

Great Shelford VILLAGE NEWS

EST 1999

JULY 2025

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Frances Richardson's Great Shelford Jigsaw Puzzle



Frances Richardson

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

GREAT SHELFORD PARISH COUNCIL

greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk

SUMMARY FROM THE ADOPTED MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 14 MAY 2025

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr Watson was elected as Chairman and executed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office. Cllr Stanton was elected as Vice Chairman and executed his Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Cllr Watson congratulated County Cllr Fane on his election as County Councillor. It was agreed to thank Greg Price for his service as a Parish Councillor.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCIL MEMBERS

County Cllr Fane advised that he is attending induction briefings for the County Council and discussed his thoughts regarding this term of the County Council. He also discussed the local plan, with reference to local government reorganisation and the role of the mayor and the combined authority.

REVIEW OF COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

The set up and terms of reference for Committees and working groups were reviewed.

Chairs of Committees

Planning	Roberto Ghersemi
Highways	Tim Mann
HR/Employment	Barrie Ashurst
Cemetery & Allotments	Angela Niblett
Finance & General Purposes	Malcolm Watson
Buildings, Grounds and Environment	Malcolm Watson

Chairs of Working Groups

Cambridge Biomedical Campus	Malcolm Watson
Communications	Angela Niblett
Traffic & Transport	John Stanton
Playscape Liaison	John Stanton
Cambridge Growth Company	Malcolm Watson

Representation on other bodies

Better Ways than Busways: Cllr Watson

Data Protection: Clerk

EWB: Cllr Brown

Feast: Cllr Watson

Friends of St Marys: Cllr Stanton

Greater Cambridge Partnership: Cllr Watson

Health Centre, Dentist, Optician & Pharmacy: Cllr B Kettel

Land Acquisition: Buildings & Grounds Committee

Library: Cllr B Kettel

Neighbourhood Plan: Cllr Watson

Great Shelford Village Charity: Cllr Niblett

Police Liaison: Cllr Ashurst

Schools: Cllr Mann

Scouts & Guides: Cllr Ashurst

SSYI: Cllr Stanton

Tree Officer: Vacancy

Twinning Association: Cllr Stanton

Village News: Clerk

OTHER BUSINESS

Bank signatories were reviewed and approved.

The Internal Auditor for 2025/26 was appointed and the Asset Register was approved.

Meeting dates for the coming year were decided.

Policies for risk management, complaints, freedom of information and data protection, media and employment were approved.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Neighbourhood plan: The independent examiner's comments have been received for a 'fact check'. The comments are largely positive.

Highways and Transport: It was agreed that there should be an amended contribution of £28,000 towards the installation of a pedestrian refuge on Cambridge Road near Scotsdales.

Cllr Stanton provided a verbal update on the work being carried out by the Traffic and Transport Infrastructure Working Group, focusing on the meeting with Greater Anglia, who are recruiting for station staff at Great Shelford. He stated that all trains will stop at Cambridge South Station when it opens in early 2026, including the fast trains and that Great Shelford station is not at risk of closure.

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COMMUNITY MATTERS

- a) Our Duke of Edinburgh Award Volunteer Litter Picker gave a presentation about the litter he had collected and the Cllrs thanked him for his hard work.
- b) The request from the Twinning Association to purchase the Vin d'Honneur – cost £285 – was approved.
- c) The Clerk will print posters with a budget of up to £1000, designed by the working group for the Council's stand on Feast Day.

FINANCE MATTERS

The monthly accounts were approved.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS**PARISH COUNCIL COMMENTS (19.05.2025)**

25/01549/HFUL	Surrey Cottage Kings Mill Lane	Part two storey and part single storey front and rear extensions, raising the ridge height with new roof extension.
Application supported subject to a robust traffic management plan for the construction phase and input from the Conservation Officer.		

25/01575/HFUL	8 Red Hill Close	Erection of detached outbuilding in rear garden ancillary to the main dwelling, including one rooflight.
No recommendation but there must be a robust traffic management plan for the construction phase as this is a small cul-de-sac.		

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 JULY

Highways Committee	9 July	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
Planning Committee	14 July	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
Full Council	16 July	7.00pm	Pavilion
Planning Committee	28 July	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.

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

MEMORIAL HALL RENOVATION

We're conducting a community survey to gather your views on the future of the Memorial Hall. The survey will be available soon in both paper form, delivered directly to your letterbox and online via our website. Your input is vital, so please take a few minutes to share your ideas and help shape the hall's future.

CEMETERY EXTENSION PROGRESS UPDATE

The plans for the cemetery extension are steadily moving forward. After considerable groundwork and consultation, the project is now approaching a key milestone. The necessary preparations and surveys are being completed, and the extension proposal will shortly be ready for submission to the local planning authority. This development is an important step in ensuring future provision for our community and we'll continue to keep residents informed as the application progresses.

CLERK VACANCY

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of our Clerk, Nicola, who has served the Council with dedication and professionalism. We thank her sincerely for all her hard work and commitment to the community during her time in the role and we wish her the very best for the future.

The Council is now conducting the process to appoint a new Clerk and will keep the community informed once an appointment has been made.

SHELFORD FESTIVAL AND FEAST

Excitement is building as we look ahead to this year's Feast, a great tradition that brings our community together in celebration. With something for everyone, from family friendly activities and live entertainment to stalls, food and games, it promises to be a fantastic event once again.

Whether you're a long-time resident or new to the village, the event is a wonderful opportunity to connect with neighbours, support local groups and enjoy the spirit of togetherness that makes our community so special. We hope to see you there!

Do get in touch with us should you have any relevant concerns. The Clerk is available to help during office hours; please leave a message outside of these times. Tel. 01223 616622 or email clerk@greatshelfordparishcouncil.gov.uk Councillors have emails too, which can be found on the website. If you do email a Councillor, we ask that you copy in the Clerk.

Malcolm Watson, Chairman

PIPPA HEYLINGS – NEWSLETTER

Our South Cambridgeshire Member of Parliament sends out an online newsletter every couple of weeks, featuring, news of her parliamentary work, details of key projects in which she is involved and listing events she has attended. Anyone interested in receiving their own copy of this newsletter can sign up at <https://www.pippaheydings.org.uk/newsletter>

The edition distributed on 9 June included the following announcement which may be of particular interest to GSVN readers.

£100,000 grant launched to fund better allotments

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Allotment Improvement Grant provides funding to support projects that enhance the productivity, sustainability and social value of allotment spaces. The grant aims to deliver improvements including improving water access, implementing pest control measures and upgrading facilities - such as waterless toilets or accessibility improvements. The grant is open to applications from allotment owners such as Town or Parish Councils and allotment associations in South Cambridgeshire. Up to £10,000 can be applied for and it is encouraged that applicants consider environmentally friendly options when purchasing items for their projects.

Further information including the closing date for applications and who is eligible can be found on the District Council website

<https://tinyurl.com/bdeevdf6>

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The Parish Church of
St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford

At St Mary's we celebrate as Rev Chris Shore is ordained as a priest. He has been working with us as a deacon for the last year and was ordained on 28 June 2025.

Rev Chris writes for us: The first time I wrote a piece for the Village News was exactly one year ago. I had not long written my final essay and finished my ministerial training at Ridley Hall in Cambridge, been ordained as a deacon by Bishop Dagmar in Ely Cathedral and was very much the 'new boy' in the Parish of St Mary the Virgin, Great Shelford. So here we are again, one year on, and I've just been back to the cathedral to be ordained priest. Understandably, many might be wondering why Bishop Dagmar didn't finish the job first time round! The office of deacon, as I wrote last year, is that of a servant, an assistant and is still a 'training' position. My job for the past year has been to help Reverend Julie as best I can with all her duties in the parish, to get to know the church and as much of the village as I can, to pitch in and serve anywhere I could. I've particularly enjoyed spending quite a lot of time in the school helping with Collective Worship and some of the village children now recognise me when I'm out and about – I can only hope that is sign of some kind of positive impact! Becoming a part, however small, of the life of a village like Great Shelford has been a huge privilege – it really is a lovely place to work. So, what of the next year? To be ordained priest is to accept a leadership role in the church. I will still be an Assistant Curate in Reverend Julie's team and still have a lot to learn, but will be taking on a greater responsibility for planning and leading our worship and for helping Reverend Julie shape the future of the church in the community. It's a responsibility and a privilege which I don't take lightly. The first year has been full of new experiences, new people and new relationships. I am looking forward immensely to the next year and to sharing it with all of you.

Blessings to you all for a happy and restful summer, Rev Chris

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



Evensong Starts Again
27 July 5pm St Mary's Church

This month we are reintroducing a monthly Evensong. We have had requests to do this from both church and village. We use the ancient words of the Book of Common Prayer with hymns and music. It is quietly refreshing.

St. Mary the Virgin Church is open daily for prayer from 9am–4.30pm.

Thursday 3 July, and Thursdays July 10, 17 and 24

8.30am: Morning Prayer at St Mary's. A half hour service of prayer for the church, the village and the world. You are welcome to join us.

Sunday 6 July Third after Trinity

8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer.

10am: sung Parish Communion There is also a Sunday Club for children which meets in the Community Room for activities during part of the service and then rejoins the church service for Communion.

Monday morning 7 July and Monday mornings July 14, 21 and 28

8.30am: Morning Prayer at St Mary's A half hour service of prayer for the church, the village and the world. You are welcome to join us.

Monday afternoons July 14, 21 and 28

Pilgrim Group meet at The Vicarage at 2pm. We are working our way through a study course on Romans from the Bible Society. There is a great video to watch. Please join us for any session. Each will be accessible even if you will miss some of the sessions in the series.

Thursday 10 July

8.30am: At our Morning Prayer Service we will be remembering those who will be making decisions at the **General Synod of the Church of England 11–15 July.**

Friday 11 July

Feast Week Concert. University Gospel Choir 7 – 8.30 pm. Tickets can be purchased online through Shelford Festival & Feast 2025, cost £10 (+ booking fee); children free, or bought from local shops.

Sunday 13 July Fourth after Trinity

8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer.

10am: Family and Parish Communion. The theme of the service is 'Children of friendship' and we are retelling the story of the Good Samaritan. Children and young people take part in the service along with their families and friends from 0-90+. Please join us.

Thursday 17 July	
	10.30am: The St Mary's team hold a Service of Holy Communion at the Cambridgeshire Care Home.
Sunday 20 July Fifth after Trinity	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: sung Parish Communion. There is also a Sunday Club for children which meets in the Community Room for activities during part of the service and then rejoins the church service for Communion.
Tuesday 22 July	
	9.30am: School Leaver Service
Wednesday 23 July	
	7 pm: Quiet Time in Church. If you would like to take time working on the inner life, you will enjoy this. It is a guided space to be. We use tools for prayer from different traditions. Do come to find out more.
Sunday 27 July Fifth after Trinity	
	8am: Holy Communion using the Book of Common Prayer. 10am: sung Parish Communion. There is also a Sunday Club for children which meets in the Community Room for activities during part of the service and then rejoins the church service for Communion.
Sunday 27 July Open Space	
	The Free Church will be hosting this month's Open Space behind Cara Café at 3pm. This is a joint venture for families and children, shared between St Mary's and Great Shelford Free Church. There are always lots of activities and time to explore faith together.
Sunday 27 July Evensong	
	5pm: Evensong Begins. This is a service of music and prayer using the Book of Common Prayer. It will be quietly refreshing.

In addition to the normal Sunday services at 8am and 10am, **there is a zoom service each Sunday evening at 6.30pm.** These Zoom Services give space to pause at the end of the weekend to prepare for the week ahead. **The zoom link is on the Pew Sheet which is also on the website.**

Thought for the month:

Laugh and the world laughs with you;
Weep and you weep alone. *Ella Wheeler Wilcox 1855-1919*

For more information about Great Shelford Parish Church

Vicar: Revd Dr Julie Norris Revjulienorris@gmail.com
Parish Administrator: David Wilding wildingdavid1@gmail.com

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SHELFORD SCHOOL

Following a late Easter holiday the summer term began with a flurry – quite literally for the Reception class children.

Each year the school purchases some ‘living eggs’ to incubate. The children watch the chicks hatch, feed, grow in size and begin to develop wing feathers until finally they are able to escape the special tray used when the whole class sits to observe them and talk about them. At which point they move on to good homes elsewhere.



The discussions that took place during one such session covered a wide range of curriculum areas – e.g. maths, science, English (vocabulary) and Personal, Social, Health and Economics (PSHE). There was a conversation about how the chicks might feel frightened or anxious and how the children could help them (e.g. sitting quietly and still).

At the other end of the school, Year 6 embarked on their SATS tests. The process went smoothly, aided not only by the careful organisation but by the ‘second breakfast’ treats provided to maintain energy levels.

Trips have taken place for other year groups to the Botanic Gardens, the Centre for Computing History and Shepreth Wildlife Park.

What a range of interesting activities and the remaining few weeks of term look just as stimulating.

Polly Stanton, Foundation Governor

CHARITY PLANT SALE PROFIT

Thank you to all readers of The News who supported The Global Natural Healthcare Trust's charity plant sale in June.

Total sales on the day were an incredible £960.

We're so grateful to Nikki and Drew Wilkinson for generously hosting the stall outside The Shelford Deli.

SHELFORD TWINNING ASSOCIATION

VISIT TO VERNEUIL EN HALATTE 24-27 MAY 2025

We have been joining the twinning visit since 2019 and every year we really look forward to our time with our French friends. We also really enjoy spending time with our Shelford twinning friends, old and new. The children had a great time chatting and playing on the bus and during our time there. This year our French family was hosting a friend/exchange student from Germany and it was lovely to meet her too.

On the Monday we had lovely visits organised by the French committee to Chantilly castle, a beautiful place full of amazing art and history with an equally beautiful garden and horses. We also enjoyed a very interesting guided tour of Verneuil-en-Halatte on Tuesday morning. It is so lovely that they have a red telephone box donated by Shelford in their main square and a little bridge that symbolise the friendship joining our villages.

Chiara Airoidi



Family and friends

This is the fourth time I have gone with the twinning to Verneuil and it never disappoints. The highlight of the trip for me is always the day out with our French families and the party we have later that day. The last two years we have gone to Asterix theme park and it was so much fun! The twinning party is also always really good fun because we get free time with all the kids – English and French – and we always play games together and have a great time. Overall, I think the twinning is a great experience and I really would recommend it to anyone since it's an experience you will remember for the rest of your life and you pick up some French along the way!

Sara Berri

200 YEARS OF FREE CHURCH WORSHIP IN SHELFORD

'Be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.' Matthew 28:20b

I wonder who is the oldest inhabitant of our village? How many centenarians do we have? It is always interesting to talk to these older inhabitants and hear their memories of how life was lived in their younger days and recognise the vast changes that have taken place during that time – and how much more quickly the pace of change happens that we have to deal with today.

For some of us 100 years seems such a long time, but this year Great Shelford Free Church are celebrating 200 years since the foundation of a Baptist Church community in our village. The building we currently meet in has only stood on the High Street since 1856 (not quite 170 years), but our records show the church was officially formed in 1825, under the ministry of Reverend John Heafford, from a regular congregation of non-conformists who had already been meeting for some years in a building provided for worship by the Nutter family of Kings Mill Lane, which was built on their own land.

This original meeting place was 'a gable-ended, whitewashed building, having the resemblance of a barn and was set in the midst of an extensive orchard.' It was here the founding congregation of the established 'Free' Church met and worshipped God together and children of the poor were able to receive some basic education as well as instruction in the faith through a 'Sabbath School'.

As a church we celebrate all that has gone before and the men and women who worked tirelessly to promote Christian faith in this village and surrounding areas, for their commitment and perseverance in establishing a Free Church and for the work done to alleviate the situation of the poor in the community. We trust that this is a work we continue to do as we seek to demonstrate God's love to those we live and worship amongst, recognising God's promise to be with us, throughout all of time.

We pray that you also will recognise God's hand at work in your life in the days ahead and perhaps you might join us one Sunday morning to worship Him alongside us at GSFC. You will be made most welcome!

*Diana Parr
Pastor*



EVENTS

SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Services at 10.30am: Everyone welcome.

Café Church on Sunday 20 July at 10.30am: Informal family service where we are seated around tables with refreshments served during our time together.

WEEKDAY EVENTS

Community Café every Monday: 10am–12noon. Come join us for tea/coffee and homemade cake. Sessions will run throughout July. For any further information, please email administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk or phone 01223 842181.

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, email administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk. Please note that our penultimate session before the summer holidays will be in the church building on 16 July. Our final session on 23 July will be a trail at Great Shelford Recreation Ground.

Tiny Toes Baby Group every Wednesday afternoon: 1.30–3pm. This group is for babies under a year, with their parent or carer, term time only. To book a place, please mail administrator@shelfordfreechurch.org.uk. Our final session prior to the summer holidays will be on 23 July.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE:

I spy a community referendum on the horizon...



Last month, I broke the good news that the independent examiner of the Stapleford and Great Shelford Neighbourhood Plan (NP) had recommended that it could proceed to community referendum. The Local Planning Authority (SCDC) subsequently agreed the same and, in

early June, so did Stapleford Parish Council. Great Shelford Parish Council will cast its vote at its full council meeting in mid-June.

Whilst not wanting to pre-empt the outcome of the latter, the steering group must crack on with preparing the 'referendum version' of the Plan to be sure that we are able to hit the deadline for submitting it.

The examiner's report on our Plan is available to read at

<https://tinyurl.com/35tnm7r2>

I particularly like his comments that 'The Plan is very well organised and presented. It has been prepared with much attention to detail and local pride,' and that '...the ways in which the parish councils engaged the community and statutory bodies was extremely thorough and detailed.'

It is par for the course for the examiner to recommend modifications to ensure that a NP meets the legal conditions required of it. In our case, most modifications are relatively minor and reflect the examiner's preference for policies to be worded in a particular way. In some instances, the examiner moved certain policy wording into the supporting text because he felt it was inessential to the application of the policy or that it was overly prescriptive. The most significant modification was the deletion of the views policy because the examiner considered that our general countryside views overlap with broader protection afforded by the green belt. You may recall that I have over the past few months repeatedly raised this as a risk because the examiner has form in this respect (for example, he did the same thing to Fulbourn's NP).

We shot for the moon and fell just a teensy bit short. Whilst I regret the loss of this one policy, I want to be very clear that it should not in any way overshadow everything else that we have achieved in an ambitious and expansive NP. Ultimately, we still have 20 new planning policies which will work together to influence and protect future development of our neighbourhood area. All NPs need updating over time and it is perfectly possible that we will revisit our views policy in a future iteration.

A community referendum is likely to take place in the first week of September, thereby avoiding the long summer holiday. All registered voters in our parishes can take part and I strongly urge you to do so. It will require only one tick in a box, either in person or by post. This is your chance to say 'yes': yes to the future development of Stapleford and Great Shelford being done with us and for us, not to us. A Neighbourhood Plan is the single strongest way for communities to influence planning decisions.

Don't let this opportunity pass us by.

Jenny Flynn

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

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JUNE & JULY

The Jeremiahs

Saturday 14 June | 7:30pm

One of the freshest bands in Irish traditional music, The Jeremiahs are applauded for their musicianship & vocal work that is '*nothing short of astounding*' (Live Ireland).

Misha Mullov-Abbado Group

Friday 4 July | 7:30pm

A stellar sextet made up of some of the finest multi-award winning musicians on the London jazz scene, led by BBC New Generation bassist Misha Mullov-Abbado.

SUMMER COURTYARD CONCERTS 2025

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James Taylor Quartet

Friday 6 June | 7:30pm

Returning to the Granary following their knockout concert in 2024, the iconic JTQ set the standard for the coolest sounds in funky acid jazz.

Breabach

Saturday 21 June | 7:30pm

Performing for over two decades, Breabach remain securely ranked amongst Scotland's most skilled and imaginative contemporary folk acts.

Claire Martin celebrates the Divas

Friday 11 July | 7:30pm

Multi-award winning jazz vocalist and BBC Radio presenter Claire Martin OBE, is joined by pianist Rob Barron and bassist Jeremy Brown, for a celebration of some of the greatest jazz vocalists of the 20th century.



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GET READY, GO DIGITAL, STAY CONNECTED



Is your landline ready?

Landlines are changing. By January 2027*, traditional landlines will be upgraded with digital technology. This national upgrade is known as the **Digital Switchover** and will mean that landline calls will be made over the internet instead of the old telephone network.

Telephone providers are responsible for switching customers to the upgraded service, but everyone is encouraged to check if and how the change will affect them, especially those who rely on their landline or use a telecare device.

For many, the change will be simple. All you will have to do is plug your landline phone into a broadband router instead of a traditional phone socket. But for others, especially those who rely on their landline for care alarms, medical devices, or staying in touch, it's important to understand what the change means and what action they need to take in order to stay connected.

Connecting Cambridgeshire is running the *Get Ready, Go Digital, Stay Connected* campaign to help local residents prepare for and feel confident about, the change.

The switchover will mainly affect

- People without **an internet connection** at home
- Those who **rely on a traditional landline** not already upgraded to a digital phone service
- Users of telecare and personal alarm systems, e.g. fall monitors or lifelines.

Three things to do today

1. Contact your phone provider to find out if the change affects you.
2. Need support? Ask a trusted friend or family member to help.
3. Use a personal or fall alarm? Contact your provider to ensure it will still work with the new system.

Look out for scams

The switchover doesn't require upfront payments. If you get a suspicious call, hang up and contact your phone provider using the official number from a recent bill.

Support each other

Do you know someone who might need help? A quick conversation or offer to help them call their phone provider could make a big difference.

No one should be left behind. Whether it's you, a neighbour or a relative, now is the time to ask the question: *Is your landline ready?*

For more information, scan the QR code or visit:

www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/digitalswitchover



* Deadline confirmed by Openreach at time of publication.



SHELFORD COUNTRY MARKET

Time moves on so quickly and we are now into the second half of the year with a thriving market. Over the last couple of weeks we have tried to extend the café area. At a glance into the Memorial Hall one might ask the question – a market with a café or a café with market stalls? Do keep coming: there is a real friendly buzz about the place and we have plenty to offer, whether it is a loaf of bread or a special gift for a friend or even for yourself. You will find fresh home baking and preserves, hand picked garden flowers, plants and freshly picked fruit and vegetables when in season and so much more in the Craft Section. Our Facebook page (Great Shelford Country Market) gives a good insight into the extensive range of our products which are all home-made, home grown or hand crafted.

Our producers are always pleased to talk to you. Allow yourself time for a good browse and remember, the Country Market doesn't close for a summer holiday. You'll find us in the Memorial Hall from 9–11.30am every Wednesday morning.

Our regular customers will be aware that we have recently welcomed some new growers and craft producers. But new cooks are needed. If you enjoy baking, why not come and find out more? As our popular food lines sell out quickly advance ordering is most helpful whether it be a jar of honey or a more special cake. It just needs a phone call to 01223 843946 or email to dorothy@woodlandsroad.plus.com and come along to the July markets.

Dorothy Doel

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LIBRARY NEWS

Summer is here – let the Summer Reading Challenge begin!

This year's theme is **Story Garden** – adventures in nature and the great outdoors.

Developed by The Reading Agency, the annual challenge is for pre-school and primary school aged children of all reading abilities. It's free to take part. Children should:

- sign up at the library to receive a collector's folder and bookmark
- read six library books of their choice during the holidays
- collect a sticker for each book read

On finishing they'll receive a certificate and medal (under-threes receive a special sticker medal).

Sign up from Saturday 5 July. Once the holidays start, collect stickers any time the library is open.

Events during July in support of the Summer Reading Challenge

Fairy Garden: Thursday 24 July 2–3.30pm. Come and make a fairy garden. Suitable for ages 5–10. £2 per family.

Song of Trees: Wednesday 30 July 2–3pm. A musical event for children. Suitable for ages 5–10. £2 per family.

For these events please pre-book in the library or via
Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Adults

We hope you'll keep reading all summer too! Choose from our shelves, or travel light on holiday by downloading free eBooks, eAudiobooks, eMagazines and eNewspapers onto your device. For details, see our website or ask our staff.

Engage Talk: Wednesday 23 July, 2–4pm. Author Christina Koning discusses writing the Blind Detective series. A donation of £2 is appreciated. Please stay for a drink after the talk. Please pre-book in the library or via *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

Opening hours: See page 26.

Contact details: Telephone: 0345 045 5225

Email: *Cambourne.referral@cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

Web: *www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk*

Mel Abbiss – Community Librarian

Would you like to be a Great Shelford Library Volunteer?

We are looking for volunteers who could commit to a maximum of four hours per month. The role would include shelving and tidying bookshelves, finding books for customer orders and generally supporting the librarian. It's a great way to meet new people.

If interested, please call into the library for more information.



Friends of Great Shelford Library



On Sunday 6 July

We will be running the book stall at Shelford Feast.

PLEASE donate any good quality books for adults or children by bringing them to the big marqu e on Shelford recreation ground on Feast morning.

If you are not able to attend, contact Sarah Driver - sarahjd1959@gmail.com - who will arrange for their collection.

Thank you!



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DIARY, JULY 2025

Date	Event	Time	Place
6	Feast Sunday	12noon	Recreation ground
9	British Cactus & Succulent Society (p38)	7.30pm	Memorial Hall
19	Cricket Match (p46)	1pm	Recreation ground
23	Engage talk (p23)	2pm	Library
28	History Walk (p29)	7pm	St Mary's Church

Shelford Feast 5-12 July

Country Market 9–11.30am, Memorial Hall, every Wednesday.

	BIN COLLECTIONS Black bins Tuesday 8, 22 July Blue bins and green bins Tuesday 1, 15, 29 July
	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 35 Hinton Way. Open Monday to Saturday 7am–8pm, Sunday 9am–6pm.
	LIBRARY Monday 3–7pm, Tuesday 10am–1pm and 2–5pm, Wednesday 10am–1pm, Thursday closed Friday 10am–1pm and 2–6pm, Saturday 10am–1pm NB The library is closed on bank holidays.

AUGUST ISSUE OF THE *VILLAGE NEWS*

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

SHELFORD JIGSAW PUZZLE

Local artist Frances Richardson has had one of her most prominent works, the mural on the station shelter, reproduced as a jigsaw puzzle design.

Galileo Publishers, also locally based, already produce many puzzles with a Cambridge theme, including the Fitzwilliam Museum selection. Their books include the recently produced '*Firestarter*' featured in the June edition of GSVN as well as the forthcoming republication of '*A Record of Shelford Parva*'.


To buy a copy of Frances' puzzle you need go no further than Scotsdale's where it is already on sale.

CAMBRIDGE FLOWER CLUB 2025 PROGRAMME

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

Annual subscription £45, visitors £10 each meeting

Forthcoming events	
July 17	Kate Bass, NAFAS Demonstrator: "Summer Flower Festival"
August 21	OPEN MEETING: National NAFAS Demonstration 7.15pm Kathy Stangaard 'Back to the Future' Visitors £20, Members £15 Tickets from Alison Drake – see below 6.15pm start with finger buffet, drink, stalls and raffle.
Further information from co-chairs: Alison Drake – 01223 840117; drakealisonn@gmail.com Freda Orgee - 01223 891464; fredaorgee@gmail.com	



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JULY'S HISTORY WALK

The River, the Church and the Mill

A walk around the heart of the old village

Monday 28 July at 7pm (note the earlier time).



Meet at St Mary's Church.

The walk will last up to 90 minutes.

There will be a charge of £3 for the walk.

All welcome, no need to book.

For further details contact Helen Harwood tel. 840393

e-mail helen_harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk

THE SHELFORDS WI

On 5 June our speakers were Jacqueline Allen and Helen Fogerty. The title of their talk was 'Our Gambian Adventure'.

Jacqui and Helen are members of Hardwick WI; they went to a talk given by a representative of the Lisa Kent Trust on their work in The Gambia. This inspired Jacqui and Helen to want to see for themselves so in December 2023 they went. Much preparation and fundraising were needed beforehand. Jacqui, a nurse, was given a month's leave but Helen, an administrator, had to leave her job. Fundraising included Helen doing a bike ride from Hardwick to Brussels and Jacqui shaving off her long hair.

The Gambia is the smallest country in continental Africa, bordered by Senegal with a narrow Atlantic Coastline. Although classed as a good destination for a holiday with beaches, wildlife and culture, it is very poor and the infant mortality rate is very high. Jacqui and Helen arrived to be hit by the heat and to experience the lack of infrastructure - very few proper



roads and little electricity, running water or sanitation. Their living quarters had a flushing toilet that worked sometimes and beds, but no electricity.

The Gambian diet revolves around rice, oil and small amounts of meat. The whole animal/fish is eaten; this led to some interesting meals and they were told to keep away from the green fish balls!!. Vegetables are scarce. fruit, including bananas, coconuts and watermelons is plentiful but can be costly.

90% of the population is Muslim and 10% Christian. Jacqui and Helen did go to some church services and were taken to the front as honoured guests – the services could be anything between two to four hours long.

The first place they helped at was the Lisa Kent Trust Friendship Nursery School – school is not free, but the Trust helps those who cannot pay. They next went to the Lisa Kent Trust Meridian School which is for children from 3–18. The young ones go to classes in the morning; the older ones in the afternoon. The children actually stay all day at the school, with the younger ones playing in the afternoon and the older ones studying on their own in the morning. Families pay for schooling and for the lunchtime food. Whilst there, Jacqui did some science teaching and Physical Education (PE) lessons. Helen helped in the office.

Jacqui also spent time working at a Health Centre – part of her role was to assess people for malaria and then treat them. Medication is not free. Jacqui is planning on going back later this year to teach First Aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

Jacqui and Helen could have come away with a very negative view of The Gambia – poverty and the lack of things we take for granted but their overall impression was of the friendliness of the people. They also admired peoples colourful clothing and brought some bags made from similar cloth to show us (see photo above). They also brought some ‘wonjo’ juice for us to try made from hibiscus flowers.

Please visit lisakenttrust.org to see the work done by the Lisa Kent Trust.

Our July Meeting is our Summer Outing – this year it is to Neil Callan’s Garden in Somersham. Neil will be returning to us on 6 November to give a talk on The History of the English Silver Spoon. It might sound a dry subject but from the taster I heard at a Speaker’s Showcase, Neil’s talk on the subject is both informative and funny.

Our August Meeting is our Garden Party and we return to the Community Room at St Mary’s Church on 4 September when Fiona Chesterton will give a talk on ‘Secrets never to be told’.

Our programme is also on our website: <https://theshelfordswi.wordpress.com>

Sue Tombs The Shelfords WI Vice President

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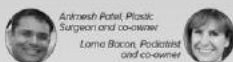
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SHELFORD SUPPORT GROUP SUMMER BREAK DATE CORRECTION

In the June edition of GSVN we said that the summer break would run from June 23 to July 7. This was incorrect!

The actual dates of the shutdown are June 23 to July 13 inclusive.

Shelford Support Group apologises for this mistake and for any confusion or inconvenience arising.

GUIDED BUSWAY

PUBLIC INQUIRY ANNOUNCED FOR CAMBRIDGE SOUTH EAST TRANSPORT SCHEME BUSWAY

The Department for Transport (DfT) has announced there will be a public inquiry for the busway. The date has not been announced but it is likely to be held in the winter. Following the letter of objection that our solicitors submitted to the Secretary of State, we have appointed a landscape expert and a transport consultant and we are now preparing the detailed Statement of Case for the deadline of 15 July. This sets out in detail the basis of our case and will include all the documents upon which our evidence is based.

For those of you who have objected you will have received a letter from the DfT and if you do not want to appear at the inquiry we would like you to respond (if you haven't already) requesting that Better Ways for Busways (BW4B) represents you at the public inquiry. This adds strength to our position. The exception to this is if you have made objections that are different to those shared by BW4B, and in that case you need to let the DfT know and submit a Statement of Case by 15 July.

We are actively fundraising for this stage and are grateful for the £38k already donated with a target of £50k. To support the appeal, visit <https://app.sheepcrm.com/cambridgeppf/appeals> and go down the page to 'Save South East Cambridge Countryside'.

Just to mention that the Cambridge to Cambourne Busway Inquiry which is planned to bisect the 100 year old Coton Orchard, starts on 15 September, at the Belfry Hotel at Cambourne and will last about three weeks. For more information visit the 'Better Ways For Busways' website at <https://www.bw4b.org/>

Howard Kettel

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2G3S

I hope some of you came along to Stapleford Village Weekend to watch the beautiful film ‘Wilding’. An inspiring use of unproductive farmland.

EVENTS COMING UP

Dr Bike continues to hold its volunteer-run weekly bike repair sessions at the Old Slaughterhouse in Stapleford, 3–5.30pm every Tuesday. Get your bike ready for cycling over the summer. 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 where you can also book a time, though this is not essential. The group are considering providing one or two sessions at other times and maybe a ‘Back To School’ session at the end of the summer holidays.

Meet our MP – EcoShepreth have arranged a meeting with Pippa Heylings to ask questions about her views and actions on housing, energy, environment, biodiversity, and so on. A number of local green groups including ourselves have been involved and if you’d like to come you can get tickets on Eventbrite, visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk> then search for ‘Mass Lobby’ and select location as Foxton. The meeting is at Foxton Village Hall, 1–4pm on Saturday 5 July. Also listed below that event on Eventbrite is the Mass Lobby of MPs in London arranged by the Climate Coalition, on 9 July, which anyone can attend.

If you’re interested in meeting some of us, we have regular **planning meetings**. The next two are 16 July and 27 August. Email us at the address below for more details. We will be planning conversation evenings for the autumn and winter months as well as arranging our other regular activities.

Our next **Book Group** meeting is on Tuesday 19 August, featuring a pair of books, ‘Life after Capitalism’ and ‘Prosperity without Growth’ by Tim Jackson. Members meet in the Three Horseshoes in Stapleford, come along if you are curious about how people can thrive without relentless growth.

Repair Cafés – if you have items that have broken, don’t throw them away but wait until there is a repair café. We have two planned, one in Great Shelford Free Church on 20 September and one in Sawston in November.

Housing developments and nature – you may have read about the Government’s proposal to allow smaller developers (fewer than 10 houses) to be exempted from the requirement that they provide for biodiversity to replace that lost by the building, which they are now consulting on. It is a cumbersome process, but rather than abolishing it perhaps the scheme needs amending for small developers? Cambridge Past Present and Future (CPFF)

have appealed for people to fill in the consultation form, deadline 24 July. The following extract is from a recent CPPF newsletter which can be found at <https://cambridgeppf.org/plans-for-tall-buildings-in-cambridge/>

'In 2024 the government introduced the concept of Biodiversity Net Gain to the planning system. This means that all developments should result in a 10% increase in biodiversity. This is achieved by creating new habitats to replace those that are lost through development. The new habitats can be on the development site or located elsewhere. The intention is that development is made more sustainable and contributes positively – rather than negatively as it has in the past.

Unfortunately, the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) process that was devised is very complicated and therefore costly to developers, especially small developers because the cost is disproportionate to the size of the development. It is clear the process should be reformed for small developments so that it is much simpler and proportionate.

The government has launched a consultation on this – search for “gov.uk consultations biodiversity net gain small developments” for details and to have your say.

Ministers have already indicated that they would like to scrap the BNG scheme altogether for small developments that are less than 10 houses. If they do, then it will be a step backwards for nature friendly development – and we will be back to a situation where development is harming nature.

Given that we have a lot of development in Cambridge, that would not be a good thing for our city.

Instead of scrapping it, we would like to see the current BNG system suspended for small developments whilst a new scheme is put in place'.

Information 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

SCREAMING DEVIL BIRDS



If you stand on the corner of Woollards Lane on a hot July evening, you'll hear and see the Screaming Devil Birds. They race around the rooftops at high speed, tunnelling between the gaps in houses, and rising into the ether. They are swifts. They spend three months of summer here, then fly away south to Africa, on a journey that passes through Mauritania, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia and Malawi, Mozambique, the Congo, Cameroon and Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Mali. Pretty impressive, huh?

May 14 is a red letter day in my calendar. It's the day when, most often, our Shelford swifts arrive back. I look up, and suddenly they're there, languidly flying high in the sky. With open beaks they Hoover up the insects on which they feed. They are with us for June and July and then, on August 4, I will suddenly notice the silence, an emptiness in the sky. They have quietly slipped away and I'll have to wait another year to see them.

I love to watch them flying. They are birds pared to the minimum – two long scythe-like wings, a small round head and a short tail. They move those wings very, very fast, using them to bank and turn. For centuries swifts nested in holes and crevices in trees. But we humans turned woods to our own use, harvesting trees as timber. Thereafter woodland trees were too young to have the holes and crevices they needed, and so the birds moved into buildings. These days they nest under the eaves of houses, or in a gap between the tiles. They make a rudimentary nest, catching floating feathers to line it and lay two or three eggs. The chicks grow quickly on their diet of insects and soon they launch into the air. They will not touch down again until they themselves breed: swifts eat, sleep and mate on the wing, a life

lived almost entirely in the air. It's hard not to admire them – so elegant, a masterpiece of design, speed and manoeuvrability.

Here in Shelford, we've had a bit of swift jeopardy this year: our Woollards Lane swifts returned to find their traditional nesting spot occupied, and defended, by a very feisty starling. It's hard not to resent that starling, but there's a 'Red List' of species – birds considered at risk of extinction – and both swifts and starlings are on it. So, which of them has the greater need?

Swifts are a welcome summer sight these days, so why were they called Devil Birds? Well, the enthusiasm many of us feel for wildlife is a modern phenomenon. Historically humans saw wildlife as a threat, competing for food resources, which were often in short supply. Vermin was the term applied to anything that threatened crops. Crows, rooks and jackdaws were singled out for annihilation (though the numbers we see round the village today suggest they weren't very successful!), while mice, rats, hedgehogs, polecats, foxes, badgers, otters and even kingfishers were all lumped under that same heading of vermin. The prospect of starvation following bad harvests only finally receded in the seventeenth century. But it wasn't all about food security. People were superstitious and hated the unexplained, the out of the ordinary. Any species that spooked people was regarded as an agent of the devil. Black cats had a bad time of it and so did bats and owls. Swifts – with all that screaming – were the Devil's birds. And so, we humans exercised a casual brutality towards wildlife, much as cats do today. People shot things because they could – the rarer the better—or took birds' eggs.

We live in changed times. Most of us have some affection for wildlife, but only when it suits us. Now we compete with wildlife for space as much as for food and humans are winning that battle. Our farms are deserts for most wildlife and all the insects on them are sprayed to oblivion. All those gaps in ramshackle buildings that swifts relied on have been filled in: ours is a very tidy world and leaves little space for wildlife. So, swifts, like so many other species, have been having a hard time of it.

But they are still here. And if you go out and look up, you will still see them flying high in the sky. And if you sit outside the Square of a summer evening, with a glass of wine or beer, you'll hear the Devil Birds screaming – the sound of summer.

CamSwift

CamSwift is a new group working for swifts and house martins in the Shelfords, Stapleford and Sawston. We are currently trying to assess how many swifts and house martins we have in and around our three villages.

We'd like to ask for your help. If you know of a swift or martin nest, we'd love to hear from you. If you see birds repeatedly flying up to your eaves – even if they don't land – we'd like to hear about that too. Or if you see large groups of these birds, we'd like to know about that as well.

If you are interested in trying to encourage swifts, you can put up a nesting box, or fit swift bricks. For house martins you can put up nest cups. We can advise on what to buy, how to fit them and the best places to fit them, so please contact us.

Currently we are seeking to raise funds, and we hope to be able to purchase some nesting boxes to be placed around the villages.

For more information, or to report your sightings, please contact Helen Harwood, email helen_harwood_uk@yahoo.co.uk or ring 01223 840393.

BRITISH CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY

Cambridge & District Branch

At our next meeting on Wednesday 9 July at 7.30pm in Great Shelford Memorial Hall we welcome Gerry Blacoe, Chairman of Spalding Branch who will give an interesting talk and presentation on the Flora and Fauna he discovered in New Zealand on a recent visit.

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

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TENNIS CLUB

GSTC Member of the Month for July is our new ladies' captain Mel Boyle. Mel kindly took time out of a coaching session for Q&A with GSVN.

Q How did you get this job?

MB: I've been at the club many years now, and I think we've got very strong and deep ladies' teams, so when the chairperson, Angharad asked me to consider it I was really happy to take it on.

Q How's the season going?

MB: Really well. The first team has had four wins so far, eight points, so we're on course probably to finish in the top third of Cambs Division One. The other teams are generally about halfway in their divisions.

Q How many ladies teams are there?

MB: We currently have six teams at all levels. I think team six is a really good one for women who've played some tennis and really want to get into playing matches. So I'd encourage women to come and play. We had some good warm-up practice sessions ahead of the matches starting and everybody said actually how much they enjoyed the teams coming together to practise, so I think we'd like to do more of that.

Q How can a village club sustain so many teams?

MB: I know other village clubs that can only scrape together one or two teams. But I think it's down to the coach, Matt Sanders being such a supporter of women's tennis. He's so good at bringing women into the club and does a lot of coaching on the women's side. I've been at quite a lot of different clubs and I think the women's game is so well supported here.

Q What would you say to women who are thinking of playing?

MB: Come down and join the social sessions (Weds 7pm and Saturday 4.30pm). I think that's a really good way of meeting people and getting going. Then there are coaching sessions run by our fantastic coaches at lots of different levels. That's a really good way of playing with others and improving.

Q One more thing?

MB: Let me just say thank you to my ladies' team captains who are all doing a fantastic job.



Stephen Chittenden

2G3S CYCLE RIDE AND PICNIC

Wednesday 20 August

Meet at Stapleford Pavilion at 10am

Pump up your tyres, pack your flask and your favourite sandwiches and join 2G3S for a trundle to picnic at Haslingfield Meadow, near the Methodist Church.

We'll meet at Stapleford Pavilion at 10am and ride together, pausing at Mohak café in Haslingfield for emergency provisions. Then it'll be back to Stapleford – total distance about 15 miles.

The route contains a mix of quiet roads and traffic-free trails, bumpy and smooth. Families are welcome, so long as children are accompanied by a responsible adult.

Please email Yasmin to book in advance: greener@sawston.org

ARTHUR RANK HOSPICE CHARITY COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

Visit Cambridge Colleges at Bridge the Gap

Bridge the Gap, a Cambridge community walk, is returning on Sunday 14 September for its special 25th year. Registrations are now open! Join supporters for a walk on a brand new route featuring a selection of colleges – with access to many college gardens which are usually closed to the public, all whilst raising funds for Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and Romsey Mill. **Sign up at** arhc.org.uk/BTG and don't forget that three under 16's can walk for free with every paying adult.

Is your dog up for the Lead On challenge?

Join Arthur Rank Hospice Charity for the return of 'Lead On' - a dog walking challenge - this September. Commit to walking your dog for 3km a day, or aim to complete 90km over the entire month. Every step you take helps provide crucial hospice services and care for those who need it most in your community. As a thank you for your efforts, any participant who raises £30 or more will receive a special 'Team Arthur' dog bandana for their furry friend. Not only will your dog look adorable in it, but you'll also help raise awareness of the Charity as you walk. So, grab your lead and sign up for 'Lead On' this September. Let's make this month one to remember while having a tail-wagging good time!

For more information visit arhc.org.uk/leadon **or telephone 01223 675888.**

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FOOTBALL CLUB



Seasoned followers of our club will definitely be aware and regular readers of the parish newsletter will hopefully be aware, that Great Shelford FC are pretty successful! Given the village is continually growing and the season is now over I thought it opportune to give a short history of the club.

The club was founded in 1912 and has played at Woollards Lane in the village since 1920. The point at which the club were destined to become arguably the most successful in the history of the Cambridgeshire Football League goes back to the late 1960's and early 70's. Ex Cambridge United player, Alan Moore, was recruited as manager and was then followed into the post by Tom Higgins. After playing for the club as a youngster Tom moved on to play higher, before returning later to manage the first team. During that period, the team were promoted to the Cambs Premier Division and have remained there to this day – the only team to do so during that period.

After narrowly missing out on the title in 1974 they became Premier League champions for the first time the following year and won a further eleven over the next fifteen seasons, which included a run of seven on the trot. As well as also winning several Cambs Challenge and Premier League cups during that period, they managed to win the Cambridgeshire Invitation Cup on three occasions. Still the only county league team to do so. The continued success led to the club being invited to compete in the FA Vase competition for a few seasons, before the rules on facilities curtailed the venture. Although further cups were won, it would be another fifteen years before the league championship trophy returned to Shelford and then a further six before the start of what would become another sustained period of success. Between 2013 and to date the team have never finished out of the top two, winning seven titles along the way as well as several cups.

Enjoy the summer and hopefully we will see many of you supporting both teams next season.

Terry Rider
Great Shelford FC

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*

21 July 1855 DREADFUL SUICIDE – An inquest was held at the Railway Tavern, Gt. Shelford, on the 17th inst., before F. Barlow, Esq., touching the death of James Waters, blacksmith of that place, who had been found under the bridge over which the road from Shelford towards Stapleford is carried over the railway, dead, his head being entirely separated from his body. It appeared in evidence that since the death of his wife (between two and three years since) the deceased had become embarrassed in his circumstances, which preyed on his mind. He had frequently been heard to say he feared he should go to gaol for debt, and his five children would have to be sent to the workhouse. As is too frequently the case, he had increased his troubles of late by neglect of his business and intemperance. For several weeks past, during his hours of dissipation, he had sometimes stated that he would lay down on the rail, and let the train run over him. But none who heard him make the statement for a moment believed he intended to do so. It appeared by the statement of several witnesses that after getting up at about 11 o'clock on Monday, the 16th inst, he went through his shop, not speaking to his son or journeyman, and called at two or three beer-shops in the course of the next two hours, at each of which he had half a pint of beer: at all the places at which he called it was remarked of him how unusually serious, dull and melancholy he was, in some instances making no reply when addressed. The last of these places – a beer shop called the Road and Rail – he left soon after one, and was seen no more alive. Upon the 11.30 train from London nearing the aforesaid bridge the fireman fancied he saw something across the rails under the bridge but owing to there being a heavy curve on both sides of the spot, he could not tell what it was – in fact he could not see it at all until near the moment of passing over it. After passing over, the steam was shut off, the break tightly applied, the whistle sounded for the guards to apply their breaks, and signals given to some porters and workmen near the spot to go back along the line. After proceeding as far back as the bridge, the body of the unhappy man was found, but so mutilated, the head being severed from the body, and otherwise mangled, as scarcely to be recognised by those who had previously known him. After hearing the depositions of the several witnesses as to these facts, the jury returned their verdict, “That the deceased caused his own death by placing his head on the railway metals, not being at the time in a sane state of mind.” It ought to be mentioned that not the slightest blame attaches to any of the railway servants concerning this dreadful affair.

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CRICKET CLUB

Since the last report we have had four matches with almost the full range of possible results – a win, a loss, the opponents conceding and a match interrupted by rain and abandoned.



The photograph shows both teams and the scoreboard after a thrilling finish to the match against Coton. Our bowling stars were Stuart Creed (4 for 10) and Mark Milne (3 for 8), but Coton's tailenders added runs that almost proved critical. As seems to be a bad team habit

we lost early wickets (three ducks) and it needed contributions right down the order before last man, Faz Lee strode to the wicket needing two to win – and promptly ran two leg byes to secure the narrowest of victories. The match was played in a wonderful spirit, something that unfortunately could not be said the following week when Whittlesford were the visitors. Some fielding lapses contributed to them passing 200 and despite valiant batting efforts (notably by the Wilson family) we finished 55 runs short.

Against NCI (Cambridge) in front of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parkers Piece, Henry Wilson and Nicholas Schramm both made unbeaten half centuries to post a challenging score, but rain cruelly intervened in the penultimate over of NCI's reply when our victory seemed almost assured. Sadly, no Duckworth Lewis System in this league for determining the winner in rain-affected matches!

There have also been many junior matches. Our two Under 11 teams have each won three out of their last four matches, including a tight two run victory over the strong Saffron Walden team. Meanwhile, the Under 13s had an even closer match, but suffered a nail biting one run defeat by Ickleton. The Under 9s have won one out of three matches so far, and our Girls U13 and U15 teams have had similar success ratios. The senior team has just one home match in July – Saturday 19 at 1pm. All support appreciated!

Peter Ede, Chair

OPEN STUDIOS ART EXHIBITION

Open over the four weekends of July - 5-6, 12-13, 19-20 and 26-27

Brief details of local participating artists are given below:

Katherine Leckie, Painting abstract landscapes, Weekends 1 and 2

10 Courtyards, Little Shelford, Cambridge, CB22 5ER. Use the side gate and come to the studio at the end of the garden.

<https://www.katherineleckieart.com> 07936562956

George Meliniotis, Drawings and Paintings Weekends 1,2,3,4

33 Newton Road, Cambridge, CB2 8AL. Plenty of road parking outside.

<https://www.artmelini.com> 07738 200767

Lucy Winter, Chinese brush painting, Weekends 1,2,3,4

33 Newton Road, Cambridge, CB2 8AL. Free parking on the roadside

<http://painters-online.co.uk/artists/lucywinter> 07849199299

Peter Bungay, Landscape paintings, Weekends 1 and 2

The Slaughterhouse, Church Street, Stapleford, Cambridge, CB22 5DS

<https://www.instagram.com/pjbworks/> 07948205122

Andrew Tindall, Impressionistic landscapes, Weekends 1 and 2

The Slaughterhouse, Church Street, Stapleford, Cambridge, CB22 5DS

<http://www.instagram.com/tin.dalla> 07946092736

Karen Jinks, Painting, mixed media, Weekends 1 and 2

Studio 3, Stable Block, Stapleford Granary, Bury Road, Stapleford, Cambridge, CB22 5BP

<https://karenjinksdesign.co.uk>

Further information on participating artists across the County can be found in the free brochure (available in some local shops) or online at

<https://camopenstudios.org/>

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For further information visit our website <http://www.shelfordwardenscheme.org>

Jenny David (Chair) 07764615524 jennykmf@yahoo.co.uk

Claire Smith (Warden) 07811676991 saurus1960@gmail.com

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16–19	The Tempest
17–19	Bottom's Dream
17–19	The Complete Works of Jane Austen, Abridged
23–26	Murder Most Unexpected
29 July –2 Aug	Star Quality
https://www.adctheatre.com/	

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY	
2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Sounds Green 2025. Open-air music, Botanic garden
5	Meet the Mints (Family Saturday)
Until 16 July	Bee School Summer Adventure Trail
https://www.botanic.cam.ac.uk/	

CAMBRIDGE PAST PRESENT AND FUTURE - WANDLEBURY	
2, 8	Summer Grasses ID – guided walk
11	Outdoor mini retreat
18	Calm under the Canopy: Mindful Meditation
19	Learn to Scythe
20	Wandlebury Scything Festival
24, 28	Holiday Bushcraft for 5–12 year olds
https://cambridgeppf.org/events-list/	

SAFFRON HALL	
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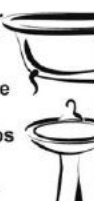
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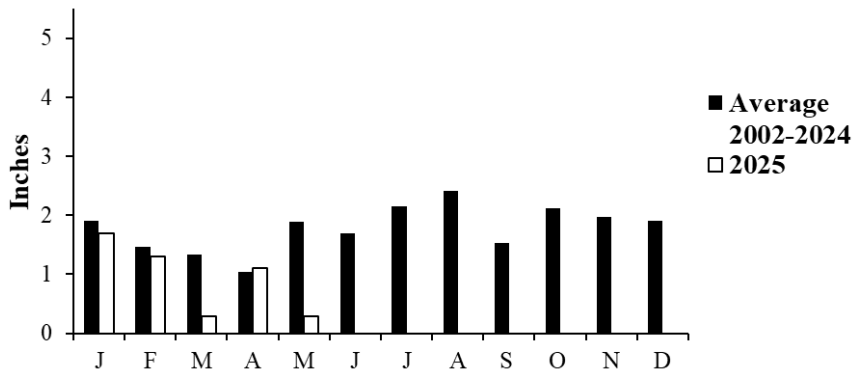
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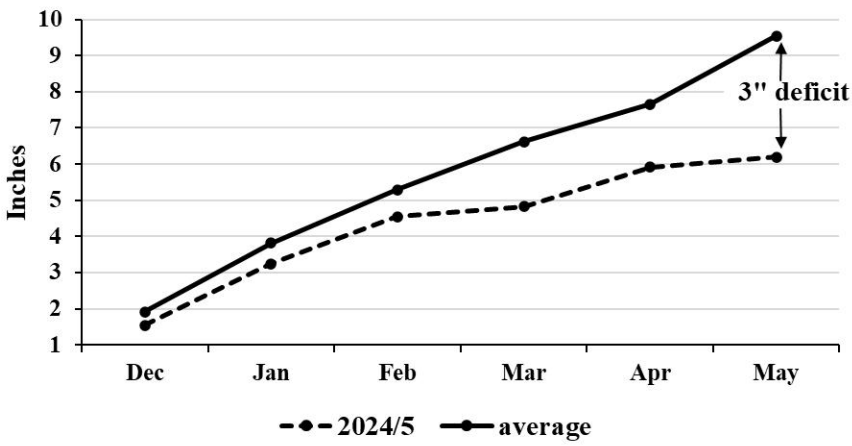
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Great Shelford Village Rainfall 2025



From data supplied by Angus Campbell

Cumulative Rainfall 2024/5 and 2002/24 average



GREAT SHELFORD VILLAGE NEWS

CONTACTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

GSVN was designed from the outset to be a publication for news and information about our village, our societies, our businesses and our events. We are pleased to receive articles, letters and notices for community events for consideration. We don't invite poems or fiction because that would change the nature of the magazine

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.

Please send your contribution, preferably as a Word document, by email (see below). You may also send items by post to Judith Wilson, 11 Elms Avenue, Great Shelford CB22 5LN. Please include your contact details. The copy date is usually the second Friday of the month.

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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.

Editorial Committee:

Duncan Grey, Bridget Hodge, Marjorie Smith, Judith Wilson

Archive copies of previous issues can be found at:

<https://shelford.org/news.htm>

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
Friendship Club	Rosey Feuell	roseyleaf@talktalk.net	01223 213305
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	07722197770
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	General enquiries:	shelfordsupport@googlemail.com	07804 041173
(transport to hospital, etc.)	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



Shelford Festival — & Feast — 2025



**Scott
Mills**



5-12 JULY 2025

**Quiz Night • SYD Performance
Comedy Night • The Feast
Cambridge University Gospel Choir
& much more!!**



**Rattlesnake
Johnny
and the
Yeehaw Crew**



**Anthem
Ibiza
Orchestra**

