

# Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

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EST 1999

APRIL 2025

PRICE: 40p

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*Goodbye to Angela*



*Scouts' Jumble Sale*

*Warden wanted for Mobile Warden Scheme*

*GREAT SHELFORD*

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# GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

<b>CHAIR</b>	Malcolm Watson	<b>DEPUTY CHAIRS</b>	Gregory Price, John Stanton
<b>CHAIRS OF SUB-COMMITTEES</b>			
<b>Planning</b>	Gregory Price	<b>Highways</b>	Timothy Mann
<b>Building &amp; Grounds</b>	Malcolm Watson	<b>Cemetery &amp; Allotments</b>	Angela Niblett
<b>MEMBERS</b>			
Paula Arnold	Peter Brown	Roberto Gherseni	Howard Kettel
Barrie Ashurst	Justin Curtis	Barbara Kettel	Angela Mutty
<b>CLERK</b>	Nicola Webster	<i>clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i> 01223616622	
<b>To email Parish Councillors, use:</b>		<i>firstname.surname@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk</i>	
<b>DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</b>	Peter Fane	07802 256861	William Jackson-Wood 07873 731597
<b>COUNTY COUNCILLORS</b>	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**

#### **GREAT SHELFORD TENNIS CLUB**

The Council received a presentation from the Facilities Manager of the Great Shelford Tennis Club regarding the proposed replacement of their clubhouse. The Council granted approval in principle of the replacement and of connection to drainage.

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

District Cllr Fane reported that the full District Council will be meeting the following Tuesday for their annual budget meeting, which also includes approval of their corporate plan. He also reported on the current discussions regarding devolution and the changes to the calculation of the five-year housing land supply which mean that South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) is now in 'tilted balance'. The Neighbourhood Plan, green belt, highways budget and Cambridge Biomedical Campus were also discussed.

#### **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT MATTERS**

a) Cllr Stanton reported that the Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Working Group (TTIWG) has been focussing on local issues and reviewing their list of priorities from the Traffic Strategy. Cllr Watson asked TTIWG to look at potential mitigations should Cambridge South East Transport (CSET) be approved.

b) The Council considered an application to the Cambridgeshire County Council 20mph funding scheme. It was agreed that the Council will not submit a 20mph application to this round. Cllr Watson asked TTIWG to look at potential roads for a future application round.

c) The report on the diffusion tube test results, which involved monitoring levels of nitrogen dioxide in the atmosphere, was noted.

d) The correspondence regarding speed indicator devices was considered and the matter was deferred to the Highways Committee.

#### **COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION MATTERS**

a) The Clerk will respond to the SCDC four-day week consultation in coordination with Cllr Watson.

b) It was agreed that the Council will not respond to the Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) Local Validation List consultation.

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c) The expenditure of £2160 + VAT for the detailed Groundwater Risk Assessment and Topographical Assessment for the extension to the Cemetery was approved.

### COMMUNITY MATTERS

a) Cllrs were requested to assist in the running of the spring fundraising event.

b) The Council will not hold a VE Day beacon lighting event but will raise the VE day flag.

### FINANCE MATTERS

Monthly accounts including bank reconciliations and payments were 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](http://greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk/minutes-agendas)

### PARISH COUNCIL & COMMITTEE MEETINGS IN APRIL

Cemetery & Allotments	9 April	7.30pm Pavilion
Planning Committee	14 April	7.30pm Memorial Hall
Full Council Meeting	16 April	7.00pm Pavilion
Planning Committee	28 April	7.30pm Memorial Hall

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.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS (10.02.2025, 24.02.2025)

A presentation was received from the representatives of the proposed development off Mingle Lane, who confirmed that they had reviewed the local plan and the emerging Neighbourhood Plan. There was a discussion regarding the applicable policies of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, the housing needs assessment, and the design guides and codes documents.

The developers confirmed that they were not looking to bring 'city' architecture into the village. Concerns were raised regarding drainage and the

uniformity of the development. and a request for variety of design. A query was raised regarding the number of houses and whether it was limited to 100, and the response was that there could be slightly more than 100 houses. It was confirmed that this development would be fairly low density. There was a recommendation for a corridor of trees between the current homes and the proposed development and a request for more open space for families to use.

There was a discussion regarding the implementation of the Sawston Greenway along Mingle Lane and the implications for the construction traffic. A question was asked regarding the intention regarding installing solar panels and air source heat pumps, and it was confirmed that all properties will have on roof solar panels and air source heat pumps and potentially batteries as well. There was a query whether biodiversity net gain (BNG) will be achieved on site. The developers are currently investigating and need to establish the baseline. There was a comment regarding the Neighbourhood Plan mitigation hierarchy, which states that if BNG is not deliverable on site, it should be delivered within the same parish. There was a request for consideration of the Stapleford Cemetery with a buffer or less density near the cemetery as it is a sensitive area.

### **Planning Applications**

25/00256/HFUL	3 Stonehill Road	Single storey outer building with an air conditioning unit, ancillary to main dwelling
Application supported.		

25/00527/PRIOR	44 Woollards Lane	Change of use from commercial, business and service to dwelling house.
Application supported.		

25/00518/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.		

## PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

### Annual Meetings and Vacancies

Following the Annual Parish Meeting on Wednesday 26 March, the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 14 May. We currently have two vacancies for parish councillors and we encourage anyone interested in making a positive impact on our community to get in touch. Becoming a parish councillor offers a unique opportunity to help shape the future of our local area, represent the views of your fellow residents and contribute to important decisions that affect everyday life. If you are passionate about improving our parish and want to play an active role in its development, this could be the perfect opportunity for you. Please contact Nicola for more information on how to apply and get involved.

### Easter Fun Day

We're looking forward to our Easter Fun Day on Sunday 6 April, in partnership with the PTA. Join us for a day full of fun and festivities, including an Easter egg hunt, bouncy castles, and a vibrant Easter market. There will be something for everyone to enjoy, so bring the whole family along to celebrate this joyful occasion.

### Clothing Recycling

Just a friendly reminder that there is a clothing recycling bin available at the Memorial Hall. It's a great way to donate unwanted clothes and help support a more sustainable community. Please feel free to drop off any used clothing whenever it's convenient for you.



### Memorial Hall Renovation

The Parish Council is continuing to work on plans to renovate the Memorial Hall and we're excited about the progress being made. The next step is likely to be a consultation with the community, allowing residents to share their thoughts and ideas on the project. Keep an eye out for more information in the coming weeks – your input will be invaluable in shaping the future of this important space.

Don't forget to get in touch with us should you have any relevant concerns. Our telephone number is 01223 616622 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*

## STAPLEFORD WIND SINFONIA CONCERT 17 MAY 3PM AT ST MARY'S CHURCH, SAWSTON



Our February concert at St Mary's was a lovely social occasion, with an enthusiastic audience responding to spirited performances of both familiar and less well-known pieces of music. Audience members commented on the quality of the ensemble's sound in the church, as well as the attractive setting. In May we return to give our final concert of the season and we hope that everyone will come along again to enjoy another entertaining afternoon of music, introduced by our Musical Director, Anne Templer.

*Margaret Burleigh*

## LAY ELECTRICAL

Lay Electrical was started under the name of Lavails in the early 1960s by Mr Lay and Mr Vail; there were six shops and two workshops. When the partnership split in 1972, the other shops and workshops closed. Mr Lay started on his own under the name of Lay Electrical in the one remaining shop at 66 High Street, Great Shelford, which is now Blossoms Beauty Shop. This is when he took on an apprentice, Mr Colin Free.

When Mr Lay retired in 1989 the business moved to the previous workshop and stores at the bottom of the driveway. Mr Colin Free and his wife Brenda purchased the business and have run it ever since. Their son Alan joined them after leaving school in 2004. He learned the trade and has worked with them on the service side doing repairs and installations, while Brenda ran the shop, which sold many items such as washing machines, TVs, kettles, light bulbs and lots of useful small items such as radiator keys and string.



Colin and Brenda decided to retire and close the shop and workshop for good on 28 March this year. They will still be seen around the village as they will still be living in Great Shelford. They will be kept busy with their hobbies such as DIY and gardening while Brenda will continue to design and make children's picture jumpers to sell at craft fairs around the area. Alan is going to work at a totally different job, having a break from repairs. We wish them all the best in their new occupations!

## SHELFORD SCHOOL

Spring was finally in the air as the children returned from their half term break at the end of February. Fittingly, on the first day of the new half term we had some welcome visitors to the school; a group of volunteers organised by the sustainability charity *Cultivating Change*, who arrived to revamp our garden space. The school garden has been transformed with a set of raised flower beds, some of which are made from large, colourfully decorated tyres. We are very grateful to those who gave their time and materials to make this transformation possible and to give the children the opportunity to tend their own school garden. The new garden was even featured on local news, BBC Look East, on 7 March.

The whole school community was glad of the week-long holiday after a busy start to 2025, which ended with parent-teacher consultations in school. Pupils prepared a reflection on their progress to share with their teacher and parents, and parents then had the opportunity to discuss the children's learning with their teacher and to see a range of the work they have been doing during the school year.

Children from different year groups took part in a range of enriching activities throughout January and February, including a whole-school celebration of maths during the NSPCC's Number Day on 7 February. Children were invited to dress up in 'number themed' non-school uniform for the day, which generated some ingenious costumes and face painting!

Year 2 had a particularly busy half-term. They took a train to Cambridge to visit the Botanic Gardens, where they explored how plants adapt to their physical environment. They also concluded their class topic on China by celebrating China day. The children explored a range of elements of Chinese culture, including taking part in Chinese dragon dancing and doing their own Chinese cooking. Finally, Year 2 children prepared and led the annual Candlemas service at St Mary's Church.

Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 had a very exciting day when they took the coach to London on Monday 3 February to take part in the national Young

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Voices 2025 concert at the O2 arena. Performing with 8,000 other children in front of an audience of thousands was a spectacular experience. Thank you to school choir leaders, Mrs Barlow and Mrs Bell, who made this possible.

On Thursday 6 March we celebrated World Book Day. As is traditional in Shelford, the school day began with a parade during which the children displayed a wonderful variety of costumes of characters from their favourite books, from Harry Potter to Where's Wally.

Still on the literary theme, on Wednesday 12 March Shelford held its first poetry evening. Children who this year joined the after-school debating club came along to share poems that they have enjoyed learning this year. Some of those taking part also chose to have their pieces recorded so that they could be entered for the Poetry by Heart competition. We wish them the best of luck!

With budget cuts and limited resources, the school increasingly relies on volunteer support and donations. We are very lucky to have a dedicated PTA at Shelford, so do look out for the many events which will be happening during the rest of this academic year. Although these are great fundraisers for the school, they are also lovely events for the whole Shelford community to enjoy. Look out for information about a Bingo evening and Summer Fair soon.

As always, the school year is whizzing by as we look ahead to the Easter holidays and the many events and activities that the children will be enjoying as part of their regular learning. Thank you to all members of the school community who work so hard to provide a range of fun and inspiring activities for the children to enjoy.

*Hannah Mohamad (Parent Governor)*

## **CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB**

Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Whittlesford CB22 4NE

on the third Thursday of each month at 7.15pm (refreshments 6.45pm)

Annual subscription £45, visitors £10 each meeting.

17 April: Christine Long, NAFAS Demonstrator:

***Loosely round the Solar System***

15 May: Gill McGregor NAFAS Demonstrator:

***May Floral Mayhem***

Further information from co-chairs:

Freda Orgee – 01223 891464; [fredaorgee@gmail.com](mailto:fredaorgee@gmail.com)

or Alison Drake – 01223 840117; [drakealisonn@gmail.com](mailto:drakealisonn@gmail.com)

**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 phone calls and visits we aim to reduce social isolation and loneliness.

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- 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>

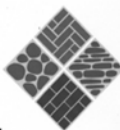
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## GREAT SHELFORD PARISH CHURCH

### Saint Mary the Virgin

#### **St Mary's Musings: Waste not, want not!**

Perhaps a few of us will remember the wartime imperative about not wasting anything at a time when just about everything was in short supply! Today, with plentiful, one might say excessively abundant, supplies of food and consumer goods available, sensitivity to and awareness of waste has been much reduced. The evidence is undeniable of a crisis in waste management and waste pollution.

The season of Lent traditionally offers the opportunity both to give up something we like and to do something we might not normally choose to do. The choices are wide and can have impactful consequences. Foods may be chosen without plastic wrapping, and locally grown rather than transported halfway across the world to our table; water from the tap rather than in plastic bottles which will take hundreds of years to decompose if not recycled.

Around 100,000 tons of plastic rubbish makes up the 600,000 square miles of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. The situation with landfill is no better. Here one of the worst culprits is the fashion industry. Very few people now buy clothing expecting it to last for repeated wearing over a long time. 'Fast Fashion' sees cheap clothes, produced in sweatshops abroad, worn once or twice then discarded. The charity shops normally have a comprehensive selection of sizes and styles, recycling off the peg, giving financial aid for any number of charities. Oxfam, for example, saves over 7,000 tons of clothing from landfill annually.

Lent gives the chance to look at our lifestyle, to change our ways, to play a small but nevertheless important part in waste reduction. Giving up some favoured foods and composting our food wastes. Repairing worn or broken items if we can rather than replacing them. Being more careful about the segregation of waste items into the rubbish bins. Making more visits to the charity shops, for toys, hardware, clothes, gifts, the list is endless! There is no such thing as junk – it is good stuff in the wrong place. Sir David Attenborough has made it clear, 'For the sake of our planet we must focus on our waste crisis'.

God's Divine providence is the source of all that we have. We cannot rightly be careless about consumption, hasty about waste or thoughtless about throwaways. We pray that God's Spirit will move in us this Lent and bring us to care more for our precious world.

*David Peacock*

*See the St Mary website for up-to-date information about our services and activities. Please visit us at <https://www.stmarysgreatshelford.org/>*

St Mary The Virgin 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 are on display around the Church. You are welcome to visit and reflect on them.

<b>Thursday 3 April</b>	
	<b>7pm: ‘Evolution, Suffering and Hope’</b> , the third talk in our Lent series, will be given in St Mary’s Church by <b>Denis Alexander</b> , Chairman of the Molecular Immunology Programme at the Babraham Institute.
<b>Friday 4 April</b>	
	<b>12noon – 1.20pm: Lent Lunch</b> at the Vicarage, 12 Church Street. A simple soup and cheese lunch and donations to <b>Christian Aid</b> .
<b>Saturday 5 April</b>	
	<b>10.30am – 12noon: Coffee Morning</b> in the Community Room,. Proceeds will be going to <b>Christian Aid</b>
<b>Sunday 6 April, Passion Sunday</b>	
	In the services today we focus on the last days of the life of Jesus. <b>8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer.</b> <b>10am: Sung Parish Communion.</b>
<b>Wednesday 9 April</b>	
	<b>7pm: Quiet Time</b> We will meet in the Chancel for prayerful meditation.
<b>Thursday 10 April</b>	
	<b>7pm: ‘Hope in Suffering’</b> , the final talk in our Lent series will be given in <b>St Mary’s Church</b> by <b>Rebecca Fitzgerald</b> , FRS Professor of Cancer Prevention at Cambridge University.
<b>Sunday 13 April Palm Sunday.</b>	
	<b>8am: a reading of the Passion Narrative with Holy Communion</b> using the BCP. <b>10am: Parish Communion service for children, families and all generations.</b> The theme of the service is ‘Children of Joy’. The story of Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem will be retold with activities and music. Palm crosses will be given out.
<b>Monday 14 April, Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16, Holy Week Reflections</b>	
	<b>6.30pm in the Chancel: Reflecting on the last week of Jesus’ life.</b>

<b>Thursday 17 April, Maundy Thursday</b>	
	<b>7.30pm: Holy Communion Service.</b> We remember the last supper, the washing of the disciples' feet and an invitation to serve God and others.
<b>Friday 18 April, Good Friday</b>	
	<b>10am: Easter Workshop</b> for children and families in the <b>Community Room</b> , making the <b>Easter Garden</b> . Activities and hot cross buns!
	<b>2pm: Stations of the Cross.</b> There will be a service where we move around the church meditating on incidents in the last week of Jesus' life.
<b>Saturday 19 April, Easter Eve</b>	
	<b>5pm: Service of Easter fire and light.</b> We light a fire in the porch at St Mary's. The Paschal candle is lit and the story of Easter begins.
	<b>8pm:</b> Eloise Weaver will be <b>confirmed at Ely Cathedral</b> . A number of her friends will be joining her for this moving service
<b>Sunday 20 April, Easter Day</b>	
	<b>8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer</b> <b>10am: Sung Parish Communion.</b> There will be an Easter Egg hunt at the end of the service.
<b>Sunday 27 April, The Second Sunday of Easter.</b>	
	<b>8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer</b> <b>10am: Sung Parish Communion</b> <b>3pm: Open Space</b> hosted by the Free Church behind Cara Café

**MORNING PRAYERS: on Monday April 7, 14 and 28 and Thursday 10 at 8.30am in the Chancel.** We continue to use the Lent Reflections, 'Living Hope'.

**THE PILGRIM GROUP: Meeting in The Vicarage Mondays at 2pm.** We are using the studies on 'Sacraments' April 7 and 14, resuming May 5.

In addition to the normal Sunday services at 8am and 10am, **there is a zoom service each Sunday evening at 6.30pm. The link is on the Pew Sheet and Website.**

**Thought for the month:** 'We can do no great things, only small things with great love.' *Mother Theresa*

**For more information about St Mary's, Great Shelford**

Vicar: Revd Dr Julie Norris [Revjulienorris@gmail.com](mailto:Revjulienorris@gmail.com)

Parish Administrator: David Wilding [wildingdavid1@gmail.com](mailto:wildingdavid1@gmail.com)

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

## GOODBYE TO ANGELA

We were very sad to read the following letter from Angela Milton. Over the years she has made Shelford station a cheerful and welcoming place, and her warmth and expertise will be much missed in the village. We send her our best wishes for a happy retirement.

*The editors*

Dear customers/friends of Great Shelford Railway Station

Due to some ill health this year (I am a little better now) I have decided to take early retirement. After 29 years on the Railway, I have done my bit.

Shelford Station still remains my favourite station to ever work at. I have been there nearly 16 years now and have enjoyed meeting you all. The more complicated the journey, the more I enjoyed it.

I will miss you all and I plan to come to the station on Friday 28 March from 6am to 10.30m to say goodbye, so please pop in if you are passing by that day.

Best wishes and many thanks to you all for welcoming me to the village.

*Angela*

## GRANTA MEDICAL SPRING 2025 COVID-19 BOOSTER

The Covid-19 vaccine helps protect against Covid-19, which can be a serious or life-threatening illness. It is offered on the NHS to people at increased risk of getting seriously ill from Covid-19. This year's spring booster will be available from 1 April to 17 June 2025.

You may be offered the booster if you are aged 75 or over, if you are aged 6 months to 74 years and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment, or if you live in a care home for older adults.

Granta Medical Practices will be delivering Covid-19 vaccines to our own patients and the general public via the National Booking System on NHS UK, who will contact you directly if you are eligible. Please may we respectfully ask that you do not try to book directly via our reception as they do not have access to the National Booking System. Housebound patients will be vaccinated by one of the community services.

If you have any queries about the spring booster or Covid-19 in general, please go to [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk).

*Sandra East, Head of Patient Services*

*Sawston Medical Centre, London Road, Sawston, CB22 3HU*

*Email: [cpicb.grantapatientsservices@nhs.net](mailto:cpicb.grantapatientsservices@nhs.net)*





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## **MOBILE WARDEN SCHEME GOODBYE TO CLAIRE SMITH**

On 17 June the Great Shelford Warden Scheme will say goodbye to their long serving and much-loved Warden, Claire Smith. Claire joined the scheme in September 2014 and since then has made thousands of phone calls, collected hundreds of prescriptions, bought numerous pints of milk and driven many miles round the streets of the village to visit our members.

As well as carrying out the practical side of the job, Claire has been a valuable lifeline for hundreds of the elderly residents of Great Shelford village over the years. With weekly face to face catchups, cups of tea, laughs and stories shared, Claire has been a constant friendly face in the lives of many members past and present.

On behalf of our members, staff, volunteers and myself we would like to say a very big 'thank you' to Claire for all her hard work, kindness and dedication to the scheme over the last 11 years.

We will all miss Claire immensely and wish her many happy adventures during her retirement.

*Jenny David  
Chair, Great Shelford Mobile Warden Scheme*

### **SHELFORD SUPPORT GROUP**



#### **NEW PHONE NUMBER**

**07514 542282**

**The Shelfords and Stapleford community transport service has  
a new phone!**

**From 31 March, local people without their own cars who need  
to organise journeys to the Health Centre, the hospital or the  
hairdresser, should call this new number.**

**07514 542282 connects straight to the duty co-ordinator who  
will organise a volunteer driver to help them!**



## GIRLGUIDING



The fun this term for Shelford and Stapleford Rainbows has included activities from the

*Express Myself* theme of the Girlguiding programme with lots of games, songs and craft activities.

Shelford Brownies have so far this term enjoyed a Burns night (shortbread, designing a haggis and dancing the Gay Gordons), making sock puppets and devising puppet plays, and dot paintings of Australian animals. They enjoyed celebrating World Thinking Day with a Pyjama Party and are looking forward to a trip to Clip 'n Climb.

Shelford Guides started the term learning first aid skills, decorating bags with a message about an issue they care about (issues chosen included saving the planet, bullying and period poverty) and a climbing session at Clip 'n Climb. One evening they tried stargazing, but it was cloudy so they made models of constellations using marshmallows and spaghetti instead.

They've also reflected on what it means to be part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts, which has over ten million members worldwide.

We'd love more leaders and adult volunteers for our Rainbow, Brownie and Guide units. Please visit [bit.ly/volGuiding](http://bit.ly/volGuiding) to find out more and get in touch at: [shelforddistrict@gmail.com](mailto:shelforddistrict@gmail.com). Thank you.

*Lisa MacGregor*

## SPRING ART EXHIBITION AT FOWLMERE SCHOOL

The Spring Art Exhibition will be held on Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 May. It brings together local artists who exhibit and sell paintings, ceramic pottery, fused glass, hand carved wooden items, jewellery, stained glass art, cushions, knitted/crocheted items, and cards. There are also workshops across the weekend.

This event has been running for over 20 years and raises much-needed funds not just for the Fowlmere School PTFA, but also the Beads of Courage Programme UK.

If you would like to know more, or for application forms/links to exhibit, or if you are interested in volunteering to help, please email: [fowlmereartexhibition@gmail.com](mailto:fowlmereartexhibition@gmail.com)

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## COUNTRY MARKET

Annual Meetings come round all too quickly, though they do provide the opportunity for members to look back and think forward. In this year's meeting Christa Jostock was re-elected Chair and Margaret Cliff was elected Treasurer. She succeeds Hazel Webb who retired last Christmas after 35 years as a producer. In that time, she had been treasurer for over 20 years.

2024 was a good year and 2025 has started well. Over the last few weeks we have certainly felt a breath of spring in the air. The plant section has come to new life and makes a fine welcoming sight with so many freshly picked daffodils, other spring flowers, pussy willow, catkins and much more.

We have welcomed two new bakers into the food section. They have brought in new lines – look out for the fudge and assorted small decorated cakes. As well as the flowers and food, don't forget the many crafts, all hand made.

To ensure the future of the market, we are always on the look-out for new producers. Do you enjoy baking and/or making preserves? Do you grow a surplus of garden fruit and vegetables? Do you enjoy craft work? Why not consider becoming a member not just of Shelford Country Market, but of the wider network of Country Markets across England and Wales? Please feel free to pop in for a chat or follow us on our Facebook page.

Just a couple of reminders: admission is free and allow time for a good browse. You may be surprised at just what you can find, including hot drinks and home-baked cookies! Remember we are always pleased to take orders at the market, by email to [dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com](mailto:dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com) or by phone (01223 843946).

*Dorothy Doel*

### **LITTLE SHELFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Little Shelford Memorial Hall

Monday 28 April

AGM at 7.30pm followed by a talk by Stuart Orm,  
Curator, Oliver Cromwell Museum, Huntingdon

**‘The English Civil War – Oliver Cromwell  
and a world turned upside down’**

All welcome



Great Shelford  
Free Church

## EASTER

Have you ever played the word association game where someone says a word and you need to respond with the first word that comes into your head? For an example someone might say ‘night’ and you might respond with ‘day’ or ‘darkness’ or ‘stars’.

I wonder what your word association would be with the word ‘Easter’. If you are a child it might be ‘chocolate’ or ‘bunny’, as an adult it might be ‘holiday’ or ‘spring’ or maybe ‘new life’ (which might disqualify you from the game because it’s actually two words). But we are all different and our associated words will also be different, reflecting something of who we are and the circumstances that have shaped our identity.

For me there are many words that spring to mind: resurrection, forgiveness, life, joy, hope, eternity, celebration. These to me are words that convey the wonder of the Easter story; a story that tells us how, through the death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus, forgiveness puts an end to guilt and shame, light comes out of darkness and life is born out of death. Easter brings hope to all of us, both collectively and as individuals, for what the future has in store.

At Great Shelford Free Church our focus for the month of April is Concrete Rose, a mission which brings hope for the future to a particular group of those in need. Read on to find out more and may God’s blessings of joy and hope rest on each one of you.

*Diana Parr, Pastor*

## THE POWER OF HOSPITALITY

‘I was a stranger, and you invited Me in’ Matt. 25: 35(b)

I wonder what springs to mind when you think of the word ‘hospitality’ – a whole industry of hotels and restaurants, inviting friends over for dinner, or the TV show *Come Dine with Me*? These are all valid examples, but the life and teaching of Jesus (and the example of the early church) give us a much richer understanding of hospitality – a powerful practice that is counter-cultural, subversive and has the power to change society as well as individual lives.

To expound on the scripture given above, Jesus envisions hospitality as distinct from simply ‘entertaining others’ but as practical care for the outsider (the ‘stranger’) and a means of offering care to the needy. Elsewhere, Jesus encourages his followers not to invite friends or brothers or

wealthy neighbours to dinner (given that they may be invited back in return) but ‘when you give a banquet or a reception, invite the poor, the disabled, the lame, and the blind, and you will be blessed because they cannot repay you’ (Luke 14:12). This, to my mind, is not to condemn spending time with friends and family and inviting them over, (Jesus himself enjoyed spending time with close family and friends and sharing meals with them), but a challenge not to forget those on the very margins and to recognise the significance of personal involvement in caring for others, rather than seeing this purely as the domain of specialist services.

Mother Teresa once said that ‘the biggest problem with the world today is that we draw the circle of our family too small’ and true hospitality requires us to redefine our concept of family, community, capability and responsibility. Recapturing this radical message of hospitality, inspired by the teaching of Jesus, is at the heart of Concrete Rose, an organisation supported by Great Shelford Free Church.

Concrete Rose provides a safe and supported way for individuals, families and couples with a spare room to host a young person (16-23) who is without family support and a suitable place to call home. This includes careful matching with a young person (and lots of background checks), a guaranteed rental income, wrap-around support, flexible commitments and comprehensive training. Already they have seen the transformative results this kind of hospitality can have, with young people thriving in the nurturing and caring environments that hosts provide.

Could you draw the circle of your family slightly larger? Why not find out more at [www.concreterose.co.uk](http://www.concreterose.co.uk)?

## **EVENTS AT GREAT SHELFORD FREE CHURCH**

### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

**Morning Services at 10.30am:** Everyone welcome.

**Cafe Church on Sunday 27 April at 10.30am:** Informal service, seated around tables with refreshments served.

**Open Space: Sunday 27 April at 3pm:** Outdoor church for families – a joint event with St Mary’s Church which will be held behind Cara Coffee Shop. A space to explore faith together. This month, we will be exploring Easter and new life.

**EASTER EVENTS – everyone welcome!**

**Reflective Service on Good Friday: Friday 18 April at 10.30am.**

**Easter Sunday Family Service with family communion: Sunday 20 April at 10.30am.** Come join us at this family friendly service as we celebrate Easter together.

### **WEEKDAY EVENTS**

**Community Café every Monday: 10am–12 noon** Come join us for tea/coffee and homemade cake. Please note that there will be no Community Café on Easter Monday (21 April).

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

## **GREAT SHELFORD MOBILE WARDEN SCHEME WARDEN REQUIRED**

The Great Shelford Mobile Warden Scheme is an independent charitable organisation which exists to improve the quality of life of older people in the village of Great Shelford.

We are currently recruiting for a part-time Warden to join our team.

- The job is based on two days per week, Monday and Tuesday, with phone calls every other weekend. In addition, there is a weekly half hour hand over with the other part-time warden. A degree of flexibility is required for this role.
- The hours of work are Monday and Tuesday 9am–2pm, and Saturday and Sunday 9–10am (phone calls).
- The rate of pay is £12.21 per hour.
- Experience of working with the elderly would be an advantage but is not essential as training will be given.
- The role is based in, and covers the area of, Great Shelford.
- Successful candidates will be required to undertake an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check.

For further information and a job description please contact Jenny David at [jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk)



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# DIARY APRIL 2025

Date	Event	Time	Place
3	WI	7.30pm	Community Room
6	Easter Fun Day and market	9.30am–2pm	Memorial Hall
9	Carnival Games	2pm	Library
9	British cactus and succulent Society	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
23	Engage talk: Alison Stockham	2pm	Library
26	Saffron Walden Dance Band Spring Dance	7.45pm	Memorial Hall
27	Scouts' Jumble Sale	2pm	Memorial Hall

## Country Market

9–11.30am, Memorial Hall, Wednesdays 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 April.

	<p><b>BIN COLLECTIONS</b></p> <p>Black bins</p>	<p>Tuesday 1, 15, 29 April</p>
	<p>Blue bins and green bins</p>	<p>Tuesday 8, 22 April</p>
	<p><b>POST BOXES</b></p> <p>Coppice Avenue, Mill Court (Hinton Way), Library, Old Vicarage, Church St, High Green bus stop, Stonehill Road, Macaulay Avenue.</p> <p>Usual post box collections are 9am.</p> <p>The latest collection is from the Post Office at 4.45pm.</p>	
	<p><b>POST OFFICE</b></p> <p>The Post Office is at Great Shelford Local Store (was Kash Stores), 35 Hinton Way.</p> <p>Open Monday to Saturday 7am–8pm, Sunday 9am–6pm.</p>	
	<p><b>LIBRARY</b></p> <p>Monday 3–7pm, Tuesday 10am–1pm &amp; 2–5pm, Wednesday 10am–1pm, Thursday closed, Friday 10am–1pm &amp; 2–6pm, Saturday 10am–1pm. NB The library is closed on bank holidays.</p>	

1<sup>st</sup> Shelfords and Stapleford Scouts

# JUMBLE SALE

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**Sunday 27 April 2025**

Doors open 2pm

Great Shelford Memorial Hall

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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.



## 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 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 01223 842498.



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### Why join U3AC?

- **A range of courses and activities:** With over 300 daytime courses, U3AC caters for a wide range of interests. Whether you're passionate about history, art, or technology, you'll find something to pique your curiosity.
- **Mental stimulation:** Engaging in stimulating activities can help keep your mind sharp and prevent cognitive decline. By learning new things and challenging yourself, you can enhance your memory, problem-solving skills and creativity.
- **Social connection:** U3AC provides a welcoming community where you can meet new people and form lasting friendships. Social interaction is essential for well-being, and joining U3AC can help you combat feelings of loneliness and isolation.
- **Physical health:** Many U3AC courses involve physical activity, such as walking groups, pickle ball, table tennis, tap dance and T'ai Chi. Regular exercise can improve your cardiovascular health, strengthen your muscles and boost your energy levels.
- **Personal growth:** By pursuing new hobbies and learning new skills, you can gain a sense of accomplishment and boost your self-esteem. U3AC offers a supportive environment where you can explore your passions and discover your potential.

### A vibrant community

U3AC is a Cambridge-based educational charity for retired and semi-retired people living in and around the city. With over 2,500 members, U3AC is a thriving community of active and engaged individuals. By joining U3AC, you'll have the opportunity to participate in a wide range of activities, from lectures and workshops to social events and outings.

So why not take the plunge and join U3AC Cambridge? It's a fantastic way to make the most of your retirement years and live life to the fullest.

The new programme for 2025/26 will be available on 1 July 2025. For further information about courses, vacancies and membership visit [www.u3ac.org.uk](http://www.u3ac.org.uk)



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## LIBRARY EVENTS

Have you visited the library lately? If it's been a few years, you may be surprised by how libraries have changed. Of course, we still have hundreds of books, fact and fiction, for all ages to choose from. We also have free WiFi and computers you can use to research family history, look up homework topics or even watch a National Theatre play. We also have lots of events in the library – Rhymetimes, Craft and Chat, Children's Lego, Art and Games clubs and a Digital Buddy. Whether you want to read, use a computer or meet new people, you might find just what you are looking for in the library. They are relaxed, friendly places and staff will be happy to help you.

**Engage Talk:** Author Talk – Alison Stockham. Wednesday 23 April, 2–3.30pm. A donation of £2 is appreciated. Please stay for a drink after the talk. Please pre-book.

**Stay and Play:** Thursday 3 April, 2–3.30pm. For children aged 0–3 years. A relaxed drop-in session for families with young children, £2 per family. Toys provided.

**Carnival Games:** Roll up, roll up, come and play some carnival games. Wednesday 9 April, 2–3.30pm. Ages 4–10, £2 per child. Limited places, please pre-book.

**Spring Crafts:** Animal, flowers and crafts galore. Ages 4–10. Thursday 17 April 2–3.30pm Please pre-book.

**Story, Rhyme and Duplo Time:** Every Tuesday at 10.30am. Ages 0–4 years. Come and enjoy stories and rhymes led by our wonderful volunteers. This is a free drop-in event. Parents/carers, please stay with your children.

**Art Club:** Every Saturday morning 10.30am–12noon. Suitable for ages 4–10. Drop in event. Suggested £1 donation. Parents and carers must supervise their children at all times.

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

*Mel Abbiss, Community Librarian*

<b>Opening hours:</b>	See page 26
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## SHELFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION SOCIAL EVENTS

### Le Petit Déjeuner

The Twinning Association held an enjoyable French breakfast on 1 February, which was open to all. Approximately 50 people attended the event and we were delighted to welcome families and friends, old and new. As you would expect, a selection of French foods was offered – croissants, pains aux raisin, baguettes and brioches, served with jams and Nutella, as well as granola, fruit compote and yogurt – accompanied with coffee, tea, hot chocolate and orange juice. French themed activities were provided for the children, and information was available about the forthcoming trip to Verneuil (scheduled for 24-27 May).



The annual exchange visit is always great fun. It includes a full day's outing to a place of interest for adults and children, a half day's outing and a party. 30 families with primary age children are actively encouraged to participate; in addition to the experience of staying *en famille* the children get a taste of school life by spending a morning in the local school. Accommodation is provided by the French families, which gives a unique opportunity to be immersed in the other country's culture; many lasting friendships have been forged that way and indeed one of the main joys of our exchanges is that opportunity to establish real relationships with our French friends as opposed to the usually more superficial experience of a week's holiday in a hotel.


### Film and Pancake Evening

On 8 March we organised another social event open to all. This time the evening began with warm pancakes, many homemade by Janet, to whom we are indebted for her time and expertise in making these delicacies. They were served with a variety of accompaniments – ham and cheese, and jams, chocolate spread, lemon and orange juice. After tucking into these we moved through to watch the film (French with subtitles) entitled *The Ch'tite Family*. This was the sequel to *Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis*, about the adjustment made by a southern Frenchman obliged (unwillingly) to move to the north for his work. He relocated to a town in the area of the Ch'tis, a people who speak a dialect with a thick and often incomprehensible accent, looked down on by many. Of course his new colleagues and neighbours turned out to be absolutely delightful and he settled there very happily. This new film followed the fortunes of a Ch'ti family and, although very light-hearted, themes of love, loyalty and betrayal were explored – and happily resolved.

For both events we are most grateful to everyone who helped in any way, whether by preparation, serving or clearing up. If you are interested in the Twinning Association and its activities please contact [twinningsec@gmail.com](mailto:twinningsec@gmail.com) for further information.

Penny Pearl





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## WI

How good it was to have a real out-loud laugh at our March meeting after a seemingly long gloomy winter. Our speaker, author Sarah Harrison, regaled us with tales based on her observations of real-life situations to which we could all relate. We were reminded of so many things that may annoy us about ourselves or others, the need to spot signs for loos and the tea shop in stately homes and slow customers in front of us in supermarkets. On the plus side, the signs of being older are that we can and do use road maps and read real newspapers. Sarah suggested that when the tea ladies stand up and leave it is time for a speaker to say, 'in conclusion' but on this occasion the tea ladies stayed to hear every amusing word until the speaker's glance at her watch brought this entertainment to an end.

After a refreshment break we held our AGM. The President thanked the hard-working committee members who had contributed to such a successful year. The reports were all approved and as all members of the previous committee were willing to stand for a further year they were unanimously elected.

April is the start of the WI year. We invite you to join us for a games evening with a chocolate theme on Thursday 3 April. The Shelfords WI chooses a charity each year and our talk on 1 May will be supporting Guide Dogs for the Blind.

We will continue through the year with a mix of speakers and other activities giving us the opportunity to meet and chat with others. Our meetings on the first Thursday of each month are at 7.30pm in the Community Room behind St Mary's Church, Great Shelford.

*Eleanor Witter, President*

### **CAMBRIDGE CAKE CREATORS ARE MOVING!**

We are pleased to announce that from April, meetings will be held in:

**The Johnson Hall  
I Magog Way, Stapleford, CB22 5BQ  
(near St Andrew's Church)**

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 17 April starting at 7.30pm. There will also be a chance to have your baking questions answered or to bring any items whose use you are unsure of.

For more information contact:

Vanda 01223 561053 or [vanda.butler@googlemail.com](mailto:vanda.butler@googlemail.com)

## GUIDED BUSWAY

### CAMBRIDGE SOUTH EAST TRANSPORT (CSET)

Better ways for Busways (BW4B) have seen many letters to the Secretary of State for Transport objecting to CSET. Thank you to everyone who took the time to formally object. We appreciate your support!

We have submitted our own robust letter of objection to the Secretary of State for Transport, which you can read here:

<https://www.bw4b.org/s/CSET2-Busway-Objection-070325.pdf>. This is a technical and well substantiated legal objection. We believe that the case it makes is compelling. We thank everyone who made a donation as you made this possible. We hope many more residents will now be inclined to financially support BW4B and the professional team of legal, transport, landscape and environmental experts that BW4B has assembled to make our case at the Public Inquiry. Please donate!

These letters of objection are now all matters of public record, including BW4B's own letter of objection, and will soon appear on a government website. We appreciate that many of these letters are the result of a great deal of time, effort and expertise. If you have sent an objection letter you will receive a letter back from the Department of Transport which asks you to advise, within two weeks of the date of the letter, if you want to speak at the Public Inquiry.

**If you do not want to argue your position to the inspector, would you be willing to delegate responsibility at the public inquiry to BW4B?**

The Inspector will appreciate as few individuals as possible taking the stand. So, if you are willing, please write back to the Department of Transport advising that BW4B will represent you, and copy BW4B please.

Thank you for objecting and for your continued support!

*Better Ways for Busways*

### NOTE

The *Great Shelford Village News* is published by the Editorial Committee, whose members are delighted to receive the many regular and occasional contributions that make it all possible. The Committee accepts such contributions in good faith, but cannot take responsibility for the accuracy of information contained therein. The views expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editorial Committee. The Committee, of necessity, reserves the right to amend or reject items, for a variety of reasons. In these cases (unless the changes are minor), every reasonable effort will be made to contact the contributor to obtain agreement.

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## **BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY CAMBRIDGE & DISTRICT BRANCH**

At our next meeting on Wednesday 9 April at 7.30pm in Shelford Village Hall we welcome Derek Tribble, who has a great passion for growing and studying South African succulent plants. Amongst these are lithops - the fascinating South African succulents also known as 'living stones' which mimic their surroundings as a protection from predators.

His talk covers his visit to The Huntington Plant Symposium in Los Angeles, where the oldest collection of cacti thrive. Whilst in Los Angeles he also spent time with Steven Hammer, a leading world expert on lithops. All this is the basis for a wonderful talk.

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

To see what we are about, and to join the BCSS, visit our main website at [www.bcsc.org.uk](http://www.bcsc.org.uk) or just drop in to one of our monthly meetings; you will be most welcome.

Let's grow together.

*Jacqui Arbon, Branch Secretary*  
07867 653748

### **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*

##### **April 1855**

A SPITEFUL DOG – One day last week, a dog which answers to the name of "Rush", the property of an old gentleman named Clarke, who prides himself upon being one of the "orderly" of the village, seized another dog, the property of Mr Lawson, and bit it so severely that it soon died in consequence. This same dog was known on one occasion to bite a donkey so violently that the poor animal died after a few days acute suffering. It is surprising to the inhabitants of the village that Mr Clarke does not keep his dangerous dog muzzled, or have it shot. The latter perhaps would be the safer and more efficacious way to prevent a similar occurrence.

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## 2G3S

We are planning various activities for 2025, watch this space! Films, discussions and speakers on water use and energy efficiency, repair cafes, book club, meeting with our MP ...

**Dr Bike** continues to hold 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](mailto:drbikestapleford@gmail.com).

We held two litter picks in March, one in Stapleford and one in Sawston. During the former we collected 16 bags of rubbish (and a stray cone). Much of this rubbish was collected up Haverhill Road near the Rangeford site. Thanks to everyone who took part: 2G3S members, people from the Tree Project and villagers. In addition, a band of 22 volunteers, many of whom were children, collected 11 sacks of rubbish in Sawston on the streets around Babraham Road. Well done all!

In February we ran a Repair Café at the Great Shelford Memorial Hall, our first time at that venue. We took advantage of the size of the hall to run a SWISH clothes swap at the same time (see photo). We took in



43.5 kilos of clothes and shoes, and were left with 24 kilos at the end, thus rehoming almost 20 kilos of clothing which may otherwise have ended up in landfill or dumped on a beach in a developing country miles from the UK.

We support the South Cambs Organic Gardening Group (SCOG), and their co-ordinator, Helen Harwood, came to our last planning meeting to talk about their initiative to increase the local population of swifts and house martins. This can be helped by including a 'swift brick' in a new building or an extension which they can nest in, or by putting up a nesting box, such as those on the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) website. We have one which is yet to attract any swifts, but sparrows like it. Swifts only visit for the summer and are then gone, so are not long-term inhabitants of your property.

SCOG is also concerned that gardeners should dispose of unwanted or out-of-date garden chemicals safely – take them to the tip and ask where to put them, don't ever put them in the ordinary bins or down the drain. Better still, try not to use chemicals in the garden at all. And if you have a dog, it's better to use a long-term tablet rather than a spray to keep fleas at bay, as chemicals in the spray get washed off into the environment when dogs go in water.

Last time I talked about choices of food that we can make, including to eat local, but that needs qualifying – UK tomatoes that have been grown in heated greenhouses have a much larger carbon footprint (i.e. use more energy to produce) than Spanish ones that don't need artificial heat. Try to avoid fruit and vegs that have been flown here (e.g. blueberries from Peru, or green beans from Kenya) rather than shipped/driven (e.g. European goods, also bananas, citrus fruits, melons, pineapples and apples), again to keep the carbon footprint down.

One of our members attended the South Cambs Sustainable Food Network Summit held on 22 February, at which she heard about a National Trust farm that now has a complete farm-to-plate chain.

I have been reading a book called 'Land Smart' by Tom Heap, of BBC Countryfile and Rare Earth fame. He says that we need our land to work hard for us as the population increases, whereas the amount of land that can be cultivated is finite. His book is easy to read and full of information about clever farmers and other landowners in the UK who use their land for food, nature and energy, often all at the same time. Nothing is wasted on the farms, in order to minimise the amount of fertiliser needed. Solar farms are criticised in the news, but he gives examples of solar farms that graze sheep, grow food around the edges, or nurture biodiversity on the land around the panels. He gives biofuels the thumbs down (unless they are very small scale, for use on the farm itself), as they yield very little energy in return for the area of land used and the inputs given to them. He is a believer in regenerative farming or nature-friendly farming, but cautions that rewilding should only be done on poorer-quality farmland. Good agricultural land needs to yield food, or the food will come from abroad, where there may be little concern for the environment. Our food needs to be grown with minimum artificial inputs, by nurturing soil health in a variety of ways. Our book group will discuss this book at their meeting in August and if you're interested do come along.

If you are interested in green matters and the environment at all levels (individual, local, national, international), send an email to [mail2G3S@gmail.com](mailto:mail2G3S@gmail.com) to sign up for our monthly newsletter, or to get more information about our meetings. Also see our Facebook page and our website [2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk](http://2g3s.staplefordvillage.org.uk).

*Helen Hale*



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## NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

### EXAMINATION OF OUR PLAN CONTINUES

The examination process is a key stage in preparing a Neighbourhood Plan (NP). Our examination started in February 2025 and, by early March, the examiner had visited our Plan area and sent the steering group an initial set of queries to respond to before he moved on to a more detailed review of the NP.

NP examiners must check they comply with national and local planning policies; are consistent with legal requirements; have been subject to appropriate consultation; and that their policies are clear, feasible and enforceable. This latter feature often results in NP policies being slightly amended. It is not yet certain, but we may, for example, have to remove some of the 29 views we wish to protect because they are general countryside views and not sufficiently well defined as to be enforceable. Along similar lines, Fulbourn NP was required to remove *all* of its proposed 16 views. Much as we may not like it, there is almost always some form of give and take required.

Occasionally, an examiner may hold a public hearing, perhaps to get to the bottom of an impasse between the NP and a stakeholder representation at Regulation 16 consultation. This doesn't happen very often, but it can be a useful way to head off legal action by a dissatisfied stakeholder who feels that their development prospects are thwarted (as opposed to inconvenienced) by a NP. After all, NPs cannot prevent sustainable development.

After the examination, the examiner will produce a report. This will recommend one of the following:

- approval of the Plan as it is
- approval with modifications to address issues or improve clarity (this is probably the most common outcome) – where this happens, the examiner suggests how the Plan should be amended
- rejection, if the Plan is found to be fundamentally flawed or does not meet the necessary criteria.

The local planning authority (LPA) – in our case South Cambs District Council – then reviews the examiner's report and decides whether to accept the examiner's recommendations. If it disagrees with them, it may request further clarification or modifications. But if/when the LPA agrees, the Plan can proceed to the final stage: local referendum, when residents of the NP area vote on whether they approve the Plan. It will be adopted if it gains the support of more than 50% of those who vote. 'Adoption' means that the Plan formally becomes part of the local development framework and used to guide future planning decisions in the area. And this is how we – the residents of Stapleford and Great Shelford – can shape the future of our area. Watch this space!

**Jenny Flynn**

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

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The LGB consists of ex officio staff, parents and Trust appointed governors. Governors possess a range of skills and expertise which enable them to carry out their roles and responsibilities as outlined in the scheme of delegation.

We have vacancies for one or more Trust appointed governors. In particular (but not exclusively), we are seeking applicants with a background in education, safeguarding, business, human resources and public services.

To find out more about Sawston Village College or Anglian Learning visit their websites: [www.sawstonvc.org](http://www.sawstonvc.org) and [www.anglianlearning.org](http://www.anglianlearning.org).

For more information and an application pack please contact Sophie Palmer, the governance professional to the Local Governing Body ([spalmer@anglianlearning.org](mailto:spalmer@anglianlearning.org)).

Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis and will continue until the positions are filled.

Anglian Learning and Sawston Village College are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Appointments will be subject to a satisfactory reference and an Enhanced DBS check.

## TENNIS CLUB

### GREAT SHELFORD JUNIOR TENNIS COMPETITION



The inaugural Great Shelford Junior Tennis Competition was an unforgettable experience, highlighting the talents of ten young players aged 10 to 14.

The tournament kicked off with a round-robin format, followed by an elimination stage, allowing each participant to demonstrate their abilities fully. The players faced challenging windy conditions that made controlling the ball a real challenge. Nevertheless, everyone showed resilience and maintained a great attitude.

As the tournament progressed, competition became more intense, culminating in a

thrilling final between Alex (pictured, left) and Daksh (right). Both competitors showcased outstanding skills and adapted well to the difficult weather conditions. In a tightly contested match, Alex claimed victory, displaying remarkable consistency and composure when it mattered most.

Mentions should also go to:

- Gus, who won our sportsmanship award for outstanding respect and behaviour towards his competitors
- Every parent and family member who stayed to support throughout the day
- Dan Fitzsimmons, our junior coordinator for putting on a brilliant tournament.

One of our lead coaches at the club, Will, said, 'Taking on a new role at the club this year presented me with an exciting opportunity to establish a fresh platform for our junior program. Alongside Dan, who has done an outstanding job as our junior coordinator, we are committed to developing a pathway for our juniors to become integral members of the club and eventually progress into our adult teams.'

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‘We believe that as a community, we can create highly competitive and enjoyable tournaments for our junior members, all without the need to travel extensively across the UK. For most, this was their first ever tennis tournament, so I was massively impressed with the level and respect of each player.

‘This event marks the first of what we hope will be many tournaments to come, along with our broader ambitions for the future!’

*Will Ingle, GST*

## FOOTBALL CLUB



There were only two games in the month for our first team, but their winning streak continued. Newmarket Reserves away in the semi-final of the Premier League Cup was always going to be a close fought game and it certainly turned out that way. Both teams had chances in an even first

half but a superbly taken goal saw us go in at half-time 1-0 down. Our boys came out for the second with a purpose, however, and Jack Chandler, the league's leading scorer, soon equalised. Despite being on top the game seemed destined for penalties, but going into the final minutes Newmarket gave away a needless free kick in a dangerous position. The kick was pinpoint and that man Chandler was on hand again to head in the winner and see us through to another final!

There was a three-week gap until the next game so bottom team Milton could have been seen as the ideal opponents after such a break. There were no signs of rustiness however, and a 7-0 win saw us remain on top of the table.

It was a full month for the reserves and all four games were at home. After a defeat in their final game of last month they responded in great fashion with three wins and a draw to remain in the mix at the top of the table. 3-2, 4-2 and 1-0 wins against Bassingbourn, West Wrattling Reserves and Haverhill Rovers Reserves respectively kept the momentum going, before a 1-1 draw against lowly placed Thaxted Rangers took a slight edge off the month.

There will be games on the rec on most Saturdays and both teams have a lot to play for, so why not come along and support your local club?

*Terry Rider, Great Shelford FC*

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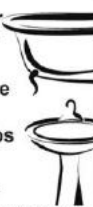


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## WHAT'S ON IN APRIL

CAMBRIDGE ADC THEATRE	
1–5	Amélie: The Musical
8–12	The Watsons (adapted from an unfinished novel by Jane Austen)
15–19	The Glass Menagerie
29–3 May	Pippin
<a href="https://www.adctheatre.com/">https://www.adctheatre.com/</a>	

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY	
5	Medieval Historians in Conversation: Five writers talk about their recent books (Pembroke College)
5	Cambridge Creative Encounters – research presented through poetry and films (All Saints Church)
14	Wild Garden Walk (Botanic Gardens)
30	In Your Own Words: Storytelling Open Mic Zoom conference
<a href="http://Admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson">Admin.cam.ac.uk/whatson</a>	

WANDLEBURY COUNTRY PARK	
5	Easter basket workshop – create a willow basket
7, 8, 10, 14-17	Holiday bushcraft for 5-12 year olds
11	Contemplative walk with a mindful green coach
12-13	Green woodworking weekend
28 (5.00am)	Dawn chorus walk
28 – 2 May	Archaeology dig drop-in
<a href="https://www.cambridgeppf.org/Pages/Category/wandlebury-country-park">https://www.cambridgeppf.org/Pages/Category/wandlebury-country-park</a>	

SAFFRON HALL	
6	London Philharmonic Orchestra
13	Pam Ayres
27	DAD'S Army radio show
<a href="https://www.saffronhall.com/whats-on?">https://www.saffronhall.com/whats-on?</a>	

HOW TO CONTACT GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS

We are pleased to receive articles, letters and notices for community events for consideration. Please send by email (preferably as a Word document), or by post, with contact details, to Judith Wilson, 11 Elms Avenue, Great Shelford CB22 5LN. The copy date is usually the second Friday of the month.

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

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

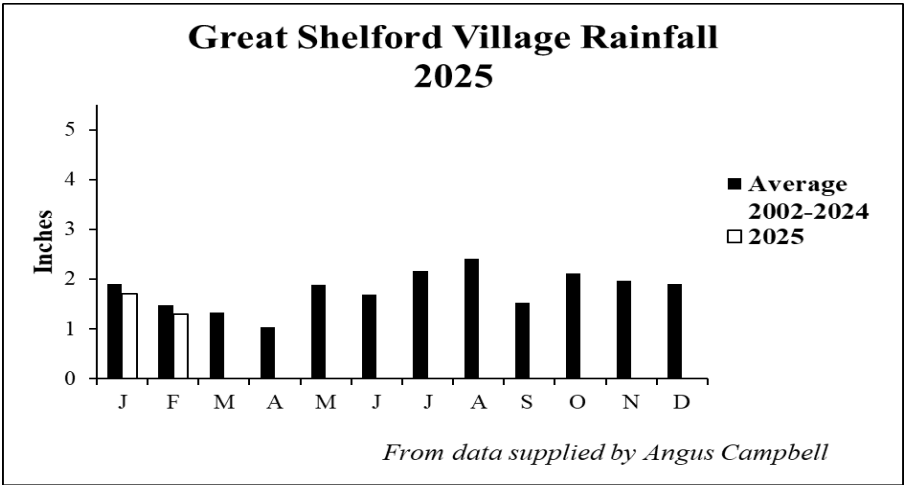
01223 842993    gsvnsubs@gmail.com

Editorial Committee

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

**MAY ISSUE OF THE VILLAGE NEWS**

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



## 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.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	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	<a href="http://www.greatshelfordonline">www.greatshelfordonline</a> 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:	shelfordsupport@googlemail.com	07804 041173
	To book a journey:		07514 542282
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@ssyi.club	07599 024210

**Anna Massie, guitar & voice**

**Sunday 6 April | 3:00pm**

Bitter-sweet, witty and uplifting solo songs from one of folk's foremost guitarists, renowned for her work with Blazin' Fiddles and RANT, and her engaging commentary as a presenter on BBC Radio Scotland's *Travelling Folk*.



**Ivo Neame Quartet**

**Saturday 12 April | 7:45pm**

Classy, modern jazz from some of the finest UK-based jazz instrumentalists led by pianist Ivo Neame, described as 'one of the most interesting and prominent jazz pianists of his generation'.



**Shropshire & Other Lads: A. E. Housman in words & music**

**Sunday 13 April | 5:00pm**

A programme from pianist Ian Buckle interweaving songs by Ireland, Butterworth and Gurney with piano music and readings of Housman's melancholic, wistful poetry. Ian is joined by vocalists Jonathan Gunthorpe and Alex Pratley.



**Eliza Carthy, fiddle & voice**

**Saturday 26 April | 7:45pm**

One of the most recognisable faces in English folk, Eliza Carthy's music effortlessly crosses boundaries of genre and style, influencing a whole generation of young musicians.



**Georgia Mancio, voice & Alan Broadbent, piano**

**Sunday 27 April | 3:00pm**

In a globally acclaimed collaboration spanning 12 years, Georgia and Alan have been described by Jazz Views as one of the most formidable songwriting partnerships of the 21st century; they present songs from their new album, *A Story Left Untold*.

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