

# Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

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EST 1999

DECEMBER 2023

PRICE: 40p

*Christmas Events  
When Pink Floyd played in Shelford*



*Award Winning Almshouses*

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# GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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Building & Grounds		Malcolm Watson		Cemetery & Allotments		Naomi Neil	
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Paula Arnold		Lyn Disley		Timothy Mann		Angela Niblett	
Peter Brown		Roberto Ghersen		Angela Mutty			
EXECUTIVE OFFICER		Libby White <i>clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i> 01223 616622					
To email Parish Councillors, use:		<i>firstname.surname@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i>					
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COUNTY COUNCILLORS		Brian Milnes    07971 886113			Maria King    07764 609061		

## **GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

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### **SUMMARY FROM THE UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 18 OCTOBER 2023**

#### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION**

A resident raised concern over the upkeep of the cemetery and the Memorial Green. These were addressed by the Executive Officer. Two members of the Shelford Twinning Association provided an update to the Parish Council. They have found it difficult to get everything going again since the pandemic. In 2024 the Association celebrates its 35th anniversary and they are looking for support from the Parish Council to engage with the children as they benefit the most from the twinning visits. They confirmed that they will hold a Ceilidh on the night before the Feast and asked if councillors would attend.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A response has been received from Jesus College noting that they would not be looking to transfer any land to the parish council for a cemetery extension, but would consider leasing land to create vehicular access to the Parish Council land to the far side of the cemetery.

Porthaven Homes have invited Councillors to the 'Topping Out Ceremony' for the Care Home on Thursday 9 November.

#### **REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS**

The Barn application at Magog Court is going to Planning Committee and is being treated as a conversion, not a new build.

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

The first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan has been circulated to the Steering Group and it is anticipated that it will be sent to the planning authority for informal review at the end of October. The plan contains 21 planning policies covering areas such as housing and built environment, climate change and biodiversity, plus many more.

#### **CAMBRIDGE BIOMEDICAL CAMPUS WORKING GROUP**

Annabel Sykes informed Councillors that Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC) Limited are committed to consulting the public on the draft spatial framework and this will be ahead of the next consultation phase of the planning authority's draft Local Plan.

The draft business case for the Children's hospital has been approved. It seems unlikely that Addenbrookes has reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in the buildings, though other local hospitals do.

It is likely that the Local Liaison Group will be disbanded and there is no current clarification on how it is to be replaced. There is speculation that it may include a wider geographic group of people. Councillors noted their disappointment with the potential closing of the liaison group and await news on what happens next. They thanked Annabel and David Plank for all their hard work.

## **COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

a) CityFibre have applied to install a cabinet for digital communications on Freestones Corner. It was agreed to discuss this with CityFibre and to enter into an agreement regarding access.

b) The survey from Cambridgeshire County Council about the impact their change in policy for roadside weed management was discussed. It was agreed to ask the Executive Officer to complete the survey and to say that there needs to be some sort of weed management, as doing nothing leaves villages looking untidy. The plants themselves will cause more damage to the infrastructure in the long run than frost will to potholes and that there are many alternatives to weed killer.

c) Following the discussion with the Shelford Twinning Association representatives earlier in the meeting, it was agreed that Cllrs Stanton, Price, Gherseni and Mutty will meet with the Association and discuss how to support them, presenting their findings to the November full council meeting or to Finance & General Purposes in December.

d) It was requested that further solicitors be reviewed for Parish Council business including Fraser Dawben.

e) The Village Market has been run by the Parish Council for nearly one year now and the Clerk/Executive Officer has asked for a review of the market. A report prepared by the Clerical Assistant was considered by members and it was agreed to invest some time to make the market more effective and for it to continue in 2024.

f) It was noted that discussions on the Tennis Club Lease had been ongoing for two years due to the complex needs of the club. It was agreed to approve the lease.

## **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

An infographic on the Community Hub was shown, indicating interactive activities available to residents at low or no cost. It was agreed to include information about additional activities including the public meeting in November, fireworks, etc.

The Christmas Lights Switch on will be held in the afternoon of Saturday 2 December and any help by councillors would be appreciated. Several local organisations have volunteered to help and be involved. The Autumn Gala was unfortunately postponed but something a little less

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formal but including food, drink and music, might be held in February or March 2024.

## **FINANCE MATTERS**

It was agreed to provide a grant of £2,500 to the Rugby Club for this year's fireworks event.

## **TRANSPORT MATTERS**

### **Traffic & Transport Infrastructure Working Group**

Cllr Brown updated Councillors on the East West Railway Local Representative Group (LRG) meeting held in the Great Shelford Sports Pavilion on 21 September, at which Cllrs Brown and Watson represented the Parish Council. Cllr Brown expressed disappointment at the lack of substantive discussions at the meeting, which follows the pattern set at the previous LRG meetings. Cllr Brown asked that he be allowed to work with other local representatives and the Independent Facilitator to ensure that future LRG meetings have an agenda that allows for substantive discussions on the topics of interest to Great Shelford Parish Council (GSPC). All acknowledged that if there is no immediate material change to the situation, it may be best to stop attending the LRG meetings.

Members are disappointed at the pausing of the Sawston Greenway including the area along the railway alignment and Dernford Reservoir as they feel these are the most important areas to complete with respect to users and safety. **Public meeting on 22 November**

There have been 187 responses to the Traffic Survey to date. County Cllr Milnes and District Cllr Fane had confirmed their attendance at the public meeting to be held on Wednesday 22 November. It was agreed that the meeting will provide feedback on the survey, a draft of the Local Highways Initiative bid and a presentation about highways and transport in the village with a question and answer session.

### **PARISH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN DECEMBER**

Planning Committee	4 December	7.30pm Pavilion
Finance & General Purposes	13 December	7.00pm Pavilion
Planning Committee	18 December	7.30pm Pavilion

Meetings may be adjourned for up to 15 minutes when the public can ask questions and put forward points of view related to business on the agenda or for items they wish to raise for future agendas. No decisions can be made in this section of the meeting.



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**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY FULL COUNCIL  
MEETING OF GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL, HELD  
ON TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2023 AT 7.30PM**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and stated that this was the first time that a decision of the Parish Council had been called in by members to be reconsidered in all the time he had been a councillor. It was an action which had not been taken lightly.

The meeting was called to discuss Planning Application 23/02823/FUL - Change of use of Barn 4, to drive-through phlebotomy (blood) testing unit, remodelling access, vehicle circulation space, parking, footpath link, dropped kerbs, landscaping and associated infrastructure at Magog Court, Hinton Way. This had been previously considered at the planning committee meeting on 7 August 2023.

Seven residents aired their concerns about the proposed development. The concerns included the increase in traffic and potential queuing traffic on the main road, pollution due to traffic and vehicle movements on site, development in the green belt, impact on views and lack of information from the planning authority about the development. It was also mentioned that residents were surprised at the initial support from the Parish Council and that they were unaware that it was being discussed.

Cllr Price, Chair of the Planning Committee, noted that there is a limited time period when the committee is able to comment on an application put before them. At the time the application was considered, there had been no communication from residents to the Parish Council and there were no comments on the planning authority's website to show that there were any concerns. It has since been noted that the planning authority had failed to inform residents in the impacted area.

Cllr Ashurst informed attendees that from data downloaded from the speed indicator devices the Parish Council uses in the village, there are approximately 2,000 cars per day (both ways) on Hinton Way and 5,000 (both ways) on Cambridge Road.

After Councillors had had the opportunity to comment it was agreed that the recommendation to the planning authority be **OBJECTION** stating the following material considerations:

**Traffic**

It is understood that this facility would significantly increase vehicle movements within the vicinity of the development increasing concerns for road safety of all users of the highway but would also have a detrimental effect on the environment. Members feel the stop/start nature of queuing traffic would

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increase the amount of pollution this development will create. This is on top of the pollution it will create simply due to the increase in traffic. Though the facility is proposed to close at 4.30pm, traffic will still be moving at a time when there is already an increase in traffic from school collections (both locally and from the city), shift change at the hospital and those who are looking to beat the rush hour.

### **Access**

Access to the site is on a corner, off a roundabout from a major A road which is an arterial route into Cambridge. Members have assumed that the majority of users will be coming from this road and that they will want to return this way, meaning they have to negotiate the incoming traffic from the A1307. Though Hinton Way's speed limit has been changed to 30mph, there are reports of much speeding and it is felt that this access is not suitable for the number of anticipated vehicles to this site.

### **Green belt**

Great Shelford Parish Council understands that the Government has set out five purposes for the green belt. One of those is to preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; another to safeguard the countryside from encroachment. With this in mind, the Parish Council created a position statement on the green belt which can be found on their website. Members cannot see any good reason why the green belt is being chosen for this development. No analysis has been provided. With this in mind, councillors feel that if there is a requirement for a phlebotomy unit, the land not in use at the Biomedical Campus would be better placed for this development.

### **Climate Emergency**

In 2022, Great Shelford Parish Council also declared a Climate Emergency. Access to the facility only appears to be by car, meaning that all those residents who travel by sustainable means (bus, train, bicycle, foot) are unable to attend. It is strongly felt by members that the facility needs to be accessed by public transport. It is also noted that the plan is contradictory to the sustainability criteria contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Climate Change policy.

### **View**

The barn is intrusive to the protected views across the Magog Hills.

### **Residents**

It has been noted that all comments received by the Planning Authority have been objections to the development. Councillors are keen to support residents in objecting to this development.

## Notification

Great Shelford Parish Council want it formally noted that residents in the area received no notification of the proposed development. We believe this is unacceptable and must be addressed.

Cllr Price will attend the planning committee meeting of the planning authority to reflect the views of the Parish Council.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS (16.10.23)

23/03542/FUL	1 Glebe Lane	Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of a dwelling and ancillary building.
Application supported though concern about traffic management was raised. The developer noted that a traffic management plan has been submitted this week but not yet uploaded to the Local Planning Authority's website and said that there is enough space on site for all contractors' vehicles. Councillors stated that they would expect the traffic management plan to be adhered to.		

23/03676/HFUL	40 Hinton Way	Demolition of an existing detached bungalow, erection of two dwellings and alteration to access.
Objection as members feel it is overdevelopment of the site. It has also been requested that the development be called in to Planning Committee.		

23/03673/HFUL	25 Shelford Park Avenue	Demolition of existing garage, rear lean-to and conservatory, proposed two storey side extension and single storey rear extension and four roof lights.
Application supported.		



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## PARISH COUNCIL DECEMBER NEWS

On behalf of myself, my fellow councillors and parish council staff, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

As 2023 draws to a close, I felt it right to summarise what we have achieved this year and what we are looking to work towards in 2024.

By the time you read this we will have held our public meeting about the impact of traffic and transport on the village. The outcome of this meeting will help inform our ideas for future traffic initiatives. We have a busy Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Working Group who have been working tirelessly on many projects to steer the parish council on these matters.

We have had initial discussions with an architect about how we can refurbish the Memorial Hall to make it more attractive for potential hirers, be more energy efficient and be a hub for the community. All plans have taken on board comments received via the survey filled in by you, earlier this year. We hope to provide some plans in the new year.

Two new bus shelters have been installed on Cambridge Road as part of our commitment to replacing these - one per financial year.

Confirmation has been received that we have been successful in securing funding for the new skatepark. Construction will start in the new year.

### Aims for 2024

Next year we hope to:

- move forward with a Local Highway Initiative to make Church Street much safer near the school and church;
- share detailed plans for the Memorial Hall with residents;
- seek to achieve Gold level in the Local Council Award Scheme (we have already achieved Quality);
- install the next new bus shelter;
- see six areas of wildflower verges, fingers crossed, come into flower;
- cause the joint Neighbourhood Plan with Stapleford to go to Referendum and be 'Made';

Don't forget to get in touch with us should you have any relevant concerns. Our telephone number is 01223 61 66 22 and Libby will be available to help during office hours (please leave a message outside of these times or email). Councillors have emails too, which can be found on the website. If you do email a Councillor we ask that you copy in Libby.

*Malcolm Watson, Chairman*



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### Julie's Jottings

A colleague told me recently that an otter has a pocket under its arm in which it keeps a stone. I didn't know this fact and laughed, but it is true. Stones are needed to crack open shellfish for food, so keeping a handy stone in their pockets, prepares otters for getting the food they need. Apparently, an otter will hand on a good stone to its offspring.

It matters to hand on traditions, especially when they feed us in our inner being. The traditions of Christmas remind us of a God who is, as a youngster recently told me, 'loving, kind and forgiving.' Christians see such a God in Jesus and his human example of God's loving and forgiving kindness can give us something to aspire to in our own lives.

At Advent we look forward to a time when God's desired Kingdom will come, which will be one where the suffering which people experience or inflict on each other will end and peace which brings completeness will come. Jesus is seen as the peace giver.

Here is a wishful Christmas prayer:

Though our world is full of worry, and strife, let peace come.

Stir up a hope, a good news expectation,  
 that causes us to look for what could be better.

Let love pitch up in the midst of our Christmas feast,  
 And kindness come with everything we give and receive.

Let our greetings express our goodwill

And joy and peace surprise us.

And at the end of the day, let there be no anticlimax,

Only a sense of purpose and a willingness to go forward  
 with a generous and hopeful heart. Amen.

*Rev Julie Norris*

### DECEMBER SERVICES AND EVENTS

Saturday 2 December	
	10.30am to 12 noon: <b>Maureen's Coffee Morning</b> , Community Room.
Sunday 3 November	
	8am: <b>Advent Holy Communion</b> using the Book of Common Prayer led by Rev Julie Norris. This is followed by <b>an Advent Parish Communion Service</b> when we will be singing Advent Carols and looking forward as we prepare for Christmas.



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<b>Friday 8 December</b>	
	8pm: <b>‘Patriarchs praying with text/words.’</b> Rosey will hold a Zoom Compline reflection. Zoom link from Rosey at <a href="mailto:roseyleaf@talktalk.net">roseyleaf@talktalk.net</a>
<b>Saturday 9 December</b>	
	2 – 4pm: <b>Carol Singing for Christian Aid</b> in the Grand Arcade. Please come for a festive sing along. Last year nearly £400 was raised!
<b>Sunday 10 December</b>	
	8am: <b>traditional Holy Communion</b> led by Rev Julie Norris using the Book of Common Prayer. Followed by <b>Family &amp; Holy Communion Service</b> with the baptism of Juno, Otis and Digby. 10am: <b>Christingle &amp; Toy Service.</b> We will be enjoying the light of the Christingles and the candles of baptism, as well as thinking of ways to help other families at Christmas. <b>Confirmation Classes</b> take place after the morning services. This month we are looking at why we go to Church.
<b>Monday 11 December</b>	
	11am: <b>Service of Holy Communion and the Blessing of the Home</b> at Cambridgeshire Care Home.
<b>Friday 15 December</b>	
	8pm: <b>‘Prophets - praying with imagination’</b> , the second of the Zoom Compline reflections. Zoom link from Rosey <a href="mailto:roseyleaf@talktalk.net">roseyleaf@talktalk.net</a>
<b>Third Sunday of Advent, 17 December</b>	
	8am: <b>traditional Holy Communion</b> led by Rev Julie Norris using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: <b>a Sung Parish Communion Service.</b> 3pm: <b>The Open Space, ‘Travelling nativity’</b> at the Memorial Hall. This is a joint venture between St Mary’s and Great Shelford Free Church. 6.30pm: <b>Carol Service</b> at St Mary’s, traditional Carols and Readings.
<b>Wednesday 20 December</b>	
	6.30pm: Joint <b>Community Carols</b> outside the Memorial Hall.
<b>Friday 22 December</b>	
	8pm: <b>‘John the Baptist and Mary - Praying with silence’</b> , third of the Zoom Compline reflections. Zoom link from <a href="mailto:roseyleaf@talktalk.net">roseyleaf@talktalk.net</a>

<b>Sunday 24 December</b>	
	<p>8am: A traditional <b>Holy Communion</b> using the Book of Common Prayer</p> <p>10am: followed by a sung <b>Parish Communion Service</b></p> <p>4pm: <b>The Crib Service</b> for children and families. We will make up the crib scene in time for Midnight Mass and this nativity tableau will be enjoyed over the coming weeks.</p> <p>11.30pm: <b>Midnight Mass.</b> We will welcome in Christmas Day with traditional carols and Parish Communion.</p>
<b>Monday 25 December – Christmas Day</b>	
	<p>10am: <b>Family &amp; Parish Communion</b>, when we will be celebrating the coming of Emmanuel, God with us and sharing the joy of Christmas.</p>
<b>Sunday 31 December</b>	
	<p>8am: A traditional <b>Holy Communion</b> using the Book of Common Prayer</p> <p>10am: a <b>Sung Communion Service</b> thanking God for the year that has gone and preparing for the year to come.</p>
<b>Friday 5 January</b>	
	<p>8pm: <b>‘Epiphany: Gifts of the Kings – praying over a familiar text’</b>, the last of the Zoom Compline reflections. Zoom link from <a href="mailto:roseyleaf@talktalk.net">roseyleaf@talktalk.net</a></p>

In addition to the normal Sunday services at 8am and 10am, there is a Zoom service each Sunday evening at 6.30pm. These give space to pause and listen to music and a reading to prepare us for the week ahead.

**We are looking for an Administrator**, 7 hours per week at £15 per hour, starting in January. Please contact [Revjulienorris@gmail.com](mailto:Revjulienorris@gmail.com) for the role description.

**Thought for the month:** He gives double who gives quickly. *Pubilius Syrus*

**For more information about Great Shelford Parish Church**

Vicar: Revd Dr Julie Norris

[Revjulienorris@gmail.com](mailto:Revjulienorris@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator: David Wilding

[wildingdavid1@gmail.com](mailto:wildingdavid1@gmail.com)

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## THE REAL CHRISTMAS



Great Shelford  
Free Church

Like most of us, here at Great Shelford Free Church (GSFC) we are preparing for Christmas. As you would expect of a Christian church,

we are not focusing on Father Christmas, decorations and parties, nor even food and families, but the 'real' Christmas story.

Yet you may be surprised, as I was, to realise how much we thought was part of the story actually is not mentioned in the bible at all. No donkeys are there, neither are camels. And the shepherds don't gaze upwards at a star that shines over a stable, nor are angels female. There is no mention of three kings, and they do not visit a stable either; in fact there is no stable. Mary does not arrive in Bethlehem about to give birth and she and Joseph, although far from home, were close to their extended family. Yes, they were poor in our terms, but there is no evidence that they were any more poor than most people were then. In fact, they were probably quite ordinary and it is to ordinary people that God still speaks today, people in need of that gift of a saviour. You can read the story for yourself in the first chapters of Matthew's and Luke's gospels.

*'The real story of the incarnation is that Joseph and Mary are not distinctive, but represent ordinary humanity, just like most of us... The story is not in the first instance about anything that we should do but what God has done for us, and the invitation that we should receive this before anything else.'* (Ian Paul)

What the Christmas story in the bible does say, is that the angels tell us not to be afraid, for they bring good news that will cause great joy for all people. They proclaim that in the town of David a Saviour has been born to us; he is the Messiah, the Lord. In these days of such dark uncertainty and woe, most recently in the very land where Jesus was born, it's so easy to be afraid. Existing in a scary world where the old order is changing so rapidly and our planet seems ever more fragile, we need the light of that good news more than ever. We'd love to share that joy and hope that the angels heralded with you and there are lots of opportunities to join us listed on the next page, whether in our church building or out and about in the village. Be encouraged to do as the shepherds invited each other,

*'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.'* Luke 2:15

*Liz Jenkin, Elder, Great Shelford Free Church*

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## EVENTS



Great Shelford  
Free Church

**Sunday Services: 10.30am**

Each Sunday during December, we will be hearing the Christmas story from a different perspective, those of Elizabeth, Mary, Joseph and the shepherds.

**Community Café every Monday:** 10am till 12 noon. Come join us for tea/coffee and homemade cake.

**Advent Lunch on Monday 4 December:** After Community Café on the 4 December, we will be hosting an Advent Lunch – you are very welcome to join us!

For more information, please email [administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk](mailto:administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk)

**Little Steps Toddler Group every Wednesday:**

10am – 11.30am. Term time only.

**Tiny Toes Baby Group every Wednesday afternoon:**

1.30pm till 3pm. Term time only.

**More special events in December****Sunday 17 December: 3pm – 4.15pm - Open Space: Travelling Nativity**

Joint outdoor family event with St Mary's Church. Meet outside Great Shelford Memorial Hall. Come join us as we reimagine the journey that Mary and Joseph undertook to Bethlehem. Feel free to come dressed up – Mary, Joseph, a star, a shepherd for example!

**Wednesday 20 December at 6.30pm:**

Outdoor Community Carols at Shelford Memorial Hall. Join us for this multi-media event featuring the City of Cambridge Brass Band. Refreshments will be available.

**Sunday 24 December at 6.30pm: Carols By Fairy Lights**

Lovely atmospheric service, join in singing carols and get ready for Christmas Day!





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**Please remember to order your repeat prescriptions in plenty of time** so that you do not run out of your medication over the holidays.

The table below shows you when you will be able to collect your prescriptions, depending on the date you place your order.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Opening hours</b>	<b>Repeat prescription schedule</b>
<b>Fri 22.12.2023</b>	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up <b>Fri 29.12.2023</b>
<b>Sat 23.12.2023</b>	Open for pre-booked appointments only (Sawston)	Place order today, pick up <b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>
<b>Sun 24.12.2023</b> (Christmas Eve)	Closed	Place order today, pick up <b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>
<b>Mon 25.12.2023</b> (Christmas Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up <b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>
<b>Tues 26.12.2023</b> (Boxing Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up <b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>
<b>Wed 27.12.2023</b>	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up <b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>
<b>Thurs 28.12.2023</b>	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up <b>Wed 03.01.2024</b>
<b>Fri 29.12.2023</b>	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up <b>Thurs 04.01.2024</b>
<b>Sat 30.12.2023</b>	Open for pre-booked appointments only (Sawston)	Place order today, pick up <b>Fri 05.01.2024</b>
<b>Sun 31.01.2023</b> (New Years' Eve)	Closed	Place order today, pick up <b>Fri 05.01.2024</b>
<b>Mon 01.01.2024</b> (New Years' Day)	Closed	Place order today, pick up <b>Fri 05.01.2024</b>
<b>Tues 02.01.2024</b>	Open as usual	Place order today, pick up <b>Fri 05.01.2024</b>

Don't forget, there are **Prescription Collection Points at Sawston, Linton and Shelford**. Sign up today via [cpicb.grantadispensing@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.grantadispensing@nhs.net) to pick up your medication at your convenience over the holidays.

**Be prepared for common health problems** by keeping a well stocked medicine cabinet at home. You can treat many minor illnesses such as colds and coughs, sore throats and upset stomachs by having a supply of health care essentials such as pain relief (paracetamol/ibuprofen), cough and sore throat remedies, a first aid kit, upset stomach treatment, rehydration treatment and heartburn/indigestion treatment. Having these essentials at home will not only save you time and help you feel better quicker, but will also help save the NHS much needed resources.

**Local pharmacists** can also offer you advice and guidance on the best treatment for you. They are available on every high street and in supermarkets, with many open in the evening and at weekends.

**Whilst we are closed**, if you need urgent medical assistance please use the NHS 111 service. If you have an emergency that poses an immediate threat to life, please ring 999.

For further information on available healthcare services, please go to [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk) or our website [www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk](http://www.grantamedicalpractices.co.uk)

We wish you all a healthy and peaceful holiday season.

*Sandra East, Head of Patient Services*

## **JANUARY ISSUE OF THE *VILLAGE NEWS***

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is **Tuesday 12 December** and it should be available on **Friday 29 December**, with subscribed copies delivered shortly thereafter.



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## PINK FLOYD IN SHELFORD

Pink Floyd and Paul Simon played at Great Shelford in the 1960s.



A group that was an early version of *Pink Floyd* played at a private function in Great Shelford in 1965, pictures of which have recently appeared on social media.

Trinity House at 11 Cambridge Road, Great Shelford (now demolished) was the setting for a 21st birthday party which was described in the book, 'A Pink Floyd fan's Illustrated Guide to Cambridge' as one of 'two important Floyd

episodes.' [Trinity House was also used as the location for the cover art of Pink Floyd's double album, *Ummagumma*, see picture above, Ed].

The party/concert on October 1st 1965 was an historic occasion - the first musical meeting between present and future members of Pink Floyd. The main group was *The Tea Set* which shortly after became *Pink Floyd*.



*The Tea Set* line up at that time was Syd Barrett, Nick Mason, Roger Waters and Rick Wright. The then unknown Paul Simon also joined them on the stage that night. Paul Simon's own set included 'Where have all the flowers gone.'

David Gilmour's band *Jokers Wild* (Dave later replaced Syd Barrett in Pink Floyd) also played at the same party (see picture, left) which was for the 21st birthday celebration of twins, Rosemary and Libby January. Libby was the then

girlfriend of Pink Floyd album cover designer Storm Thorgerson and they were later to marry. Libby later married Tibor Vasarhelyi who later changed his name to January and Libby became a well known artist. Sadly, Libby died in March 2019 after a battle with cancer at the age of 75, her sister, Rosemary married Donald Cameron in 1967 and is believed to still live in the Cambridge area. The January sisters were the daughters of Douglas and Winifred January. Douglas was a director of the family business, January's estate agents and auctioneers.

*John Wakefield*

## SHELFORD FEAST



Summer is over and seems long ago, but the organisers of The Shelford Feast are still full of energy, preparing for the next Feast while tidying up the last one.

We are delighted to say that the 2023 Feast was one of our most successful events, with crowds at evening events, happy customers at the concerts and all-comers well fed and watered. And the weather held warm and sunny, remember that?

The criteria for a grant from the Shelford Feast include (in no particular order):

- Being a **local** charity or non profit making organisation
- Financial **need**, especially where there is no alternative funding source
- Helping particularly the **young**, the **old** or the needy
- Where a contribution would make the most significant **impact**
- Where there is a significant **contribution** to The Feast by the organisation or its supporters

We are very pleased to announce that we can give this year, from the 2023 Feast, over **£24,000** to local good causes!

We have given £2,500 to the Sick Children's Trust (see page 38), £3,500 to the Mobile Warden scheme and to Shelford School and £1500 to Sawston Girls Football Club.

£600 (+ or - £150) has been given to the following worthy local organisations: Badminton Club, Bowls, Carpet Bowls, Cricket, Dance Dedication, First Responders, Football Club, Great Shelford Village Charity, Trumpington Guides, Library Friends, OASSIS, Over 70s, Pantomime, Parkinsons UK (Cambridge Branch), Power2Inspire, Trumpington Rainbows, Shelford Beavers, Shelford Guides, Shelford Scouts, SSYI Youth Club, Stapleford Warden, Sawston Youth Drama, Great Shelford Twinning.

*Duncan Grey*






### SHELFORD BRIDGE CLUB – CORRECTION

Unfortunately we left out a digit in the contact information given for Tony Cliff in our September issue.

Anyone interested in joining the Bridge Club can contact him on 07532 737794.

## DIARY DECEMBER 2023

Date	Event	Time	Place
2	Christmas Fair	10am-1pm	Memorial Hall
2	Christmas Lights Switch On	3pm	Memorial Hall
8-10	Christmas Tree Festival	10am-6pm	St Andrews Church, Stapleford
20	Community Carols	6pm	Memorial Hall
Wednesdays: Country Market 9–11.30am, 6, 13, 20th.			

	<b>BIN COLLECTIONS</b> Black bins                      Tuesday 12, <b>Wednesday</b> 27 December Blue and Green bins        Tuesday 5, Tuesday 19 December
	<b>POST BOXES</b> Coppice Avenue, Mill Court (Hinton Way), Library, Old Vicarage, Church St, High Green bus stop, Stonehill Road, Macaulay Avenue. According to Post Office staff, the first collection from post boxes is at 9am (7am on Saturdays) and there are subsequent collections later. The latest collection is from the Post Office at 4.45pm.
 	<b>POST OFFICE</b> The Post Office is at Kash Stores, 35 Hinton Way. Open Monday–Friday 9am–5.30pm, Saturday 9am–1pm. 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.
	<b>LIBRARY</b> Monday 3–7, Tuesday 10–1 & 2–5, Wednesday 10–1, Thursday closed, Friday 10–1 & 2–6, Saturday 10–1. For Christmas opening see page 30.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

### 20 new planning policies proposed



The first draft of the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan has been submitted to South Cambs District Council (SCDC) planners for informal review. I am taking it as a good omen that this happened – completely coincidentally – on

World Town Planning Day! We look forward to receiving productive feedback from SCDC so we can tweak the Plan in advance of two statutory consultations in 2024. The first consultation will be with numerous landowners, organisations and other bodies, like the Environment Agency and Natural England; the second (towards the end of next year) will take the form of a yes/no referendum with you, the residents and workers of Stapleford and Great Shelford.

### Why is the Neighbourhood Plan important?

Our Neighbourhood Plan (NP) reflects residents' planning related priorities, as expressed through community consultation and engagement in 2022 and earlier in 2023. However, although several hundred residents have taken the opportunity to have a say in shaping it, we still need to raise wider awareness. After all, you are being asked to support a pretty extensive set of planning policies which will set out the rules for making all planning related decisions in our area – whether that's a household extension, a new care home, a large residential development, or life sciences laboratories and offices.

Be in no doubt, such planning decisions will have an *enormous* impact on what our villages look and feel like over the next couple of decades, at a time when the Cambridge region is being tasked with delivering significant economic growth. During this period of change and upheaval, the NP will *give us a say* in what this means for our home patch. We need our NP to be in place before many more changes happen, otherwise change will be imposed upon us.

### Our planning policy areas

This month, I'll start with an overview and in subsequent editions will pick apart specific policies to discuss in more detail.

All policies sit under objectives which respond to the relative strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in our area and were agreed through community consultation. The following table cross references the main subject matter of each objective with its broad policy content. The policies themselves are very much more detailed and are supported by an extensive evidence base.

Do remember that a NP cannot reinvent the wheel. Multiple planning policies are already in place at a national or Local Plan level; our NP fills the gaps to ensure that planning decisions respond to the needs of Stapleford and Great Shelford, not just to those of government and Greater Cambridge planners.

<b>Focus of objective</b>	<b>Policy content</b>
1. Housing	1 Housing mix 2 Prioritising local needs re affordable housing 3 Rural exceptions housing 4 Meeting the needs of the older population 5 Residential annexes
2. The built environment	6 Development and design in this area a) Design led approach b) Ensuring good amenity standards
3. Climate change	7 Adapting to climate change re building design 8 Renewable energy infrastructure
4. Biodiversity	9 Development and biodiversity 10 Trees and development
5. Our rural setting and landscape	11 Protecting and enhancing landscape character 12 Important views and visually important areas 13 Important countryside frontages 14 Local green spaces and protected amenity areas 15 Preserving our dark landscape
6. Community amenities and infrastructure	16 Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development
7. Active travel	17 Facilitating active travel
8. Managing the impacts of travel	18 Managing the impacts of new development
9. Countryside access	19 Protecting and improving routes into countryside
10. Countryside enhancements	20 Delivering Stapleford and Great Shelford's Improved Landscape Area

More detail at [www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan](http://www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan).  
 Jenny Flynn, Chair of Stapleford & Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan steering group [neighbourhood.plan@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhood.plan@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Great Shelford Mobile Warden Scheme**  
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For further information visit our website <http://www.shelfordwardenscheme.org>

Jenny David (Chair) 07764615524 [jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk)

Claire Smith (Warden) 07811676991 [saurus1960@gmail.com](mailto:saurus1960@gmail.com)



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## GREAT SHELFORD LIBRARY

### Events in December

The library will be hosting two new drop in groups during December. No need to book just turn up.

**Craft & Chat** – Every Friday morning 10.30am–12 noon. Pop in on a Friday morning to craft and chat with others. £2.00 to include tea or coffee.

**Tea & Games** – Every Friday afternoon 2–3.30pm. A relaxed games afternoon. We will provide games, but please feel free to bring your own if you would prefer. £2.00 to include tea or coffee.

Great Shelford will be hosting the following regular activities during December.

**Story and Rhyme Time** – Tuesday 5 and Tuesday 19 December at 10.30am For children aged 0–4 years. Come and enjoy stories and rhymes led by our wonderful volunteers. This is a free drop in event. Parents/carers please stay with your children.

**LEGO and DUPLO Club** – Monday 18 December 4.30–5.30pm. Come along and have some fun making Lego models. All materials provided. Suggested donation £1.00. Suitable for ages 2-10. Children must be accompanied by an adult during events.

**Christmas and New Year Opening Hours:** Great Shelford Library will close at 1pm on Saturday 23 December and reopen at 10am on Tuesday 2 January.

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS FROM ALL THE STAFF AT GREAT SHELFORD LIBRARY**

#### Contact details

Phone: 0345 045 5225. Email: [Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Web: [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk) Opening hours see page 26



### Friends of Great Shelford Library Annual General Meeting



The Friends of Great Shelford Library Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 7.30 pm in the library.

Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting when seasonal refreshments will be provided.

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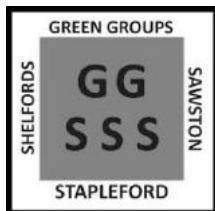
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## 2G3S EVENTS



**South Cambs Organic Gardeners** meet at Cox's Close in Stapleford, Monday 11 December at 7pm.

**Sustainable Food** - looking ahead, our next conversation evening is on Monday 29 January at Great Shelford Free Church and will be led by Cambridge Sustainable Food. Perhaps 2024 is the year to tackle your carbon footprint through the food you eat.

**Dr Bike** continues to hold volunteer run weekly Bike Repair Sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford. 3 pm to 5.30 pm every Tuesday. Please note we will not be having sessions on December 26 or January 2 . Otherwise we expect to operate normal Tuesday services at the Old Slaughterhouse from 3pm until approximately 5.30pm throughout December and January. We offer a free 23-point check and we can do minor repairs for a donation (just to help us maintain a stock of commonly used spares). Children are welcome to come and find out how to maintain their bikes, but must bring a responsible adult with them as well as their bike. We can't work on hydraulics or e-Bike electrics. If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers, or have any questions for Dr Bike, get in touch using [drbikestapleford@gmail.com](mailto:drbikestapleford@gmail.com). You will make lots of bike riders go away very happy!

## PAST EVENTS

For full reports of these events in November, please see our website.

**Retrofitting for Energy Savings and Financial Relief** - speakers from Cambridge Carbon Footprint talked about retrofitting, grants available and showed infrared cameras, which can be borrowed, to see where you are losing heat from your home.

**Repair Café** was held at Sawston Free Church. Future local ones will be in February and May 2024.

**Book Group** at the Three Horseshoes pub in Stapleford, discussing 'Islands of Abandonment' by Cal Flynn. It is an interesting read.

**Cambridgeshire Parents for Sustainable Travel** needs your input. The collapse of the Sustainable Travel Zone proposals so suddenly has left a confusing vacuum with a complete absence of policy. Congestion continues to worsen, leading to dirty air, high CO2 emissions and wasted time for people and businesses trying to travel into and around Cambridge. Whilst a majority of politicians support action, they have lost sight of what they should be aiming for. They need to develop policies to deal with present and future transport needs, inaction is not an option. This organisation wants to build a set

of principles for Cambridgeshire's needs for sustainable travel, which will inform policymaking. They have made a start with some simple statements such as, 'Reduce air pollution to within WHO safe limits across the County' - but the ideas need to come from all of us. What is most important to you when it comes to sustainable travel in our area? Please tell them what you think should be done to solve congestion and air pollution.

**Christmas and party season** – perhaps this is the year to try and buy less 'stuff', from glitter cards that can't be recycled, to helium balloons that deplete the world's finite stores of the gas, to crackers with useless plastic trinkets in, to over packaged presents with lots of plastic wrapping, to lights with non rechargeable batteries. Most wrapping paper is recyclable now, or perhaps you and the children can have fun stamping seasonal designs on plain paper. Printed cards can be recycled, or if you have time you can make your own. And try not to buy too much perishable food. Freeze leftovers, or make soup or a pie or a risotto or stir fry from the vegetable and bits and pieces lurking in the fridge.

**Trees for Cities** – you may have heard of this charity as there was an article in a recent Waitrose magazine. In the 30 years it has been running, it has planted 1,765,366 trees, over 200,000 in 2022-23 alone. They have now planted trees in ten different countries, including Ethiopia, Peru, Kenya and Nepal. The charity aims to make urban communities more resilient to environmental threats and they do this by planting a range of tree species. Trees reduce temperatures in hot summers, absorb air pollution by roads, create shade, create wildlife habitats and there is evidence that being in green spaces improves mental health.

If you would like to help, it costs just £6 to plant a tree in one of the charity's urban forests. See [treesforcities.org](https://treesforcities.org). Or plant a tree in your garden (of appropriate size, obviously). It's a good time of year to plant a tree and the local nurseries and garden centres should have a good choice and can give advice. A good idea for a present?

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to **[mail2G3S@gmail.com](mailto:mail2G3S@gmail.com)** (please note new email address) to sign up for our quarterly newsletter, or to get more information about our meetings. We are a friendly group and welcome anyone who wants to come along to one of our events or to find out more about how we can live more sustainably. Also see our Facebook page and our website (type 2G3S into Google and you will find us).

*Helen Hale*

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## VILLAGE CHARITY



### It's been quite a year . . .

Five years in the planning, our award winning almshouse development opened its doors to new residents in February. This brought to 53 the total number of almshouse homes managed by the Charity, providing affordable accommodation for families, couples and individuals in housing need. Alongside the new development we have planted hundreds of native trees and laid out allotments, a community garden, footpaths and benches, providing public access to several acres of Charity owned land.

In May, the Charity Commission approved our name change. No longer The Parochial Charities, we are now The Great Shelford Village Charity and, under a revised constitution, we can now assist people who live in the village or the surrounding area, as well as those who otherwise have a strong connection to the village. This allows us to help, for example, Great Shelford people who have moved away because of the expense of local accommodation and who now wish to return.

We continue to distribute small grants to villagers in need as well as local good causes. Working closely with local schools, we will once again be distributing Christmas food bags to families in need.

Given the growth of the charity's operations we have taken on some additional directors to spread the workload and broaden our skillset.

The board of directors (all unpaid) now comprises:

Sarah Rann (Chair),

Alice Mann,      Brian Connellan,      Richard Mutty,

Jaspaul Hill,      Michael Pooles,      Sarah Kreckler,

Keith Sugden,      Si-Houy Lao Sirieix,      Simon White.

The directors are assisted by our clerk, Mary Lester.

And finally . . .

The Charity has been in existence for over 130 years and with your support we will continue helping villagers long into the future. We could always do more but our resources are limited. Currently, we are raising funds for the refurbishment of – and making energy efficiency improvements to – our 32 older almshouses. Donations may be made via our website, <https://gsvc.org.uk/> or you may wish to contact our Clerk at [clerk@gsvc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@gsvc.org.uk)

*Brian Connellan*

## SHELFORD SCHOOL

It has been a busy couple of weeks since the half term break!

The cycle of Class Briefings has returned, with Year 1 and Year 2 families being invited first for an informative presentation with related activity and then to watch their children lead Celebration Worship. Every year group will get a chance to showcase what they have been learning in this way. It is wonderful to see families back in school – the last Class Briefings took place in 2019!

The Year 6 children have been supporting their Reception buddies and Reception have joined the whole school in Celebration Worship for the first time. Year 6 pupils sit with their Reception buddies in House groups, supporting them in this new experience.

Year 1 students visited Pizza Express, linked to their Shelford Stars topic where they have been exploring their local community. Following some work in DT on hygiene and food origins, the children really enjoyed making (and eating!) their own pizzas.

The PTA have been busy raising additional funds for the school. The recent Bike Sale was incredibly successful and the result of a lot of hard work from a dedicated team of volunteers. We extend our thanks to them for their time and effort. In addition, Cake at the Gate has made a return and as well as this, the children have been busy creating Christmas Cards which are currently on sale for families to purchase.

The staff and governors were very pleased to receive a letter of congratulations from the Local Authority in recognition of all of the hard work put in by the school's community to support pupils' development.

We wish Mrs Alderson the best of luck as she heads off on maternity leave and welcome back Mr Kerin, who has taken on the role of Year 6 teacher. We welcome Mrs Terry, who will be joining the team as a part time teacher in Year 3 from January. We also congratulate Mrs Sheppard, Year 5 teacher, who will be Acting Deputy Headteacher in Mrs Alderson's absence. We must sadly say goodbye to Mrs Rose, who has worked as a Teaching Assistant at Shelford for 13 years. We wish her the best of luck in her new venture.

With so much to look forward to in the coming weeks, there is a buzz of excitement around the school. The Choir are busy rehearsing for Young Voices 2024 (when they will perform at the O2 Arena in London) and Reception, Years 1 and 2 have begun rehearsing for the annual Nativity play.

Thank you to all members of the school community who are supporting all of these wonderful events.

*Clare Mellor (Parent Governor)*

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## SICK CHILDREN'S TRUST

The Cambridge Fundraising Committee for the Sick Children's Trust (CFCSCST) is grateful to the GSVN Editorial Committee for their extremely generous £1,000 donation.

When a child has to spend days or weeks in hospital, how do their parents and siblings manage? Yet it is vital for parents to remain by their sick child's side to provide essential care and support.

The Sick Children's Trust provides free accommodation for families with children receiving inpatient care. By removing the obstacles that prevent families from staying together, such as travel and hotel costs, the SCT allows them to give each other mutual support at this most stressful time of their lives. In addition, the SCT on site House Manager is a trained counsellor and is able to offer emotional support and advice in many practical areas.

Although the SCT is a national charity, all income raised by us is spent locally on the running and maintenance costs of Acorn and Chestnut Houses on the Addenbrooke's and Rosie Hospital sites.

Together the two Houses have 23 bedrooms which are mainly used to



accommodate families with children on the Neonatal and Paediatric Intensive Care Units and who are receiving cancer treatment. 618 families stayed in the Houses in the past year, averaging a 12-night stay, and nearly 2,000 Cambridgeshire families have done so over the

past 20 years. In that time, the CFCSCST has raised over £1m.

A much needed programme of refurbishment of Acorn House's bed and bathrooms is underway, including increasing storage space and we anticipate the GSVN donation will be put towards this work.

Much of our local income comes from ticket sales for talks and other events that we organise: anyone interested in supporting us by giving a talk or becoming a helper at events is warmly encouraged to contact our local team via [sctcambridge@gmail.com](mailto:sctcambridge@gmail.com) or 01799 541180.

*Dr Mark Farrington*  
*Chair, Cambridge Fundraising Committee for the Sick Children's Trust*

## SHELFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

On 3rd November the Twinning Association was delighted to welcome M Jean-Louis Barges, a French teacher of adults, to our recent social event in Great Shelford Free Church hall.



Jean-Louis gave us an absorbing talk about the area where he was born and brought up – the Auvergne in central southern France.

The Auvergne is situated in the centre of the Massif Central. Four departments make up the region: Puy de Dome, Haute Loire, Cantal and Allier. Clermont Ferrand is the capital. The principal attraction in the Auvergne is the varied and beautiful scenery, including a chain of dormant volcanoes known collectively as the *Chaîne des Puys*. The last confirmed eruption was around 4040 BC. We were given information on the geography, history, culture and principal industries in the region, one of the main ones being cheese

making, Saint Nectaire, Cantal and Bleu d'Auvergne amongst others. Other industries include the manufacture of tyres in Clermont Ferrand and knives in Thiers. Vichy is famed for its waters and there are a number of spa resorts in the area.

Jean-Louis also mentioned traditional dancing and finished his talk with a short video of one of these, the dancers circling and the men periodically stamping with precision. He illustrated his excellent presentation throughout with a selection of beautiful photographs.

Following the talk we sat down to a ploughman's supper of homemade savoury cakes, bread, ham and continental meats, chutney, and cheese including three from the Auvergne, washed down of course with French wine. We are most grateful to our stalwart team of helpers who did a magnificent job of setting up, washing up and clearing the hall afterwards and to all those who donated raffle prizes.

*Penny Pearl*

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## BETTER WAYS FOR BUSWAYS

Following October's packed meeting we've had the biggest sign up for our email updates and you can still sign up via our website, <https://www.bw4b.org/contact>, or email us at [hello@bw4b.org](mailto:hello@bw4b.org).

One correction from last month's article; not all our District/County local councillors support the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)'s proposed route of the busway by any means as was implied.

One of our councillors in particular has made his opposition to the busway running through the countryside very clear! As an apolitical organisation our recommendation is to check with our local councillors where they stand on this issue.

*Howard Kettel*

## COUNTRY MARKET



The weeks have passed by so quickly and now we are looking forward to our Christmas Markets. Just three markets in December, ending on Wednesday 20 December. We are working hard for well stocked tables with seasonal fayre in addition to our

regular baking, also marmalades, jams, chutneys and local honey, plants and seasonal greenery and many different crafts. All our produce and craft work is homemade, home grown or hand crafted.

The market is the place for original and interesting Christmas gifts so do come and allow time to have a good browse and then stop at our coffee shop for freshly made coffee or tea and a homemade cookie.

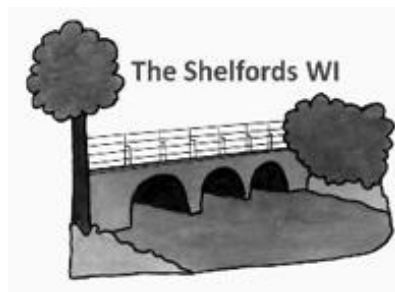
We welcome orders, particularly for Christmas fare and can arrange delivery if you are unable to get to the market. You can order at the market or by email or phone to [dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com](mailto:dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com) or telephone 843946.

To all our customers and friends we send best wishes for the Christmas season and our thanks for supporting us throughout the year. We shall look forward to seeing you when we reopen after our New Year break on 17 January 2024.

*Dorothy Doel*

*The Market is in the Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane every Wednesday (9 to 11.30 am) except 27 December 2023 and 3 and 10 January 2024.*

## WI



On the night when storm Ciaron raged, we were entertained and charmed by our visitors, Claire and Neil Callan from Somersham, who transported us to their magnificent garden bordering the fens. Having both retired from the teaching profession, they found and purchased a three quarter acre piece of land, with an isolated bungalow, and set out, over the

next five years to create a garden fit to display, for the National Garden Scheme (NGS). The land was fertile, but mostly neglected and severely overgrown.

We were curious of the title of their talk. 'From crowbar to crocosmia', what did this mean? They had a blank canvas for sure, they were allowed bonfires, unlike Surrey where they had lived previously, so they drew up plans on squared paper, and using the two derelict sheds to store tools and equipment, set out diligently and to model the magnificent garden we can see today. The free draining soil of the fenlands revealed many secrets, including the fact that this part of England was once under the sea. They unearthed thousands of sea shells – evidence of its marine past.

It was important to create drainage and a hedge to act as a wind break and to encourage wildlife. They planted fruit trees and made a vegetable plot. Magnificent flower beds were created and a lawn made from the once meadow-like grass of the original garden. The couple, with occasional help from their son and grandchildren, hired and purchased equipment, and spent many hours, digging and modelling the garden to create colour and stunning beauty. And 'From crowbar to crocosmia'? The crowbar was an essential tool to initially break up compacted soil, but now the results can be seen in their crocosmia, a flowering iris.

Neil is an accomplished photographer, but it is not difficult to take photos when stoats, weasels, field voles, squirrels, grass snakes, dragon flies and moles and many other native species of butterflies and birds visit this peaceful and tranquil garden often. They intend to give themselves a year off from raising money for the NGS cause in 2024, but will reopen the garden in 2025, when they will intend to continue to raise thousands of pounds for Marie Curie and other worthwhile charities.

Our next meeting will be held in the community hall behind St. Mary's Church, on December 7, when we will hold our annual Christmas Party.

*Rosemary Livings President*

## READER'S LETTER

For as long as I can remember making Woollards Lane one way has been discussed many times and every time it has been kicked into the long grass.

I've lived in Shelford for 57 years and not been aware of anybody being injured to date. However, with proposals in a recent report from the Great Shelford Parish Council, things could change

One proposal is to close Woollards Lane to through traffic from Little Shelford. This will please our good neighbours from Little Shelford who have supported our village, our shops and other services.

I don't wish to be told that if I wish to use our shops and other services I have to drive round the houses and enter the village from the London Road traffic lights some half a mile further. With this proposed scheme closing High Street would force all Little Shelford traffic into Woollards Lane, which doesn't make any sense at all.

One other proposed scheme is to close Woollards Lane at London Road. This closure would stop many hundreds of people living on Hinton Way and Macauley Avenue from entering the village directly – not a good way to encourage local residents to support the shops.

Apart from the risk of Shelford becoming a race track any one-way scheme, I think, will take the heart out of our village. You see on news programmes where road closures and pedestrian areas have caused shop closures. Let's hope none of the proposed schemes are implemented.

There's an old saying: 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it.'

*Charles Nightingale*

*Former Chairman of Parish Councillor, Former Chairman District Council*

### 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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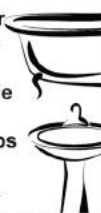
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## LITTLE SHELFORD PANTOMIME 2024

### THE SLEEPING BEAUTY



The Princess Aurora is looking forward to a party to celebrate her eighteenth Birthday but things are conspiring against her.

A duo of talking cats, a fairy who bears a grudge and her dopey sidekick do their best to sabotage the plans but the knights of the round table ride to the rescue. But do you wake a sleeping princess with a kiss? Is it de rigueur in these woke times??

Prepare for the usual mix of pantomime jokes, a tenuous story line, an eclectic mix of characters, scenery to take your

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**Wednesday 10–Saturday 13 January, 7pm, Little Shelford Memorial Hall.**

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## OLD NEWS

### Extracts from The Great Shelford Chronicle 1774–1868

*Compiled and re-published by Anne George, Glynis Trundle*

*Margaret Ward and Alan Bullwinkle, 1993*

#### December 1854

**CHRISTMAS TURKEYS** – Mr Wm. Moore, landlord of the Greyhound Inn, Great Shelford, has this season 117 of the finest cock turkeys ever exhibited in the London market; also a very large number of very fine hen turkeys. They are well worth a journey to inspect them.

#### 1 December 1855

**DARING BURGLARY** – Between five and six o'clock on Sunday evening last, the dwelling house belonging to Mr John Hagger, grocer and dealer, of this place, was entered by thieves by means of skeleton keys, and cash to the amount of £14 stolen viz., a £5 note, and £9 in gold and silver, together with six silver tea-spoons, marked with the initials E.T., two tablespoons and a pair of sugar tongs, marked T., and a pair of Wellington boots, with a cut on one side of the leg, and one on the foot. So expert were the thieves that they ransacked the house and made off with their booty in less than three quarters of an hour, as Mr and Mrs Hagger were only absent that short space of time. Insurance policies had been examined, sealed envelopes they had broken open, and nearly every article they had investigated that was likely to contain valuables, except a box, which contained Mr H.'s watch, which was unobserved by them. Mr. Hagger has always been in the practice of taking his cash with him when he and his wife have left home at the same time, until the present occasion.


It appears that the police of Cambridge have been on the look-out for three fellows belonging to Barnwell, one of the name of Shadbolt. On Monday, he was taken before the magistrates, and remanded until Saturday, for further examination.

The following are the particulars of the three men before the magistrates on previous occasions: Groves – felony, thrice; as a rogue and vagabond, six times; assault on the police, once: Bell – felony four times, rogue and vagabond, four times; Shadbolt – felony, five times; disorderly, once.

The highest credit is due to P.C. Long for his vigilance, he having tracked the prisoners on foot, step by step, to their hiding place.

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 **Animesh Patel, Plastic Surgeon and co-owner**  
 **Lorna Bacon, Podiatrist and co-owner**

**COACH HOUSE HEALTH CARE**  
The Courtyard, Anstey Hall, Maris Lane,  
Trumpington, Cambridge CB2 9LG  
**01223 340491**  
[reception@coachhousehealthcare.co.uk](mailto:reception@coachhousehealthcare.co.uk)  
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## TENNIS CLUB

Fans and paparazzi clustered by the red carpet to catch a glimpse of Shelford's tennis stars as they gathered for (Great Shelford Tennis Club) (GSTC)'s annual dinner at The Three Horseshoes in Stapleford. The all ticket event sold out months ago and featured a veritable who's who of the glamorous world of local racquet sport. The Village News has the exclusive inside track on who picked up the glittering prizes:



Photo by Caroline Clulow

Pictured (L-R) are, Mel Boyle, winner- Most Colourful Character.

The judges said Mel, 'always has a smile, and is lovely on and off court'.

Anna Disley-Stevens - Most Improved Lady, 'enormous improvement in all areas of her game'.

Marcus Forgham - Member of the Year 'He revitalised club tournaments, excellent spirit, ok backhand'.

Pippa McLoughlin - Best Newcomer 'friendly, enthusiastic and joined the committee'.

The prize for Most Improved Man went to Tom Cope, and the Team of the Year was the Ladies Super Seniors for their 'enduring love of tennis'.

Big thanks to the GSTC committee for all their hard work organising the event, and for their efforts throughout the rest of the year. Thanks also to our prize donors including Scotsdales, Top Spin Tennis and Over & In.

Returning in 2024...Member of the Month!

*Stephen Chittenden*

# STAPLEFORD GRANARY

MUSIC • ART • CULTURE

# DECEMBER

## Melrose Quartet

**Friday 1 December | 7:45pm**

A joyous, festive programme from this acclaimed folk quartet: seasonal songs, traditional carols, wassails & more. A night to lift the spirits!



## Theatre of Widdershins:

**The Gingerbread Man & a Pot Full of Magic**

**Saturday 2 December | 11am & 2pm**

Two tasty tales served with unexpected spices & quirky flavours, along with Widdershins' trademark ingredients of puppets, petite pop-up sets & original music. Age 3+



## Pixels Ensemble Candlelit Concert

**Monday 11 December | 7:45pm**

This much-loved ensemble returns to the Granary for an evening of spiritually-inspired music for violin, cello & piano, spanning the 17th - 21st centuries, offering a refelective, twilight atmosphere for Advent.



## Michael Symmons Roberts Candlelit Poetry Reading

**Tuesday 12 December | 7:45pm**

A recital of poetry by the Whitbread Prize winning poet & author whose much-admired lyrical writing has been described by the Guardian as *'informed by a sense of grace, of transcendence... beautifully expressed, subtly luminous'*.



## Elina Duni & Rob Luft Candlelit Concert

**Wednesday 13 December | 7:45pm**

Internationally renowned Albanian singer Elina Duni & BBC New Generation guitarist Rob Luft perform music combining jazz, folksong & Broadway ballads with a warm Mediterranean sound.



[www.staplefordgranary.org.uk](http://www.staplefordgranary.org.uk)  
01223 849004

## WHAT'S ON IN DECEMBER

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 the event may already be booked.

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE	
30 Nov – 7 Jan	Mother Goose
Telephone: 01223 503333 Web: <a href="http://www.cambridgeartstheatre.com">www.cambridgeartstheatre.com</a>	

CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE	
27	The Nutcracker.
Telephone: 01223 791791 Web: <a href="http://cambridgelive.org.uk/cornex">cambridgelive.org.uk/cornex</a>	

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY	
Until 17 February	Spitting Image: A Controversial History. Cambridge University Library.
Until 7 January	Real Families: Stories of Change. Fitzwilliam Museum.
Until April	Beneath Our Feet: Archaeology of the Cambridge Region. Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.
Until February	Women and Water Exhibition. Murray Edwards College.
Until 7 January	Black Atlantic: Power, People, Resistance. Fitzwilliam Museum.
<a href="http://admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson">admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson</a>	

SAWSTON CINEMA	
7	The Railway Children Return (7pm)
Telephone 01223 712825 Web: <a href="http://www.sawstoncinema.org.uk/">www.sawstoncinema.org.uk/</a>	



## 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.

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

### **General enquiries and articles for publication:**

01223 842553 [gsvneditorial@gmail.com](mailto:gsvneditorial@gmail.com)

### **Commercial advertisements**

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

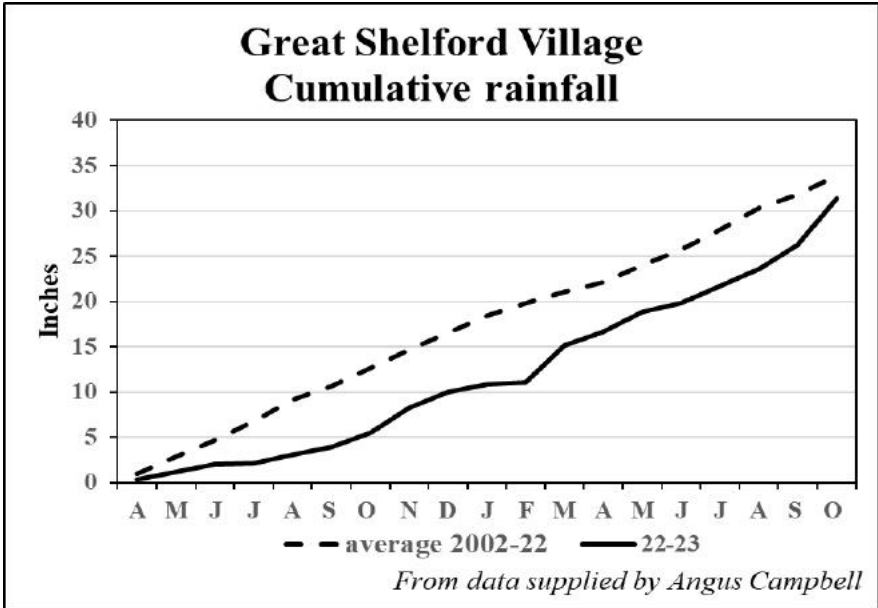
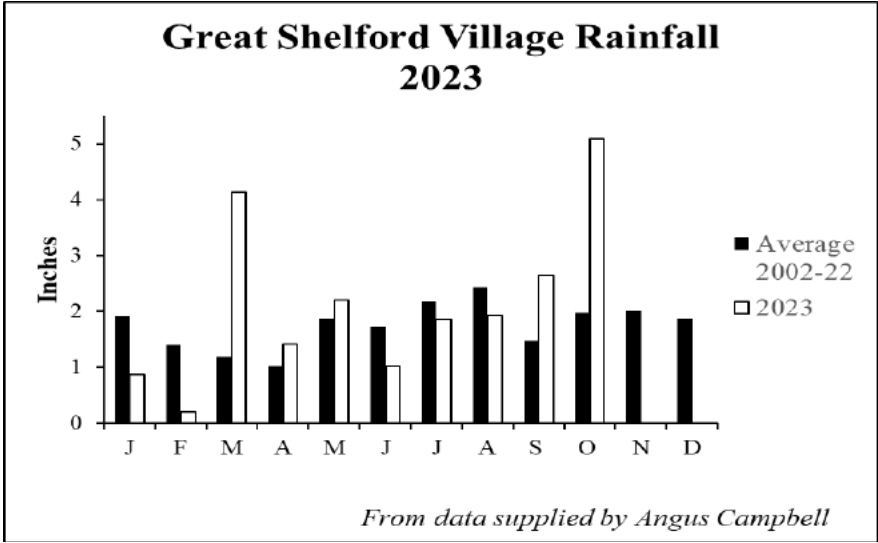
[gsvnadverts@gmail.com](mailto:gsvnadverts@gmail.com)

### **Subscriptions and online payment details**

01223 842993 [gsvnsubs@gmail.com](mailto:gsvnsubs@gmail.com)

### **Editorial Committee**

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



We had periods of very low rainfall in 2022 and 2023, but high rainfall in March 2023 and now, according to records from (National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB), the highest October rainfall for 60 years. The chart shows that, looking at the period since April 2022, we have still not yet caught up to the average rainfall that we might have expected over that period.

## LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

2G3S Green Group	Linda Whitebread	mail2G3S@gmail.com	843438
Badminton (Little Shelford)	James Newman	james@jamesnewman.org	843272
Bowls Club	Gill Taylor	gill.m.taylor@gmail.com	845904
Brownies, Guides, Rainbows	Lisa MacGregor	shelforddistrict@gmail.com	843021
Bunch – Feast	Duncan Grey	dsg@post.com	842191
Carpet Bowls	Wendy Seekings	m.seekings039@btinternet.com	843416
Citizens Advice Bureau	Cambridge		0808 278 7808
Country Market	Dorothy Doel	dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com	843946
Cricket Club	Peter Ede	peter.ede@ntlworld.com	01223 510662
Football Club	Terry Rider	footybeast63@sky.com	01354 680661
Free Church	The Administrator	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 Online	David Martin	www.greatshelfordonline davidm1961@gmail.com	845995
Memorial Hall Bookings	Jenny Eldridge	office@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk	01223 616622 Ext 302
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
The Great Shelford Village Charity	Mary Lester (Clerk to the Trustees)	clerk@gspc.org.uk	842411
Police	Non-emergency number		101
Rainbow Pre-School	Allison Tomlin		07985 216603
Royal British Legion	Kevin Swann	sawstonpampisford.secretary@rbl.community	07496517859
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 Bridge Club	Tony Cliff	anthony.r.cliff@gmail.com	07532 737794
Shelford Primary School	Chris Grey (Headteacher)	office@shelford.cambs.sch.uk	843107
Shelford Spokes Cycling Club	Brian Connellan	shelfordspokes@gmail.com	07941 574663
Shelford Support Group (transport to hospital, etc.)	General enquiries: Gillian Northmore		shelfordsupport@googlemail.com 504542
	John Dibnah	842054	Jan Walker 847315
	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	to be announced		
Twinning Association	Penny Pearl	penny.pearl@btinternet.com	842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	John Gray	johngray6@gmail.com	01223 841784
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)	vanda.butler@googlemail.com	561053
Youth Initiative	Zac Britton	zac.britton@ssyi.club	07599 024210

# REMEMBRANCE DAY

Lest we forget ...



Photos: Duncan Grey