

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

EST 1999

FEBRUARY 2022

PRICE: 40p

Repair Café Event



Oliver Moss and Poppy Henson

Photo by Louise Guron

Granny Gertie & Little Red Riding Hood in the 2022 Pantomime – Review Next Month

20 Years of Rainfall – the figures

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Pavilion & Recreation	Malcolm Watson	Cemetery & Allotments	Gregory Price
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Pete Basset	Peter Fane		
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CLERK	Libby White	<i>clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i>	01223 616622
To email Parish Councillors, use: <i>firstname.surname@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i>			
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	Peter Fane	07802 256861	Nick Sample 07706 990833
COUNTY COUNCILLORS	Brian Milnes	07971 88611	Maria King 07764 609061

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL
greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk
**SUMMARY FROM THE MINUTES OF THE
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
MEETING ON 8 DECEMBER 2021**

One member of the public was present.

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION

The committee considered the situation with leases for the Tennis Club, the Scout Hut and the Memorial Hall. The Clerk will continue to liaise with the clubs and associations.

A revised health and safety policy statement was approved.

The Scheme of Delegation was approved. Terms of Reference for Committees and Working Groups were approved with amendments to move the responsibility for the Clay Pit to the Recreation and Pavilion Committee.

The protocol to mark the death of a Senior Head of State was approved.

FINANCE

Three quotations for an IT solution to meet the needs of the council were considered and it was agreed to work with Microshade VSM at an initial set up fee of £479 + VAT followed by a subscription of £2,154.96 per annum. This will allow Councillors to archive all their emails, there will be a shared calendar and better access to documents. It also means that if an assistant is found for the Clerk, there will be no issues with software being on a standalone machine.

Cllr Watson provided an update with the imminent arrival of a Transport and Works Act Order. The Transport and Traffic Infrastructure Working Group will consider how to seek the views of residents.

The Clerk presented a draft budget for 2022/23. After a very lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk and the Chairman look at the possibility of taking some money from Earmarked Reserves to lessen the Precept required and bring these to the January meeting for authorisation to submit the Precept request.

CONTRACTS

Within a closed session, it was agreed to use Brookfield Contracting for the grounds maintenance in the village from January 2022 for three years, at a cost of £17,916 per annum.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS IN FEBRUARY

Planning Committee	7 February	7.30pm	Sports Pavilion
Planning Committee	21 February	7.30pm	Sports Pavilion
Full Council Meeting (note change of date)	23 February	7.00pm	Sports Pavilion

Meetings may be adjourned for up to 10 minutes when the public can ask questions and put forward points or view related to business on the agenda.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS

21/04346/HFUL	4 The Orchards	Creation of new window in the side of the property.
Application supported.		

21/04522/FUL	16 Granhams Road	Erection of detached three bedroom dwelling and car port.
Application supported.		

21/04611/HFUL	29 Leeway Avenue	Part two storey, part first floor front and side extension.
Application supported.		

1/04694/HFUL	25a Westfield Road	Single storey front and side extension.
Application supported.		

21/04546/HFUL 21/04547/LBC	25 High Street	Installation of two air source heat pumps.
Application supported (NB due to the fact that there is nothing close by to be disturbed by the potential noise.)		

21/04929/HFUL	27 Westfield Road	Single storey front extension.
Application supported.		

21/04881/FUL	Land to east of 1 Chaston Road	Erection of one single storey dwelling.
No comment.		

21/04925/HFUL	Land adjacent to Beechwood House, 197 Hinton Way	Erection of a front porch.
Application supported.		

21/04993/HFUL	225 Hinton Way	Single storey front, side and rear extension, loft conversion with dormer to rear, detached car port with bin and cycle store to front and associated external works.
Objection recommended as the alterations are significant and the potential increase in footprint appears to be over 50%.		

MARCH ISSUE OF THE *VILLAGE NEWS*

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is Friday 11 February and it should be available on Friday 25 February, with subscribed copies delivered shortly thereafter.

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 views expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Committee. 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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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

2022 seems to be flying by already as I write this piece for February's GSVN

Renaming of the Pavilion

You may have seen from the last Village News that Great Shelford Parish Council (GSPC) wishes to recognise the many years of service Charlie Nightingale has given to the village, the Parish Council and the District Council. In order to do this, we have decided to rename the sports Pavilion, ***The Charlie Nightingale Sports Pavilion***. We will be looking to formally acknowledge this at the Parish Meeting on 3 March 2022.

Elections

In May this year all 15 seats on the Parish Council are up for election. We would love to see some new faces on the Council (we currently have three vacancies) and we would like to have two thirds of the seats elected in order that we can strive for Foundation Council Status, if not Quality Council Status and to maintain our 'General Power of Competence' (GPC) which we obtained late in 2021. Holding the GPC means that we have slightly fewer restrictions on what we can and cannot do (providing that it's not illegal!).

So what does a Parish Council do?

There are 3 categories of responsibility which include:

1. Representing the local community of Great Shelford
2. Delivering services to meet local needs
3. Striving to improve the quality of life in the parish

In addition to the above, we provide, maintain or contribute to:

- Playgrounds, open spaces and recreational space
- Litter bins, dog bins, bus shelters and street lighting
- The Cemetery on Cambridge Road
- Allotments at the Cemetery and Stonehill Road
- Rayment's car park on Woollards Lane
- Local highway initiatives
- Grants to local groups and organisations

We are a statutory consultee on local planning applications.

A Councillor is someone in the community who residents will look to for help, support and guidance. As a Councillor you will have the ability to influence decisions for the benefit of the people you serve and you will see our community change for the better as a result of the decisions you have helped to make. As the role is the first rung on the ladder of public office there is plenty of training available.

If you would like further details, please do not hesitate to contact Libby who can send you information or have an informal chat about what the role entails.

A date for your diary: Thursday 3 March 2022

Annual Parish Meeting where we will be joined by Anthony Browne our MP (parliamentary processes permitting), announcing the winners of the inaugural Great Shelford Community Awards and formally renaming the Pavilion.

Contact

Don't forget to get in touch with us should you have any relevant concerns. Our telephone number is 01223 616622 and Libby (our Parish Clerk) will be available to help during office hours (please leave a message outside of these times or email). Councillors have email addresses too, which can be found on the website. If you do email a Councillor we ask that you copy in Libby too.

Malcolm Watson, Chairman

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY DAY – 23 JUNE 2022

CELEBRATING CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE

The first ever Cambridgeshire County Day, taking place at the July Course, Newmarket, will showcase and celebrate the very best from the Cambridgeshire businesses, charity, community and public sectors.

The day will seek to inspire future generations with an unrivalled display of innovation, ambition, commitment and passion to encourage them to be the best they can be and connect them with future opportunities, while also showcasing key achievements in Cambridgeshire during the 70 years of Her Majesty the Queen's reign.

Cambridgeshire County Day will also raise money to support the new world leading Cambridge based Regional Children's Hospital and the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation's Lord Lieutenant's Fund.

We are seeking to encourage attendance, representation and participation from arts, culture and sports groups. There will be opportunities for organisations to showcase themselves through exhibition, performance or demonstration.

Cambridgeshire County Day is open to all communities, faiths and cultures that live within the county and we look forward to welcoming everyone.

Further information about Cambridgeshire County Day can be found at <https://cambridgeshirecountyday.org/>.

Expressions of interest from potential sponsors, exhibitors or other participants are welcomed at enquiries@cambridgeshirecountyday.org

Cambridgeshire Deputy Lieutenants

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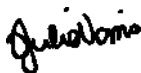
We invite you to visit your historic parish church and enjoy the sacred space.

News from St Mary's Church

At St Mary's we are now in a time of Vacancy. In the Vacancy, although the services and activities go on as usual, we are asked to think about directions for the future. This time of transition coincides with a more general time of change as we all move out of the pandemic. Like any threshold experience, there is both loss for things that have gone and some confusion because things are not happening as they once did, and also the prospect of opportunities and new pathways ahead. This is a time to reflect on what we value and want to take with us into a new future, along with thinking what help we need to be resilient and innovative in meeting new challenges.

Church is a place to find orientation in times of change, through worship, liturgy, music and prayer. We find space to think and be. Church provides us with opportunities to look at life from a larger perspective, beyond ourselves and it helps us draw out values for living a purposeful life.

Each Tuesday at St Mary's, a group of people called the Pilgrim Group meets to reflect together on contemporary issues, or to look at how ideas in the Bible might resonate with life today. This month the group will be looking back at the readings from the preceding Sunday's morning service. Meetings may include a dialogue with ideas from the Sunday sermon or some fresh thoughts, following on from, or independent of, the sermon. Currently, the Pilgrim Group is meeting on Zoom. Further information can be found on the pew sheet, or from Anne Roberts, Maureen Dobson, or me.



Rev Dr Julie Norris, Associate Priest



You will receive a warm welcome at any of the following services.

Sunday. 6 February (4th before Lent)

8am	Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10am	Parish Communion
6.30pm	Zoom service

Sunday 13 February (3rd before Lent)

8am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10am Parish Communion
6.30pm Zoom service

Sunday 20 February (2nd before Lent)

8am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10am Parish Communion
6.30pm Zoom service

Sunday 27 February (1st before Lent)

8am Holy Communion (BCP 1662)
10am Parish Communion
6.30pm Zoom service

Holy Communion (BCP 1662) is a spoken service in traditional language with a short sermon. **Parish Communion** is our main service with music, sermon, children activities and Holy Communion. Our **Zoom** service is a time of reflection following a variety of different styles. To request the link email revjulienorris@gmail.com.

Children are especially welcome at **Parish Communion**. On the first Sunday of every month there is the **St Mary's Sunday Club** with a story and activities for children of all ages. On 6 February, activities will focus on Candlemas. On other Sundays, there is an activity for children during the service. Contact gillian.pett29@gmail.com for details. Helpers are welcome!

Our **Midweek Holy Communion Service** is still suspended.

FROM THE REGISTERS:

Funerals: 4 February Stephanie O'Farrell

For more information about Great Shelford Parish Church

visit our website: www.stmarysgreatshelford.org

Associate Priest: Revd Dr Julie Norris

01223 871807 or email: Revjulienorris@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: Katharin Page 07710 518220

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GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH (GSFC)

Sometimes I am surprised by the number of times my grandchildren will want to have the same story read to them, again and again. Children have a liking for routines and traditions because there is an element of security in the familiar. Perhaps you also like to read a book several times, or more commonly, watch a film several times over, because in many ways adults are not that different from children; we too, often feel more comfortable with what we know, which is why the constant changes we have faced during the pandemic have made us feel vulnerable and disorientated.

I read recently that the film, ‘The Holiday’ was shown on television more than fifty times over the Christmas period, and I expect there will be those who watched it more than once during that period of time, even if they had seen it several times already.

My husband can’t understand why I would want to see a film again that we have watched before, or why I might want to re-read a favourite book, and yet I know that I will always perceive something new, something that seemed inconsequential the first time I noticed it, but now as it catches my attention I realise its significance. I also simply enjoy meeting characters I have come to know well over the course of watching and re-watching a film or reading and re-reading a book.

At the beginning of this year, GSFC engaged in a Bible Reading Marathon, which entailed reading aloud the whole of the New Testament and Psalms over the course of four days. During that time all the readers remarked what a blessing it was to hear God’s word spoken out and to notice verses or stories that had not impacted them in the past, or which had been forgotten, or misremembered. It certainly was an encouragement to commit to reading and re-reading the scriptures, which can so often be taken for granted.

Whether you are already an avid Bible reader, or if you’ve only read parts of it long ago, or whether it’s something you have never really engaged with, I encourage you to have another look at the book which is the bestselling book of all time. The Bible has sold more than five billion copies, has been translated into more than a thousand languages and has been read again and again. Within its pages, amidst what is familiar or perhaps unfamiliar, there are hidden gems that will delight your heart.

For those of you who are really not into reading, why not listen to the readings we recorded which can be found on the GSFC Facebook page.

I pray that you will be blessed in what you find there.

Diana Parr
Elder and Ministerial Assistant

GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café at the Free Church has re-opened for the New Year! Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy coffee, tea and cakes as well as meet up with others in the community.

Open Mondays, 10am–12 noon.

CAMBRIDGE SOUTH EAST TRANSPORT (CSET) BUSWAY UPDATE

Further to our January 2022 update on the new campaigning group formed (now known as ‘Better Ways than Busway’), we are still waiting for the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) to apply to the Department of Transport for a Transport and Works Act Order. This will trigger the start of proceedings – and an ensuing public inquiry – for the GCP to obtain consent to compulsorily acquire land and to build the guided busway.

Accordingly, we have approached new consultants recommended by our solicitors to prepare a background report for an alternative based on the A1307 (given the demise of the Cambridge Autonomous Metro), which will save our countryside and landscape and deliver similar benefits for a fraction of the cost and they have confirmed that they are happy to work with us.

It will be important for residents to contact our County Councillors to tell them that this alternative scheme would deliver most of the benefits of the GCP’s proposed scheme but with much less harm to greenbelt countryside, at a much lower cost and more quickly. If you can support the campaign in this way, please contact us, we will be delighted to provide assistance.

Cllr Howard Kettel, hkettelstaplefordpc@gmail.com

ANTHONY BROWNE MP – CSET SURVEY

The following extract is copied from our MP’s website:

‘We all agree that South Cambridgeshire needs better public transport. However, there is significant disagreement about how best to achieve this. That’s why I’m asking for your views on one of the most controversial projects in development in South Cambridgeshire.’

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<https://www.anthonybrowne.org/cset-survey>



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GRANTA Medical Practices

COVID VACCINE UPDATE

On 13 December 2021, the government announced that the deadline for every adult to have been offered a Covid-19 booster was being brought forward from 31 January 2022 to 31 December 2021.

Granta staff stepped forward to support the 'Omicron Emergency Booster National Mission' to encourage everyone who is eligible to 'get boosted now'.

Between 15 December and 3 January an extra 7,000 Granta patients were vaccinated. Staff worked the 3 bank holidays, in addition to squeezing extra vaccine clinics into their normal working days, to ensure that as many patients as possible were vaccinated before the new deadline passed.

NEW HOSPITAL HELPLINE FOR PATIENTS

The Covid-19 pandemic has added to the strain on all NHS services. As a result of this, waiting list times for outpatient and specialist appointments and procedures have increased for everybody.

This can cause worry and uncertainty about when you will eventually receive an appointment and unfortunately Granta has no direct access to the hospital appointment lists.

If you have been referred by your GP/are waiting for:

- An outpatient appointment
- An appointment for hospital tests (for example, scans)
- A date for an operation or other treatment
- A follow up from your hospital team

and you have a query about what is happening, there is now a new dedicated Freephone Patient Help Line - **0800 048 5800**.

May we respectfully ask that you only call Granta if your condition has genuinely deteriorated, when you will be reviewed by one of the clinical team and appropriate action can be taken in regard to your hospital care.

Thank you for your continued understanding, patience and support.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services

sandra.east@nhs.net

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SHELFORD SCHOOL

At the time of writing the new term has just started amidst all the wider news about record rates of Covid-19 infection. The school has CO2 monitors, but as yet no air purifiers. Things could very easily change by the time this is printed, but at present all the regular school activities are continuing, in the modified ways that have been developing throughout the pandemic. Staff have shown their adaptability throughout, and I am sure that will continue to be to the fore when we eventually emerge from the constraints. We can be thankful that things look massively better than this time last year when the school had to close to nearly all pupils.

Events at the end of the autumn term concentrated on the nativity and carols by candlelight, with wonderful reflections by staff and pupils through reading, music and performance.



And the excitement of Christmas was not forgotten with the school 'Christmas Day' on the last day of term, including a festive lunch.

A collection around these events raised a tremendous total of £507 which was sent to Save the Children. Then at the start of the spring term we marked the end of the

Christmas season with collective worship for Epiphany – via Zoom, of course.

We have now said farewell to the Reverend Simon Talbott, but are hoping that he will in due course find some way to include a visit to us in association with his new role supporting the Bishop in Ely. He served the governors and the school with great energy and commitment for over eight years and the governors were delighted to present Simon with tokens of our appreciation, including a framed art map of the Shelfords and Stapleford. We look forward to learning in due course who will take on the mantle at St Mary's; we are very grateful for the support that we receive from all three churches in the Shelfords.

Peter Ede, School Governor

KENNETH WILLIAM STARLING 1927 - 2021



Kenneth (Ken) Starling (Mr Starling to many) was head of Shelford School from 1975 to 1988. He died on December 8, 2021.

This obituary is based on extracts from the address given at his funeral service with additional material from Marjorie Westbrook's book, *The Making of a Village School* (pp 103–11).

Born in Cambridge in 1927, an only child, Ken was of the 'war time' generation whose Army service was in the Royal Signals rising to the rank of sergeant. After the war and its aftermath he went

into education, training in Abingdon and from there to Arbury Road Junior School as his first post. There he met, and eventually married, his wife Margaret with whom he had two children. Ken also taught at Morley Memorial School before becoming head of Shelford School in 1975.

Former pupils may recall Ken's passion for aeroplanes, his clarinet playing in the school orchestra, the woodworking lessons he gave (boys only), his leading of the 'School Walk' along the Roman Road not to mention his encouragement to 'keep on walking' during the Year 6 Pennine Trip. Following his retirement Ken and Margaret moved to Bury St Edmunds where he maintained those same interests – even obtaining a pilot's licence.

As educational expectations changed during Ken's tenure many of the school's facilities we now take for granted were acquired, not least the large playing field.

But maybe his lasting legacy will be the hundreds, if not thousands, of young lives he influenced and helped as a teacher.

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GREAT SHELFORD LIBRARY

Cambridgeshire Libraries is continuing to follow all government Covid safety guidelines. Many thanks to everyone for continuing to observe these precautions.

Happily, we are now beginning to reintroduce in-person library events. This includes a half term children's **Lego event on Wednesday 16 February (2–3.30pm, age 3+)**, with additional events planned for the Easter holidays. We will also be restarting our popular monthly Engage talks, starting with a talk from a member of staff about what the Library Service offers (Wednesday March 23 from 2–3.30pm). Pre-booking will be required for all events – please ask at the library.

7–13 February is Children's Mental Health Week. We have lots of supportive books in our Reading Well for Children collection to help younger readers to understand their feelings and we'll be glad to help you to find the right one for your child.

February is **LGBTQ+ History Month** – celebrate the rainbow with us by choosing from our display highlighting LGBTQ+ authors and titles.

Finally, we would love your feedback about a new idea, which is to hold regular informal get togethers at Great Shelford Library for parents and carers of **children with additional needs**. Whether this can go ahead will depend on the level of interest, so please tell staff in the library if you might be interested and would like further information.

Contact details Tel: 0345 045 5225, Web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk, Email: your.library@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

READERS LETTER

Dear Villagers,

Does anyone know a couple called Tony and Alison, who have friends called Harry, Nino and Natalie?

We have ripped open unexpected cards sent to Tunwells Lane for several years now from these nice friends, who seem to have met up last year, but don't know the correct address and don't put a surname on the envelope. We have asked around but no luck.

If you see this and if you aren't in hiding from them, let them know!

Pam Connellan

21 Tunwells Lane, Great Shelford, 07930 559240

CHEAPER BUS FARES HAVE ARRIVED!

Something very remarkable and rather wonderful has happened at the beginning of 2022: **Stagecoach have reduced their standard bus fares** and even introduced a new type of cheaper fare for ‘Young Persons’ (5–18 years). What is more, there are further reductions possible if you buy an advance bundle of either 5 or 10 ‘Flexi’ tickets – and those tickets are valid for up to 12 months. Here are the new prices:

	Dayrider	Flexi5/ cost per day	Flexi10/ cost per day
1 Adult	£4.20	£16.80 = £3.36 each day	£29.40 = £2.94 each day
1 Young person (aged 5-18)	£2.80	£11.20 = £2.24 each day	£19.60 = £1.96 each day
‘Small group’: 1 Adult plus up to 2 Youths	£6.20		
‘Large Group’: any 5 passengers	£8.40		

These prices are for the tickets which cover ‘all you can eat’ bus journeys within the Dayrider zone around Cambridge that reaches to Stapleford, Histon/Impington, Milton, Fulbourn, Bar Hill, and Toft. With the Flexi tickets, the zone is also extended to include the Busway services as far as St Ives. Tickets beyond this area are more expensive but have also been reduced in price compared to 2021 prices.

How does one purchase these Flexi tickets in order to take advantage of the bargain prices shown above? That is a good question! Stagecoach now directs you to their Stagecoach Bus App to purchase such tickets. I managed to buy my first Flexi5 ticket on the bus in December (at the then higher price of £18), which came with a physical ‘StagecoachSmart card’ to load it onto. At the time, the Flexi5 could be bought on the bus – though it took the poor driver nearly ten minutes to work out how to do it and he literally had to ‘phone a friend’! But that was apparently a trial and now Flexi5 and Flexi10 tickets are exclusive to the App.

With a day’s bus travel now potentially less than £3 for one adult – or the whole family can travel all day for less than the cost of three hours’ peak time parking at the Grand Arcade – why not leave the car at home next time you’re heading into Cambridge? If you’re not sure where to catch the bus, or what connecting services there are, try using Google Maps in the ‘Transit’ mode rather than just as a ‘Car’ route – it’s the best source that I can find of integrated public transport information.

Miranda Fyfe

DIARY FEBRUARY 2022

Date	Event	Time	Place
3	WI Meeting	7.30pm	St Mary's Community Room
8	Granta flower club demonstration	7pm	Memorial Hall
12	Repair Cafe	2–4.30pm	Free Church
26	Farmers' Market	9am–12.30pm	Memorial Hall
2, 9, 16, 23	Country Market	9am–11.30am	Memorial Hall
7, 14, 21, 28	Make & Mend	10am–12 noon	St Mary's Community Room



BIN COLLECTIONS

Black bins Tuesday 8 and 22 February

Blue bins Tuesday 1 and 15 February

Green bins Tuesday 15 February



POST BOXES

Coppice Avenue, Mill Court (Hinton Way), Library, Old Vicarage, Church Street, High Green bus stop, Stonehill Road, Macaulay Ave.

The latest collection from the Post Office is currently 4.45pm Monday to Friday, 11.30am Saturday.



POST OFFICE

The Post Office is at Kash Stores, 35 Hinton Way.

Open Monday–Friday 9am–5.30pm, (last collection 4.45), Saturday 9am–1pm (last collection 11.30).

Items that Royal Mail is unable to deliver (too big, signature required, etc) will be returned to the Royal Mail Depot in Clifton Road for collection, or redelivery arrangements made.



LIBRARY

Monday 3–7, Tuesday 10–1 & 2–5, Wednesday 10–1, Friday 10–1 & 2–6, Saturday 10–1.

SHELFORD COUNTRY MARKET



We re-opened on 12 January and it was encouraging to find so many of our regular customers waiting on a cold and frosty morning for the door to open. It wasn't long before the coffee tables filled up and the Memorial Hall

looked both a busy market and a friends' meeting place.

Keep coming for your shopping and refreshments. And, let's hope that it won't be too far into the New Year before we can forget the face coverings.

Market is in the Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane every Wednesday morning from 9–11.30am

Dorothy Doel

CARPET BOWLS CLUB

Welcome to the New Year, and let's all hope it's better than the last couple!

We are still managing to stay open even if it is with a few restrictions, the main one being the wearing of facemasks in the Hall. We are still meeting in the Memorial Hall on Thursday evenings from 7–9.30pm and we welcome anyone to come down, and try something new and to have some fun on these cold winter's nights.

Phil Seekings, Secretary

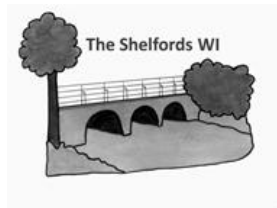
WI

Our first meeting for 2022, held in our lovely hall at St. Mary's was very well attended on a chilly January night. More than 20 ladies were entertained by the vibrant band called the Ukes, who had travelled from Ely and St. Ives. They certainly didn't disappoint and we were invited to sing along, behind our masks of course, to many well-loved songs from the 60s to the 80s. We gave a rose bush, a 'Queen Elizabeth' to Mary Talbott, who is leaving the village soon, as she and Simon take up their new positions and we ended the evening after our refreshments.

Our next meeting will take place on 3 February when Sheila Edgar will come and talk to us about Clarence House and its past and present residents.

We meet at 7.30pm on the first Thursday of the month and are always delighted to welcome visitors.

Rosemary Livings, President





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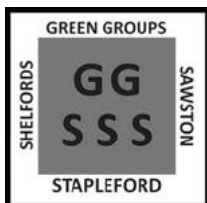
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2G3S FUTURE EVENTS



Our next meeting is on Monday 7 February at 8pm and will be a hybrid event – in person at Cox’s Close Community Room in Stapleford, or online by Zoom (email to address below to get a link sent to you).

This meeting will feature a talk by Peter Pope from CamLETS. LETS stands for Local Exchange Trading Systems, which are local community based mutual aid networks in which people exchange all kinds of goods, skills and services with one another, without the need for real money. A fantastic idea for those tools and appliances that you only use occasionally and don’t have room to store. It’s like a barter system, but you don’t directly swap your service/goods with someone else’s, you use a kind of currency. All sorts of skills and items are valued and needed. Some of you may know that Sawston has a Timebank scheme which runs in a similar way. Come along to find out more, also see camlets.org.uk and timebank@sawston.org.uk.

Our next event is a Repair Café on Saturday 12 February at Great Shelford Free Church from 2–4.30pm. Don’t throw away that item that’s broken or has stopped working, bring it along to the Cafe first and have a cuppa and cake while you’re there. See page 28 for details of how to book in a repair.

Throughout the year we will hold planning meetings, talks and events, a book club, nature walks and cycle rides. Topics of talks or workshops will include regenerative farming, climate justice for developing countries, how local river health has been improved (at Babraham for example) and green finance. We may also arrange a fruit and vegetable swap in the late summer.

Our group has been in existence since 2015 and has worked hard to network with other local groups, Parish Councils (PCs), South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council, and we have feedback that the work is appreciated. We look forward to working with them further, especially local PCs on their environment plans.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international) send an email to get a Zoom link to join in our meetings or to sign up for our newsletter greengroupssss@gmail.com

Also see our Facebook page or website. <http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk/>

Helen Hale

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ALL NEW SUNDAY MORNINGS AT STAPLEFORD GRANARY

We're seriously excited about the newest addition to Stapleford Granary, installed in the foyer café bar is a beautiful La Marzocco espresso machine and the aroma of locally roasted, freshly ground, Butterworth's coffee wafts down the gallery walkway. Gosh, it's good!



This is the first step towards a permanent café at Stapleford Granary which will open later this year. But we wanted to start serving wonderful coffee right away! So we're kicking things off by opening up on **selected Sunday mornings** (see website for details) to coincide with our popular Coffee Concerts and family events, serving silky smooth flat whites, cappuccinos, espressos and hot chocolate along with delicious pastries.

From 23 January, you'll also find new paintings and prints on display by Anne Lynch, Louise Davies and Ivy Smith (kindly on loan from Church Street Gallery, Saffron Walden, until 27 February) and textiles by Jenny Fulton. We're also making the first steps into an onsite shop stocking beautiful gifts and artisan products for the home. We're putting together a capsule collection in the foyer and we'll be steadily increasing our range of products over the coming months, supporting UK artists and makers.



In 2022, we're expanding the number and variety of our Sunday Coffee Concerts and events. Relaxed, chatty and informal, they feature brilliant musicians playing and talking about the music they love. From Brahms and Bach to jazz, family folk sing-alongs and imaginative theatre, we look forward to welcoming you to more of our new look Sundays.

Please take a look at the events section of the website for more details, drop us an email, or give us a call. We hope to see you soon!

Kate Romano & the Granary team

Website: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk

**2G3S (Green Groups in the Shelfords, Stapleford and Sawston)
are pleased to announce a**

Repair Café

**Saturday 12 February, 2–4.30pm
Great Shelford Free Church, Ashen Green, CB22 5EY**

It's a free event (donations very welcome) where we match amazing repairers with people who need stuff fixing. The repairers are brilliant and can fix most things but there are no guarantees



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and to pick up repair skills:
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Sewing repairs (clean items only please),
Small household appliances and
electrical items,
Sewing machines,
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Bicycles,
General bits'n'bobs.

Tea and cake available of course!

This time we shall have an additional feature: a recycling bin for small
electrical non screen items that are beyond repair.

For more information, go to our website: <http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk>

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JAMES WITHERS, 19TH CENTURY POET

James who? You may well ask. Born in Weston Colville, 10 miles east of Great Shelford and living most of his life in Fordham, James Reynolds Withers, despite his impoverished background, gained widespread recognition for his poetry, only to die destitute and in obscurity.

Cambridge University Library holds a collection of Withers' handwritten manuscripts, along with personal letters and memoirs, and on its website tells us:

'... Withers (1812–1892) remains one of the country's most intriguing unknown poets. In his heyday, he received a grant from Queen Victoria and won plaudits from Charles Dickens ... he is of particular interest as a rural, labouring poet, largely self-taught, with no formal education ... As a boy he earned a few pence minding cattle, stone-picking, and bird-scaring, and as an adult he mended shoes and 'picked up a crust' as an agricultural labourer ... in the 1840s he and his young family spent some time in the Newmarket workhouse ... he was reduced to selling cabbages and driving a donkey cart, right up until his death in 1892 while under the care of his grandchildren.'

The Forgotten Poet of Fordham,
Stuart Roberts, Cambridge University Libraries website,
<https://www.cam.ac.uk/stories/ForgottenPoet>

As far as we know, Withers never set foot in Shelford ... until now! Arts Council England recently provided funding for a series of five films portraying the poet, his life and his work. And who do you suppose played the part of Withers himself? None other than our very own Brian Higgins. You'll know him: taught your kids drama, ran the cricket club, a long suffering Cambridge United supporter? Yes, the very same.

The films are available to view on YouTube. Just search for *Peter Daldorph* – that's the film maker – and you will find a series of five films featuring Brian as James Withers. The films are:

- A Thing of Beauty
- My Native Village
- The Death of my Child
- Scarborough
- The Song of the Incendiary

Do check them out. Brian really nails it as Withers, bringing alive this long forgotten but most deserving poet of rural Victorian England.



Brian Higgins as James Withers in *The Song of the Incendiary*. Courtesy YouTube

Brian Connellan, 10 January 2022

Stapleford Choral Society has moved to a new venue!

If you are interested in singing choral music from the Baroque to the present day, come and join us on Monday evenings:

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PLAYSCAPE

A POPULAR PLACE!

We'd always aimed for a very special play space, but the sheer high volume of visitors since the Playscape's opening has surpassed even our high hopes for it!

Given its popularity we know that the turfed areas are starting to look a little sad, but this is a hallmark of a successful play space and the grass should bounce back with a bit of care and attention in the spring. Opting to invest in the large area of safety surfacing has meant that the area as a whole has remained much more usable than in previous winters, benefitting all of our visitors. Our job is now to watch how the space is used, decipher any scope for improvement and identify ways to curate the space for continued enjoyment.

'Completion of a play space does not mark the end of the design cycle but the beginning of a new phase, one of continual review. A good play space evolves and is never finished. In a vibrant, living play space the manager keeps a close eye on how the space is used and looks for opportunities to introduce new elements.'

Play England: 'Design For Play: A guide to designing a successful play space'

Garden Gang - seasonal tidy-up

Something that is naturally always changing is the planting and it's time to give the perennials their winter cut back ready for new growth in the spring. If you could spare some time with some secateurs or shears please do contact me. I would be grateful for some help (expertise not required, guidance will be given)!

Copse Update

A great example of an ever evolving play space has been the copse and the continued support from the SSYI to keep it maintained. Back in the October half term we got together to install a new circular tree bench and refresh the bark chipping along the riverside walkway. We will give the willow dome its annual haircut during half-term hopefully and install some rather hefty cherry tree stumps that have been kindly donated to us for seating or balance practice.

Wheelscape

The PC kindly earmarked ten thousand pounds towards professional fees to get this next phase up and running. Next steps are to instruct a quantity surveyor to manage the tender process, appoint a specialist skating contractor, finalise the design, renew the planning permission (the wheelscape was granted permission under the master plan application, but this has now lapsed) and then apply for the large grants to build it.

Eleanor McCrone, info@shelfordplayscape.org

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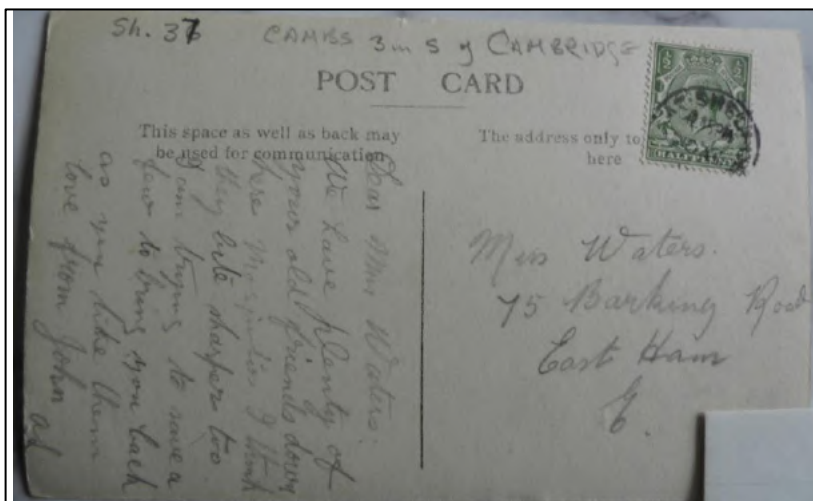
SHELFORD POSTCARD No 8

This lovely card was posted in 1904 to a Miss Waters of East Ham, London with an amusing message:

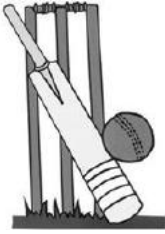
‘Dear Miss Waters, we have plenty of your old friends down here mosquitoes, I think they bite sharper too. I am trying to save a few to bring back as you like them. Love from John.’

As most of you know Woollards Lane was changed to Station Road with the coming of the railway and Shelford Station but in the 1920s was changed back to its original name.

The shop on the left belonged to George Bros, Florists and Nurserymen.



CRICKET CLUB



Following last season's success, the adult team has been promoted and will play this summer in Division 3 West of the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association Junior League.

There will also be a number of friendlies and hopefully, plenty of opportunities for our developing teenage players to progress. We will also be running

junior teams from Under 9 upwards to give league and/or friendly match opportunities as well as weekly coaching sessions.

We will again be running the All Stars and Dynamos programmes for children aged 5 to 11 and hope to involve over a hundred children as we did last year. Sessions will be on either Tuesdays or Fridays for 8 weeks from 6–10 May.

We are very grateful to Paul Ellum for all the hard work he puts in (both in and out of the cricket season) to produce good pitches for all of our club teams.

If anyone would like further information, please contact me.

Peter Ede, peter.ede@ntlworld.com.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

First, thank you to all of those who supported OCC in 2021. The outcome was tremendous and it means that so many children will receive a shoebox filled with lovely gifts, showing love to them. This is possibly the only present they will receive with some items treasured for years.

Tucker Gardner in Shelford received 99 boxes, the Free church in Shelford 219 and the Abington area, 194 which made a huge total of 514 (these came from individuals, churches or groups). We also received £545 in donations. This money was used to buy items or to cover the costs of transport and training and for The Greatest Gift, a course in which the children are invited to take part. There is much to be thankful for and to praise God for.

This year boxes from the East of England processing centre at St Neots went to Liberia (24,000), Albania and Central Asia (about the same number for each but not confirmed yet).

Thank you again for your generosity and care. You are appreciated so much.

Jane Furlow

Year round Connect volunteer

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TENNIS CLUB

LOOKING FOR A NEW HOBBY IN 2022?

I have often felt that New Year's Resolutions come with a lot of pressure attached. What is your resolution? Will you stick to it? How long will you stick to it for? Finding something that is achievable and really gains you something is a tricky task.

If you are still trying to decide what your resolution is, or how to stick to it, why not get in touch and give tennis a try? Whether you want to be more active, get fit, learn a new skill or just meet some new people, playing tennis is a great way to achieve your goals. At Great Shelford Tennis Club we have varying membership levels to help you fit tennis around your lifestyle, weekly club sessions to help you get involved and a host of coaching and playing opportunities for every level of player.

For example, on New Year's Day, 20 members met to take advantage of the unseasonal warmth and to play some casual doubles organised by club legend, Matt Sanders. Players from all levels of the club joined in and everyone had a fantastic time.

Tennis is also naturally socially distanced and, in our village, outdoors, which means it is an excellent way to stay active without worrying about contracting or spreading Covid-19 and other illnesses.

If you're interested in joining, or just have questions, head over to our website, www.gstc.org.uk – and get in touch. We'd love to hear from you!

Angharad Harris

FOLLOW-UP LETTER

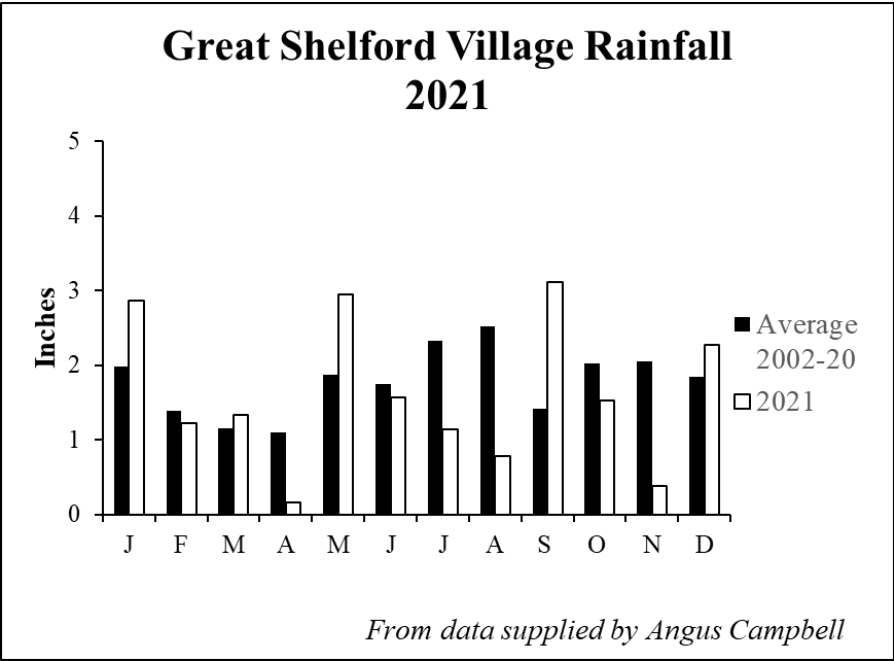
Following the item we published in the January magazine about the availability of free door stickers we received a letter from Able Community Care:

'Thank you for giving information out in your current edition of the magazine with reference to our free offer of door stickers for older residents. Already, this morning, 10 have been requested'

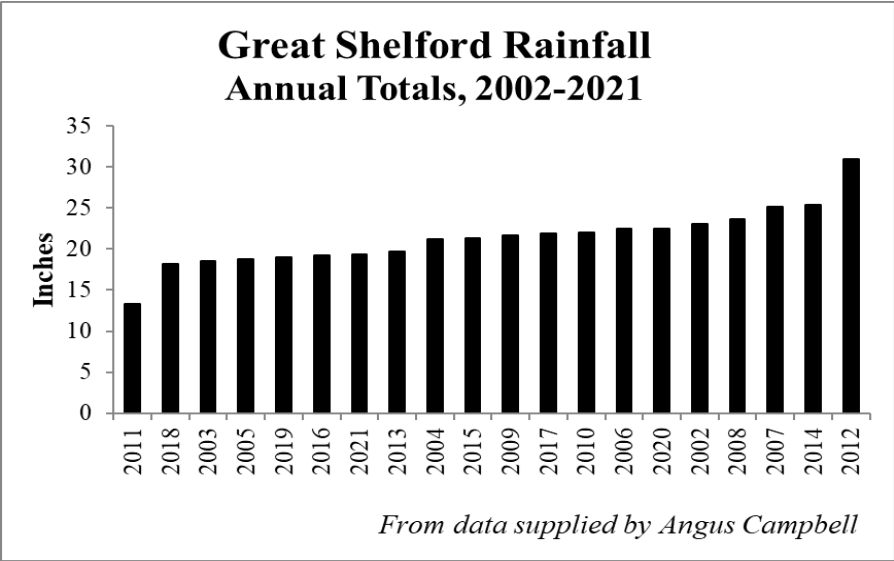
We understand that these 'DO NOT KNOCK' stickers are still available and free; if you would like to get one, email angela@ablecommunitycare.com

RAINFALL CHARTS

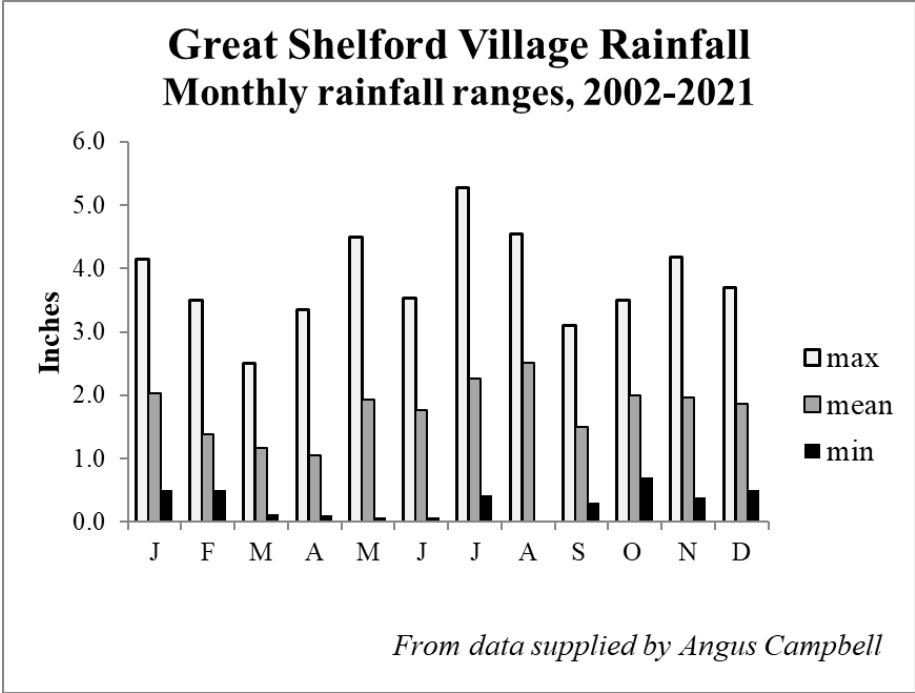
MONTHLY TOTALS 2021



20 YEARS OF RAINFALL – FROM DRIEST TO WETTEST



20 YEARS OF RAINFALL – VARIATIONS FOR EACH MONTH



**The years in which the most extreme monthly rainfall occurred
(as shown in the graph above)**

	Maximum	Minimum
January	2003	2006
February	2010	2008
March	2008	2011
April	2012	2011
May	2007	2020
June	2016	2018
July	2012	2018
August	2010	2003
September	2021	2009
October	2020	2011
November	2002	2021
December	2020	2005

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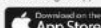
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OLD NEWS

Extracts from the Great Shelford Chronicle 1774–1868

*Compiled and republished by Anne George, Glynis Trundle,
Margaret Ward and Alan Bullwinkle, 1993*

16 February 1843

GREAT AND LITTLE SHELFORD SCHOOLS – The building committee are desirous to receive Tenders, on or before the 10th day of March next, for the ERECTION of a DWELLING HOUSE for a Master and Mistress.

21 February 1846

ORDER OF REMOVAL – application was made by the parish officers, for an order of removal to Melbourne of a female pauper, who had for five years left her husband to live with another man. One of the witnesses, a very old man, could not recollect within 30 years what his age was, and the other (his son) being equally oblivious, the magistrates refused to make the order.

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

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE

31 January – 5 February	Looking Good Dead
8 – 12	Animal Farm
14 – 19	Cluedo
21 – 26	The Play What I Wrote
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: www.cambridgeartstheatre.com	
Telephone: 01223 357891	
Web: https://www.cambridgelive.org.uk/tickets/contact-us	

SAWSTON CINEMA

17 February	The Book of Dust – La Belle Sauvage
sawstoncinema.org.uk	

FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM

Until 20 February	Making Money in the Early Middle Ages
Until 27 February	Painting with Gold
https://www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk/	

STAPLEFORD GRANARY

4	Fretwork	19	Eblana String Trio
5	Rant	20	Paper Jungle – Three Suns
6	Rosalind Ventris	25	Mithras Trio
11	John Law Quartet	26	Elizabeth Kenny
18	Daisy Chute & Midori Jaeger	27	Patrick Hemmerle
Telephone: 01223 849004 Web: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk			

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, with contact details, 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 for next month's date.

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

General enquiries and articles for publication:

01223 842553 gsvneditorial@gmail.com

Commercial advertisements

These are for a 12 month period, renewed in January. There is a waiting list.

gsvnadverts@gmail.com

Subscriptions and online payment details

01223 842993 gsvnsubs@gmail.com

Editorial Committee

Duncan Grey, Bridget Hodge, Marjorie Smith, Judith Wilson.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

2G3S Green Group	Linda Whitebread	greengroupssss@gmail.com	843438
Badminton (Little Shelford)	James Newman	james@jamesnewman.org	843272
Bowling Club	Alan Edwards	alanedwards505@gmail.com	666965
Brownies, Guides, Rainbows	Lisa MacGregor	shelforddistrict@gmail.com	843021
Bunch – Feast	Duncan Grey	dsg@post.com	842191
Carpet Bowls	Philip Seekings	phil.seekings@yahoo.co.uk	843416
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cambridge		0344 848 7979
Community Association Memorial Hall bookings:	Sheila Tilbury-Davis	tilburydavis.sheila@gmail.com	844384
Country Market	Dorothy Doel	dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com	843946
Cricket Club	Peter Ede	peter.ede@ntlworld.com	01223 510662
Football Club	Chris Gethins	Chris.Gethins@z-tech.co.uk	07980 383303
Free Church	Maxine Du Plessis	administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk	842181
Friends of Shelford Library	Daphne Sulston	dsulston@googlemail.com	842248
Granta Medical Practices		capccg.Covid19.gmp@nhs.net	0300 234 5555
Great Shelford Friendship Club	Cheryl Mynott	cherylmynott@gmail.com	845435
Great Shelford Online	David Martin	www.greatshelfordonline davidm1961@gmail.com	845995
Mobile Warden Scheme	Claire Smith (Warden)	saurus1960@gmail.com	07811 676991
	Jenny David (Chair)	jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk	845367
Parish Church Bell-ringers	Ann Seaman	juliet.a.seaman@outlook.com	504682
Parish Church Community Room	Mary Lester	lestermh_uk@yahoo.co.uk	842411
Parish Church Friends	Bob Doel	bobdoel@woodlandsroad.plus.com	843946
Parish Church Sunday Club	Gillian Pett	gillian.pett29@gmail.com	843278
Parish Churchwardens	Simon White	churchwarden@stmarygreatshelford.org	07984 451305
	Joanne Staines	churchwarden@stmarygreatshelford.org	07790 415732
Parochial Charities	Mary Lester (Clerk to the Trustees)	lestermh_uk@yahoo.co.uk	842411
Police	Non-emergency number		101
Rainbow Pre-School	Alison Tomlin		07985 216603
Royal British Legion	Mark Chennells	mdchennells@btinternet.com	891817
Rugby Club	Secretary	secretary@shelfordrugby.co.uk	843357
Sawston Sports Centre	Sawston Village College	info@sawstonsports.com	712555
Beavers, Cubs and Scouts		contact@sandsscouts.org.uk	
Shelford & Stapleford Strikers	Douglas White	douglas.white2@ntlworld.com	561753
Shelford Primary School	Chris Grey (Headteacher)	office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk	843107
Shelford Spokes Cycling Club	Brian Connellan	brian.connellan@eastyoke.com	845382
Shelford Support Group (transport to hospital, etc.)	General enquiries: Gillian Northmore	shelfordsupport@googlemail.com	504542
	John Dibnah 842054	Carol Bard	668157
	Rosie Cranmer 513572	Marjorie Smith	564922
Stapleford Choral Society	Adam Pounds	adampounds54@btinternet.com	07804 308042
Tennis Club	Sarah Richards	secretary@gstc.org.uk	
The Arts Society South Cambs	Frances Clifford	frances.clifford@ntlworld.com	842551
Twinning Association	Penny Pearl	penny.pearl@btinternet.com	842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	Derek Cupit		871527
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)	vanda.butler@googlemail.com	561053
Youth Initiative	Zac Britton	zac.britton@ssyi.club	07599 024210

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