# Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

EST 1999	APRIL 2024

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# Have your say on village changes Bumper Edition!



Shelford – Best Place to Live! Our Villages, Our Future!

# **GREAT SHELFORD**

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# **GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL**

greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

# SUMMARY FROM THE UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 21 FEBRUARY 2024

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

County Cllr Milnes noted that the County Council is working on their budget and there has been some increase in funding for Highways. District Cllr Fane noted that he had attended the East West Railway (EWR) liaison meeting the previous evening but the information provided about their plans was a little lacking in detail. EWR are obliged to carry out community consultation but in this case, they will only be liaising with the planning authority and not town and parish councils.

# **REPORTS FROM COMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS**

**Neighbourhood plan:** Material for the Regulation 14 consultation was ready to be delivered to all dwellings and businesses. The consultation will be open from 11 March until 30 April.

**Cambridge Biomedical Campus Working Group** met on 12 February to discuss the paper put together with Trumpington Residents' Association assessing the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Vision 2050. It was noted that Cambridge Biomedical Campus has vacancies for Public Governors on their board. It was suggested that it would be prudent if there was a representative from Great Shelford on the board.

## **COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

The Parish Council considered their statement on outline proposals for Cambridge 2040 (a government led major expansion of the city involving at least 150,000 new homes around Cambridge). Some amendments to the statement were agreed on. It was also agreed to invite Peter Freeman to a meeting to get the Parish Council on his radar. (Peter Freeman is chair of the Cambridge Delivery Group, which has been established to drive forward this project.)

The proposed Strategic Plan for 2024-2027 was approved by members.

Progress has been made on the Business Plan in the following areas:

- Costings and drawings for the Memorial Hall are due to be received
- The Tennis Club lease has now been signed. Other sports clubs' licences continue to be worked on
- Construction work on the new skate park is due to commence in early March

# **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

The two main events held by the Parish Council in 2023, Family Fun Day in May and the Christmas Lights in December had both been a relative success. Unfortunately, the Autumn Gala was not held.

It was agreed to hold a Family Fun Day this year on Sunday 28 April and the Christmas Lights event on the last Saturday in November. The Rugby Club have already said that the first Sunday in November works for them for the fireworks display.

# HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT

a) The Traffic & Transport Infrastructure Working Group noted that:

- contact has been made by the officer who is looking after the Parish Council's Local Highways Initiative Application
- there will be ongoing works to the railway between March and June
- there have been reports that there is more footfall to Cambridge North than imagined and it is felt that Cambridge South may be the same

b) Cllr Mann informed members that in November 2023 the Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Working Group had met with Sarah Grove, an officer for the Community Railway Partnership (CRP) group which includes Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton. Community Railway Partnership groups are mainly funded by the railway companies, in this instance Greater Anglia, and by donations from the local parish and town councils involved with the group. The groups are community focused and they involve themselves in the areas they cover in a variety of ways, including visits to schools, talks, etc. It was resolved to express an interest in joining a CRP subject to finalising details including cost.

c) It was agreed to send a letter to East West Rail Company and a Freedom of Information request to Cambridgeshire County Council.

d). Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) have asked two questions about their plans for Mingle Lane: what are councillors' early thoughts on the designs and what ideas are there to engage with residents. Councillors were asked to pass any thoughts they have on the proposals to Cllr Mann and Cllr Watson before their meeting on site with GCP on 27 February.

e). Communication has been received via the District Council that there were proposals to extend the e-scooter trial to include Great Shelford. It was agreed to respond saying the Parish Council would be interested in this.

f) It was agreed to write to the Highways Authority about the state of the roads and the impact that construction traffic has had on the roads, even though it was felt that this might not have any impact.



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# FINANCE

The stop cock on the rec, used by the Feast, was broken and needed replacement. It was agreed that this should be replaced at a cost of  $\pm 1,550 + VAT$ . Access would only be for the Parish Council as this is the second replacement in less than three years.

New bins have been purchased for the Recreation Ground. Following a spate of vandalism to some of the old bins, it was agreed that these be securely installed at a total cost of  $\pounds1,410 + VAT$ .

# **EMPLOYMENT MATTERS**

Following the recent resignation of the Executive Officer, councillors asked for their thanks for all she has done for the council to be minuted and congratulated her on her new role.

It is proving to be difficult to recruit anyone for the role of Caretaker and it was agreed to seek a cleaning company instead.

Following a confidential verbal report it was agreed to change the job title for the Clerical Assistant to Assistant Clerk to accurately reflect the role she undertakes.

# MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

UK Power Networks are proposing to build three new sub-stations in the area: in Trumpington, Newmarket Road and Shelford Bottom. They are giving a presentation on 25 March about this. They have been asked to come to the planning meeting on 18 March – anyone interested please come along.

# PARISH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN APRIL

Planning Committee Highways Committee Full Council Meeting Planning Committee 8 April7.30pm Pavilion10 April7.00pm Pavilion17 April7.00pm Pavilion22 April7.30pm 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.

Full copies of the agendas and minutes of the Parish Council and Committee meetings can be viewed on the Parish Council website: *greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/minutes-agendas* 

# PLANNING APPLICATIONS

#### PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS (05.02.2024 & 21.02.2024)

24/00129/HFUL	30 Cambridge Road	New ramp to front entrance, raised
		patio to floor level with access at
		the rear with ramp down to the
		garden.
A multipation and a d		

Application supported.

24/00138/HFUL	10 Coppice Avenue Single storey side extension and	
		insertion of new window.
No comment as the drawings submitted do not match up and it is not clear		
what is being proposed.		

24/00435 HFUL	17 Westfield Road	Single storey rear extension, erection of front porch, front and rear hipped to gable roof extension, and raised ridge height
		of current single storey rear extension.
<b>D</b> 1 C 1 1	·	
Parish Council objection: the proposals continue to be too much for the site,		
there is concern over the overshadowing of neighbouring solar panels and it		
is not in keeping with the street scene.		

24.00513/PIP	Land to rear of 10B Church Street	Erection of one dwelling.
Parish Council objection: it is located in a conservation area, would be		

overdevelopment of the site and there would be issues with Highway safety.

# 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.



# PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

As the clocks spring forward we feel that summer is on its way.

#### Skate Park

We hope that by the time you read this, the creation of our skate park will be underway. Bendcrete have been contracted to carry out the installation for us and we are looking forward to our residents and visitors using this new facility.

We are aware that the area in front of the tennis courts has been churned up considerably as we attempted to keep construction traffic of the new care home, off our already congested roads. This will only get worse during construction of the skate park but we are looking at a solution to rectify the damage to the area as soon as possible.

#### PlayScape

You may have noticed that there are a few areas where the 'wetpour' has sunk around some of the equipment in the play area. We are in discussions with the constructor of the Playscape to look at having these areas rectified.

#### Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 14 Consultation

You should have received a leaflet through your door inviting you to take part in the Regulation 14 Consultation on our Neighbourhood Plan. We would encourage as many of you as possible to take part.

#### **Family Fun Day**

Date for your diary. We will be holding our Family Fun Day on Sunday 28 April on the Recreation Ground from 12noon until 3pm. Come and join us for some music, fun and games and lots more. We look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, Libby White will be leaving us in early May as she takes up a role as Town Clerk at St Ives Town Council. We wish her well in her new role and thank her for all she has done for the parish council in her time with us.

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



# **GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH Saint Mary the Virgin**

See the St Mary the Virgin Great Shelford website for up to date information about our services and activities. *https://www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/* 

#### Julie's Jottings.

We are coming into a season where we look not just at the resurrection of Jesus, but our own rising up to meet life and the challenges of our future, starting here and now. The story of the resurrection of Jesus confronts the cruelty, brutality, injustice and violence which Jesus experienced on the cross, and many people still know. His resurrection invites us to look away from self interest, to the power of a love that does not die, but keeps on growing and is passed from one to another. In the Church, this makes us want to express our faith both in worship and in building community. We know that there are people in the village who may not come to church, but who share this belief in wanting to serve the common good and love our neighbour.

The focus of our services this month is on building and developing community. We are looking at our own attitudes and choices to find ways that our actions and life might become the seeds of our highest hope for the whole community and not just ourselves. This month we appraise the life of the church as we look back to the past year and forward to what is coming next. We welcome views from the community. Is there something that you would like to see happening at St Mary's, or which you want us to do together? You would be welcome at our Annual Meeting on 14 April, or you can email me with ideas *revjulienorris@gmail.com* 

Wishing you a peaceful Eastertide. Rev Julie Norris

# STAPLEFORD CPS GOVERNORS



Stapleford Community Primary School STAPLEFORD Community Primary Schools (a member of the Anglian Learning Trust) Local Governing Board is looking to appoint three new members of the local community in supporting and promoting our good

(OFSTED rated), happy and vibrant school to provide the best possible education for all children in its care. If you are interested in joining our committed team of Governors, please contact the Co-Chairs of Governors: *Edward Gunn egunn@anglianlearning.org;* and *Martin Brown mbrown@anglianlearning.org.* 



# **APRIL SERVICES AND EVENTS**

coming year.

Morning Prayer Services Monday and Thursday at 8.30am.

St Mary The Virgin is open daily for prayer from 9.30am – 4.30pm.

Wed	lnesday April 3
	A group from St Mary's will lead a service of prayers, readings and hymns along with Holy Communion in <b>Cambridgeshire</b> <b>Care Home at 10.30am.</b>
Thu	rsday April 4
	Wedding of Ellah Omburah and James (Jake) Reynolds at noon.
Satu	rday April 6
	10.30am–12 noon: <b>Maureen's Coffee Morning</b> in the Community Room.
Sun	day April 7 Second Sunday of Easter
	Rev Julie Norris will lead a <b>traditional Holy Communion</b> using the Book of Common Prayer at <b>8am</b> .
Mon	This is followed by the <b>Sung Parish Communion Service at</b> <b>10am.</b> This is an intergeneration service that the children take part in along with their families, and friends from 0-90+. This month we are looking at how we can contribute to developing a generous community. During the service Ellise Kingsley will be baptised. aday April 8
Sune	<b>Pilgrim Group,</b> the weekly discussion group which studies the Bible and looks at contemporary issues meets in the <b>Vicarage (12</b> <b>Church Street) at 2pm.</b> We are studying the book by Paula Gooder called, 'Women of Holy Week.' This is friendly discussion based around the different characters in the book. You are welcome to join us even if you have not been before. <b>day April 14 Third Sunday of Easter</b>
	Rev Julie Norris will lead a traditional Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer at 8am. This is followed by the Sung Parish Communion Service at 10am. There will be activities for children during the sermon. Following the Service we will be holding our Annual Parochial Church Council Meeting. Villagers are welcome to come to find out what has been happening over the last year and what is being planned for the

Sun	day April 21 Fourth Sunday of Easter
	Rev Michael Wilcockson, the Rural Dean of Granta Deanery will
	be leading the worship. There will be a traditional Holy
	Communion using the Book of Common Prayer at 8am. This is
	followed by the Sung Parish Communion Service at 10am.
Sun	day April 28 Fifth Sunday of Easter
	Rev Julie Norris will lead a traditional <b>Holy Communion</b> using the Book of Common Prayer at <b>8am</b> . This is followed at <b>10am</b> by a <b>Sung Parish Communion Service</b> . At the end of the Service we will be <b>Celebrating the life of Shirley Earle</b> . If you knew Shirley and would like to join us to remember her, then please arrive at <b>11.15am</b> . There is also the <b>Open Space</b> opportunity for children and families to have some fun outside. This month this takes place at
	3pm at the Free Church in the space behind Cara Café.

In addition to the normal Sunday services at 8am and 10am, there is a Zoom service each Sunday evening at 6.30pm. These Zoom Services give a lovely space to pause and listen to music and a reading which, at the end of the weekend can prepare us for the week ahead. You can find the Zoom link on the Pew Sheet and on the Website.

**Brighton Marathon** Tim Walker is running the Brighton Marathon to raise funds for Orchards on **Sunday 7 April**. Orchards (*www.orchardsuk.org*) is a Christian charity based in London and working across the UK to support women out of sexual exploitation and into flourishing, independent lives. Tim's fundraising page is *http://www.stewardship.org.uk/pages/twbrightonmarathon* 

**Thought for the month:** "Go to where the silence is and say something" Amy Goodman, American Journalist on the 1991 massacre in East Timor by Indonesian Troops

Vicar: Revd Dr Julie Norris *revjulienorris@gmail.com* Website Administrator: David Wilding *wildingdavid1@gmail.com* St. Mary's Great Shelford is a Registered Charity No 245456

We are still looking for an Administrator, 7 hours per week at £15 per hour. Please contact *revjulienorris@gmail.com* for the role description.

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#### **EVENTS**

Sunday Services at 10:30am: Everyone welcome.

Alive Course starting on Sunday 7 April at 6.30pm: If you've wondered about the claims of Jesus' resurrection in the Bible, or whether there's something more to the stories than just the words, then Alive is for you. It is an opportunity to look closer at the post resurrection appearances of Jesus, but more specifically, how he changed lives, and still changes lives: maybe even yours. We look at the basic human longings for love, hope, peace, freedom and purpose that we need to have satisfied if we're going to be fully alive. For more information about the course, please go to our website.

Café Church on Sunday 21 April at 10.30am. Informal service, seated around tables with refreshments served.

**Open Space on Sunday 28 April, 3pm–4.15pm**. Joint outdoor family event with St Mary's Church held in the land behind Cara Café.

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

Little Steps Toddler Group every Wednesday, 10am–11.30am. Term time only. Restarts on Wednesday 17 April. Email *administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk* to book a place.

**Tiny Toes Baby Group every Wednesday afternoon, 1.30pm–3pm.** Term time only. Restarts on Wednesday 17 April.

Also,

#### **Big Quiz Success!**

Thank you very much to all who came along to the Big Quiz for Tearfund on Saturday 2 March. It was a huge success with 65 attendees with great feedback. We had an amazing £830 donated in aid of Tearfund. This will be used where it is most needed in emergency disaster relief, community relationships, child health care, care of abused women, agricultural advice and training, and more. Tearfund is a Christian charity which means that their workers do so in Jesus's name in many countries around the world. Perhaps a repeat next year!

Margaret Cletheroe, GSFC Administrator

# **AQUAID LIFELINE**



The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Imagine if villages like ours were twinned with villages that have a completely different heritage and perspective. Could that enrich our lives? Might it open us up to even more amazing opportunities? Last month I visited a village in Malawi. It is called Namisu Children's Village and was set up 24 years ago by a local man named John Searle via the Aquaid Lifeline.

April 2024 is the month that we will be focusing on this charity as a Church timed so that I could feedback on my latest visit to the children and staff at this important centre of learning and support for some of the world's most vulnerable children. The first time I visited in 2023, even though I tried to prepare myself for a very different culture, it was still overwhelming in so many ways. From seeing a motorbike with three passengers (one being a young pig) to bikes with no lights and buses with the suspension maxed out by the weight of too many customers, to starving desperate families. My head found it difficult to manage this overload to the senses.

Of course, in the bush, the number of white people is mostly restricted to myself and my friend, Josie and this creates a range of emotions. There is the occasional scream of small babies seeing an '*Azungu*' for the first time and well-meaning occasional comments on how ill and pale we look. But I was not prepared for how the worship in the morning devotions by the staff at the Village or at a little Church deep in the bush would touch my heart. Since my visit last year, the Malawians near Blantyre have suffered at the hands of Storm Freddy, twice, and now a drought, when there should be rain and crops should be thriving. Yet they still sing.

Aquaid Lifeline has one united aim... 'to give hope and opportunity to the orphans and vulnerable children under our umbrella of care.' It is easy to feel good about helping a struggling people, but never underestimate the effect those same people can have on you. It has been an honour to play with the children, properly listen to those I meet and be part of a bigger family.

For more information, please go to *https://lifelinefund.org.uk* or come to Great Shelford Free Church on 7 April 2024.

Even if we don't have a formal twinning option for a village in Malawi, let's remember them in our prayers.





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# SCHOOL NEWS

This has been a short but very busy half term. Pupil, Parent, Teacher Consultations have successfully been held for all years 1 to 6. These helpful sessions are a key way to share information about what each child is learning and their progress in school.

#### Safer Internet Day

Before the half term break, on Tuesday 6 February, Pupils in Year 3 led a very informative presentation for Safer Internet Day. They described what being safe on the internet means. Their questions to the whole school brought forth some very sound answers. The main outcome was that if anyone feels uncomfortable or distressed by something they have seen online, they should tell a responsible person.

## **Termly Curriculum Thread**

This half term the thread has been 'Community – Empathy'. The School vision states that 'we aspire to show *love for one another*. This is an application of empathy, which enables us to *live and work in harmony* in our *community of lifelong learners*.

Pupils at Shelford have been exploring the theme of what makes a community. Titled 'Yuck or Yummy' Reception pupils learned how peoples' preferences can differ. Year 1 looked at 'Terrific Toys', asking what their grandparents played with and what life was like then. Year 2 wondered how trade impacts the community via 'Chocolate' while Year 3 were back in time studying communities of the Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages. Year 4, via 'The boy at the back of the class', worked out how we can build a community where all are welcome. Year 5 applied empathy to understand how to contrast beliefs starting with Egyptians. The Vikings were the starting point for Year 6 to understand communities that settled here long ago.

#### Activities so far this half term

On Thursday 7 March, World Book Day, children dressed up as characters from their favourite books and paraded around the all-weather path -a most impressive sight watched by supportive parents. See back page photographs. Year 6 pupils visited Grafham Water for a three day residential experience.

## PTA News

The PTA have been busy organising the preparation, printing and ordering of school tea towels. Books and book cases have been bought particularly for Key Stage 2 classrooms. Welly rack shelters have been built that in this wet winter have already been very useful. For the last Sunday of term, the PTA have organised an Easter Egg hunt on the Rec.

#### **End of Term Activities**

Term will end after a service in All Saints, Little Shelford, on Maundy Thursday 28 March.

We wish all the pupils, teachers and other staff and volunteers a very restful Easter holiday.

Eleanor Witter (Foundation Governor, St Mary's)

# **OBITUARY:** Christopher Herbert



Christopher Herbert, who died recently, was the Vicar of Great Shelford from 1978 to 1997. The village was a lot different in those days when there was much less traffic and it had three butchers, two grocery stores an ironmongers and a newsagent. Generally, it was a much quieter place and there didn't seem to be so much pressure as there is today.

At the church, times were changing, although there was still a preference in some quarters for the Book of Common Prayer rather than the new Alternative Services Book and Christopher had to employ tact and diplomacy to settle these differences. He oversaw a new lighting system and the introduction of a sound system in the church, both of which were badly needed.

There were also major roof repairs. During his incumbency there was the misfortune of the HIV/AIDS outbreak. This raised concerns about the communion service and many people were worried and had to be reassured.

More happily it was the 600<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St Mary the Virgin church in 1996 and special services took place with the Bishop of Ely in attendance.

Christopher was particularly well known for his practice of cycling around the village and visiting villagers on a regular basis. I remember Christopher as a traditional Vicar of the time with totally firm beliefs who carried out his duties in a truly caring and understanding way.

17

David Coggins



# **GRANTA HEALTH**

#### Spring COVID-19 vaccine

NHS UK will contact you directly if your NHS medical record suggests you may be eligible for a spring COVID-19 vaccine.

You may be offered a spring COVID-19 vaccine from April 2024 if you:

- Are aged 75 years old or over
- Live in a care home for older adults
- Are aged 6 months old or over and have a weakened immune system

When available, there will be different ways to obtain your vaccine, including:

- Booking online
- Going to a walk-in COVID-19 vaccination site
- Through your care home
- Via one of the community services

If you go to a walk-in centre please remember to take your invitation letter with you. As and when we receive further information about the spring vaccine we will let you know.

Sandra East, Head of Patient Services cpicb.grantapatientservices@nhs.net

# **CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB**

## NAFAS affiliated – 2024 our 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Visitors welcome at the Memorial Hall, Mill Lane. Whittlesford CB22 4NE on third Thursday evenings.

Refreshments from 6.45pm. Demonstration at 7.15pm. Membership £40 p.a. Visitors £9 per meeting.

April 18 Jane Knights & Amanda Waples Demonstration: 'Take Two'.

May 16 Barbara Collins: Demonstration: 'Spring into Summer'.

Further information: Freda Orgee 01223 891464 or fredaorgee@gmail.com

# MAY ISSUE OF THE VILLAGE NEWS

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is Friday 12 April and it should be available on Friday 26 April, with subscribed copies delivered shortly thereafter.

# **GREAT SHELFORD COUNTRY MARKET**

At our recent Annual Meeting Christa Jostock was re-elected Chair. We looked back at the highs and lows of 2023. Overall, it was a good year with the Café area growing in popularity, perhaps becoming a village meeting place on a Wedness



becoming a village meeting place on a Wednesday morning.

However, the 'low side' was the fall in producer numbers and this concern we carry into 2024. From the footfall coming into the market each week there is the call for the market, by definition, we are a social co-operative producing and selling home baked, home grown and hand crafted produce each week.

Do you love to bake? Do you grow a surplus of garden fruit and vegetables? Do you enjoy craft work?

Why not consider joining our team and turn your hobbies and passions into a small income at the same time as making new friends. Though we are open every Wednesday from 9am to 11.30am, we can be flexible. You may only be able to manage one Wednesday a month or only a small amount of baking – that doesn't matter. After all, an acorn grows into an oak tree. Please feel free to pop in for a chat with no obligation on any Wednesday morning. We shall look forward to meeting you.

Meantime, the central theme tables are being well received and appreciation from customers has been most rewarding to the producers involved.

March's table was a celebration of 'New Growth: Spring and Easter' and April's theme sounds quite fascinating: 'A celebration of waterways in general but more specifically the Cam and Cambridge'.

Just a reminder, admission is free and if you have time for a good browse you may be surprised at just what you can find, including hot drinks and home baked cookies!

We are always pleased to take orders at the market by phone on 01223 843946 or email *dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com* 

Dorothy Doel

The Market is open in the Memorial Hall, Woollards Lane every Wednesday from 9am to 11.30am





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# LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

#### For Adults

**Engage Talk** – Challis House. Come and hear about the work of the Challis House Trust in Sawston. Wednesday 24 April, 2–3.30pm. A donation of £2 is appreciated. Please stay for a drink after the talk. Please pre-book in the library or via *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* 

**Craft & Chat** – Every Friday morning 10.30 - 12 noon. Pop in on a Friday morning to craft and chat with others. £2 donation for tea or coffee. No need to book.

**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 to include tea or coffee. No need to book.

## For Children

**Lion Learners** – Meet some amazing furry, cuddly and creepy animals and hear their stories. Thursday 4 April 2.30–3.30pm. Only suitable for ages 4yrs+, £5 per child payable on booking. Please pre-book in the library or via *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* 

**Dogs Trust** – A free family workshop to learn about safe behaviour around dogs and being responsible around our four-pawed friends! Wednesday 10 April 2–3.30pm. Suitable for ages 7-11. Please pre-book in the library or via *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* 

**LEGO and DUPLO** – Wednesday 3 April, 2 – 3.30pm. Come along and have some fun making Lego models. All materials provided. Suitable for ages 2-10. £2 per child. Please pre-book in the library or via *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* 

**Children's Games Club** - Fortnightly, Monday 8 and 22 April 4–5.30pm. Come along and have fun. Board and card games provided. £1 per child, no need to book. Parents/carers please stay with your children during all library activities.

Library Opening Hours - see page 28.

Telephone: 0345 045 5225. Email:*Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk* Web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk





# VILLAGE NEWS



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# 2G3S

#### Events coming up and regular sessions:

**Conversation Evening** on electric transport will be held later in the spring. To be held at Cox's Close Community Room in Stapleford. More details to follow, but it is hoped to have some electric bikes for people to try out.

**Dr Bike** is running its volunteer-run weekly Bike Repair Sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3pm to 5.30pm every Tuesday. Children are welcome to bring their bikes for repair but please attend with them (for safeguarding reasons). If you are interested in joining our team of volunteers or have any questions on Dr Bike, get in touch using *drbikestapleford@gmail.com*.

**South Cambs Organic Gardeners** meet at Cox's Close Community Room in Stapleford. More details on the meetings from *helen\_harwood\_uk@yahoo.co.uk*.

**Pink recycling bins** – apart from the one at Tesco in Fulbourn, you may have noticed a new pink recycling bin in the car park at Great Shelford Memorial Hall. South Cambridgeshire County Council (SCDC) have provided this bin until early April, when it will be taken off to another village that has bid for it. You may just be in time to use it. You can put small electrical goods in it, anything with a plug or battery, items like irons and kettles which will be repaired, reused, or recycled.

Don't put a broken item in a pink bin until you've brought it along to a repair café to see if it can be mended of course! Our next café will be in September, but if you need a repair before then you can look on the Cambridge Carbon Footprint website for details of other nearby cafés. We can't mend phones and tablets, but can often repair irons, toasters, and so on. If you have a computer or laptop that you don't need any more, there are ways to have those recycled. In the Shelfords and Stapleford, Mike Nettleton arranges periodic collections. See the SCDC website for other suggestions.

**Local nature plan -** have your say on the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, closing date for comments is Friday 5 April at 5pm. Cambridgeshire County Council has opened a survey on our priorities about what's important to protect/improve in nature in the region, which will help to define the Nature Recovery Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Please do respond to this survey - it is a chance for us all as individuals to register what places, habitats, and species we think are important. The survey, which doesn't take long, can be found on the council website *cambridgeshire.gov.uk*, search for Local Nature Recovery Strategy. There is information on the background to the consultation included with the survey.

# VILLAGE NEWS

**Neighbourhood Plan** – if you live in Great Shelford or Stapleford, do remember to fill in the current consultation form. This plan will give villagers a say in how the villages develop in the future, which is very pertinent with all the pressure on development around here. You can record what aspects of the village are most important to you – housing types, the views and landscapes around the villages, transport and other features. See *greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan*.

**Gardening for the climate and nature** – now is peak gardening time. Try to put in plants that can stand dry conditions, so you don't have to water them much after the first year (when the root system is establishing). Invest in a water butt if you haven't got one already. Plant a tree for shade and to soak up carbon dioxide and pollutants – Stapleford residents, look out for more on trees in the next magazine! In relation to my article last month, here's a photo of a very stylish Hedgehog Highway in Sawston!



If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to *mail2G3S@gmail.com* 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

# Little Shelford Pantomime - Auditions



Auditions will be held for *Peter Pan,* Little Shelford Pantomime 2025 on Sunday 28 April 2024 at Little Shelford Memorial Hall between 12 noon and 3 pm.

To both book a time slot to audition and to complete an audition form, please register online at *https://tinyurl.com/Panto2025* 

Please ring Sarah on 842498 or e-mail *coppendales@btinternet.com* if you have any queries.

# Friends of Great Shelford Library present:



# **Funny Business**

A conversation with Ian Whybrow about a lifetime mucking about with words.

It is Ian Whybrow's proud boast that for 20 years running he was recorded as one of the top ten most borrowed authors from British libraries. His funny and engaging children's books have been essential

reading for millions of children for generations - in 40 languages.

For the best part of four years now, Ian has written (at least) a poem a day. In sharing with us some of his fondest memories of working and talking with publishers and children, he will be introducing a group of adult enthusiasts for the written word, a selection of these witty, bracing, sometimes quirky, always thought-provoking pieces about experiences we all share.

He likes, he says, to come at things 'aslant' as Emily Dickinson or Stevie Smith did, and like Blake, he looks for the world in a grain of sand. Expect to go home from this encounter encouraged to write for your own pleasure and who knows? - even to devote a bit of time to reading poetry.

## Great Shelford Library, Tuesday 23 April at 7.30 pm.

Tickets - £5 (Friends - £3) available in advance from the library or on the door if space is available. Refreshments afterwards.

# **ARTHUR RANK**

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

#### Pick up pre-loved items at bargain prices

Arthur Rank Hospice Charity has many retail outlets – They have shops in Burleigh Street, Mill

Road and Regent Street in Cambridge, Cottenham, Great Shelford, a Retail Hub and an Outlet in Pampisford/Sawston, where you can find bargain clothes, bric-a-brac and furniture! Do your bit for your local community (and the planet) and recycle/upcycle by donating or purchasing preloved items. Please visit *arhc.org.uk/shops* for more information. They are also looking for volunteers to help in the shops, so if you can help go to *arhc.org.uk/volunteer* or email *volunteer@arhc.org.uk* or phone 01223 675872.

# PLAYSCAPE UPDATE WHEELZONE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS!

By the time you read this, Bendcrete Skateparks should be on site building an amazing new mini-skatepark for the village. They anticipate it will take them 8 weeks and access to the tennis courts and Playscape will be maintained.

#### What's in a name?

We've referred to the skatepark phase as *Wheelscape* for years as it is part of the playful landscape (and of course it is for wheels!). However, we've discovered there is a company called *Wheelscape, so* to avoid confusion, it will henceforth be known as *Shelford Wheelzone*!

#### Rain, rain go away, come again another day...

With a lot of rainfall last autumn (then a burst pipe in the flowerbed near the footpath and double the amount of average rainfall in February) the water table has been so high that the whole Rec has been waterlogged (with various impromptu ponds appearing!). Some of the Playscape plants are therefore looking very bedraggled (chosen to withstand droughts, not floods!), so we'll be keeping an eye on them and will re plant where necessary.

#### How the built environment affects young people...

We were very pleased to see a parliamentary inquiry is being held into young people and the built environment, looking at how better planning, building and urban design could enhance the health and wellbeing of young people, and how they can be active and visibly part of their communities.

https://tinyurl.com/ybw8hxjz

#### Save the date - Shelford Fun Run 29.09.24

We are partnering with our CamRARE colleagues again to bring back our much loved 5k race and family friendly fun run! Please note that this is later in September than in previous years to avoid other local events and the sweltering temperatures we had last year.

Eleanor McCrone info@shelfordplayscape.org

# SHELFORD – BEST PLACE TO LIVE!

The Sunday Times has announced that The Shelfords are a great place to live! There's praise for its location, shops, its Feast and its Village News. You can read the article here *https://tinyurl.com/ys5rzwrw* and agree or disagree with the description of 'these favourite fenland villages'!

Date	Event	Time	Place
Date	Event	Time	riace
4	WI meeting	7.30pm	St Mary's Cttee Room
8	Organic Gardeners Plant Swap	7pm	Cox's Close
10	Cambridge Cactus Society (p44)	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
18	Cambridge Flower Club (p19)	6.45pm	Whittlesf'd Mem Hall
20	Bowls Club Open Day	10.30am	Recreation Ground
22	History of King's College Chapel (p38)	7.30pm	Lt Sh Mem Hall
23	Funny Business (p26)	7.30pm	Library
24	Engage talk - Challis House Talk (p22)	2-3.30pm	Library
27	Village Market	9.30-12.30	Memorial Hall
27	Saffron Dance Band	8pm	Memorial Hall
28	Family Fun Day	12 noon - 3pm	Recreation Ground
28	Pantomime Auditions	12 noon- 3pm	Lt Sh Mem Hall
30	Neighbourhood Plan Consultation ends		
Wednesdays: Country Market April 3, 10, 17, 24. 9–11.30am			

# **DIARY APRIL 2024**

1	BIN COLLECTIONS		
	Black bins Tuesday 2, 16, 30 April		
	Blue and Green bins Tuesday 9, 23 April		
POST BOXES			
	Coppice Avenue, Mill Court (Hinton Way), Library, Old Vicarage, Church St, High Green bus stop, Stonehill Road, Macaulay Avenue.		
	Usual post box collections are 9am		
	The latest collection is from the Post Office at 4.45pm.		
	POST OFFICE		
POST	The Post Office is at Kash Stores, 35 Hinton Way.		
	Open Monday to Saturday 9am–7pm, Sunday 10am–4pm.		
	LIBRARY		
	Monday 3–7pm, Tuesday 10am–1pm & 2–5pm, Wednesday 10am–1pm, Thursday closed, Friday 10am–1pm & 2–6pm, Saturday 10am–1pm. NB The library is closed on bank holidays.		

# CHANGE ALL AROUND US

The Village News makes no apologies for repeating its plea to 'have your say on The Neighbourhood Plan'. This well considered and detailed plan has been created by residents, shaped by the community and deserves a response.

Its local focus is in great contrast to December's government announcement by Michael Gove that a development corporation would deliver 'upwards' of 150,000 homes around Cambridge and will invest £10m in the coming (election) year 'to unlock delivery of crucial local transport and health infrastructure.'

Of course, not all these houses and laboratories would directly affect Shelford, but we might eye the fields on both sides of the DNA cycle path and wonder how long it will be before they are entirely covered in new buildings. Then, if it is not already, Great Shelford will have become physically part of Cambridge.

This edition of the Village News includes the latest update to the Neighbourhood Plan, an update to the plan for a busway from Abingdon across Hinton Way to Addenbrookes, and comments on The Case for Cambridge, HM Government's document outlining 'how in the years ahead we can give new life to the spirit of innovation and endeavour which has been the cornerstone of Cambridge's success.'

We should not forget the plans for East West Rail, where if the southern route is chosen there will be severe and permanent disruption, with heavy freight trains pulled by diesel locos on the edge of the village and the likelihood of roads permanently closed to Hauxton and Harston. Is this the 'crucial local transport' infrastructure that we want?

We may look nostalgically at the Village Design Statement of 2004 published 'to provide guidance for any proposals for development and to influence the way the planning system works locally.' We face a combination of a busway cutting through the green belt and its consequent housing developments; the East West Rail slicing in from the south west; the extension of the biomedical campus in the north and housing making a general assault on the green belt.

All of this is subject to consultation. However, we have many examples of consultation in name only, where meetings are held but minutes are not taken, or when opinions are listened to with deaf ears and objections ignored.

Do engage with these consultation opportunities. Do make your voice heard. Do read the reports and the online discussions and feed back. Do write to the Village News or Cambridge Independent or your Parish Council. Neighbourhood Plan consultations are open throughout April.

# STAPLEFORD AND GREAT SHELFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

# HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE VILLAGES' FUTURE

This is a formal consultation being run in accordance with Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. The consultation runs from 9am Monday 11 March to 4pm Tuesday 30 April 2024. Anyone who lives, works or runs a business in Stapleford or Great Shelford is eligible to participate. We benefitted greatly from this approach during interim community consultation in 2023, when over 60 local groups supported us in this way and helped to drive awareness and participation.

#### To take part:

1. View the draft Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents online at *www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan* or in paper copy at Great Shelford Library during its normal opening hours.

2. Complete the online feedback form; or collect and return a paper copy at Great Shelford Library; or write to Executive Officer at PO Box 1492, Cambridge, CB1 0YQ. (*executiveofficer@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk*)

3. If not using the online feedback form, please refer to the relevant policy or section of the Neighbourhood Plan in your reply.

Please note that we are unable to process anonymous comments. Responses will be published as part of Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan's supporting documents but names and any other personal data will be anonymised, other than where an individual is responding on behalf of an organisation. At the publication stage of the Neighbourhood Plan (the next and final consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan), we will share the preferred contact details of those who respond at Regulation 14 stage with Greater Cambridge Shared Planning so it can fulfil its statutory duties and notify you. Our privacy statement is available on our Neighbourhood Plan webpages.

Neighbourhood planning gives communities a role in the development and future of their local area. The 20 planning policies in the draft Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan address our community's concerns and aspirations around housing, landscape, active travel, traffic management, climate change and biodiversity, community amenities and infrastructure and countryside access. They will carry the same weight as those in South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan and will be used when reviewing all planning applications coming forward in our area. This is your chance to shape where you live for the better.

*Libby White Executive Officer, Great Shelford Parish Council, for and on behalf of Stapleford Parish Council (the qualifying body for the Neighbourhood Plan).* 



# **DRAFT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN OUR VILLAGES, OUR FUTURE, OUR SAY**

In this article, I will summarise the gist of the 20 planning policies contained within the draft Plan (BUT NOTE THAT THESE ARE NOT THE POLICIES THEMSELVES!). In the consultation, you can comment on as many or as few of the policies as you wish, so hopefully the following information will signpost you to what concerns you most. It is absolutely fine not to have an opinion on everything; after all, we all have different interests and priorities. I appreciate that the draft Plan is long (164 pages) but I'm not going to apologise! It is a serious and significant body of work. Our twenty planning policies will ultimately carry the same weight as those in South Cambridgeshire District Council's 2018 Local Plan and will be used when reviewing all planning applications coming forward in our area. It is vital, therefore, that they are justified and supported by a substantial evidence base.



# S&GS 1: Housing mix (type, size, affordability and design)

An over supply of large properties and lack of affordable, smaller properties mean that market housing in Stapleford and Great Shelford is out of reach to many. For development to have local support, it should meet the existing and future needs of our community in terms of

home size and affordability and be adaptable and accessible to residents as they age.

#### S&GS 2: Prioritising local needs in the allocation of affordable housing

There is a high level of affordable housing need in the Plan area which even significant new development will struggle to meet. Therefore, all new affordable housing in the Plan area should initially be made available to households with an existing local connection, be that family or work.

## S&GS 3: Rural exceptions housing

To help meet local affordable housing needs, small scale affordable housing schemes on rural exceptions sites adjoining our existing settled area will be supported, such as that recently completed at More's Meadow in Great Shelford.

#### S&GS 4: Meeting the needs of the older population



The proportion of people aged 75+ in Stapleford and Great Shelford is projected to grow from 13.3% in 2021 to 20.7% in 2043. We require development proposals for specialist housing for older people to be located within the settled area of our villages and in locations easily accessible to shops, services and other community facilities.

#### S&GS 5: Residential annexes to support multi-generational living

Homes suitable for multi-generational living are encouraged in our Plan area, allowing older people or those with disabilities to remain within their community and be supported by family members. This may be achieved by building a single secondary dwelling within the boundary of an existing residential dwelling.

#### S&GS 6: Development and design

Without stifling creativity, this policy seeks to ensure that new development is in keeping with the variety of buildings and street scenes in our villages. Development proposals should be guided by the 2023 Stapleford and Great Shelford Design Guidance and Codes.

# S&GS 7: Mitigating and adapting to climate change through building design

We aim to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure that new developments address problems which are likely to occur in the Plan area due to climate change. A sustainability statement relating to energy efficiency and water usage must accompany all new development proposals. Innovative ways to achieve low or net-zero carbon buildings are encouraged.

#### S&GS 8: Renewable energy schemes in Stapleford and Great Shelford

Proposals for small scale, community led renewable or low carbon energy projects, such as a community wind turbine or heat network, will be supported as long as they respect or enhance the local landscape.




# S&GS 9: Protecting and enhancing biodiversity and nature networks in our Plan area

Our area is rich in biodiversity assets – eg woodland, orchards, lowland meadows, calcareous grassland, floodplain marsh and chalk rivers – which we want to protect and improve. Proposals will be considered more favourably where they create or strengthen links through a development site to existing and/or new habitats, including important nature networks in our area. All development proposals must deliver a net gain for biodiversity, ideally onsite.

#### S&GS 10: Trees and development

Trees and hedges of value must be retained. Any planning application which may impact trees and hedges must show how they will be protected during construction. More trees must be replaced than are lost and all new trees and hedges must prioritise species which enhance biodiversity. Developers are expected to provide for future maintenance.

# S&GS 11: Protecting Stapleford and Great Shelford's landscape character

The Stapleford and Great Shelford Landscape Character Assessment 2019 supports our Neighbourhood Plan with detailed planning and land management guidance for 27 unbuilt zones across our parishes. All development proposals must be sensitive to this guidance, minimising their impact on the landscape, protecting or enhancing valued features and retaining the existing area of separation between Stapleford and Great Shelford and the City of Cambridge.

#### S&GS 12: Important views

Community engagement identified and validated 29 views which are locally highly valued. To be supported, development proposals affecting any of them must maintain or enhance the key features and setting of the view(s). The draft Neighbourhood Plan contains a map of all 29 views.

#### S&GS 13: Important Countryside Frontages

These enhance our setting, character and appearance by retaining a sense of connection between the villages and their rural origins and surroundings. Frontages and countryside beyond should be kept open and free from development. Two already exist in Great Shelford and we have proposed three new ones in Stapleford.

# S&GS 14: Local Green Spaces (LGSs) and Protected Village Amenity Areas (PVAAs)

We have designated nine new sites in the Plan area as LGSs. This nationally recognised classification affords a high level of protection against development.



PVAAs are designated by South Cambridgeshire District Council to safeguard undeveloped land within villages which sustains village character or has an important function (eg playing fields). Six already exist in the Plan area and we have identified one more in the Neighbourhood Plan.

#### S&GS 15: Preserving our dark landscape

Light pollution obscures the night sky and is harmful to wildlife and natural rhythms. This policy aims to minimise light pollution from any new development in the Plan area.

# S&GS 16: Delivering community infrastructure priorities alongside new development

New development must address the increased demands it will place on, and existing shortfalls in, our community's amenity and infrastructure needs, specifically in healthcare, primary school education, transport, open spaces and play spaces.

### S&GS 17: Facilitating active travel in Stapleford and Great Shelford

We want to make it safer and easier for people travelling in or through the Plan area to choose active travel modes, reducing reliance on private cars and hence also reducing traffic congestion. Development proposals are expected to incorporate active travel within their sites and connect to the existing network. When appropriate, they should also contribute towards new and/or upgrade existing routes in the Plan area. In this respect, our Neighbourhood Plan identifies five active travel priorities.

# S&GS 18: Managing the impacts of new development in the Plan area with respect to the movement of people and vehicles

This policy defines how the traffic implications of major development schemes in our Plan area should be assessed in planning proposals. For example, developers will be required to predict the level and impacts of traffic movements during construction and operation and show how they will offset these at existing pinch points in the Plan area.

#### S&GS 19: Protecting and improving routes into our countryside

Despite being surrounded by green spaces, our community recognises the lack of public access to it in general and of interconnected off road routes in particular. This policy protects our existing rights of way and requests that, where appropriate, new development improves the network with new routes and linkages. Our Plan identifies a set of priorities for this, as established through community consultation.

## S&GS 20: Delivering Stapleford and Great Shelford's 'improved landscape area'

This policy links to South Cambridgeshire District Council's Southern Fringe Action Plan 2008 and seeks developer support for a series of landscape, biodiversity and public access improvements at eight locations within the Plan area which will enhance our existing landscape character and the setting of Cambridge.

#### To take part

You can view the draft Neighbourhood Plan and its supporting documents at *www.greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/SGSNPlan*. Paper copies are available at Great Shelford Library.

Let us know what you think by completing the online feedback form (preferred), or by collecting and returning a paper copy at Great Shelford Library, or by writing to:

- Executive Officer, PO Box 1492, Cambridge, CB1 0YQ
- executiveofficer@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk.

The consultation on the draft Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan closes at 4pm on Tuesday 30 April.

Please note that we cannot process anonymous comments. Responses will be published as part of our Neighbourhood Plan's supporting documents but names and any other personal data will be anonymised, other than where an individual is responding on behalf of an organisation. See terms, conditions and privacy statement on our Neighbourhood Plan webpages.

Jenny Flynn (Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan steering group), writing on behalf of Stapleford and Great Shelford Parish Councils

## LITTLE SHELFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Little Shelford Memorial Hall

Monday 22 April at 7.30pm

### AGM

followed by a talk by Paul Shakeshaft:

### 'The history of King's College Chapel'

All welcome







## THE CASE FOR CAMBRIDGE

This document was published on March 11 2024 and sets out the government's ambitions for the growth of Cambridge and the actions being taken to tackle existing constraints.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-case-for-cambridge

It refers to Cambridge's history and its cultural significance, its scientific and academic achievements but is vague about the effects on the 'necklace villages' such as our own.

'Illustrative growth scenarios' suggest 150,000 new homes to be built by 2050 and would add £6bn to the economy. The report does not suggest where these homes would be, and does not point out that the current number of homes in Greater Cambridge is approximately 125,000 (Source: *Cambridge City Council, 2023*). To fit them in, it is suggested that we emulate Edinburgh, Barcelona, Freiburg and Clifton and that homes are built in 'gentle density' – part way 'between high rise tower blocks and car-dependent suburbia'.

Cambridge residents might be interested to examine our own local housing developments such as Trumpington/Great Kneighton, Eddington, Cambourne and North Stowe. Do these match the 'green fingers', 'tree-lined avenues' and wildlife pictured in the report?

We already know that Cambridge has ambition, resilience, a world class reputation and 'the Fitzwilliam Museum, home to some of the most beautiful art from around the world.' We also know that the chalk streams are short of water and that transport in and around Cambridge needs improving, but the contentious issues of whether the proposed busway will cut into green belt land and what is to be the alignment of the East West Railway are skated over.

However, government will be providing  $\pounds$ 7.2 million to progress connectivity schemes and is 'already taking action to address the priority issue of water scarcity'. This apparently involves piping water from Grafham reservoir until a new Fenland reservoir can be built.

The Cambridge District Council (CDG), providing yet another layer of planning, 'is in the process of reaching out and listening to local authorities, communities and stakeholders' and it is up to us to engage with that when consultations are offered.

Expansion and development seem inevitable so the best we can do is make our voices heard. See elsewhere in this edition of the Village News to see where you can express your views.

Duncan Grey

### **BUSWAY PLANS REVIVED**



Busway plans have been revived with £7.2 million pledge from the Chancellor.

In the March Budget the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) was given funding from central government to progress its planning and detailing of the CSET busway, in preparation for GCP board approval in June for a public enquiry. This doesn't mean that it has the money to burn

through with this  $\pm 162m$  project, but it does means that if it has a successful public enquiry then it is ready to go ahead subject to securing necessary funds.

There is so much evidence being put to government that this route makes no sense either economically or strategically, but inexplicably the GCP is still pressing ahead. Responding to the Chancellor's Budget speech, Cllr Elisa Meschini, Chair of the GCP said: "CSET2 will be designed to meet the needs of the future, from housing and job growth to utilising new modes of transportation. It will connect to the city's future transport network, including Cambridge South rail station due to open in 2025."

Given the government's recognition of the need for mass transit in Cambridge and the potential role for light rail and trams, it is difficult to understand how this deficient scheme can be progressed at such enormous cost to the public purse.

Please write to our prospective Parliamentary candidates, including Pippa Heylings *pippa@pippaheylings.org.uk* (Lib Dem) and Chris Carter-Chapman *chris4southcambs@gmail.com* (Conservative), pointing out that there is a better solution at a fraction of the cost which more directly connects the campuses and safeguards reopening the Haverhill railway line. For more information and pointers for a letter, go to Better Ways for Busways! (*bw4b.org*). Howard Kettel

3 Adcroft Piece, Stapleford, Cambridge CB22 5FD 01223 843920 07766 107372

Better Ways for Busways! is a politically neutral, highly inclusive campaign group which opposes the destruction of the countryside when better alternatives exist. Visit us at www.bw4b.org.

Great Shelford Village News also welcomes comments from readers.

Write to Readers Letters – gsvneditorial@gmail.com

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#### **Extracts from The Great Shelford Chronicle 1774-1868**

Compiled and re-published by Anne George, Glynis Trundle, Margaret Ward and Alan Bullwinkle, 1993

#### 17 April 1847

ANOTHER ASSAULT – Robert Gee was charged with assaulting Naomi Cambridge Wright at her husband's home. The complainant's husband is a publican at The Square and Compasses, Great Shelford and the defendant came there and some angry words were exchanged between the complainant, defendant and others in the room, and the defendant threw part of a half pint of beer into the complainant's face, and also threw a sheep's head and pluck at her, and then dragged her out by the neck into the street and tore her cap. Several witnesses corroborated the statement. Fined 10s and expenses and ordered to enter into his own recognisances to keep the peace for 12 months.

#### 8 April 1854

CRICKET – The members of the Shelford cricket club played their first game this season, on Monday last, on their ground at Shelford. A marquee was erected on this occasion. A cold collation was served up by Mr and Mrs Maris, the worthy host and hostess of the De Freville Arms Inn.

### 29 April 1854

FIRE – The inhabitants of Great Shelford were alarmed by the cry of fire about five on the premises of Mr Wm. Moore, at the Greyhound Inn, at the end of Great Shelford, nearest to Trumpington. Numbers of people were drawn to the spot by the dense volumes of smoke, driven by the north-east wind and were enabled by their united efforts, by cutting off the communication of the lodges where the fire began, with some buildings in the rear, and which latter also adjoined the house, barns etc to stay the progress of the flames, and very soon put them entirely out.

Providentially, the fire was confined to some outbuildings which were destroyed, and to the partial injury of a thriving plantation of young trees, the property of Mr H. Hurrell, growing close by. The fire sprung from that fruitful source of mischief, in unskilful hands, lucifer matches, which some children, unknown to their parents, had taken into a lodge where there was some straw.

## SOUTH CAMBS ORGANIC GARDENERS



A friendly group for everyone who wants to grow in a sustainable way, without harming nature or ourselves.

Next meeting: Plant swap, Monday 8 April at 7pm, Cox's Close Community Room, Stapleford

Bring your surplus plants and swap them for something interesting. We'd love to see you! Contact Helen Harwood, tel. 840393, or helen harwood uk@yahoo.co.uk

## CACTI

#### Cambridge Branch of The British Cactus and Succulent Society

Our next meeting will be held in Great Shelford memorial hall on Wednesday10 April commencing at 7.30pm.

There will be plant exhibits and a table top competition judged by a local expert, cacti and accessories for sale, a raffle and light refreshments; plus a presentation by visiting speaker. John Hughes on The Jardim Botanico Plantarium, Brazil.

We are a friendly group of cacti and succulent enthusiasts and meetings are open to all. Nationally, the British Cactus & Succulent Society has about 3,000 members spread across a network of 60 branches, holding regular monthly meetings where fellow growers get together and listen to fantastic talks on cacti and succulents.'

Jacqui Arbon Jacqui.arbon@icloud.com





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## **GREAT SHELFORD FOOTBALL CLUB**



After an almost unprecedented run of three consecutive league defeats, the first team brought their title pursuit back on track with three straight wins and remain on top of the table. The chasing pack all have games in hand however, but it's all to play for going into the last quarter of the season. Witchford always give us a hard game and after we took

what seemed a healthy three goal lead, they pegged us back with two late goals, which had us hanging on and relieved at the end.

Bassingbourn are having a dreadful second season in the top flight and although a comfortable win might have been expected, nine goals for the second time against them certainly boosted the goal difference. The surprise was conceding four at our end! The away fixture to fellow title chasers Newmarket Reserves on their all-weather pitch was always going to be difficult, but after twice coming from behind, the team provided a magnificent second half performance and a late winner secured three valuable points. After the euphoria of toppling league leaders, March Town seconds the reserves were brought down to earth with a bump when losing 3-1 at home to local rivals, Sawston Rovers. It showed that league form can count for nothing in a 'local derby'. They were soon back on track however and consecutive home wins against St Ives Town (3-0), Fordham (2-1) and Swavesey Institute (3-0) respectively saw them end the month comfortably on top of the table. The weather hopefully should be now on the up and there will be games most Saturdays on the rec, so why not come along and support your local club. With both teams sitting on top of their respective divisions it should be an exciting **Great Shelford FC** end to the season.



### **GREAT SHELFORD BOWLS CLUB**

Once again April will see the start of the 2024 Bowls Season with our **Open Day and Coffee Morning** on **Saturday 20 April**, starting at 10.30am.

Please come along. You will be welcome to have a go at bowling. If you cannot make the Saturday then please come

along on **Sunday 21** at 10.30am when we will be having a practice day. You may find that you would like to join the club and also enjoy the friendly atmosphere on our club nights.

For further information and if you are interested in joining us contact either: Gill Taylor/Secretary 07581079420 or Graham White/Chairman 07740031713.





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## TENNIS

Like all sports, tennis requires an army of unsung volunteers to run clubs, teams and tournaments. Mostly they do their work for nothing and get the same amount of thanks. Yet every so often an outstanding individual does so much that the high-ups cannot fail to take notice.

Such a person is Great Shelford Tennis Club (GSTC) member Tisha Hug, pictured (right) receiving the Lawn Tennis Association award from LTA president Sandi Proctor. Tisha has been involved with Cambridgeshire tennis for 45 years as organiser, coach and referee. She has captained every age group from 35s to 75s. Says Tisha, 'I will take this opportunity to thank all the lovely people that I have bulldozed into volunteering for one tennis job or another for Cambridgeshire County and League Tennis over the years. I was very



surprised and honoured to receive a President's Award. I guess there are very few of us oldies who were around when the Seniors events commenced.'

GSTC is lucky to have a star like Tisha, so here's one more prize for Tisha's awards cabinet - she is Member of the Month!

The winter league season was more about consolidation than victory for the club's teams. Many thanks to all who played, especially the captains. Next month's *News* will carry a report of the club's AGM, with exciting details of proposed clubhouse improvements.

## **INDOOR CYCLING**

Regular physical activity not only maintains mobility and independence but also helps to prevent chronic diseases and improve mental health.

Indoor cycling, otherwise known as spinning, is an excellent option for anyone looking to keep fit. It is low impact and provides an excellent cardiovascular workout without putting undue stress on the joints and risking an injury. If you want to experience the benefits of indoor cycling, ClubCycle Cambridge is located nearby.

Contact ClubCycle at *clubcyclecambridge.co.uk* or on 07481 931783.

#### Great Shelford Mobile Warden Scheme (Registered Charity 1055515)

We are a local charity that helps support the older residents of Great Shelford village to remain living independently in their own home. Through our phones calls and visits we aim to reduce social isolation and loneliness.

We can provide:

- · Reassurance and security through daily phone calls and regular visits.
- Additional visits in the event of illness.
- Assistance with doctors' appointments and accessing local information.
- Help with paperwork and prescriptions, visiting the bank/post office, changing a light bulb and picking up shopping in the village.

For further information visit our website http://www.shelfordwardenscheme.org Jenny David (Chair) 07764615524 jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk Claire Smith (Warden) 07811676991 saurus1960@gmail.com



Mrs Rosemary Rigge Grad Dip Phys MCSP Reg. HCPC Chartered Physiotherapist

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## POTHOLES

As cars swerve to avoid potholes or bump across uneven road surfaces and pedestrians stare into the depths of the holes (from the safety of the uneven pavements) it may be worth reminding ourselves that it is Cambridgeshire County Council, not the Parish Council, that is responsible for our roads.

As the Highway Authority, the County Council must maintain all highways assigned to it 'at a suitable standard for their status and use.'

Their website is *https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk* or call the County Council on 0845 045 5212.

Their definition of a pothole is a hole in the road that is **deeper than 40mm** and wider than 75mm in any horizontal direction.

They ask that you report non-dangerous issues with their Highways Reporting Tool and say that reports will be assessed within ten working days.



How long it takes to fix a fault depends on the type and severity of the issue. Potholes marked with yellow paint will be fixed within 21 days. Potholes marked with white paint will take up to 13 weeks to fix.

Reporting potholes is important in providing information for the council to estimate costs and to target their work. However, it is also important to check whether the hole has already been reported. You can see the status of faults already reported in your area by clicking on the coloured pins on the Reporting Tool map. If a fault has already been reported, there's no need to report it again.

Temporary repairs using the 'dragon patcher' have been ineffective, as Councillor Milnes said: 'The material that the dragon patch puts in its potholes is quickly removed, sadly often into drainage gullies adjacent to where the work has been done and then we have to go back and do it again.'

'We are making use of dragon patcher because it is very 'cost effective'. It is cheap!' But we ask, is it really good value?

# SHELFORD & STAPLEFORD YOUTH INITIATIVE (SSYI)

SSYI is a Christian charity that has been supporting young people in our local area for over 25 years and we now work with over 270 young people in Great and Little Shelford, Stapleford, Sawston and Duxford. Our aim is to provide safe spaces, quality youth work and support for local 10–21-year-olds, particularly focusing on those who are marginalised, isolated, at risk or not accessing other provision. By building positive relationships with young people, running youth clubs, schools work and other activities we enable them to overcome challenges, learn and succeed. We have a dedicated Youth Centre in Great Shelford where we run six youth clubs a week, in various venues in Sawston we run four weekly youth clubs and we run a club in the Community Centre in Duxford.



Despite the cold and wet weather, these last few months have continued to be very busy with our team of four youth workers often seeing a weekly attendance of over 130 young people at our youth clubs and activities. 40 young people come along every Friday for our year 6+7 session in Shelford, with most of the vear 6 class at Great and Little Shelford Primary there, alongside many year 7's from Sawston Village College (SVC), St Bede's and other secondary schools. Before Christmas we ran six Christmas parties, four Christmas meals and an iceskating trip in Cambridge. Over the February half term, we had two film nights, a retro gaming evening and a couple of other sessions in the community.

Mentoring and 1:1s are a big part of our work and we are now meeting with sixteen young people a week in this way, mostly in SVC but we also run sessions in the community, often meeting young people for some food or a walk in a public space. This allows us to work more closely with each one, building relationships, understanding their needs and journeying alongside them through difficulties they may be experiencing with their mental wellbeing, education, emotions, family, or the struggles they face due to deprivation.

We firmly believe in the power and value of youth work and see an ever growing need for quality provision for young people.

#### Can you help us?

*By Volunteering* - Our work couldn't happen without our fantastic volunteers, and as the work continues to grow, we are looking for more people to join the team. If you are looking for a great opportunity to support local young people whether helping in youth clubs or as a Trustee, we would love to hear from you. A DBS check will be required to help; training will be provided.

**By Giving** - As a charity we are very dependent on donations and are in need of some more regular givers to continue to offer the support we do, if this is something that you may be able to support with head to

www.justgiving.com/theshelfordandstaplefordyouthinitiative

We are so grateful for all the support we receive from the parish councils, churches, organisations and individuals. Thank you. For more information on what we do or to enquire about how you can help, get in contact with our Lead Youth Worker, Zac Britton on 07599 024210, Email *zac.britton@ssyi.club*, or Treasurer and Trustee, John Greaves on 07771 930938, or *treasurer@ssyi.club* Our website can be found at *www.ssyi.club* or use *@ssyiyouth* to access our Facebook and Instagram pages. Thanks for reading!

### WI

We held our AGM in early March and were delighted to welcome Susan Grossey, who explained to us her journey to becoming a successful writer of historical fiction. Based in Cambridge, Susan has written seven historical crime novels, set in London in the 1820s and will soon publish five new novels set in Cambridge in the same decade. The first of these, entitled 'Ostler,' introduces Gregory, who is enjoying a quiet life of an ostler in a Cambridge coaching inn, but soon gets involved in a life of intrigue and the murky world of crime in the town and behind the high walls in the colleges of Cambridge!

Susan is an entertaining and excellent speaker and we were not disappointed.

Also, at the March meeting we voted and appointed our new President, Eleanor Witter and her new joint treasurers, Anne and Cornelia. We look forward to greeting the committee which will hold our organisation in this village secure for the future.

I personally have enjoyed my three years as President of the Shelfords WI and send the ladies and their new committee my best wishes.

We meet on the first Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Committee Room behind St, Mary's Church in Great Shelford and are happy to welcome new friends. *Rosemary Livings* 

## SAWSTON FUN RUN

2023 saw a staggering 1,335 entrants joining the festivities, raising over £14,000, pushing our overall fundraising total to an impressive £520,852. With immense pride, we lent our support to two incredible causes, the Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and the Cambridge Cancer Help Centre.

For more information, or to sign up for the event this year on May 12, please visit our website on www.sawstonfunrun.co.uk

So, mark your calendars and let's make 2024 the year where we come together to celebrate community, compassion and the spirit of giving!

## **VOLUNTEER CAMBS**

A new website has been launched by Support Cambridgeshire, promoting opportunities for Cambridgeshire residents to explore volunteering.

Whether you have ten minutes to spare or ten hours, in a few clicks you can be matched with an organisation or group in the community which



inspires you to make your mark, expand on the skills you already have, discover new ones, unlock your potential or create lasting friendships.

All you need to do is visit the **Volunteer Cambs** website at **volunteercambs.org.uk**, create an account and hey presto! At the click of a button, you can find the ideal cause to support right on your doorstep.

"Volunteering is not just about helping others" say the creators of the new volunteer matchmaking service – "it's also about what they'll get in return. This includes a sense of purpose, wonderful experiences and a whole lot of thanks from the causes they are helping."

**Volunteer Cambs** works by asking organisations and groups to load up their opportunities and profiles directly so there's always something new for a volunteer to look at every time they visit the site. And the good causes promoting their work benefit from a continuous stream of potential volunteers.

A website form helps groups and volunteers match up, contact each other, and there is even a chat function for those who want to dip their toe in first. Wouldbe volunteers can search for opportunities by location if transport is an issue, for instance, or by topics that match their skill set and interests.

To find out how you can match your precious time to local good causes visit volunteercambs.org.uk. It all starts with one act of kindness.

## WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

CAMBRIDGE ARTS THEATRE		
9-13	School for Scandal	
19-21	The Lion Inside	
23-27	Twelve Angry Men	
28	Tim Rice: My Life in Musicals	
Phone: 01223 503333 Web: cambridgeartstheatre.com		

CAMBRIDGE CORN EXCHANGE		
7	Ellen Kent: Madama Butterfly featuring the Ukrainian Opera	
/	and Ballet Theatre Kyiv	
25	Boyzlife. A mixture of both Westlife's and Boyzone's biggest	
23	hits, from Brian McFadden and Keith Duffy	
Phone: 01223 791791 Web: cambridgelive.org.uk/cornex		

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY
William Blake's Universe (Fitzwilliam Museum)
Beneath Our Feet: Archaeology of the Cambridge Region (Museum

 of Archaeology & Anthropology)

 International Garden Photographer of the Year (Botanic Gardens)

Admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson

SAWSTON CINEMA		
18 (7pm)	A Haunting in Venice. Retired Poirot uncovers the killer.	
Phone 01223 712825 Web: www.sawstoncinema.org.uk/		

STAPLEFORD GRANARY				
5	7.45pm	Dallahan. Traditional music blended with		
		contemporary		
7 3	3pm	Trio Arisonto. Brahms, Mozart and Wagner, horn		
		trio		
14	4 2pm & 4pm Dogs Don't Do Ballet. Little Angel Theatre			
20	7.45pm Nat Steele Quartet: Vibrophone soloist with quartet			
21	3pm	Pixels Ensemble: 20 <sup>th</sup> century chamber pieces		
Phone 01223 849004 www.staplefordgranary.org.uk				





## SHELFORD FEAST

Tickets are now available online for events at The Shelford Feast! Events, subject to change, from **July 6 to 13** (update your diaries now!)

Saturday 6	Beer Festival to finish at 6pm DJ night – Trevor Nelson & Mr Coverman	
Sunday 7	Feast Day	
Monday 8	Quiz	
Tuesday 9	Sawston Youth Drama (SYD)	
Wednesday 10	TBC	
Thursday 11	Comedy – Marcus Brigstock and others	
Friday 12	Natalie Williams' Soul Family	
Saturday 13	Anthems Ibiza Orchestra	

Tickets will also be available from outlets in the village shortly after Easter.

Details and links to the ticket office are at shelfordfeast.co.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 photo, 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	Peter Woods	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
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
Feast – Bunch	Duncan Grey	dsg@post.com 842191
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 w	ww.greatshelfordonline davidm1961@gmail.com 845995
Memorial Hall Bookings		@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
Police	Non-emergency number	101
Rainbow Pre-School	Allison Tomlin	07985 216603
Royal British Legion	Kevin Swann sawstonp	ampisford.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	General enquiries: Gillian N	orthmore shelfordsupport@googlemail.com 504542
(transport to hospital, etc.)	John Dibnah 84	2054 Jan Walker 847315
	Rosie Cranmer 51	3572 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	
The Arts Society South Cambs Twinning Association	to be announced Penny Pearl	penny.pearl@btinternet.com 842483
,		penny.pearl@btinternet.com 842483 johngry6@gmail.com 01223 841784
Twinning Association	Penny Pearl John Gray	
Twinning Association U3A (Sawston Branch)	Penny Pearl John Gray	johngry6@gmail.com 01223 841784



**Book Day Parade at Shelford School** 

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