smell and to savour the taste on our tongue.

Our second wine of the evening was a *Muscadet Sèvre et Maine sur Lie* (*Château Guerande Marguais*) – quite a contrast to the *Vouvray*. This was followed by a delicious *Touraine Sauvignon Blanc* (*Roc de Châteauneuf*), which turned out to be the favourite of the room. Both wines were accompanied by goats' cheese cake, crisps, olives, crudités and dips.

There was then a change of colour as we had a *Touraine Rosé* (*Domaine de la Doltière – Châteauneuf*) – tastes are often impacted by surroundings and drinking a rosé on a wintery November evening was a stark contrast to the usual drink on a summer evening. However it was very palatable and made more so by the accompaniment of *saucisson* and *rillettes de chèvre* (Ardennes paté on toast).

A light *Chinon* (*Domaine de la Lysardière*) was accompanied by a delicious *coq au vin*. This was followed by a more full-bodied *Saumur-Champigny* 'Secrets de Chai' (*Éric Lausent*) to accompany a range of French cheeses.

Our final tasting was a *Rosé d'Anjou* (*Rémy Pannier*). This was a refreshing change to the usual heavy white dessert wines and brought the evening to a delicious close alongside *mousse au chocolat* and *gâteaux aux pommes*.

Throughout the evening participants were encouraged to write down their impressions and judgement of the wines – descriptions of aromas ranged from 'wet blanket' to 'gooseberries'! Many thanks are due to Colin who also shared his experiences of wine tasting around France, and his wife Janet who together with a team of cooks and bakers served up delicious accompaniments to the wines.

A wonderful evening of touring the Loire valley wines without leaving Great Shelford. The evening proved to be definitely more than value for money.

Cheryl Smythe



GARDEN CLUB

VIRGINS, WEEDERS AND QUEENS

Dr Twigs Way spoke about the history of women in the garden, based on her book *Virgins, Weeders and Queens*.



The medieval housewife was responsible for maintaining a garden to produce food and herbs to support the household. During the medieval period and in Tudor times, many women chose to work as garden labourers and are recorded in manorial accounts. One such record from 1515 shows that 22 women were employed at a rate of 3d a day, which was half that paid to men. The Hampton Court accounts list women as being required to weed the flower beds and collect bushels of strawberries and

primroses from the wild. At Christ Church College in Oxford, records show that women gardeners were paid with bread, ale and herrings.

Pictures show women in northern Europe scarifying and creating an estrade, a decorative garden feature produced by weaving lavender plants through and around a wheel. Women were involved in growing garden produce for sale in markets. They looked after bees but weren't allowed to work in orchards, for reasons leading back to the biblical story of the creation.

In the early 17th century, Miss Tuggie of Westminster was running her own carnation nursery, trading in the 'most excellent and varietie of these delights which exceedeth all that had ever seen' (John Gerard the herbalist). In 1618 William Lawson produced the first gardening book specifically for women, which showed a mistress instructing her maid on how to weed.

During the late 1600s and early 1700s, gardening became the pursuit of queens and aristocratic ladies. Queen Mary II was a keen plant collector and had glasshouses installed at Hampton Court to house 2,000 exotic plants and 1,000 orange trees. Prince Frederick and Princess Augusta established a garden around Kew Palace and after her husband's death, Princess Augusta continued decorating and enhancing the nine-acre garden, which was to become the Botanic Garden at Kew.



The ladies of Llangollen

In the mid-18th century the 'Ladies of Llangollen' scandalised society by eloping together to avoid the possibility of being forced into unwanted marriages and settled in a cottage in Llangollen, where they created a rural, gothic-style garden complete with grottos.

For the Victorians, nurturing and watering plants was considered a suitable activity for ladies but digging was deemed too menial. The botanical study, illustration and growing of ferns was a respectable pastime, as the plants showed no male and female parts. In 1807 Mrs London's *Gardening* was published and in 1840 *Every Lady Her Own Flower Gardener* by Louisa Johnson.

In 1902 the Hon Frances Garnet Wolseley set up the Glynde College for Lady Gardeners for women interested in horticultural careers. Her book *Gardening for Women* had instructions about what women should wear in the colonies and how they should deal with drunken under-gardeners. The renowned garden designer Gertrude Jekyll attended the school. In the 1920s Norah Lindsay took up garden design out of economic necessity and was largely responsible for the style of design and planting championed by Hidcote and Sissinghurst.



Beatrix Havergall with students at [Waterperry Pusey House](#), 1931

In 1932 Beatrix Havergall founded Waterperry Horticultural School for women, near Oxford. During the Second World War, market gardening for food production became a priority and Land Girls joined the staff and students at Waterperry in the 'Dig for Victory' campaign.

Helen Chubb

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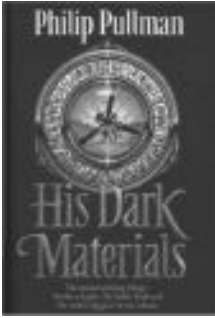
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BOOK REVIEW

***HIS DARK MATERIALS* BY PHILIP PULLMAN**



Philip Pullman has achieved what JRR Tolkien, JK Rowling and CS Lewis have done before him, in writing magical books that appeal equally to children and to adults. In the trilogy *His Dark Materials* (*Northern Lights*, *The Subtle Knife*, *The Amber Spyglass*), and now in the first book of his second trilogy *The Book of Dust*, *La Belle Sauvage*, he invents a world that is similar to yet curiously different from our own, where a person has a shape-changing animal daemon always with them, where there are no cars or planes but airships and gyrocopters, where

the atmosphere is one of a Victorian world which has taken a different turning.

The main character, Lyra Belacqua, a young girl with powerful but warring parents, lives in the care of Jordan College, Oxford, protected from the Magisterium, a powerful and aggressive Church body. Supported by her friend Will, the Gyptians who live on narrowboats, bands of witches who fly in to save her and armoured polar bears who protect her, the quest Lyra undergoes pits her against evil forces and allies her to good in many unexpected ways.

While the dangerous quest is the thread holding two trilogies together, a theme running through the books is of Dust, which is related to original sin. Pullman turns the story of Paradise Lost on its head, while the story brings in philosophy and theology in unexpected ways.

These may not sound like very accessible books, especially not for children, but in fact they are essentially a simple adventure, where good (Lyra and friends) combats evil (the Magisterium and its members) while undertaking trials and tests. The more mature reader may also see the metaphors and analogies of the tale and make more of it.

I strongly recommend *Northern Lights*, the first book of the original trilogy. The invented world caught me by surprise as at one moment it feels like a period piece, then an unexpected twist pushes it into fantasy and magic. We see parallels with our own world while glimpsing further worlds beyond. The most recent book, *La Belle Sauvage*, is a kind of prequel to *Northern Lights*.

I must mention the wonderful alethiometer or golden compass which plays an important part in the stories. While some of the magical world seems limited in its understanding of basic science, in Lyra's hands this device reveals truth and answers questions. This and the daemons are strong fantasy elements that draw you into a mysterious world.

Duncan Grey

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SUPPORT FOR OLDER VILLAGE RESIDENTS

Great Shelford Mobile Warden Scheme helps to support older people living in the village. At present there are a few vacancies for new members.

What we do

Initially we visit the person and make a plan to suit their particular needs. There are two regular wardens who get to know members well, and visit them to monitor their wellbeing and help them to avoid social isolation.

We can phone daily if required, 365 days a year, and visit once or twice a week depending on circumstances. The wardens can fetch small items of shopping, pay bills, fetch prescriptions, call the GP and deal with any other needs when they arise. We can also help to organise other services if and when needed, by agreement with members, and make suggestions which could be helpful as needs change.

Membership

Two types of membership exist:

- Part-time for those who have occasional needs, for example during illness or after hospital admission, which currently costs £27 a year.
- Full-time membership, which currently costs £24 a month.

Further information

Please contact either Jackie Noble (warden) on 700920 or Jenny Morris (chairperson) on 846332.

Jenny Morris

NEW GUIDE FOR EFFICIENT WOOD-BURNING

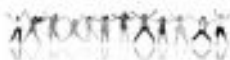


Open fires and wood-burning stoves have risen in popularity in recent years. This means we now see more smoke from chimneys, which can have a negative effect on our air quality. This can in turn cause breathing problems such as asthma attacks and contribute to other health conditions.

Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) has published a new practical guide on how to increase the efficiency of wood-burning stoves, reduce fuel costs and minimise the human impacts. An electronic copy is available on the website <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/content/air-pollution> (click on the heading 'Practical guide on open fires and wood-burning stoves by Defra').

From information provided by SCDC

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MAGOG DOWN

HELP WITH COSTS OF NEW DOG EXERCISING AREA

We were delighted to hear this week that our application to the Tesco 'Bags of Help' scheme has been successful, and that shoppers in the local area will have a chance throughout January and February to vote for funds to come to The Magog Trust.

Dogs and their owners love Magog Down for the freedom it provides to exercise in a beautiful environment. The grant was requested in order to help with the costs of the additional area earmarked near the car park, where owners can exercise their dogs off lead in a safe place that they too can enjoy. The need for additional fencing, gates and seating as well as annual costs of grass cutting and dog bin emptying led to an application for £2,900.

But how much we receive from this grant depends on YOU voting in store when you shop! A full list of the local Tesco stores that will be taking part is now included on our website www.magogtrust.org.uk. *Kathleen Foreman*

MAGOG SINGERS



Our new term starts on 9 January at 2pm in The Jubilee Pavilion, Stapleford, when we look forward to another enjoyable term's singing. Last term was a busy one, with two concerts as well as our end-of-term social with friends and family. That occasion raised £140 for Cam Sight.

We are always happy to welcome new members. For further information contact Kathleen.foreman@ntlworld.com or graham.bush@ntlworld.com.

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

SAWSTON VILLAGE COLLEGE

Visit to the Battlefields of Belgium and France



Travelling in two coaches, 87 pupils from Year 10 at Sawston Village College visited the WWI battlefields of Belgium and France from 16–18 November. The group was accommodated for both nights at the Peace Village in Mesen.

Within the Ypres Salient area of Belgium, the group visited the British and Commonwealth military cemeteries of Tyne Cot, Lijssenthoek, Vancouver Corner and Essex Farm; the German military cemetery of Langemarck; the Sanctuary Wood trench system and Talbot House ‘Every Man’s Club’ in Poperinge. The itinerary in Belgium culminated with the Menin Gate Memorial ceremony in Ypres where Zack Barton and Maya Ramachandran laid wreaths on behalf of the College.

In France, we focused on the Somme area and visited Newfoundland Park, the Thiepval Memorial and the Lochnagar Crater at La Boisselle.

Mr Reed, History Teacher

Sawston Village College Jazz Band

Sawston Village College Jazz Band opened the 2017 Cambridge International Jazz Festival’s Schools Big Band Day at Anglia Ruskin University on Saturday 25 November. After a relaxed Latin-styled *The Girl From Ipanema*, the trumpets took centre stage for the *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy*. Four soloists raised the roof with their improvisations during the funky *Inside Out* and *Fly Me To The Moon* completed the set.

The band also attended a workshop with the highly acclaimed Beats & Pieces Big Band, who had just flown in from Amsterdam. All in all, it was a great Saturday of music-making, highlighting the school's talented musicians.

Mr Barlow, Sawston Village College Jazz Band Leader

Geography Quiz Club



On the evening of 22 November, Sawston Village College entered the Cambridgeshire Geographical Association's Worldwise Quiz at Long Road Sixth Form College, which was kindly sponsored by Open Air. SVC entered two teams against the top 16 Geography teams across Cambridge. One team consisted of Thomas Martin (Year 10), Joe Nally (Year 9) and George Nelson (Year 8), with the second team comprising William Martin (Year 10), Jonathan Mack (Year 10), Matthew Galloway (Year 9) and Oliver Ward (Year 8). The second team switched players in and out of every round due to there being a limit of three per team.

To start, there was a practice round that one of our teams won along with The Perse School, scoring a perfect 20 out of 20. After a shaky start for one of our teams in the Physical Geography round, both teams then aced the second round on Capital Cities, scoring full marks. With consistent scores throughout the next eight rounds, especially the Alphabet round, the scores were in ... SVC 2 finished with an outstanding 122 points to claim third place out of 16 teams whilst SVC 1 managed to bag an astonishing 136 points to capture second place, only just missing out on first place by 5 points. This year was the first time SVC have ever had both teams in the top three overall, finishing as the best school there. This tournament can be considered a triumph on SVC's behalf and we are already looking forward to next year!

George Nelson and Oliver Ward, Year 8 pupils

BAFTA Young Game Designers Awards

On Saturday 30 June I was invited to the prize-giving of the BAFTA Young Game Designers awards at BAFTA headquarters, London. As a nominee, I found myself in a very smart room, with a cocktail bar (non-alcoholic) and a table of computers, each with a nominee's game playing on it. My game, as the only game designed for android, merited its own android tablet. The people milling around were encouraged to play each game and assess its merits. Around the room were large billboards, each with a nominee's idea for a game concept. These were very interesting and thought-provoking – I found myself wanting to make half the games mentioned!

After the reception, we were directed into the BAFTA theatre, where the prizes were given out. Each winner was named and prizes given by well-known games developers or producers such as Adrienne Law, the developer of Monument Valley 2. Afterwards, everyone was ushered onto the stage, including the British Unity team, who were the winners of the YGD Hero Award (an award given to motivational and inspirational development studios), along with the presenters Dev Griffin and Georgie Barrat who were hosting the ceremony.

Overall, the award ceremony was a very exciting and informative event. I would encourage any aspiring game developer to enter the BAFTA YGD competition next year, with final entries due in March.

Alex Keller, Year 10 pupil

Shelford Twinning Association

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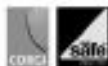


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BOWLS CLUB



This is Great Shelford Bowls Club tombola table at the Christmas Lights Switch-On. It was a lovely evening and our table was nearly overflowing with super prizes supplied by club members. We made £100 which is a great help to our funds.

Thanks to all who supported us.

Wendy Seekings

FOOTBALL CLUB

The first team's good form continued with another unbeaten month, which leaves them second in the table. The goals continued to flow freely in wins against Chatteris Town at home (6–0), Gamlingay United away (7–1) and Gamlingay United again (4–1) in the return home fixture. Fulbourn



Institute had begun the season in indifferent form but had started to put a few good results together when they visited us. Their improved form continued in a tight, hard-fought 0–0 draw, which could have gone either way. Shelford shaded the first half and could have scored but Fulbourn came back strongly in the second period to create chances to score. The following week Fulbourn played out another 0–0 draw against the league leaders, West Watting, which allowed us to close the gap at the top.

It was a mixed month for the reserve team, with two wins and two defeats. Impressive away wins at Bar Hill Reserves (3–0) and City Life (5–1) were unfortunately tempered by defeats away to Papworth (3–1) and at home to Litlington Athletic (3–0).

There are home matches on most Saturday afternoons so why not come along and support your local club? Refreshments for mums, dads, young and old are on sale in the Pavilion during first team matches, and the clubroom above the Memorial Hall is open for a drink after games. Everyone is welcome.



This will be the last report of 2017, so it just remains to hope that you all had a very happy Christmas, and to wish you a prosperous New Year from us all at Great Shelford Football Club. See you in 2018.

Terry Rider

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RUGBY CLUB

COLTS HOST A TOURING JAPANESE TEAM



November brought a touring Japanese colts team to the Davey Field. Drilled and disciplined, the Japanese boys put up a great performance and clearly enjoyed playing on our 3G pitch. Shelford lost the match, but the sentiment of our lads (having recently toured to Canada themselves) was that of pride to have hosted and played against a fantastic team, and they will grow and learn from this experience.

The post-match meal of homemade lasagne followed by a vast array of cakes was received well by our visitors ... they showed their appreciation by getting up from their tables in turn and giving each of our players a customised tour T-shirt. It was a heart-warming evening with the obvious language barrier not an obstacle, and the enjoyment of rugby and what it brings was the winning outcome of the evening.

Their accompanying translator was most complimentary about his Shelford family and expressed his and his boy's gratitude at our efforts for the evening.

The Japanese Kokoku High School from the Osaka region were laden with leftover cakes as they left to continue their tour on to Rugby School followed by a last leg in Dubai. We wish them all the best!

With the Rugby World Cup in Japan in 2019, perhaps this is one venue to add to our touring destinations?



You can find more information about what's happening at the club in the following ways:

Club website: www.shelfordrugby.co.uk

Facebook:

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Twitter: www.twitter.com/shelfordrugby

Anna Biard

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WHAT IS LIFE IF FULL OF CARE?

A couple of years ago, a television advert for Center Parcs featured WH Davies' poem:

*What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare.
No time to stand beneath the boughs
And stare as long as sheep or cows.*

And so on.

Now I love to hate television advertising. I resent the endless repetition of advertising messages, the insensitive way programmes are cut to accommodate them. I bloody-mindedly determine that I will never, ever buy whatever it is they are advertising, simply on the grounds of the annoyance they've caused me. This advert was no exception, though the idea of those squirrels hiding their nuts in the grass caused us some casual hilarity. And yet, the message of the poem is a good one. There's a whole beautiful world out there, and if we're careering round, endlessly busy and full of stress, then what are we doing with our lives? We can never really know where we're headed, or what's in store for us. So all we can do is enjoy the travelling. And I do. So let me share a couple of points on the journey.

I always like to stare at a river: there's something soothing about the gentle flow of water. And so, last week my husband and I were leaning over one of the bridges in Canterbury at dusk, watching the water go by. There were great rafts of weed, redolent of Millais' Ophelia, streaming in the water currents. And then something not quite there streaked by. And again. I realised it was a bat flying above the water, catching flies. It would rise up near us in a glory roll

worthy of a Spitfire pilot, then swoop down, inches from the water, powering along like one of the Dambusters, picking up insects as it went. Then back it came, another roll, another long run. The sun sank towards the horizon, turning the sky golden, shading upwards into delicate pink then cornflower blue. That afterglow, the streetlights and the headlights of passing cars all combined to create a bright reflective surface on the water that illuminated both the bats and their reflections on the water beneath them. The more you looked, the more



bats you saw. Alongside the river, the road streamed with cars, one after the other. The air was heavy with fumes and traffic noise. Pedestrians passed by oblivious. And in this semi-darkness the bats pursued their parallel lives, untouched by all this human activity.

Roll back four months, and you'll find me leaning over another bridge, in another city. This time it's Bath. We were staying in an idiosyncratic guest house on a hideous road. The owners had apparently deserted their house for a shepherd's hut in the garden where the road could safely be ignored. But we were walking along this dismal highway to the pub. The street was lined with beautiful Georgian houses blackened by decades of passing cars. The air was acrid with fumes. We reached the bridge over the Avon, a ponderous nineteenth-century construction, in 'Greek Revival' style, heavy on columns, with four over-engineered toll houses. Grime was everywhere, and the passing cars uncomfortably close. But, as I said earlier, I can't resist a river.

The Avon was far below us: when Georgian Bath was developed, its streets were built up high above the natural ground level. I could see the murky green waters of the river flowing sluggishly by. And then I noticed them: mayfly. Hundreds upon hundreds, rising, dipping, dancing in the warm summer air. With their delicate three-pronged tails fanned out below them, they rose higher and higher into the air. I have seen mayfly before, but never in such numbers. They danced over the river, they danced over the riverside gardens, they danced as far as the fire station, intent on their own midsummer madness. Some fell, at the end of their one brief day of glory. A mayfly, when you see it close to, is such a slender creature, yet there is such glory in its flight.

The mayfly, in our folklore, is a denizen of Hampshire chalk streams, pristine waters, streams of crystal purity. Yet here, on this grimy bridge, were probably more mayfly than you'd see even in Hampshire. They filled the air. Well, I thought, I must revise my view of the Avon. It's not the dirty old river I imagined. If it's good enough for the mayfly, it's good enough for me.



And I learned yet again a lesson that I have learned over and over in my life. Never close your eyes to the world around you. It's so full of magic. You might miss something.

Helen Harwood

A HAPPY START TO AN ACTIVE NEW YEAR WITH CAMBRIDGE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

CambridgePPF has a host of outdoor activities to get you energised this January. Winter is a wonderful time to get out and refresh yourself, so start planning for your active new year today with CambridgePPF!

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Enjoy stunning winter landscapes and learn about the reserve's history and current management as a wildlife friendly farm. Meet outside The Plough pub on Grantchester Road at 11am. Free event but donations are always welcome!

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Volunteer Hedge-laying at Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE

Wednesday 10 January: 10am–3pm

Learn this ancient rural practice and help us care for the park and its wildlife. Wear warm waterproof clothing and tough shoes, bring a packed lunch and drink. All welcome, no need to book. Meet at the car park noticeboard.

Keeping Cambridge Special: Cambridge's Spaces and Streets Workshop

Saturday 13 January: 9am–1pm, Centre for Mathematical Sciences CB3 0WA

Share your views on the challenge of having more people moving around the city, whilst enhancing quality of life and preserving heritage. Four thought-provoking discussions led by Councillor Lewis Herbert. Advanced booking required at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/keeping-cambridge-special-tickets.

Orienteering for All at Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE

Sunday 14 January: 11am–3pm

Navigate your way around Wandlebury Park. Suitable for all ages (children must be accompanied by an adult), courses of varying lengths. £10 per family/group, individuals £5 (members £8/£4). No need to book, registration area will be signposted from the main car park.

Winter Tree Identification at Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE

Saturday 20 January: 1pm–4pm

Learn the basic skills needed to identify our common native trees in the winter followed by a guided stroll. Adult only event, booking essential. £8 per person (members £6). Wear sensible clothing according to weather and sturdy shoes.

Volunteer Coppicing Woodland at Wandlebury Country Park, CB22 3AE *Wednesday 24 January: 10am–3pm*

Learn the magic of this ancient technique. Wear warm, waterproof clothing and tough shoes, bring a packed lunch and drink. All are welcome, no need to book. Meet at the car park noticeboard.

For more information and booking email admin@cambridgeppf.org, call 01223 243830 extension 207 or visit www.cambridgeppf.org/whats-on.

WHAT'S ON IN JANUARY

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

2–7	<i>Jack and the Beanstalk</i> with Tony Christie as the King of Amarillo
17–20	<i>Sweeney Todd</i> featuring Cambridge Operatic Society
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: www.cambridgeartstheatre.com	

SAWSTON CINEMA (MARVEN CENTRE)

11	7pm	<i>Churchill</i> starring Brian Cox
18	7pm	<i>Dunkirk</i> written and directed by Christopher Nolan
Telephone: 01223 712825 Web: www.sawstoncinema.org.uk		

STAPLEFORD GRANARY

14	12 noon	Joanna Eden, Lynne & Dave Olney – Songs From The Troubadour
Telephone: 01223 849004 Web: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk		

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

13	2pm and 4pm	Cambridge Philharmonic Orchestra's Family Concert: Tim and Tom's Symphonic Adventure
20	11.30am	Symposium on Dame Elisabeth Frink, sculptor
26	7pm	Trinity College Music Society Nachtmusik Concert: the Cantabrigians
Web: www.admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson/		

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 send paper items to Judith Wilson (see below). The copy date is usually the second Friday of the month. See the *Next Issue* box for next month's date.

General enquiries and articles for publication: gsvneditorial@gmail.com

Non-email contributions should be delivered to Judith Wilson, 11 Elms Avenue, Great Shelford, CB22 5LN.

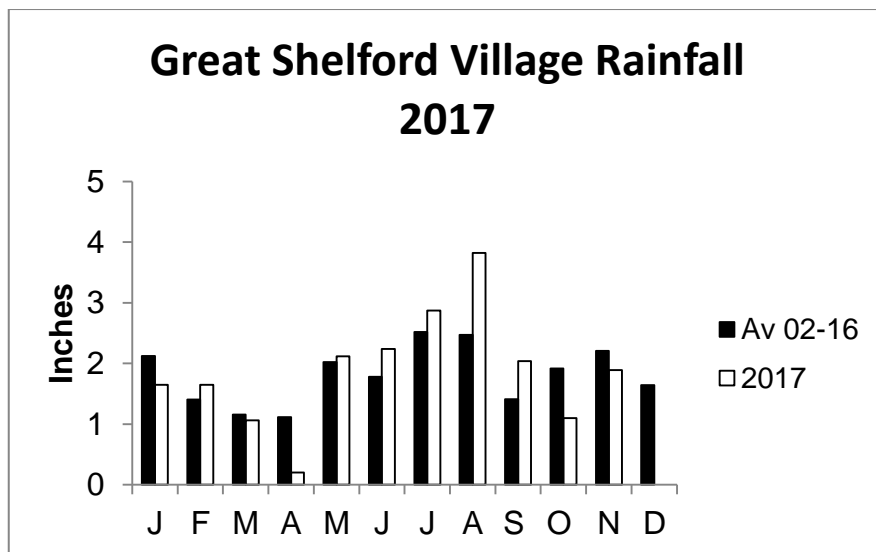
Commercial advertisements are for a 12-month period, renewed in August. There is usually a waiting list so if you would like to advertise please email gsvnadverts@gmail.com

For guidance please note that an article of around 400 words, without a photograph, will fill a full page. Advertisements for events work best as a half page (half A5) in landscape format.

Subscriptions 01223 842993

General Enquiries 01223 842553

Editorial Committee Lorraine Coulson, Duncan Grey, Bridget Hodge, Marjorie Smith, Judith Wilson.



LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

2G3S	Linda Whitebread	843438
Badminton (Little Shelford)	Rosie Cranmer	513572
Bowling Club	Jill Whaley	845310
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	Iris Considine	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 (Warden) 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 Churchwardens	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	Mark Chennells	891817
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	
Sunnyside Preschool Stapleford	Jane Doyle	707817
Stapleford Choral Society	Adam Pounds	843468
Tennis Club	Lydia Seymour	07790 498875
The Arts Society South Cambs	Sheila Tilbury-Davis	844384
Twinning Association	Penny Pearl	842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	Mr D Cupit	871527
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)	561053
Youth Initiative	Ollie Leonard	07768 545915

Websites: greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/ and greatshelford.info

CHRISTMAS FAIR AND LIGHTS IN SHELFORD



Photos: Duncan Grey and Mike Nettleton

