

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

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March 2025

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Neighbourhood Plan – the Independent Examiner

Stapleford and Great Shelford
Neighbourhood Plan 2024 – 2041

Submission (Regulation 15 version). November 2024



Prepared by Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan steering group on behalf of
Stapleford Parish Council and Great Shelford Parish Council

Bowls Club Open Day, p46

Jason Donovan Tickets Selling Fast, p9

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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CHAIR Malcolm Watson **DEPUTY CHAIRS** Gregory Price, John Stanton

CHAIRS OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Planning	Gregory Price	Highways	Timothy Mann
Building & Grounds	Malcolm Watson	Cemetery & Allotments	Angela Niblett

MEMBERS

Paula Arnold	Peter Brown	Roberto Gherseni	Howard Kettel
Barrie Ashurst	Justin Curtis	Barbara Kettel	Angela Mutty

CLERK Nicola Webster clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk 01223616622

To email Parish Councillors, use: firstname.surname@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS	Peter Fane 07802 256861	William Jackson-Wood 07873 731597
COUNTY COUNCILLORS	Brian Milnes 07971 886113	Maria King 07764 609061

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

SUMMARY FROM THE UNADOPTED MINUTES OF THE MEETING ON 15 JANUARY 2025

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

County Cllr Milnes presented a report including the recent devolution white paper whereby the government proposes to replace district and county councils with unitary councils creating a single tier system of local government, where one authority is responsible for all local services. This aims to simplify governance, reduce bureaucracy and improve efficiency by eliminating duplication of responsibilities between multiple councils. South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) are working with the City Council to produce their outline proposals by the end of March, with the final draft in May and firm proposals by autumn. There was a discussion regarding the formation of a unitary authority, including the effect on the Greater Cambridge Partnership and the Cambridge Growth Company. There was also a discussion of the County Council's response to the East-West Rail (EWR) consultation.

District Cllr Fane reported on the devolution white paper, the postponement of the planning decision regarding the waste water at Honey Hill and the effect on the proposed housing development and the Cambridge Growth Company.

District Cllr Jackson-Wood reported on the four day week and the upcoming consultation on the South Cambridge District Council (SCDC) trial. The consultation is open for anyone to respond to, see –

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/news/councils-four-day-week-public-consultation>. There was also a discussion about civil parking enforcement.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Cemetery & Allotments: A written report was provided and there was a query regarding the height of the new noticeboard at the cemetery.

Cambridge Biomedical Campus Supplementary Planning Document: the Council thanked Annabel Sykes for producing the draft response, which was approved by the Council.

East-West rail and response to the non-statutory consultation: Cllr Brown provided a verbal report on the updated draft document. D Cllr Fane and C Cllr Milnes contributed their knowledge of the proposed active travel options incorporated into the project. It was agreed that the draft will be submitted. The Chairman offered thanks to Cllr Peter Brown, Jim Rickard and the Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Working Group (TTIWG) for their contribution to the document.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT MATTERS

Cllr Stanton reported that the main focus of the TTIWG has been the EWR response.

Cllr H Kettel provided an update regarding the submission by Cambridgeshire County Council for a Transport and Works Act Order for the Cambridge South East Transport (CSET) busway. It was agreed that the Parish Council's contribution for the CSET opposition will be £5,000. Cllrs Stanton, Mann and Brown were appointed to review the Memorandum of Understanding for CSET on 22 January and decide whether to sign it. It was agreed to waive the fee for the Memorial Hall for the CSET public meeting. The Council will send their previously agreed letter to the Secretary of State for the Department for Transport to officially object to this scheme.

The design for the bus shelters included in the Sawston Greenway on Mingle Lane was approved.

The proposed roll-out of the e-bike and e-scooter trial, phase two of which is to be in Great Shelford, was noted.

COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS

The Council will install a general waste bin at Stonehill allotment entrance at a cost of £417.75, plus £4 per emptying.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

A request from the Shelford Twinning Association for £585 to subsidise children for the visit to Verneuil-en-Halatte was approved.

The Parish Council will buy a VE Day 80 flag and a gas fuelled beacon and organise a beacon event on 8 May.

The Parish Council will hold a Fun Day and Easter Market to coincide with the Parent and Teacher's Association (PTA) Easter egg hunt.

It was agreed that the Community Awards would be repeated.

FINANCE MATTERS

The draft budget for 2025/6 was approved.

The proposed precept for 2025/6 of £390,519 (an increase of 7.7%) was approved.

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

PARISH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN MARCH

Highways	5 March	7.30pm Pavilion
Planning Committee	10 March	7.30pm Pavilion
Cemetery & Allotments	12 March	7.30pm Pavilion
Full Council Meeting	19 March	7.00pm 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.

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 following page for a full list of next year's dates.

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 and usually in black and white.

General enquiries and articles for publication

01223 842553 gsvneditorial@gmail.com

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

PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS (08.01.2025, 27.01.2025)

At the meeting on 8 January 2025 the Planning Committee considered a response to the consultation for the Greater Cambridge Supplementary Planning Documents which includes documents relating to planning obligations, health impact assessment and Cambridge Biomedical Campus. Points raised during the discussion included the fact that there is nothing in the latter document about hospitals, funding of hospitals and the involvement of hospitals. The current focus is on the commercial and cultural success of the campus. There is a lack of reference to healthcare – fundamental as it is primarily a healthcare site. Engagement with local communities has been poor. Annabel Sykes will draft a response to the consultation (see Parish Council summary of minutes on page 1).

24/04651/HFUL	13 Poplar Close	Roof extension with rear dormer and sky lights to the front roof, single storey rear extension.
Application supported.		

24/04641/HFUL	22 London Road	Roof extension with L-shaped rear dormer over existing outrigger, Juliet balcony and front roof lights.
Application supported.		

25/00036/HFUL	92 Cambridge Road	Single storey front/side, two storey rear/side and first floor rear/side extensions. Erection of porch canopy, installation of roof light and alterations to fenestration.
Application supported..		

24/00124/HFUL	Shrublands Kings Mill Road	Install front porch.
Application supported.		

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Update on Nitrogen Dioxide Monitoring in Great Shelford

We monitor nitrogen dioxide at two Great Shelford locations: Station Road (DT46) and Cambridge Road (DT47). Full details are in the 2024 Annual Status Report –

https://www.scambs.gov.uk/media/y4nkw32a/asr_2024_website-version.pdf.

	2023	2024 (PROVISIONAL)
Station Road (DT46)	13.3	11.8
Cambridge Road (DT47)	11.4	12.4
Lowest in SCDC	6.9 (Great Abington)	6.8 (Great Abington)
Highest in SCDC	17.5 (Histon)	22 (Kneesworth A1998)
Highest in Cambridge City (Emmanuel Street)	27.6	

Note: All figures are for nitrogen dioxide and are presented in micrograms per meter cubed.

Levels in Great Shelford are below UK limits ($40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) but slightly exceed the WHO guideline ($10 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Yearly fluctuations are expected, with long term trends taking 4–5 years to assess. Additional monitoring, including particulate pollution, is planned for 2025.

Save the Date: Easter Fun Day and Market!

Sunday 6 April, 9.30am – 2pm

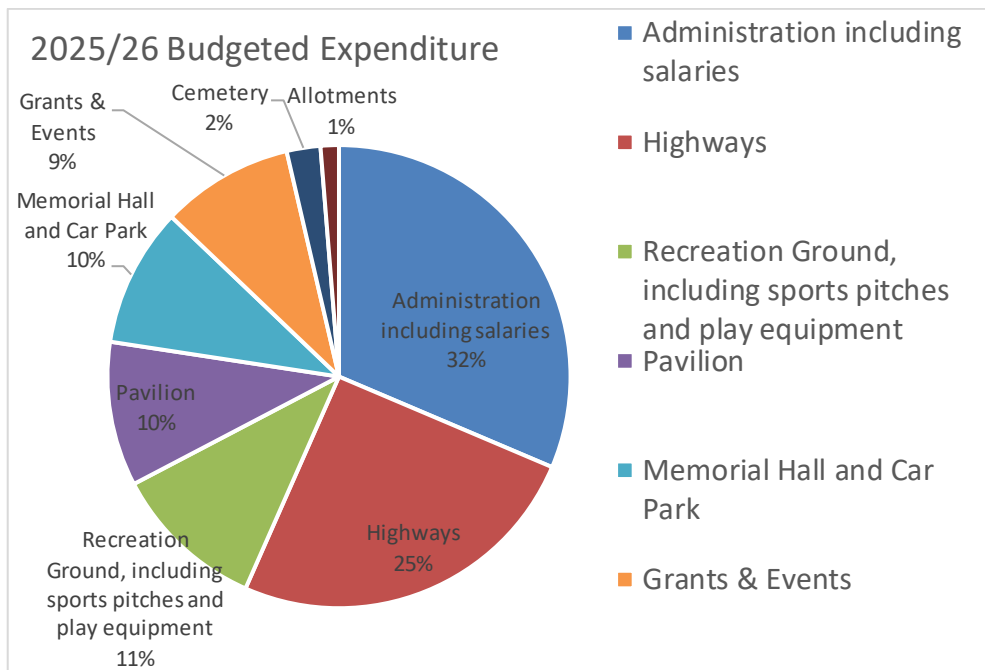
Join us for a fantastic day of family fun at our Easter Egg Hunt & Market, hosted in partnership with the PTA. This exciting event promises something for everyone.

Kids can enjoy a thrilling Easter Egg Hunt, bounce around on bouncy castles, and cheer on the adorable duck race. Meanwhile, parents can browse a wonderful selection of stalls at our Easter Market, featuring local crafts, delicious treats and seasonal goodies.

We'll be sharing more details soon. We can't wait to see you there.

Budget Detail

Last month we reported that the Parish Council had approved the budget and precept for the upcoming financial year. The precept has been set at £390,519, representing an increase of £28,013 or 7.7% from the previous year. But do you know on what it is spent?



We have allocated funds for several projects, including:

- Renovation of the Memorial Hall
- Extension of the cemetery
- Improvements to the road layout in Church Street

Exciting Plans for Recreation Ground Improvements!

The Parish Council and Playscape Charity are working on a proposal to enhance the recreation ground with new fitness and sports facilities. The plans include upgrading the basketball court to a 3x3 court and installing an active trail featuring static fitness equipment around the recreation ground.

These improvements aim to provide more opportunities for people of all ages to stay active and enjoy the space. A public consultation will soon be available on both the Parish Council and Playscape websites, where you can share your thoughts and feedback. Stay tuned for details—we'd love to hear your views!

Don't forget to get in touch with us should you have any relevant concerns. Our telephone number is 01223 61 66 22 and Nicola 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 Nicola.

Malcolm Watson, Chairman

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PIPPA HEYLINGS

EXTRACTS FROM OUR MP'S NEWSLETTER

Constituency Visit

The temperature dropped last weekend so nothing better after a few hours speaking to people on their doorsteps in Stapleford and Shelford than selecting a freshly baked, warming lasagna with a fragrant and delicious tabbouleh to take home. Drew and Nikki and Team Deli celebrated 25 years in business last summer.

Shelford Deli have so many delicious recipes and it is a fantastic example of home-made delicious, fresh food that cares about provenance and the planet.

I chatted with Drew about the tough year ahead for small businesses and I'll continue speaking up for small and medium businesses in South Cambridgeshire in Parliament.



Tickets for all events at 2025 Shelford Festival and Feast were put on sale online at the beginning of February as soon as the full line up was agreed.

Jason Donovan and 'Back to The 80s' on Friday 11 July, sold so fast, the whole allocation of tickets looked like being snapped up. On 14 February (much earlier than usual) tickets went out to all the local outlets to give those who buy their tickets locally a chance to buy for all the events. The outlets are the Deli, Days, CBS, Boots, Barkers Butchers and the Post Office in Great Shelford; the pubs (The Plough in Great Shelford, SideQuest in Little Shelford and the Three Horseshoes in Stapleford) and in Sawston, Searle's Butchers. So Jason Donovan supporters, you know where to go (and quickly) to buy your tickets!

Thanks are due to all the local retailers who sell tickets for us.

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

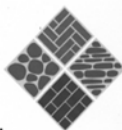
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GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH

Saint Mary the Virgin

Rev Chris's Lent Thoughts

'Welcome March with wintry wind, would thou wert not so unkind'

In Flanders and Swann's 'Song of the Weather', March is not a welcome month! With the turning of the year, it may seem cold and bleak but there is warmth and hope around the corner. As February gives way to March, so winter gives way to spring and Christmas gives way to Easter.

Lent is a period of transition between Christmas and Easter, traditionally a sombre time when we prepare for Easter. But all is not lost – there is hope around the corner! As we remember Jesus' temptation in the wilderness, we also remember that he resisted it and went on to embark on his remarkable, history-making, three year earthly ministry. During Lent this year at St Mary's, we welcome you to join us for a series of talks on the theme of 'Hope in Today's World'. We are privileged to have a wonderful group of eminent speakers from The Faraday Institute to help us to look for and find the hope in the world around us. Covering subjects like Natural Disaster, Healthcare, Artificial Intelligence and Evolution, it will be a challenging and illuminating series. Do come if you can – details below.

For the young (and the young at heart), our All-Age Worship on March 9 is titled 'Children of Courage' and we will be learning with the children about where we can find the courage to live out a Christian life.

Rev Chris Shore

Please note that we have changed the pattern of services at St Mary's since the beginning of the year. Our Family & Parish Communion Service is now held on the second Sunday of the Month.

Our Church is open daily for prayer from 9am–4.30pm. During Lent the **Stations of the Cross** pictures of the final journey of Jesus in Jerusalem will be displayed around the Church and you are welcome to visit and reflect on them.

In addition to the normal Sunday services **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. **The zoom link is in the Weekly Newsletter.**

See our website <https://www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/> for up-to-date information about our services and activities.

The Church is open daily for prayer 9.30am–4 pm.

Saturday 1 March	
	10.30–12noon: Coffee Morning in the Community Room. Proceeds will be going to Christian Aid.
Sunday 2 March	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer 10am: Parish Communion. After this service there will be a service of Baptism for Mia Wilkstrom at 12.15pm.
Mondays 3 March, 10 March, 17 March, 24 March	
	2pm: Pilgrim Group meeting in The Vicarage Focusing on spring and Lent in preparation for the start of Lent. Please look on our website for details of this year's Lent course.
Wednesday 5 March, Ash Wednesday	
	There will be two opportunities to receive the Lent Ashes at Church. 10.30am: during a traditional Book of Common Prayer service of Holy Communion. 7.30pm: during a Parish Communion Service.
Sunday 9 March, The First Sunday of Lent	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: Parish Communion service for Children Families and All Generations. The theme of the service is 'Children of Courage' and we will be thinking about Temptation. Please join us.
Thursday 13 March	
	7pm: in St Mary's Church, we begin a Lent series of Talks ' Hope in Today's World '. This is joint venture with The Faraday Institute in Cambridge. In the first of these, Graham Budd , the Executive Director of The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion will give a talk entitled, ' Hope in Artificial Intelligence. '
Sunday 16 March The Second Sunday of Lent	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: Sung Parish Communion.
Thursday 20 March	
	10.30am: A group from St Mary's will lead prayers, readings and hymns with Holy Communion in Cambridgeshire Care Home.
Thursday 20 March	
	7pm: The second of our Lent Talks ' Hope in Today's World ' will take place in St Mary's Church. Prof. Robert White , Emeritus Director of The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion and

	former Professor of Geophysics at Cambridge will talk about, ‘Hope in Disaster’ .
Saturday 22 March –	
	10am–1pm: Clean Up Day at St Mary’s We are hoping that volunteers will come to help to give a spring clean to the Church and Churchyard.
Sunday 23 March Third Sunday of Lent	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: Sung Parish Communion. 3pm: The Open Space will be hosted by the Free Church and will take place behind Cara Café.
Wednesday 26 March	
	7pm: We will be holding a Quiet Time of meditation and prayer in the church. For details, please see our website Coming Events .
Sunday 30 March, Mothering Sunday	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: Sung Parish Communion. There will a recognition of the role of the Church in nurturing people and the giving of posies to celebrate those who have mothered us.

On Mondays and Thursdays at 8.30am throughout Lent, commencing March 3. In our morning prayers we will be reading the Church of England Lent Reflections called, ‘Living Hope – A Lent Journey’. We will meet in the Chancel at St Mary’s.

More details of the Lent talks from speakers of the Faraday Institute are given on our website ‘Coming Events’ Also see our poster on Page 14.

Thought for the month: from The Talmud

‘By three things is the world sustained, by truth, by judgement and by peace’.

For more information about St Mary’s, Great Shelford

Vicar: Revd Dr Julie Norris Revjulienorris@gmail.com

Parish Administrator: David Wilding wildingdavid1@gmail.com

St Mary’s Great Shelford is a Registered Charity No 245456

HOPE IN TODAY'S WORLD

A SERIES OF THOUGHT-PROVOKING TALKS
FOR LENT FROM ST MARY'S, GREAT
SHELFORD AND THE FARADAY INSTITUTE

Thursday

March 13

HOPE IN ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Graham Budd FIET is the Executive Director of The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion. He was previously President and COO at Arm.



HOPE IN DISASTER

Professor Robert (Bob) White FRS is Emeritus Director of The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion and former Professor of Geophysics at Cambridge.

Thursday

March 20

EVOLUTION, SUFFERING AND HOPE

Thursday

April 3

Denis Alexander is Emeritus Director of The Faraday Institute. He was previously Chairman of the Molecular Immunology Programme at The Babraham Institute



HOPE IN SUFFERING

Rebecca Fitzgerald FRS is Programme Leader at the MRC Cancer Unit, and Honorary Consultant in Gastroenterology and General Medicine at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Thursday

April 10

All talks start at 7pm at St Mary's Great Shelford
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Great Shelford
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OPEN DOORS

Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. Hebrews 10:33

A quick quiz: in which countries are Christian believers a) most likely to be imprisoned? And b) most likely to be killed? One of the organisations we support at Great Shelford Free Church is Open Doors who work with persecuted Christians all over the world and they have just published this year's 'World Watch List' – a list of the countries where believers face the most extreme persecution. The top ten countries are North Korea, Somalia, Yemen, Libya, Sudan, Eritrea, Nigeria, Pakistan, Iran and Afghanistan.

Imprisonment? Most likely in the first country on the list. Martyrdom? Most likely in the seventh, where more Christians were killed in 2024 than in all the rest of the world combined. But you may be even more surprised to learn that in many of the countries where Christians are persecuted for their faith, their number is actually growing. Because there is a risk and a potential cost, Christians learn the value of their faith more clearly than in countries where faith is met with indifference. Incidentally, indifference is the opposite of both love and hate, they are not the opposites of each other.

In early March we begin the period of Lent. Like Advent, this is a period of looking forward, but unlike Advent we are looking forward to remembering an *unhappy* event; not a birth but a death, *the* death of Jesus Christ. On a day known as *Good Friday*. Does that seem to be a contradiction?

From our perspective the death of Christ may appear to be unfortunate, a mistake, something that shouldn't have happened. But from God's perspective this was no mistake and it wasn't the end, we know Jesus was raised from the dead.

Like many Christians around the world, some of our members will be giving up something during Lent, whether it's a type of food, tea, coffee, or even social media. It helps to remind us what Jesus gave up for us and it makes our Easter celebrations more poignant.

Jesus Himself was persecuted and killed. But the hope that He brought through His death and Resurrection is what gives believers around the world the courage to stand firm in their faith whatever hardships they may face. What do you have that's worth dying for? Join us one Sunday and let's help you find out more about Jesus.

Richard Renouf

EVENTS AT GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Services at 10.30am: Everyone welcome.

Cafe Church on Sunday 16 March at 10.30am: Informal service, seated around tables with refreshments served.

Open Space: Sunday 23 March: 3pm: Outdoor church for families – a joint event with St Mary's Church which will be held in St Mary's Churchyard. A space to explore faith together. This month, there will be a Lent theme.

WEEKDAY EVENTS

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

Little Steps Toddler Group every Wednesday: 10–11.30am – This group is for toddlers up to the age of three with their carer. To book a place, please email administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk

Tiny Toes Baby Group every Wednesday afternoon: 1.30–3pm – This group is for babies under one year old with their parent or carer. To book a place, please email administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk

SPECIAL EVENTS

Lent Lunch: Monday 3 March, 12.15–1.30pm in Great Shelford Free Church: Everyone welcome! Selection of homemade soups followed by cheese and fruit. Donations only. Booking through the church office (01223 842181) is advisable but not essential. Please inform us of any dietary requirements e.g. gluten free.

Tearfund Big Quiz: Saturday 29 March at 6pm. Come join us for a fun evening. Come as a team or join a team on the night. A light supper and refreshments will be available. Donations only towards Tearfund. For more information or to book in, contact administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk

Margaret Cletheroe, GSFC Administrator

APRIL ISSUE OF THE VILLAGE NEWS

The deadline for copy for the next issue of the *Great Shelford Village News* is **Friday 14 March** and it should be available on **Friday 28 March**, with subscribed copies delivered shortly thereafter.

NEW BRANCH OPENING

Independent vets opening this March!

For more information or to register
visit churchstreetvets.co.uk

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EAST WEST RAIL – PARLIAMENTARY PETITION

The East West Rail consultation closed on 24 January, but this project is still generating a good deal of light and heat, especially with the Government's recent 'revival' of the Ox-Cam Arc and talk of an English Silicon Valley.

There is a link and a QR code below for a Parliamentary Petition calling for the plans for Bedford – Cambridge section of East West Rail (EWR) to be paused pending a full, independent review.

As a taxpayer, if EWR goes ahead, you will be contributing to its estimated £8 billion (and rising) cost. The embodied carbon involved in the construction of the railway is huge and it will not solve Greater Cambridge's congestion and public transport issues because it only links Bedford to Cambridge, with just two stations between. Greater Cambridge needs a public transport system that links the many places where people live to the many workplaces in and around Cambridge.

Even if you are in favour of EWR, there are three strong reasons to sign:

1. EWR has chosen a southern approach into Cambridge (arriving at the new Cambridge South station) because it is fixated on the expansion potential of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (already very near this village) and largely ignores all Greater Cambridge's many other science parks. EWR has ignored the advice of its own consultants that a northern approach to Cambridge would be cheaper and quicker to construct, involve less environmental damage (including less embodied carbon) and would be much better for freight. If a southern approach is taken, freight will need to travel through Cambridge and Newmarket.

2. We do not have enough infrastructure to support the existing population, let alone a larger population in Greater Cambridge. There is not enough water, for example and our hospitals are over stretched. With EWR comes lots of extra housing at Cambourne to justify building the railway and this is as well as the growth in the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan.

3. The Cambridge Growth Company (set up by the Government and chaired by Peter Freeman) is also busy making expansion plans for Greater Cambridge. its proposals are at an early stage and are not coordinated with East West Rail. As the Chair of Cambridgeshire County Council said recently in a letter to his colleagues, 'everyone' is busy making plans for Greater Cambridge – but they appear not to be talking to each other'.

Please sign the petition.

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/701546>



SHELFORD SCHOOL

A lot of activities have already been undertaken since the beginning of term. Here are few highlights

Curriculum threads in each year group

Reception class pupils are exploring the theme 'It's freezing here!'

Year 1 are finding out about 'Wonderful Weather!'

Year 2 are discovering 'Chinese New Year'

Year 3 are finding out about 'Mighty Mountains'.

In Year 4, the thread is 'Europe now and Ancient Egypt'

Year 5 are discovering 'Rivers around the World'

and Year 6 are investigating Anglo Saxon settlements.

Candlemas Service in St Mary's

Year 2 children led the service, which included retelling the story of Anna and Simeon from the Bible, when they welcomed the infant Jesus in the temple as, 'the Light of the World'. Rev Chris Shore created a circle of light using candles held by children from each class, which he blessed as they brought the candles back to school.

China day for Year 2

The children had a go at Chinese dragon dancing, learnt how to make delicious spring rolls and made lanterns.

Visit to the Botanic Gardens →

Year 2 also went on a trip by train into Cambridge. In the Botanic Gardens they learnt how plants adapt to the environment where they grow.



Number Day

The school enjoyed a whole day to explore numbers on their Number Day. Maths came into everything. Year 1 children engaged in activities outside, collecting forest materials to solve number riddles.

← The School Choir sing at Young Voices 2025

In February, the choir sang in front of an audience of 8,000 in the O2 Arena.

Still to come this term

4, 5 March – Shrove Tuesday and Ash Wednesday. Pancakes and ashes will be talked about.

6 March – World Book Day. Children should decide which book they enjoy.

12 March – Football Tournament. Event at Coleridge Community College.

12 March – Poetry Festival. From 6pm in the School Hall, giving children an opportunity to recite poems they enjoy and may have learnt by heart.

17 –21 March Shelford School STEM Week.

There will be a range of activities on Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics for different year groups during this week.

19, 20 March – KAPLA Bricks Workshops.

31 March – 4 April – Shelford School Holy Week

Different parts of the Holy Week story of the Bible will be explored each day with activities, stories and times to think. The School Easter Service at All Saints, Little Shelford on 4 April at 1.30pm, will conclude the Spring Term.

Rev Julie Norris, Governor

THE GUIDED BUSWAY – OBJECT BY 7 MARCH!

LAST CHANCE TO SAVE OUR LOCAL COUNTRYSIDE!

You can support the cause by putting your objections in writing to the Secretary of State for Transport via transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk or c/o Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit, Department for Transport, Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR.

Doing this will help to show the government the strength of support for our alternative and against the plans put forward by the council.

To object you should:

1. Send your response **by Friday 7 March.**
2. State who is making the objection.
3. Include your postal address (even if responding by email).
4. State the grounds of your objection.

Example wording

- Title of letter/email = Objection to Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of Cambridge
- I... (Name) of Postal Address am writing to make a formal objection to the “Application for a Transport and Work Act Order to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a new busway to the southeast of

Cambridge”, as submitted by the Cambridge Greater Partnership on 9 January 2025.

Key points and ideas for your objection could include the following (please use your own words):

- The construction of five miles of new road through open countryside is unnecessary to deliver improvements in transport. Similar transport and economic benefits can be achieved by building a version of the scheme first proposed by the GCP in 2018. This would involve building sections of bus lane adjacent to the A1307 and one mile of new road (busway).
- This alternative would avoid building two bridges over the River Granta chalk stream and putting Hobson's Conduit chalk stream into a culvert.
- This alternative would avoid creating a scar in the Gog Magog Hills landscape, one of the most important landscapes in the Cambridge area.
- This alternative would avoid building a new road through a countryside park, to the detriment of its future users and nature.
- This alternative would avoid severing fields close to villages making them vulnerable to development and further harm to the countryside.
- This alternative would better serve the planned expansion of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and serve more of the Campus.
- Cycle routes in this area are already under construction and include Linton Greenway which will connect Cambridge to Babraham, Granta Park and Linton; and Sawston Greenway that will connect Cambridge to Sawston. Stapleford and Shelford are already served by the DNA path.

You might also give your view on the potential local use of use the proposed five-mile busway. The GCP say the main reason they have chosen that route is to serve the villages but the bus stops are on uphill edges of our villages.

FUNDRAISING

We are actively fundraising for the costs of our team of transport, legal and environmental experts who have been hired to defeat the GCP's scheme.

Please consider donating at <https://app.sheepcrm.com/cambridgeppf/appeals>

Thank you! Together, we can get a better solution that improves transport and the economy without destroying the countryside. Thank you for standing with us at this critical moment.

Howard Kettel

Better Ways for Busways! is a single purpose, non-political, campaign organisation to reflect the views of local people, Parish Councils, environmental and heritage groups to the GCP. For more information visit our website www.bw4b.org

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NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN:

The final public consultation on the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – the so-called ‘Regulation 16’ consultation, run by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning (GCSP) service on behalf of SCDC – wrapped up on 12 Feb 2025. This was effectively a last opportunity for those who submitted comments to the Reg. 14 consultation in 2024 to see how/whether their feedback had influenced development of the submitted Plan.

Whilst the Reg. 16 consultation was ongoing, GCSP tendered for an independent examiner for our Plan, with the NP steering group and Stapleford and Great Shelford Parish Councils choosing Andrew Ashworth from the short list of four. Mr Ashworth is a very experienced examiner of more than 300 NPs, including several in the S Cambs area (most recently, South Newnham NP and Pampisford NP). From our perspective, there is a degree of overlap between the kinds of policies in these NPs and in ours and an understanding of the broader planning environment and pressures in our region can only be helpful.

The role of an independent examiner is defined in legislation: to determine whether a submitted Plan meets the basic conditions and Convention Rights and other statutory requirements. In doing this, they will visit the NP area, consider the content of the Plan and, where necessary, recommend changes to its policies and supporting text. The resulting report will also recommend whether a Plan should proceed to local community referendum.

All Reg. 16 consultation comments have been fed back to the NP steering group and it is now our job to review them and, where necessary, justify our approach to the independent examiner. The majority of comments arise from land agents reiterating the forceful objections they made at Reg. 14 consultation to several of our NP policies. Remember that NPs cannot prevent development, but they can shape it to meet local needs. It is this which often leads to an impasse between what a community aspires to for its future and the development potential that land agents seek to optimise for their clients.

More information about the legal requirements of NPs and the examination process is available at <https://tinyurl.com/3hp969fd>, whilst examples of reports on examined NPs in our vicinity can be found at:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning>

Jenny Flynn

Chair, Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan steering group
neighbourhood.plan@staplefordparishcouncil.gov.uk



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DIARY MARCH 2025

Date	Event	Time	Place
6	WI	7.30pm	St Mary's Community Room
7	Twinning Association – Pancake and Film Evening	7.30–10pm	Free Church Hall
10	South Cambs Organic Gardeners	7pm	Cox's Close
12	British Cactus & Succulent Soc.	7pm	Memorial Hall
26	Engage Talk 'Market Towns of East Anglia'	2–3.30pm	Library
26	Annual Parish Meeting and Community Awards	Doors open 18.45	Memorial Hall
29	Little Shelford Film evening	Doors open 7pm	Little Shelford Memorial Hall

Country Market

9–11.30am, Memorial Hall, Wednesdays 5, 12, 19 and 26 March

	BIN COLLECTIONS	Tuesday 4, 18 March
	Black bins Blue bins and green bins	Tuesday 25 March
	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 The Post Office is at Great Shelford Local Store (was Kash Stores), 35 Hinton Way. Open Monday to Saturday 7am–8pm, Sunday 9am–6pm.	
	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.	

WI

We were very pleased in early February to welcome Dr Caroline Shenton who had been Director of Archives at the Houses of Parliament to tell us about 'The Day Parliament Burned Down'.

Soon after starting in the role, she looked for early records of the 800 year old royal palace that preceded our current and iconic House of Parliament, which was then adapted for parliamentary use. Nearly all records were lost in a massive fire that started on 16 October 1834 ravaging the House of Lords, House of Commons and the adjacent Law Courts and Chancery buildings.

She put together the story of the layout and use of the buildings before the fire, immediately after and since the rebuilding of the current parliament building. She illustrated her story with excellent images of the buildings, both drawings and two watercolours by JMW Turner who was an eyewitness. Charles Dickens was a young journalist in 1834 and used his personal memory of the fire in several novels including Oliver Twist.

Luckily the wind blew the flames and smoke towards the Thames and away from Westminster Abbey. The stonework of some of the old mediaeval buildings survived the fire but only Westminster Hall was reroofed and incorporated into the new building of 1847.

We were privileged to have such a well-qualified and brilliant speaker giving a totally absorbing talk.

At the next WI meeting at 7.30pm on Thursday 6 March a talk by Sarah Harrison will be titled 'You couldn't make it up' (a look at life) followed by a refreshment break and short AGM. As usual, visitors or prospective new members will be very welcome. Our programme is on our website <https://theshelfordswi.wordpress.com>

Eleanor Witter, The Shelfords WI President



Arthur Rank Hospice Charity

FLORAL WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP RETURNS

Following the success of the festive wreath-making workshop, which raised over £3,000 for hospice services, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity are excited to announce their first Spring Wreath-Making Workshop lead by Eco-Florist Flora Laura Flowers.

Just in time for Easter, book your place for Friday 4 or Saturday 5 April by visiting arhc.org.uk/whatson or call 01223 675888.



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We are looking for a part time administrator to support Revd Dr Simon Taylor and the committed team of people who support the many dimensions of our parish worship and activity.

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Further details are available on the church website

https://standrewstapleford.org/Articles/701989/Parish_Administrator.aspx

or from Alastair MacGregor on churchwardenstapleford@gmail.com.

The closing date for applications is Monday 3 March 2025 and interviews will be held in the week beginning Monday 24 March.

COUNTRY MARKET

If you are feeling the winter blues, come along to the Country Market which is open every Wednesday morning. It is always reassuring and a pleasure to find a queue of customers waiting for the doors to open at 9am. Time was when all customers made a bee line for the food tables, now some head straight to the café for freshly made tea or coffee and homemade cookies. Keep coming and bring along your friends where they will find much to look at beyond a few jars of jam.

For those new to the Market, everything we sell is either homemade, homegrown or hand crafted. Hence, we are always on the lookout for new members: bakers, gardeners and crafters. We are pleased to say we have just welcomed one new member to the food section. Not to be missed and a real treat, look out for some delicious homemade fudge.

After the busy Christmas period the crafters have now restocked. The gardeners are planning for the growing season. Maintaining a good selection of baking and preserves each week is quite a commitment and the number of regular bakers has fallen. Delighted to have our fudge lady but we do need another baker. Are you the one we are looking for? Don't be put off by thinking you have to bake masses each week – it's better to start small and build up. Yes, there are a few rules and regulations which must be followed but we will help you through all of that. You can read more about us on www.country-markets.co.uk and on our Facebook page.

Dorothy Doel

2G3S EVENTS

We are planning various activities for 2025, watch this space! Films, discussions, speakers, stalls, repair cafés.....

Litter Picks – the first session is in Stapleford on Sunday 2 March, meet at 2pm by the Pavilion, and bring gloves and a picker (grab stick) if you have them.

The second will be in Sawston on Saturday 8 March at 10am. Gather at the Small Town Café at Ashwell Point opposite Lynton Way recreation ground (along Babraham Road, CB22 3LJ) – it is the 60s style building at the front of the industrial estate. Again, if you have gloves and a picker please bring them along. If you have a high-vis vest it would be a good idea to wear it for safety reasons.



Dr Bike continues to run its volunteer run weekly bike repair sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3pm to 5.30pm every Tuesday. Children are welcome to come and learn how to look after their bikes and do simple maintenance and repairs, but please attend with them (for safeguarding reasons). For more information, contact drbikestapleford@gmail.com. You can also book a time slot at that address, though this is not essential.

Food – Maybe you’ve been trying to eat more healthily in 2025. You might have heard the phrase ‘eat 30 different plants a week’ rather than the five a day recommendation. You can boost this number by sprinkling seeds on a salad or on a quiche, adding to a casserole or pasta dish, cooking with different herbs or eat multi-grain/multi-seed bread. ‘Eat a rainbow’ is another mantra you may have heard – this means eat lots of different coloured fruit and veg, as they contain various antioxidants and other compounds that are useful to your body.

Something to bear in mind if you are reducing your meat intake is to ensure you have enough iron – green vegetables like spinach, chard and kale contain it and absorption can be boosted by having vitamin C at the same meal e.g. by using a citrus dressing on the greens, or having an orange for dessert.

You may be trying to buy local food and this will reduce food miles (i.e. the number of miles between farm and fork), supports the local economy, strengthens food security by shortening the supply chain, is fresher and therefore more nutritious and helps to build the local community.

And if you can get organic, even better. When crops are sprayed with pesticides you absorb a little of them yourself. Wildlife is reduced when strong pesticides are used. The neonicotinoids that have been officially banned (but in this area are often allowed for use on sugar beet) disorientate bees if they don't kill them – and one teaspoon is enough to kill over a billion honeybees! Organic farmers do use pesticides, but they tend to be less harmful ones and used in a very targeted way, or they will use another method e.g. a mulch to control weeds, or a natural predator for a pest. And antibiotics are only given to livestock on an organic farm if they are ill, never as a preventative measure. This helps to slow down the resistance that many bacteria are developing to antibiotics, due to their overuse.

Contact us – 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 monthly 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 sustainably. Also see our Facebook page and our website 2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk/.

Helen Hale

LITTLE SHELFORD MEMORIAL HALL

Film Evening

Saturday 29 March 2025


Paddington in Peru

Doors open at 7pm for a 7.30pm start
with a break for supper of pizza and salad.

Paddington in Peru is a 2024 live-action animated adventure comedy film. It is the third instalment in the Paddington film series, based on the Paddington stories by Michael Bond. The film stars Hugh Bonneville, Emily Mortimer, Julie Walters, Jim Broadbent, Carla Tous, Olivia Colman, Antonio Banderas and Ben Whishaw as the voice of Paddington.

Tickets (£15.00 per person) will be available from
Sarah Coppendale: (842498) coppendales@btinternet.com
Diana Haines (841415) dianahaines42@icloud.com

Please book by Wednesday 26 March so that sufficient food can be ordered.




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These gardens are

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**Monday 10 March at 7pm,
Cox's Close Community Room, Stapleford
Admission £2 on the door
All welcome**

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY (BCSS)

CAMBRIDGE BRANCH

Our first monthly meeting of 2025 is Wednesday 12 March in Great Shelford Memorial Hall at 7pm. This month the speaker will be local group member and cacti expert, Paul Hoxey, on 'Some Recent Adventures in Peru'.

Refreshments will be available, as well as cactus/succulents plants for sale and a raffle.

If you enjoy growing cacti and succulents why not join the BCSS community? Cacti and succulents have never been more popular than they are now. We all like to have plants around us and succulents are a good choice for people with a busy life. If you forget to water them, they will not die like most plants but simply wait for the drought to end.

We want to help you make the most of your plants and bring you together with others who share your interest. To join the Society, visit BCSS website at www.bcsc.org.uk.

Let's grow together.

Jacqui Arbon 07867653748

CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB

2025 programme

Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Whittlesford CB22 4NE
on third Thursdays at 7.15pm. Refreshments at 6.45pm.

Annual sub. £45, visitors £10 each meeting

March 20th Elizabeth Robertson NAFAS Demonstrator:
 "First Days of Spring"

April 17th Christine Long NAFAS Demonstrator:
 "Loosely round the Solar System"

Further information from co-chairs:

Freda Orgee – 01223 891464; fredaorgee@gmail.com
 or Alison Drake – 01223 840117; drakealisonn@gmail.com

READERS LETTER

I was saddened to read of the death of David Adams in the Feb GSVN. I only met David twice (ironically both times at funerals). The first was on 8 June 2023 at the funeral of Richard Goat at St Mary's church Great Shelford, David was the organist for the service. After the service I spoke to David about the church organ; he took me up to the organ loft via a narrow spiral staircase. Cheekily I asked David if I could play it as I have an interest in organs and play in an amateur way for my own enjoyment on a Yamaha electronic.

Obligingly, David fired up the organ and I had a go. The piece I played was not church music but a rendering of *Perfidia*, the Glen Miller classic. David enhanced my performance by pulling out the right stops, and even if I say it myself it sounded good. Sadly, we only had the time for the one tune as David had to go off for another appointment and me to Richard's wake in The Square & Compasses; I could easily have stayed and played for the rest of the afternoon. David, although a very accomplished and qualified musician was not fussed by the fact that I play by ear and can't read a note of music. I think his attitude was that music is for enjoyment, and you don't need a diploma or qualification to enjoy it.

The second time I met David was only a couple weeks later at St Andrews Church Stapleford where David was the organist at David Pepperell's funeral. I was quite surprised to hear David play a rendering of *Whiter Shade of Pale* as part of the music played whilst the congregation were assembling for the service. David had a wide taste in music and demonstrated well that a church organ can also play pop music. RIP David.

John Wakefield

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH HALL
135 HIGH STREET, SAWSTON, CB22 3HJ**

Friday 21 March: Quiz Night 7pm for 7.30pm

Proceeds to CAFOD, helping people of all beliefs affected by the crisis in Sudan. Suggested donation £5, or more if you like!

Teams of up to eight. Bring and share food and drinks.

Advance booking preferred but not essential.

Please contact the Quizmaster on 07808 296383
or bjflood@timicomail.co.uk

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LIBRARY EVENTS

For adults

March is Women's History Month, raising awareness of the contributions women have made to events through history and society. Come and browse our display of books celebrating women's achievements.

Craft & Chat, Every Friday morning 10.30am–12pm. No need to book.

Tea and Tablets, Every Tuesday afternoon 2–4pm. Do you have a digital question, or a query about your digital device? Come and chat to our friendly, knowledgeable volunteer who hopefully will be able to help. No need to book.

Engage Talk, Tony Kirby – Market Towns of East Anglia. Wednesday 26 March, 2–3.30pm. A donation of £2 is appreciated. Please stay for a drink after the talk. Please pre-book.

For children

Please note that parents and carers must stay with their children who remain their responsibility during all library activities.

Science week, 7–16 March, we will have a Science themed craft activity on Saturday 8 March.

Shakespeare week, 24–30 March, we will have a Shakespeare themed craft activity on Saturday 29 March.

Stay and Play resumes, on Thursdays 6 and 20 March. For children aged 0–3 years. 2–3.30pm. A relaxed drop in session for families with young children, £2 per family. Toys provided.

Story, Rhyme and Duplo Time, Every Tuesday 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.

Art Club – Every Saturday morning 10.30am–12noon. Suitable for ages 4–10. Drop in event. £2 donation.

Please note that where prebooking is required, you can either speak to library staff or email Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Mel Abbiss – Community Librarian

Opening hours: see page 24

Contact details: Telephone: 0345 045 5225

Email: Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Web: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF GREAT SHELFORD LIBRARY ON 21 JANUARY



The meeting began with a fascinating talk by Ally Clarke on the Cambridgeshire Mobile Library Service and the valuable service which it provides around the villages for people who cannot get to a static library.

There are three mobile libraries, each carrying 3,000 items of stock and stopping at around 100 villages and communities each month. The buses carry not only books but also hearing aid batteries, stamps and phone cards to top up pay-as-you-go phones.

See the next page for more information about our local Mobile Library service.

As well as the usual meeting business, a fond farewell was wished to Daphne Sulston who has coordinated the library volunteers' rota for the last thirteen years and looks forward to a well-earned retirement. She is shown here receiving flowers and a voucher from Helen Harwood, chairman of the Library Friends committee.



The meeting concluded with mulled wine, cakes and biscuits and informal conversation.

Thanks to all those who attended on a cold January night.

Sarah Coppendale, Secretary

MORE ABOUT MOBILES!

Anyone can visit a mobile library to browse, but if you want to borrow any books you need to join the library and get a library membership card.

Library cards are free, and if you already have a card from any of the 'ordinary' static Cambridgeshire libraries you can use it on the mobile.

If you borrow a book from a mobile you can take it back to a static library if you want to – and the same is true in reverse.

The mobile library visits several places in our neighbourhood:

Village	Stopping Place	Date	Time
Great Shelford	Orchard Rd CB22 5AA	3rd Wednesday of the month	4:10–4:40pm
Little Shelford	Church Street Bus Stop CB22 5HG	2nd Monday of the month	1:50–2:14pm
Stapleford	Cox's Close CB22 5SP	3rd Wednesday of the month	10–10:20am
Hauxton	The Green CB22 5HP	1st Thursday of the month	2:40–3:10pm
	St Edmund's Way CB22 5GA	1st Thursday of the month	3:25–4:15pm
Trumpington	Glebe Farm Drive CB2 9PB	2nd Monday of the month	2:35–3:05pm
Sawston	Uffen Way CB22 3BS	2nd Monday of the month	1:20–1:40pm

To find out even more about mobiles visit the Library Service web pages at <https://tinyurl.com/4wunpewz>

And one final surprising fact about our mobile libraries can be seen at the back of each vehicle, it's possible to rent space for advertising!



<https://tinyurl.com/mwnc2hdt>

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Thank you very much for supporting us in 2024. You have made such a difference to so many children's lives. They will know that they are special and loved.

The grand total of shoe boxes packed and sent from all the sending countries in 2024 was an enormous 11,927,439, an increase from 2023.

The UK sent 241,015 boxes, of which the Eastern region sent 46,845. Within this region our local area sent 426, of which 89 were packed at the Operation Christmas Child (OCC) shoe box filling party in November. The cake sale raised £342 which was used for transport and training costs and further donations were used to buy items.

Areas/countries receiving boxes included: Eastern Europe, Central Asia, West Africa, Moldova, Belarus, Serbia, Ukraine, Albania, Malawi and Serbia. Children receiving a shoe box also heard the gospel story and are offered the opportunity to participate in a course called the Greatest Journey.

Thank you again. Please contact me if you would like further information.

Jane Furlow, Connect volunteer for OCC jane.furlow@gmail.com

Coming soon!

1st Shelfords and Stapleford Scouts
JUMBLE SALE & AUCTION
Sunday 27 April 2025

Doors open 2pm
Great Shelford Memorial Hall

Jumble can be taken to the hall 10–12 on Sunday 27 April

We're sorry, but we cannot accept mains electrical goods, or furniture and furnishings that fail to meet fire safety regulations.

We welcome high quality jumble which will help the scouts to raise lots of money.



TWINNING ASSOCIATION

WHY NOT COME TO VERNEUIL IN 2025?

The dates for the visits have now been set, so put them in your diaries!

Shelford to Verneuil: 24– 27 May 2025

Verneuil to Shelford: 5– 8 July 2025



- Everyone is welcome. (singles, couples, family groups)
- It is an opportunity to get to know our twinned village, situated just north of Paris and its lovely people.
- An enriching experience for the whole family
- It is not necessary to speak French, but fun to try!
- It is not a requirement to host if you have been on the visit; neither do you need to have gone to Verneuil in order to have guests to stay
- Prices:

Children up to Year 10	£50*
Years 1113	£100
Adults	£130

*We are able to offer this competitive price for the children thanks to the very generous support of Great Shelford Parish Council.

If you are interested in the trip

Please contact:

Sarah Haddow (sarah.haddow@talk21.com)
or Colin Jefferson (colin@frenchfrogs.net)



Use the QR code to access our website.

Please note: Participation in the visit involves becoming a member of the Twinning Association, in accordance with our charter (£10 single membership/£15 family). This is easy to organise.

Shelford Twinning Association would like to invite you to a:

Pancake and Film evening

Friday 7 March 2025, 7.30–10pm (approx)

Great Shelford Free Church Hall

£10.00 per person

A French Comedy Film with English subtitles

The title of the film will be revealed in the confirmation email.

Shown on a large screen with an excellent sound system

There will also be a raffle at the event

Reserve your place by Wednesday 5 March

by email: colin@frenchfrogs.net or telephone: 01223 513471; 07957 465033

For the catering, we need to have an idea of numbers; please let us know that you are coming, how many of you and any dietary requirements.

Drinks available – (donations for drinks appreciated!)

All welcome – members and non-members. Please invite your friends!

Payment details will be provided in your booking confirmation.

Little Shelford Pantomime 2026

Auditions for *Snow White*



Auditions will be held on Saturday 26 April 2025 at Little Shelford Memorial Hall between 11am and 3pm. Any child between the ages of 9–16 will be welcomed.

To both book a time slot to audition and to complete an audition form, please register online at <https://tinyurl.com/Panto2026>

If you have any queries please ring Sarah on 842498 or e-mail coppendales@btinternet.com

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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*

14 March 1857

TRIAL OF THE STATION MASTER – The trial of this unfortunate man [Richard Lines] took place yesterday at the County Sessions. Pretty nearly the whole staff of the Accountant office were produced to prove the embezzlement of three sums paid by Mr Maris. It was endeavoured to be shown by Mr Naylor, who was counsel for the prisoner, that the defalcations arose from his not looking sharply after the return to himself by the company of the amount, paid by him for overcharges. It was also endeavoured to be made out that according to the evidence of one of the witnesses as to the rule of the company, that if Lines was a defaulter almost all the station master were, but all the defence was upset by the production of a letter of the prisoner, where the prisoner pretty well acknowledged the offence, and on a remark from the bench that it seemed useless to go on after that, Mr Naylor advised his client to withdraw his plea and plead guilty. He was sentenced to only 12 months imprisonment, no doubt owing to the high character given him by the prosecutor and several other gentlemen.

5 March 1859

MELANCHOLY EVENT – A young man named Charles Free, aged 16, a native of Hadstock, has lately been engaged assisting Mr James Winter, lime-burner, of the Heathfield, Gt Shelford, in burning lime. He was so engaged on Tuesday last, and on being sought for, was found seated near the top of the lime-kiln, apparently for the warmth but quite dead, when found between five and six o'clock in the evening, the noxious gases from the burning lime having, it appears, suffocated him.

12 March 1859

BEES SWARMING – As proof of the mildness with which the month of March began this year, it may be mentioned that on Friday, March 4th a swarm of bees, issued from a willow tree in a close, rented by Mr Richard Wright, from Caius College, Cambridge, and after flying across the road leading to Stapleford, alighted on the bough of a tree in a close occupied by Mr R. Headly. They were observed and followed by a person named Gifford, who procured a hive and safely shook them in. But it seems the bees were not particularly partial to their new habitation, for after hanging about the hive a few hours, they in a body returned to the hollow tree.



Church Street Vets

Church Street Vets is a new, independent, small animal practice opening in Stapleford in March. Our main surgery, Clarendon Street Veterinary Surgery, has looked after the pets of central Cambridge for over 60 years, and is very much a part of the local community. An increase in

pet ownership in the past few years means we have outgrown our small but characterful premises and have made the exciting decision to open a branch surgery, serving the villages of South Cambridge.

We are keen to take our current ethos of independent, friendly veterinary care to our newly refurbished surgery, which offers three consultation rooms, separate dog and cat hospitalisation and waiting areas, a fully equipped operating theatre and plenty of parking.

We are having an open day on Saturday 26 April and would love to meet clients and pets, both old and new and show off the new branch surgery.

For more information, or to register a pet, please visit www.churchstreetvets.co.uk or give us a call on 01223 776773.

Harriet, Patrick and all the Church Street Vets team.

GREAT SHELFORD BOWLS CLUB

Open Day and Coffee Morning
10.30am, Saturday 19 April

April will again see the start of the 2025 Bowls Season with our **Open Day**

If you want to consider taking up a new hobby, please come along on 19 April when you will be welcome to have a go at bowling.

If you cannot make the Saturday then please come along on Sunday 20 at the same time 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.

You can also get more information about our Club on our new website at <https://www.greatshelfordbowlsclub.co.uk>

If you are interested in coming along you can contact either:

Gill Taylor/Secretary, on 07581079420
or Graham White/Chairman on 07740031713



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TENNIS CLUB

Exciting news in the world of Shelford tennis...by this time next year the club could be installed in a shiny new, clean and warm clubhouse, with a loo! That was the stunning prospect unveiled to members at the annual general meeting on 10th February. The club's previous plan was for refurbishment of the current clubhouse, which to be honest is getting a bit tatty. There is no lavatory, the wooden deck is rotting and in recent days the interior has felt several degrees colder than outside. When the committee discovered that the cost of improvements is nearly as much as an entire new building it became, as we say in tennis, a no-brainer. The proposal will of course be subject to approval by our friends on the Parish Council plus the not insubstantial task of raising more than £100,000.



But our committee is confident and bold and has a new member as head of the project, Susanne Graepel (pictured with an artist's impression of the new building). She says, 'We moved to Shelford three years ago from Girton, I found the club exceptionally friendly and very open to new members, so I thought I'd offer my time.'

Susanne has expertise in project management and is open to ideas, recommendations and especially donations at projects@gstc.org.uk. 'If someone would like to come forward as a potential sponsor, or anyone who can contribute to make this possible, it would be fantastic.'

So, you generous readers of the News, imagine a whole tennis court named after you in perpetuity, just like Arthur Ashe or Suzanne Lenglen, or your name on a board in the spanking new clubhouse. We can turn that dream into reality and what better destination for a spot of spare cash than a new tennis clubhouse in Great Shelford.

While the old clubhouse still stands, on Friday 14 March it will host a wine tasting quiz for members and their guests. The fun starts at 7.30pm so book early to avoid disappointment and sobriety. And wear a coat.

Stephen Chittenden

FOOTBALL CLUB



Luckily the weather was kind and both teams were able to complete a full month of fixtures. The first team continued their good form with four straight wins to remain top of the table. Newmarket Town Reserves had beaten us in the first match of the season and remained unbeaten when they visited Woollards Lane, but a superb attacking display saw that run ended with 4 –1 win.

Wisbech St Mary always give us a hard game on their home patch and this season was no exception. A hard fought game was one apiece going into the final quarter, before two late penalties secured the points. Hardwick had only lost one game going into our home encounter with them, but another superb display inflicted another on them after a 7–3 win. Away games at Witchford always seem to give us problems and although on this occasion we created enough good chances to settle the nerves, a tight 1–0 win is one we may look back on with greater pleasure at the end of the season.

Hundon have been rooted to the bottom of the Senior A Division all season, but if our reserves thought they were in for an easy game they were in for a big surprise and were relieved to come away with a 1–0 win, albeit on a far from perfect pitch. The next two fixtures were home and away to Brampton and Buckden. Both games were hard fought and both ended 1–1, although both teams probably felt they could have won both. The month ended on a disappointment with a close 3–2 defeat at home to Isleham United, but the team remain nicely in the mix at the top of the table.

There will be games on the rec on most Saturdays so why not come along and support your local club.

Terry Rider, Great Shelford FC

NOTE

The *Great Shelford Village News (GSVN)* 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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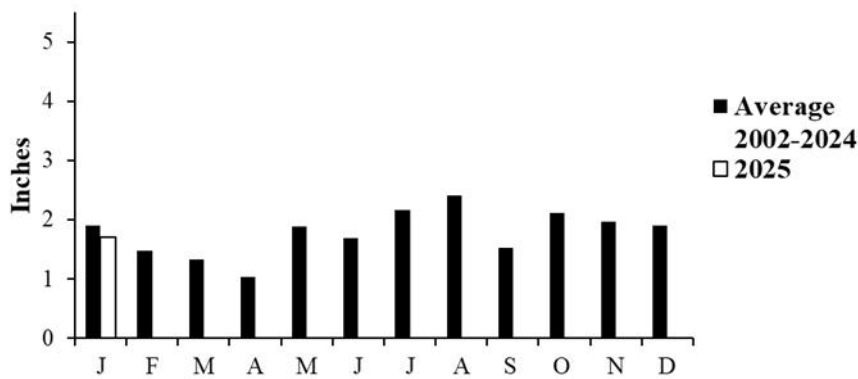
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From data supplied by Angus Campbell

WHAT’S ON IN MARCH

CAMBRIDGE FESTIVAL, 19 MARCH-4 APRIL

The Cambridge Festival is a mixture of online, on demand and in person events covering all aspects of the world leading research happening at Cambridge.

There will be an eclectic mixture of over 350 events and activities: from panel discussions, film premieres and self-guided walking tours, to interactive activities for the whole family. Topics cover the breadth of Cambridge research and will be presented across the Festival’s four themes: Society, Health, Environment and Discovery!

To find full details of every event visit <https://www.festival.cam.ac.uk/> You can download a PDF programme or use the filters on the Discover our Events page to search by date, age, theme and more.

Whether it’s a talk ‘Listening to your Gut’ on 20 March or a visit to Papworth Hospital Open Day on 23 March; maybe dropping in to ‘World of Water’ with the children on Saturday 29 March or participating in hands on archaeological activities, there is surely something for everyone!

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Member of the Guild of
Master Craftsmen**



www.angliatreecare.co.uk Email: info@angliatreecare.co.uk

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

2G3S Green Group	Peter Woods	mail2G3S@gmail.com	843438
Badminton (Little Shelford)	James Newman	james@jamesnewman.org	07717 394176
BCSS Cactus Society	Jacqui Arbon		07867653748
Bowls Club	Gill Taylor	gill.mtaylor@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	07935 368536
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	07772197770
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
	Helen Clarke-Hill	churchwarden@stmarygreatshelford.org	07761 483203
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 Dibra	842054	
	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	Clem Messenger	gc_messenger@yahoo.co.uk	
Twinning Association	Penny Pearl	penny.pearl@btinternet.com	842483
U3A (Sawston Branch)	John Gray	johngray6@gmail.com	01223 841784
Village Charity	Samantha Rigby-Coghlan (Clerk to the Trustees)	clerk@gsvc.org.uk	07979 184273
WI	Vanda Butler (Secretary)	vanda.butler@googlemail.com	561053
Youth Initiative	Zac Britton	zac.britton@ssyl.club	07599 024210

The Music of Leonard Bernstein: Rob Barron Trio

Saturday 1 March | 7:45pm

Rob Barron's acclaimed trio, with guest vocalist Emma Smith, perform their own interpretations of the hits from Bernstein's unforgettable music theatre, including *West Side Story*, *Candide*, *On The Town* and more



Elina Duni & Rob Luft

Saturday 8 March | 7:45pm

The inimitable Albanian-Swiss singer and BBC New Generation guitarist return to the Granary with their trademark blend of folksong, jazz, chanson and Broadway ballads, engulfed in a warm Mediterranean sound



Consone Quartet

Sunday 9 March | 3:00pm

Schubert's turbulent *Death and the Maiden* and Mendelssohn's Quartet in E flat from this period instrument award-winning quartet, fast making a name for themselves for their expressive interpretations of Classical and Romantic repertoire



Lady Maisery

Wednesday 12 March | 7:45pm

Exquisite vocal harmony from three renowned multi-instrumentalists, combining arrangements of traditional folk music with their own compositions



Ronan O'Hora, piano

Saturday 22 March | 7:45pm

A programme of Schubert and Chopin from this most distinguished of British pianists, whose recording and performing career spans four decades.

Booking: www.staplefordgranary.org.uk | 01223 849004